



# Chamber Chatter

St. James Chamber of Commerce

111 S. Jefferson - PO Box 358

St. James, MO. 65559

Phone: (573) 265-6649 – July, 2009

## “Business of the Month” Selected



The St. James Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate Tacony Manufacturing for being selected July “Business of the Month”.

Tacony Corporation is a sixty-five year, family-owned company headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri employing over 650 associates. Tacony is an international importer and distributor of sewing machines and ceiling fans and a manufacturer and distributor of household and commercial vacuums and industrial floor care equipment. Tacony Manufacturing, the largest facility of Tacony Corporation, continues to expand operations into new areas. At this time, the 130 Tacony Manufacturing associates not only assemble high-end vacuum cleaners, but warehouses and distribute ceiling fans, commercial floor care machine and products. The state-of-the-art paint line, added in 2003, provides for either single stage or base coat/clear coat painting of all types of engineered coatings. Hot stamp and thermal transfer decorating capabilities result in parts that are ready for final assembly.

Tacony Manufacturing received the Missouri **Impact** Award in 2002 from Missouri Enterprise and The Industry of the Year from Associated Industries of Missouri in 2003. Tacony Manufacturing gained ISO 9001-2000 certification in 2004, and recently was recertified to the ISO 9001:2008 standard, documenting its quality system which is designed to insure that our products will meet customer requirements. “We know our success depends upon the success of our customers,” said Ken Tacony, president and chief executive officer. “Tacony Corporation is a family of people dedicated to the philosophy of excellence in everything we do to insure that customers are served with quality products, delivered promptly, and administered with the integrity that has always been the Company’s hallmark.”

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## July Luncheon Scheduled

The July St. James Chamber of Commerce membership luncheon will be held on July 21, 2009 at the Assembly of God Church. Guest speaker for the event will be Danny Marshall, Regional Manager of the James Foundation. He will focus on the history of the Foundation, the relationship it has with the Trust in New York and, of course, the local pool issue. Questions will be welcome.

The meeting is open to the public. Lunch will be catered by Impact Youth and cost will be \$10.00 per meal. All proceeds from the lunch will be donated to the youth group. Please email Jennie at [jennie@stjameschamber.net](mailto:jennie@stjameschamber.net) or call 265-6649 with your reservations by Friday noon, July 17, 2009.

## Join Us @ Business After Hours

The Chamber of Commerce July Business After Hours has been moved to Friday evening, July 17 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at St. James Winery. Appetizers will be provided by St. James Winery and a tour of the facility is planned. There will be no cover charges and reservations are not required.

## Chamber Coffee Planned

The Chamber of Commerce will host a coffee on Tuesday, July 28, from 10:00 – 11:00 at Tacony Manufacturing, July Business of the Month. The coffee will be held in the newly established museum and retail store which is located in the same building that houses the manufacturing plant at #3 Industrial Drive. The coffee is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

## 2009 Membership Directories Have Arrived

Membership directories are now available at the Chamber office and Tourist Information Center. If you have not yet received a membership directory and would like to have one mailed to you, please email Jennie @ [jennie@stjameschamber.net](mailto:jennie@stjameschamber.net) or call the Chamber office at 265-6649.

An announcement in late 2008 decided the future of Tacony's commercial floor care production. Relocation of our Tornado production from Chicago to St. James and Ft. Worth facilities means job retention/creation in our state. Tacony proudly puts the "**Manufactured in the USA**" label on its **Missouri** products made by **Missourians!** Operations began in April. These products are used internationally as well with recent shipments being sent to the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia.

The need to be able to implement product improvements quickly and to better control deliveries and quality, the choice was made to move all of our plastic molds and production from Korea and the tooling from China, for our full size canister vacuums, to St. James. The tools from China have been received and are being sampled and the first pilot production of the power nozzle occurred in May. This compliments and supports our 2008 acquisition of a domestic plastic injection molding company and the implementation of that process in our St. James factory. Several products have already been transitioned to St. James from China such as the Dirt Meter tooling and production and ancillary vacuum attachments.

Tacony Manufacturing's newest venture is our Vacuum Museum and Retail Store. Uniquely decorated in time warp designs, each museum room depicts a distinct era. Starting with early 1900 vacuums and working thru the years by decade, Tacony will bring memories to all of us as we view what could have been our Mother or Grandmother using the top-of-the-line vacuum during that period.

Remember before television, gathering in front of the radio to listen for news about our armed forces serving during war, and Mother warning you about dropping popcorn on her freshly vacuumed carpet? Or the black and white floor tiles, pink appliances and someone resembling June Cleaver proudly demonstrating her brand new vacuum to the neighborhood Mothers. Okay... so some of us aren't old enough to remember those times. You'll just need to stop by Tacony's museum and learn about the good ole days.

