

# The Chamber Business Journal

April 2022

*Community ~ Growth ~ Leadership ~ Vision*

306 N. Main, McPherson, Kansas 67460 • Phone: 620-241-3303 • [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org) • Visit us on Facebook

## Welcome New Chamber Members

**Succession + LLC**  
**Address:** 1105 Forest Ct.  
**Phone:** (620) 755-3054  
**Contact:** Bret Christiansen  
**Website:** Succession Plus LLC  
**Facebook:** Succession Plus LLC

**Succession + LLC** is a full-service consulting and legal firm that focuses on succession planning, estate planning, business formation, and consulting. Whether a client needs help setting up a new company, or guidance to ensure one's legacy is preserved for generations to come, the goal of Succession + is to identify the unique challenges each client is facing and to create solutions to overcome those obstacles. Through teamwork, our clients can focus on pursuing their passions, while ensuring all they have built is protected. At **Succession +**, we pride ourselves on our flexibility and creative problem solving, and are happy to work with our clients' other trusted advisors, including other attorneys, accountants, financial advisors, and any other consultants, to ensure all facets of our client's business and personal well being is protected.

**McPherson Turf Care**  
**Address:** 1921 E. Euclid, McPherson  
**Phone:** (620) 245-7050  
**Contact:** Grant Rardon  
**Website:** [mcphersonturfcare.com](http://mcphersonturfcare.com)  
**Facebook:** McPhersonTurfCare

**McPherson Turf Care** is a full-service lawn, landscaping, and tree care company. It was founded in 2018, and their mission is to serve the McPherson community. **McPherson Turf Care** is exclusive to McPherson city, so their availability is to take care of your needs at all times. Their services include mowing, fertilizing and weed control, overseeding and aerating, landscape maintenance and installation, tree trimming and treatment, tree removal, and snow removal. Their vision is to provide a one-stop shop experience for all your outdoor landscaping needs.

## Enroll for Leadership McPherson Class

Please help us share the 2022 Leadership McPherson enrollment information with others who would benefit from participating. This professional development program of the McPherson Chamber has been an impactful program since 1982.

Class participants will jump right in with a team building experience followed by class sessions and activities. The group will participate in the 2-day Your Leadership Edge at the Kansas Leadership Center. They will continue with class sessions and community interaction and complete their Leadership McPherson curriculum by organizing and implementing a class project to benefit the youth in our community.

The in-depth, educational program focuses on developing leadership competencies, giving participants the skills to move organizations and businesses forward as well as inspiring leaders to become more engaged in the community.

**The enrollment is open to the first 12 to sign up, or the final deadline is June 6. More information and the 2022 Leadership McPherson Class Enrollment Form can be found at [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org).**



## Welcome Zach Parent

*McPherson Chamber of Commerce*

*Community and Member Relations Assistant*

- Strengths- Friendly, honest, and compassionate
- Favorite Quote- "But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." – Romans 5:8
- Fun Fact- Traveled to 3 countries and 26 states. Plan to visit all 50 states.
- Hobbies- Hunting, fishing, camping, and building things
- Family- Wife & High School Sweetheart – Alishia, Daughter – Emma Jo (3 years old), and soon to be son (August 2022)

I am honored to be part of the McPherson community. My wife and I moved here in January of 2019 to start Awaken Church. Our time here so far has been amazing. We love this community and plan on staying for quite a long time. My time here so far has allowed me to serve on the McPherson Main Street Board and currently serve as a Chaplain for the McPherson Police Department. I look forward to serving the community wherever is needed.

## Anyone Can Lead

I was asked recently about the all-inclusive approach to Leadership McPherson Class enrollment. Having been with the McPherson Chamber for many years and doing a little research for our 100th anniversary celebration, I was familiar with how the program enrollment process differs from 1982.

Leadership McPherson has been a professional development program since 1982 and one of the oldest leadership programs in the state of Kansas. While the program was a fantastic learning opportunity in 1982 and throughout the 1990's, it has evolved into something even more impactful for our community today.

The Leadership Advisory Committee, comprised of 15 alums, continue to evaluate and modify the program every year. In 2000 the curriculum was restructured around Servant Leadership, adding a class project to benefit the youth in our community. These incredible projects have touched many lives and continue to make a difference.

Leadership McPherson Class is an all-inclusive enrollment process. Open enrollment versus needing to be nominated and then going through a selection process has been in place since 2004

and aligns with the Kansas Leadership Center principle of "Anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere."

KLC says together, when everyone leads, "we'll solve our most important challenges and create lasting, positive change in our organizations, companies, and communities." In their book The KLC Leadership Framework it says: "...we envision a future where people everywhere embrace the notion that leadership is an activity, not a position. We envision a future when everyone leads."



