

Chamber Chatter

St. James Chamber of Commerce

111 S. Jefferson - PO Box 358

St. James, MO. 65559

Phone: (573) 265-6649 – December, 2009

“Business of the Month” Selected



The St. James Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate Hutcheson Ford for being selected December “Business of the Month.”

Guy Hutcheson founded Hutcheson Ford Sales, Inc. in 1954 at 330 West James Boulevard, St. James. Mr. Hutcheson’s goal was to operate an ethical and successful dealership. Located on Route 66, the prime location suited the dealership for many years. In 1978 his son-in-law, Butch Tucker, joined Mr. Hutcheson in the business. In 1986 Mr. Hutcheson sold the business to his son-in-law and daughter, Butch and Susan Tucker.

Butch and Susan continued to run the business at the James Blvd. location but also started planning for the future. In 1989 they purchased a 10-acre piece of ground along Interstate 44. After 10 more years of hard work by the Hutchesons and Tuckers, as well as their staff, the business had grown to the point that the old facility could not handle the volume of business anymore. Plans were made to build a new dealership. Ground was broken for the new facility in October of 1999, and the company opened for business at the present location on Friday, September 1, 2000.

The dealership continues to operate under the ethical guidelines that were so important to Guy Hutcheson when the dealership was first established. *(cont’d on page 2, column 1)*

No December Membership Meeting Scheduled

As is customary for December, due to the busy holiday schedule, the Chamber will not hold a December membership meeting.

The Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, January 22, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at Matt’s Steakhouse. Senator Frank Barnitz will be the keynote speaker. Watch for upcoming details.

Chamber Seeking Next “Citizen of the Year”

Dominic DeLuca, President of the St. James Chamber of Commerce, has announced that nominations are being solicited for the “Citizen of the Year” award to be presented at the Chamber’s annual dinner which will be held in on Friday, January 22, 2010.

Nominations are requested from any organization where volunteers are making a difference and improving the quality of life in the community--youth groups, civic organizations, area churches, emergency responder groups and schools. Nominees do not have to be a member of the St. James Chamber.

A letter detailing the involvement of the nominee and his/her contributions to the organization and/or community should be sent to: “Citizen of the Year”, St. James Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 358, St. James, MO. 65559. The name of the nominator and a telephone number should accompany the nomination for any follow-up action that may be required.

Dominic requests that nominations be postmarked no later than Friday, January 1, 2010.

Office Closed

The Chamber office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 24 and December 25. It will also be closed on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 30, 31, and January 1. May you and your families be blessed during this Christmas season!

Business of the Month (cont'd from page 1, column 1)

Their most important goal is customer satisfaction as noted in their philosophy, which states: *Our most important goal is customer satisfaction. Customers are the most important people in the world! CUSTOMERS are the most important people in our business, whether we are dealing with them in person or over the telephone. CUSTOMERS are not dependent on us. We are dependent on them. CUSTOMERS are not an interruption of our work. They are the purpose of our work. CUSTOMERS favor us with their patronage. We are not doing them a favor by serving them. CUSTOMERS are a part of our business. They are not outsiders. CUSTOMERS are not cold statistics. They are human beings with feelings and emotions like our own. CUSTOMERS are not people to argue with or match wits with. CUSTOMERS are people who bring us their wants. It is our job to fill those wants. CUSTOMERS deserve the most courteous and attentive treatment we can give them. CUSTOMERS ARE THE LIFE BLOOD OF OUR BUSINESS.*

The Chamber will host a coffee at Hutcheson Ford on Wednesday, December 16, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Please stop by and congratulate Butch, Susan and the rest of the staff for having Hutcheson Ford selected as December “Business of the Month.”

Bricks Make Memorable Gifts

As a fundraiser for the St. James Depot Renovation Project, bricks are now being sold which may be engraved with an inscription of your choice. The bricks are offered in two sizes: 4 x 8” bricks with three lines of 12 characters are \$30. 8 x 8” bricks with five lines of 12 characters are \$50. For complete information, please see attached form.

JONES FUNERAL HOME
“Annual Memorial Service”

A Personal Invitation To
Chamber Members and all Area Families



Professional Violinist
Frankie Stevens

December 13th, 2009
2:00 pm Sunday afternoon

Jones Funeral Home
200 South Meramec, St. James

Hosted by:
Richard and Deanna Jones
and family

Please join us as we remember loved ones who are no longer with us. Everyone will enjoy refreshments and listening to our professional violinist. This will be a wonderful time of celebration and remembrance.

Everyone is Welcome!