Museum Curator Tom Gasko, will enthrall visitors with times gone by reminiscing and historic narrative. For years Tom accumulated one-of-a-kind vacuums with a spirited hope of someday sharing his collection with the world. Tacony Corporation brought his assemblage to St. James and Tom's dream came true, in conjunction with a long awaited retail vacuum store.

For more information about Tacony Manufacturing contact: Nancy Montgomery Human Resource Director; 573-265-0500 ext 4310

The Chamber will host a coffee at Tacony Manufacturing on Tuesday, July 28, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., to honor them as July Business of the Month. Plan to join us as we congratulate them and take a stroll down memory lane at their new vacuum museum.

**Welcome to our newest  
Chamber Members!**

**Our House Treasures, LLC** – owned by Bruce and Deb Parton. A second chance for good furniture, décor and glassware. Phone: 265-3968. Email: ourhousetreasures@yahoo.com

**Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers will soon be needed for the Grape & Fall Festival in several areas including, but not limited to: spaghetti supper, wine garden, parking, ticket takers, and assisting with special events. If you would like to volunteer, please call the Chamber office and leave your name, phone number, and the time frame you are available to volunteer. Our volunteers make it happen!!

**Chamber Joins  
Route 66 Association of Missouri**

The Chamber has sent in dues to join the Route 66 Association of Missouri. The association works to promote and preserve the history of Old Route 66. If you visit their website, [www.missouri66.org](http://www.missouri66.org), you will find the following directive which sums up their goals, "At the recent meeting of the Board of Directors, your Association decided to form a new committee, known tentatively as the CCC (Conservation and Continuation Committee), to spearhead Route 66 preservation efforts in Missouri. Instead of attempting to restore or save properties on its own, the Association will serve as a facilitator or go-between to help ensure that properties are preserved, and funds are obtained and available for the types of projects outlined in the Route 66 Study Act of 1999. The CCC is being established with a four-fold purpose: 1) Identify properties and road segments for preservation/restoration. 2) Solicit matching funds and other types of grants for studying and preserving properties or roadbeds. 3) Coordinate efforts of other not-for-profit organizations and government entities to obtain available funds. 4) Prepare national register nominations."

St. James has the opportunity to be a major player in the preservation of Old Route 66 with the promotion of our unique multi-purpose trail along the beautiful tree-lined divided boulevard of Old Route 66, which cannot be duplicated anywhere else on Old Route 66. Tourists from all over the world travel to the U.S. just to drive Old Route 66—a piece of history in our own backyard! Tourism dollars are always welcome in St. James and it is time for us to capture a part of this market and at the same time preserve a piece of history!

## Kids' Sponsors Needed!

As the Chamber of Commerce continues preparations for the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Grape and Fall Festival on Sept. 10 -12, 2009, they are now seeking individual and business sponsors for kids to enjoy their day at the fair at a reduced rate. Normally, "wristband" time periods are established to allow carnival riders to ride as many rides as they want within that time period for one price. The carnival company sets the rates and this year, tickets are \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 the day of the event. The ticket is then turned in for a wristband during one of the wristband time periods that have been agreed upon between the Chamber and the carnival company.

The Chamber is now accepting donations in \$10.00 increments to go toward the purchase of advance sale tickets (\$15.00). This will allow our community kids to purchase tickets for the remaining \$5.00. In other words, each \$10.00 donation will allow one kid into the carnival to ride all the rides for \$5.00. Utilizing this fundraiser, a family needing to purchase four tickets for their children would pay \$20.00 instead of \$60.00. Every \$10.00 donation will go directly to the purchase of an advanced sale ticket and allow one child a reduce-priced ticket for \$5.00.

Anyone wishing to purchase tickets in advance at the \$15.00 price may purchase them at the St. James location of each of the following: Phelps County Bank, US Bank, Town & Country Bank, Tourist Information Center, or the Chamber office, 111 S. Jefferson Street.

Businesses & individuals making donations \$50 or more will be recognized on a banner displayed at the Grape & Fall Festival. Donations may be sent to the St. James Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 358, St. James, MO. 65559

## Grape and Fall Festival Parade Theme Chosen

The theme of the Fall Festival Parade this year is a nod to the Tour of Missouri bike race, and will be titled: *Pedal to the Medal*. Citizens school age and up are invited to ride in the parade, on their own bikes, in a variety of styles and themes. There will be contests for those who decorate their bikes or wear costumes. The bicyclists will lead the parade. For Further information contact this year's Parade Chair Johanna (Corn) MacPherson at [johannamacpherson@gmail.com](mailto:johannamacpherson@gmail.com) or at (573) 263-3650 or call the Chamber Office at (573) 265-6649. We love a parade!

## Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Grape and Fall Festival will soon be underway. Thank you to the following businesses who have stepped forward with contributions which help make it possible:

**Columbia College  
Days Inn & Suites  
Donald Farm & Lawn  
FCNB  
Forest City Pharmacy  
Golden Living Center  
Grellner Sales & Service  
Huffman Lawn & Landscaping  
j. Rogers Architecture  
James Foundation  
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co.  
Phelps County Bank  
Phelps County Regional Medical Center  
Saint James Press  
Shearmasters  
St. James Eye Care  
St. James Leader Journal  
St. James Winery  
Sybill's Restaurant & Gift Shop  
Tacony Manufacturing  
Town & Country Bank  
Walmart Distribution Center 6069  
Wilson Lumber Co.**

## What's Happening in Your Chamber & Community

- Jul 17 C of C Members Business After Hours w/ Tour – St. James Winery – 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.**
- Jul 17 USA Tours – Wilsons Creek Battlefield – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jul 21 C of C Membership Meeting/Luncheon – 11:30 a.m. – Assembly of God Church – Impact Youth Catering**
- Jul 21 USA Tours – Isle of Capri Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jul 24 – 25 – Licking Shoot-Out**
- Jul 26 USA Tours – Meskwaki Bingo Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jul 27 USA Tours – Meskwaki Bingo Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jul 28 C of C Coffee @ Tacony Manufacturing – Business of the Month – 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**
  
- Aug 03 - 07 USA Tours – Amish Quilt and Garden Tour – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Aug 04 C of C Board Meeting @ Town & Country Bank – 6:00 p.m**
- Aug 13 USA Tours – Kimmswick River Boat Cruise – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Aug 18 C of C Members Meeting/Luncheon – Camp Brim Shire – 11:30 a.m. – Speaker & Tour: Rich Hashagen**
- Aug 18 USA Tours – Isle of Capri Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**

**Working Together - Our Membership:**

<p>Absolute Electronics          Action Auto Sales LLC #2          Aging Made Easy          Alex's Pizza Palace          Alfermann Gray &amp; Company          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, Sue          Camp Brim Shire          Cardetti Homegas, Furn. &amp; Appliance          Celebrations Catering &amp; Rentals          Central Federal Savings &amp; 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, Johanna          Corn, Mary Lou          Country Mart          Cox, Tom          Crafton, Jack &amp; Jean          Crutiques Bed &amp; Breakfast          Cuba Area Chamber          Days Inn &amp; Suites          Delano Oil Company          Designs By Lisa          Diana's Diner          Didion-Orf Recycling          Donald Farm &amp; 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</p>	<p>Forest City Footwear          Forest City Pharmacy          Frazier, Vicki          Frisbee Mid-Missouri Realty, Inc.          Golden Living Center          The Grapevine          Grellner Sales          Halo Candle Company          HiStriker          Huffman Lawn &amp; Landscaping          Hutcheson Collision Center          Hutcheson Ford Sales          Integrity Business          Intercounty Electric          Interstate Motorcycles          Investment Realty, Inc.          J. Rogers Architecture, Inc.          James Foundation          James-Gahr Mortuary          Jensen, Mickie          Jones Funeral Home          Kean &amp; Company LLC          Key Sport Shop          Kingdom Kia          KMST Public Radio          Leo Cardetti Distributing          Lynch &amp; Sons Plumbing &amp; Electric          MacPherson, Johanna          Matt's Steakhouse          Meramec Vineyards          Micom LLC          Midstate State Dirworks          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 &amp; Betty          Reid Brick &amp; 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          Scotts Printing          SDC Group Stack Design &amp; 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 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          Sybills Restaurant &amp; Gift Shop          Tacony Manufacturing          Tessaro, Robert and Mary          The Blue Beagle          Three Squirrels Winery          Town &amp; Country Bank          Troutt &amp; Sons          Underwood, Gene &amp; Gail          United Country Meramec Realty          University of Missouri          US Bank          USA Tours          Verkamp &amp; Malone, CPAs          Verkamp, Randy          Wal-Mart DC          Walker, Don &amp; Ruth          Watson, Cordell          Wiemann, John &amp; Susan          Wildwest Guns &amp; More          Wilson Lumber &amp; Rental          Wilson, Dennis          Wind Rush Farms</p>
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