**Debbie Hawkinson**  
**Executive Director,**  
**McPherson Chamber of Commerce.**

## "A Bunch of Hacks" Golf Tournament

What should you expect at the Chamber Classic "A Bunch of Hacks" Golf Tournament? Well, mulligans are not needed for this fun afternoon of easy-going, unconventional golf. You won't be concerned about sand traps and water hazards as your team navigates around the golf course to complete unique games, gather swag from the sponsors, and win prizes too! Team fees (4-person scramble) include 18 holes of unforgettable golf, lunch during the 11:30-12:15 check-in, golf carts if needed, and supper during the awards celebration. We won't mention the barkies, worm burners, a shanked ball, or airmail shots, because it's all part of our one-of-a-kind golf tournament.

**Team Registration-** The team registration form is available at [mcphersonchamber.org](http://mcphersonchamber.org), give us a call at 620-241-3303 or email [chamber@mcphersonks.org](mailto:chamber@mcphersonks.org) for more information. Tournament is limited to 36 teams so don't delay. Gather up your team of four and join us for good times at the Chamber Classic "A Bunch of Hacks" Golf Tournament on Friday, June 3rd!

### Chamber Classic Sponsor Opportunities

The tournament presents a unique opportunity to interact on the course, increase your exposure in the community, and build business relationships. Secure your spot to promote your business today!

#### Luxury Scooter Sponsor: \$500 (Only 4 available)

- Signage displayed during the tournament on all golf carts.
- You are welcome to share a promotional announcement during the awards celebration.
- Recognition on Chamber website, tournament program, and social media.
- (Bonus: Add a team or several teams for a special price of \$300/team.)

#### Sand Trap Sponsor: \$250 (Only 18 available)

- Bring your company pop-up tent, challenge golfers with a unique zany game, and hand out bonus swag from your business or provide an overall prize for the winner of your game.
- Exclusive signage at your designated tee box.
- Business shout-out during the awards celebration.
- Recognition on Chamber website, tournament program, and social media.
- (Bonus: Add a team or several teams for a special price of \$300/team.)

#### Water Hazard Sponsor: \$150

- Signage on the golf course.
- Recognition on Chamber website, tournament program, and social media.

**Divot Sponsor: Donation of golf balls, or in-kind donations (increments of 4) to be used for flight prizes.** Recognition on Chamber website, tournament program, and social media.

Don't miss out on participating in the most lighthearted, non-stressful golf tournament around. Contact the McPherson Chamber of Commerce today!

  
  
620241-3553  
800-364-4020  
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McPherson, KS 67460

  
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[www.sunflowerbank.com](http://www.sunflowerbank.com)



# 2021-2022 Chamber Board of Directors

Lenny Favara, Central Christian College of Kansas \* Matthew Grieb, CHS McPherson Refinery Inc.

Tiffani Floyd, Four Seasons Realtors/Culver's Wines & Spirits \* Ryan Hicks, Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance

Patrick Romm, YP Mac \* Jeffery Reitz, JAR Performance Automotive, LLC

Becky Goss, McPherson County Community Foundation \* Craig Druecker, Midway Motors Supercenter

Kendra Oakes, Peoples Bank & Trust \* Courtney Rierson, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk and Loyd

Eric Wicker, Viega L.L.C. \* Lauren Hughes, Wise & Reber L.C.

## chamber events

\*To view the Community Calendar for McPherson County, visit [www.mcphersonchamber.org](http://www.mcphersonchamber.org)

### April

**28 9:30 am** Chamber Connections @ L&L Advisors, 224 S. Main  
**11:30 am** Chamber Board Meeting @ Chamber

### May

**3 4:00 pm** Chamber Classic meeting @ Chamber  
**4 12:00** Leadership McPherson Advisory Committee meeting @ Chamber  
**5 9:30 am** Chamber Connections hosted by All Schools Day committee @ Knackies Meats and Sweets, 111 S. Maple St.  
**10 7:00 am** Agriculture Committee meeting @ PrairieLand Partners, 2401 E. Northview Rd.  
**4:00 pm** Ambassador meeting @ Chamber  
**11 3:00 pm** Ribbon Cutting for Express Employment

Professionals, 300 Centennial, Suite 102.  
**11 7:00 pm** Recognition of OMEGA during May Fete activities at Lakeside Park.  
**12 9:30 am** Chamber Connections hosted by VYPE Kansas @ Chamber office.  
**19 9:30 am** Ribbon Cutting and Chamber Connections for Julie Johnson Studio & Event Center, 110 S. Main St.  
**25 11:00 am** Chamber Blue of Kansas informational meeting @ Chamber  
**1:00 pm** Chamber Blue of Kansas informational meeting @ Chamber  
**26 9:30 am** Chamber Connections hosted by TBD  
**11:30 am** Chamber Board Meeting @ Chamber  
**30 Memorial Day** Holiday-Chamber office closed