Honoring With Respect And Sincerity

573-265-3278

What’s Happening in Your
Chamber & Community

- Dec 09 USA Tours – Christmas in Old Towne St. Charles – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Dec 10 USA Tours – Christmas Tree Tour Hermann – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Dec 12 C of C Christmas Parade – 5:00 p.m.**
- Dec 12 C of C Santa @ The Old Depot following Parade til 7:00 p.m.**
- Dec 13 Jones Funeral Home – “Annual Memorial Service” – 2:00 p.m.**
- Dec 15 USA Tours – Isle of Capri Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Dec 19 COC Santa @ The Old Depot, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**
- Dec 24 - 25 Chamber Office Closed**
- Dec 30 - 31 Chamber Office Closed**

- Jan 01 Chamber Office Closed**

“Chamber Bucks” Available

The Chamber of Commerce office is now offering “Chamber Bucks” available for sale to anyone wishing to purchase them for gifts and have their gift dollars stay in the community. Recipients may purchase merchandise from any of the participating businesses listed on the “Buck”. Businesses are then reimbursed for the amount of the buck by the Chamber office. Those businesses currently accepting “Chamber Bucks” are:

- Absolute Electronics <-> Amazing Concrete Finishes
- BeautiControl Spa <-> Designs By Lisa
- Diana’s Diner <-> Ellis Health Centre
- Forest City Health Mart <-> j. cardetti designs. . .
- Lynch & Sons Plumbing and Electrical
- Hutcheson Ford Sales <-> Interstate Motorcycles
- Leo Cardetti Flag & Flagpole <-> Meramec Vineyards
- Plaza Fashions & Merle Norman Cosmetics
- Our House Treasures <-> Country Bob’s Cafe
- Ron Moreland Construction <-> Simply Irresistible
- Stump Water Restaurant <-> Shearmaster’s Salon
- Spurgeon’s 66 Service <-> St. James Veterinary
- Studio K <-> Sybills Restaurant & Gift Shop
- Wild West Guns & More <-> Wilson Lumber & Rental

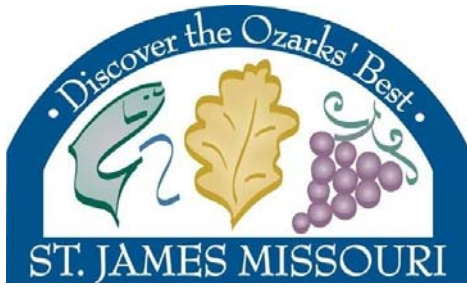
If you would like to participate in the “Chamber Bucks” program, call Jennie at the Chamber office (265-6649) for further information.

2010 Events Wanted!

We will soon be putting together a chamber calendar for 2010. If you know of dates that need to be listed on the events calendar, please notify the Chamber office at 265-6649 or email jennie@stjameschamber.net as soon as possible.

Welcome to the following new members: Stump Water Restaurant, Huffman's Flowers of the Field, Amazing Concrete Finishes, and Country Bob's Cafe!

<p>Absolute Electronics Action Auto Sales LLC #2 Aging Made Easy Alex's Pizza Palace Alfermann Gray & Company Amazing Concrete Finishes American Family Insurance Ashby's Covenant Insurance, LLC Award Source Bauer, Donald Baymont Inn and Suites Rolla BeautiControl Spa Boys-Girls Town BPJ Insurance Brown Veterinary Clinic Brown, Sue Camp Brim Shire Celebrations Catering & Rentals Central Federal Savings & Loan Assoc. Century 21 First Choice Century Signs Centurytel City of St. James CM Archer Group P.C. Coldwell Banker - The Baker Group Columbia College Connell Business Dev. Consulting Copeland Bus Sales Copeland, Ellis Corn, Mary Lou Country Bob's Cafe Country Mart Cox, Tom Crafton, Jack & Jean Crutiques Bed & Breakfast Cuba Area Chamber Days Inn & Suites Delano Oil Company Designs By Lisa Diana's Diner Didion-Orf Recycling Donald Farm & Lawn Electric Sun Tan Co. Ellis Health Centre Emerson, Jo Ann Engine 51 Smokers Etiquette for Today Exodus Pest Pro Inc. Fairground Auto Plaza Farmers Insurance FCNB Insurance Flooring Factory Outlet Forest City Counseling, LLC Forest City Family Practice Forest City Footwear Forest City Pharmacy</p>	<p>Frazier, Vicki Frisbee Mid-Missouri Realty, Inc. Golden Living Center The Grapevine Grellner Sales Halo Candle Company HiStriker Huffman Lawn & Landscaping Huffman's Flowers of the Field Hutcheson Collision Center Hutcheson Ford Sales Integrity Business Intercounty Electric Interstate Motorcycles Investment Realty, Inc. j. cardetti designs . . . J. Rogers Architecture, Inc. James Foundation James-Gahr Mortuary Jensen, Mickie Jones Funeral Home Kean & Company LLC Key Sport Shop Kingdom Kia KMST Public Radio Leo Cardetti Distributing Lynch & Sons Plumbing & Electric MacPherson, Johanna Matt's Steakhouse Meramec Vineyards Micom LLC Midstate State Dirworks Mitchell Clinic Miller, Frank Missouri Enterprise Missouri Veterans Home MRPC Murdon Corporation Nappier Automotive Oliver, Kathy Our House Treasures, LLC Ozark Actors Theatre Ozarks Coca-Cola P.S. Enterprises Peaceful Bend Winery Pepsi-Cola Bottling, Co. Phelps Co. Regional Med. Ctr. Phelps County Bank Phelps-Pulaski Red Cross Plaza Fashions Poskin, Donald & Betty Reid Brick & Block, LLC Reid Fleming Industrial, LLC Ray, Randall Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. Results Radio KTTR</p>	<p>Rolla Area Chamber Rolla Shooting Club Ron Moreland Construction Saint James Press Salon Luxe Scissor Shack Scorpio Consulting Scotts Printing SDC Group Stack Design & Consulting Shearmaster's Salon Sheffield, Mary Shelter Insurance Sign Dimensions/Aero Graphix LLC Simply Irresistible Sonic Drive In Sooter, Clara South Central Board of Realtors Southside Motors Spurgeon's 66 Service St. James Ambulance Service St. James Caring Center St. James Elevator St. James Eye Care St. James Golf Club St. James Industrial Development Corp. St. James Leader Journal St. James R-1 Schools St. James Veterinary St. James Winery St. Johns Health Clinic Staples Floor Covering State Farm Insurance Stratmann, Larry Studio K Stump Water Restaurant Sybills Restaurant & Gift Shop Tacony Manufacturing Tessaro, Robert and Mary The Blue Beagle Three Squirrels Winery Town & Country Bank Underwood, Gene & Gail United Country Meramec Realty University of Missouri US Bank USA Tours Verkamp & Malone, CPAs Verkamp, Randy Walmart DC #6069 Walker, Don & Ruth Watson, Cordell Wiemann, John & Susan Wildwest Guns & More Wilson Lumber & Rental Wilson, Dennis Wind Rush Farms</p>
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*We invite YOU to become a part of the
History of St. James!*

