

Chamber Chatter

St. James Chamber of Commerce

111 S. Jefferson - PO Box 358

St. James, MO. 65559

Phone: (573) 265-6649 – June, 2009

"Business of the Month" Selected



The St. James Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate Phelps County Bank for being selected June "Business of the Month".

The St James Bank was chartered in May 1935 and began operation in the building located at 100 North Jefferson Street. In 1971 the St James Bank moved their operation to a new building located at Jefferson and Washington Street. The St James Bank was purchased by the Phelps County Bank in June 1984.

Phelps County Bank (PCB) is a community bank owned by the employees through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). PCB competes with both independent banks and branches of large state and national banking companies. PCB was established by local citizens in 1963. The majority interest was purchased by Don Castleman in 1971 and he subsequently purchased all but three percent of the stock through a one bank holding company by 1978.

The ESOP was established in 1980 as a profit sharing plan which would let employees share in the growth of the bank. The first purchase was 5% of the bank stock from Don Castleman. The bank had assets of \$20 million and 24 employees. When PCB purchased the St. James Bank in 1984, assets increased from \$32 million to \$57 million. In order to bring the 15 employees from the merged bank into the ownership plan, Don Castleman sold another 8% of the stock to the ESOP.

A tremendous effort was made to share information with employee-owners and to gain their commitment to make 100% ownership possible. By 1993 the ESOP had purchased all of the remaining stock.
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Political Forum/Luncheon Scheduled

The St. James Chamber of Commerce membership luncheon scheduled for 11:30, June 16, 2009 at the First Church of God, will include a political forum with our local and state representatives. Each guest speaker will be given the opportunity to inform the audience of details on the current events they are involved in as our representatives.

The meeting is open to the public. Lunch will be catered by the First Church of God 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 or call 265-6649 with your reservations by Friday noon, June 12, 2009.

Ribbon-Cutting Planned

The Chamber of Commerce will host a coffee/ribbon-cutting on Friday, June 12, from 10:00 – 11:00 at the Saint James Press. The recently established newspaper is located at 120 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 107, St. James. Published on a weekly basis, the paper is owned by Three Rivers Publishing, Inc. The coffee is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

Join Us @ Business After Hours

The Chamber of Commerce June Business After Hours has been moved to Friday evening, June 26 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Meramec Winery. Appetizers will be provided by Meramec Winery and if guests would like to extend their evening, the Bistro will be open for casual dining. Beginning at 7:00 p.m., Too Far Gone will provide music and entertainment for Wine Down Friday, a weekly event held each Friday evening at Meramec Winery from May through September. There will be no cover charges and reservations are not required.

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 or call the Chamber office at 265-6649.

June Business of the Month, (con't from page 1, column 1)

The goal of the employee-owners of Phelps County Bank is to remain a financially sound, independent bank providing high quality service to those who entrust us with their finances, and to provide a great place to work. This unique type of ownership has allowed PCB to grow each year and for the employee-owners to see the stock increase in value. It has also benefited the bank's customers since employee-owners not only own stock, they have taken ownership of their jobs and understand that the success of their business depends on their efforts and the satisfaction of their customers.

In 2004 the St James Branch of the PCB moved to their new location at 220 North Jefferson. Phelps County Bank's St. James Branch currently has 13 employee-owners on staff.

The Chamber will host a coffee at Phelps County Bank, St. James, on Tuesday, June 23, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., to honor them as June Business of the Month. Please mark your calendar and join us in congratulating them.

DON'T FORGET THE FUND-RAISING EVENT FOR AMDY FOUNDATION

A GREAT ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST TO
HELP OUR LOCAL SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS

APPLEBEE'S RESTAURANT - ROLLA

JUNE 13, 2009 - 8:00 - 10:00 A.M.

Adults - \$6.00 Kids Under Age 6 - \$3.00

Chamber Board Announces Support of Pool Project

At the June 2 Board meeting, Johanna MacPherson explained the Pool Rebuild Project/Bond Issue. A couple of key notes that were pointed out center around this one-time opportunity to have the pool reopened in St. James. The James Foundation has already announced that should the sales tax and bond issues not pass, the pool will be bulldozed in and the ground cleared. The sales tax must pass with a simple majority of 51% to move forward with the project. The bond issue will need 2/3 majority to pass. The Chamber Board unanimously voted to support and endorse the project.

Old Depot Update

Work began in earnest on the Old Depot on May 30 with a number of enthusiastic volunteers showing up to work. The interior has been gutted and two new bathrooms have been framed. Donations have been arriving at the Chamber office, both from businesses and individuals. Anyone who would like to make a donation can send it to the SJ Community Development Corporation, PO Box 358, St. James with a note indicating the purpose of the donation. Donations can also be dropped off at the Chamber office.