## Achilles awarded 2022 AFA Scholarship

Ashley Achilles, a junior at Fort Hays State University, has been awarded the 2022 Agriculture Future of America (AFA) Scholarship for McPherson County! This scholarship is made possible by the McPherson Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee in partnership with Agriculture Future of America. The Agriculture Committee has raised funds to support the AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship for McPherson County since 2000. Along with establishing an AFA scholarship fund at the McPherson County Community Foundation, the Ag Committee has awarded 33 full scholarships to date.

Achilles will receive a \$3,200 academic scholarship to be used for tuition, fees, and books, in addition to her tuition to the AFA Leadership Conference on November 10-13th, 2022 in Kansas City, MO. The Leadership Conference is attended by hundreds of top agriculture students from across the nation. After being notified of the scholarship, Ashely replied "I am honored to receive this scholarship and excited for the opportunity to attend the conference!"

Although farming and ranching is a newly discovered passion for Ashley, she has gained valuable experience alongside her current employer. Commenting that she admires him for his attitude of learning, education advocacy, and patience because "there is so much research going into agriculture every day and a farmer is ultimately losing potential profit if they don't keep up to date on advancements in the industry."

Congratulations Ashley! May you stay true to your attitude of turning mistakes into opportunities for growth, and always know that you are very capable.

Ashley is a great example of why the McPherson Chamber Agriculture Committee continues to partner with AFA to build transformation leaders in agriculture. More information about AFA can be found at [www.agfuture.com](http://www.agfuture.com).

## Chamber Blue of Kansas

Local businesses have opportunity to join Chamber Health Insurance Plan and make insurance more affordable for business owners.

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce a new partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBS KS) and Chamber of Commerce Executives of Kansas (CCEKS). This partnership stitches together 34 local Chambers of Commerce across Kansas to offer an Association Health Plan called Chamber Blue of Kansas.

The McPherson Chamber of Commerce and all chambers involved in this partnership realize and recognize that recruiting and retaining talent is vital for business and industry of all sizes, especially small businesses. Having access to trusted health insurance benefits are a crucial piece to that success. The Chamber Blue of Kansas is focused on providing more value to business owners and their employees. With more health insurance plan options at competitive rates, employers can provide rich benefits, helping attract and retain top talent.

An Association Health Plan is a type of group medical insurance for organizations that allow smaller companies to access the health insurance savings associated with large group medical coverage. Through this, small business, non-profits, and organizations can band together to purchase insurance. That allows more people in the pool, which lowers risk across the pool, and provides more health insurance options, potentially with much more competitive premiums.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of KS has the largest provider network in Kansas with 99% of physicians in-network, and 100% of hospitals in network. BCBSKS also provides a very robust package of health care solutions like their HealthyOptions program, which is a powerful set of services, tools, and one-on-one support to live a healthy life at no extra cost as a BCBSKS member.

### Other key details of Chamber Blue of Kansas:

- The employer must be a member in good standing with the McPherson Chamber of Commerce
- Employers must have at least two (2) W-2 employees to qualify. Limited liability companies could qualify based on tax classification- determination by BCBS KS. Visit [bcbsks.com/chamberblueks](http://bcbsks.com/chamberblueks) to see if you qualify.
- **Employer MUST participate in the interest survey (August 2022) to be eligible for enrollment.** Initial rates will be determined in September based on groups/businesses that have completed the survey and plans will become effective January 1, 2023.
- Employer to pay at least 25% of the lowest-cost plan option offered.
- Employer must have 70% of eligible employees enroll in group health plan (employees working 30+hrs/week, less those who have group coverage elsewhere x 70%).

**Interested business owners, non-profits, and organizations are encouraged to attend an information session at 11:00 am or 1:00 pm on Wednesday, May 25th at the McPherson Chamber of Commerce, 306 N. Main.** The meetings will be less than an hour, but we have scheduled them at 11:00 and 1:00 am to accommodate various schedules. RSVP requested to [chamberdirector@mcphersonks.org](mailto:chamberdirector@mcphersonks.org) or 620-241-3303.

## OUR MISSION

*Visionary Leadership Promoting A  
Vibrant Business Community And  
Enhanced Quality Of Life.*

# THE MCPHERSON SENTINEL

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*Troy Glidden - Director*



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