***St. James Depot
Renovation Project 2009***

Paving your way into the history of St. James!

Purchase a brick that will be placed in the courtyard/patio area of the Old Depot. It will be engraved with an inscription of your choice. The bricks are offered in two sizes:

4x8 bricks can have up to three lines of 12 characters (including spaces and punctuation)\$30.00
 8x8 bricks can have up to 5 lines of 12 characters (including spaces and punctuation).....\$50.00

All proceeds from the personalized bricks will be used to renovate the Old Depot.

Order Form

First Line:												
Second Line:												
Third Line:												
Fourth Line: <i>(8x8 bricks only)</i>												
Fifth Line: <i>(8x8 bricks only)</i>												

Please use separate form for each brick purchased.

Your Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____ **Fax:** _____

Address: _____

**Return forms to: St. James Community Development Corporation
 P.O. Box 358
 St. James, MO 65559**

Make check payable to: St. James Community Development Corporation

From the Missouri Veterans Home:

Dear Chamber of Commerce,

As someone who has spent time doing business in Missouri communities. I am sure you know and work with both veterans and their families. I know you understand the desire of the bereaved to have their loved ones "not forgotten". I am sure you have seen a Gold Star Mother receive a folded flag for the service of her son or a WWII veteran cry as a comrade is laid to rest. You understand and Wreaths Across America (501(c) 3) understands as well. In 2008 our group with the help of 60,000 volunteers placed holiday wreaths on the graves of over 100,000 veterans. We held wreath laying ceremonies at more than 350 cemeteries and memorials in the US and 24 off shore cemeteries.

I hope you take the time to visit us at www.wreathscrossamerica.org .

Our mission, Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve and Teach the children the cost of freedom is fulfilled in part as students, servicemen, veterans and others come together to lay wreaths on individual stones and realize that each stone represents a life that was spent in service to our Country.

This year the demand for wreaths has grown. Many groups (VFW, American Legion, DAV, DAR, schools, CAP and others) want to honor their state's heroes. Most recently we have been endorsed by the National Gold Star Mothers.

We have had the good fortune of having a truck donated to transport wreaths to our eleven locations in Missouri . They are the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, State Veterans Cemetery, State Veterans' Cemetery in Bloomfield, State Veterans' Cemetery in Higginsville, **St. James Missouri Veterans Cemetery**, Missouri Veterans' Cemetery in Springfield, Springfield National Cemetery, Mount Hope Cemetery, Confederate Memorial State Historic Site-Bloomfield, Confederate Memorial State Historic Site - Higginsville, and Sacred Heart Cemetery. The ceremony will be held as 12 noon EST on Dec 12th.

To encourage local business to help us "fill the truck" we are dropping the sponsorship cost from \$15 to \$10. Your donation can help us honor those who have given us the most precious gift of freedom. Wreaths are placed at the participating location of your choice. Corporate sponsors also receive wreath/gift cards with their donations so that you can use them as corporate holiday gifts. It is a thoughtful gift at a great price.

We need to meet our funding goal by Nov 22nd. Thank-you so for your consideration. Your donation will thank not only the veterans but their families and thousands of active US Military for their sacrifices.

Sincerely,

Karen Worcester
Executive Director
Wreaths Across America