What's Happening in Your Chamber & Community

- Jun 10-11 USA Tours – Arabia & Harley Davidson Museum, Kansas City – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jun 12 C of C Coffee/Ribbon-cutting – Saint James Press – 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**
- Jun 13 AMDY Foundation Fundraiser - Applebee's, Rolla, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.**
- Jun 16 C of C Members Meeting/Luncheon-Political Forum – First Church of God – Youth catering**
- Jun 16 USA Tours – Isle of Capri Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jun 19 – 20 Licking Shoot-Out**
- Jun 23 C of C "Business of the Month" Coffee – Phelps County Bank – 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**
- Jun 25 USA Tours – Lincoln Library and Museum – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- Jun 26 C of C Members Business After Hours @ Meramec Winery - 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.**
- Jun 26 - 27 Licking Shoot-Out**

- Jul 04 Chamber Office Closed**
- Jul 07 C of C Board Meeting @ Town & Country Bank – 6:00 p.m.**
- Jul 07 USA Tours – Isle of Capri Casino – Contact Robin Cornman – 573-364-2391**
- 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 – 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**

Welcome to our newest Chamber Members!

Engine 51 Smokers – owned by Tex Rabenau. For information on catering, contact Tex at engine51smokers@yahoo.com or phone (573) 265-3051.

Micom LLC – Contact: Mike Goff. Computer repair/support and computer sales. Email Mike at support@micomlive.net – Website: micomlive.net or phone (573) 465-4689.

CM Archer Group, P.C. – 1100 North Outer Road, St. James. Civil Engineering and Surveying. Contact: Jeff Medows. Phone 265-0190. Email: jmedows@cmarcher.com – Website: cmarcher.com

Membership Discounts
Save Members \$\$\$\$'s

Work is underway to develop a new program for Chamber members. The discount program would allow Chamber members special discounts at participating member businesses. In exchange for offering discounts to our members, participating businesses will be included in the ad listing on the website and will be listed in the Chamber Chatter with their special promotion. Chamber members will receive a membership card for identification purposes. There will be no coupons or expiration dates—If a business wishes to discontinue their participation, their name will simply be removed from the web ads and newsletter listing. If you are interested in having your business listed as a participating business, please contact Jennie for further details.

Decorated Bicycles
Tour of Missouri Fundraiser


Does everyone remember the decorated Cows of Chicago, the Pigs of Seattle or the Cows of Kansas City? These were life-size fiberglass animal images that were decorated by artists from around the world, and kept on display to promote tourism. Each art rendering was sponsored by a business or corporation and then after the year on display were auctioned off and the funds went to tourism for each city. It is proposed by Chamber of Commerce member, Mary Lou Corn, that St. James adopt this idea, and use instead of animals—bicycles. Each one will be decorated by a local artist/craftsperson and put on display either in front of the sponsoring business, or on the plaza or at the tourist center. Artists/craftspeople can apply at the Chamber of Commerce office, and will be given an application describing the entry idea. A committee comprised of Chamber Board members and TOM LOC members will select a limited number of applicants. The deadline for application is July 1 and the finished projects must be turned in by August 1. They will go on display in time to promote Tour of Missouri and the Grape and Fall Festival. (The Parade theme of the GFF for 2009 is Pedal to the Medal—featuring pedal power in all its forms.) The bikes are not supposed to be usable, but are going to be auctioned off as art objects only. More details will be forthcoming shortly. The contest will be a Chamber of Commerce sponsored Tour of Missouri Fundraiser. Funds raised exceeding TOM expenses will be used toward a community betterment project.

Filtering Emails

Each day, I spend the first hour or so of my time going through “informational emails” in order to determine which ones I should send on to our members. There has been a request from one of our members for me to forward more information to members than what I am now sending. Since I do not have the time to make a list of what everyone wants to receive and does not want to receive, such a request would have to be all inclusive. If you would like to be on a “receive it ALL email list”, please let me know and I will add your name to the list. Of course, this does not pertain to emails that are specifically addressed to the Chamber office or me. Jennie

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 or at (573) 263-3650 or call the Chamber Office at (573) 265-6649. We love a parade!



Tacony Manufacturing
#3 Industrial Drive
St. James
Tuesday, June 23rd
9 am to 2 pm


Door Prizes

- Vacuum Cleaners
- Carpet Fragrances
- Mini-Vacs

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Give the Gift of Life

To register call Nancy Montgomery at:
573-265-0500 ext. 4310

Snacks and Cookies Provided



Working Together - Our Membership:

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| <p>Absolute Electronics Action Auto Sales LLC #2 Aging Made Easy Alex's Pizza Palace Alfermann Gray & 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. & Appliance 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, Johanna Corn, Mary Lou 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</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 & Landscaping Hutcheson Collision Center Hutcheson Ford Sales Integrity Business Intercounty Electric Interstate Motocycles Investment Realty, Inc. 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 Miller, Frank Missouri Enterprise Missouri Veterans Home MRPC Murdon Corporation Nappier Automotive Oliver, Kathy 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 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 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 & Gift Shop Tacony Manufacturing Tessaro, Robert and Mary The Blue Beagle Three Squirrels Winery Town & Country Bank Troutt & Sons Underwood, Gene & Gail United Country Meramec Realty University of Missouri US Bank USA Tours Verkamp & Malone, CPAs Verkamp, Randy Wal-Mart DC Walker, Don & Ruth Watson, Cordell Wiemann, John & Susan Wildwest Guns & More Wilson Lumber & Rental Wilson, Dennis Wind Rush Farms</p> |
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