

A voice that promotes planned economic growth by linking people in business, government and the community.

Presidential Thoughts-September 2007...

63% of consumers were likely to buy from Chamber members! This is one of many interesting conclusions released recently from a national study by the ACCE, (American Chamber of Commerce Executives). "The message from this national study is as simple as it is ground-breaking, join your local chamber, be an active participant in your chamber's programs and be sure to let your customers and prospects know you're a proud chamber supporter when they come into your business and when they see your marketing material." (Jim Blasingame, small business expert and president of Small Business Network, Inc.)

What became very clear as I read this study is something I think the Spring Hill Chamber members have already started to recognize. "...chamber membership is synonymous with quality and desirability."

As we look forward to the coming months which includes our fabulous guest speakers, Deborah Kohler and Mary Birch, the annual dinner and election of new officers, and the Home and Business Expo committee beginning their planning for the spring, I encourage you to get involved, bring a friend and remember....Think Spring Hill!



Formula for Change!

Is there room for improvement in your business? Do you have a clear vision for the future and how you're going to get there? Are you excited to take the first steps to implement change or is it easier to keep doing things the same way they have always been done?

Leadership starts with knowing where you're headed and how you're going to get there. Make progress on that journey by examining the barriers to change.

Join **ActionCOACH** Deborah Kohler at our general membership meeting September 13th at 12 noon and loose some of your "anchors" that prevent the growth and profitability you want and deserve!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Helen's Homemade Heaven opened August 6. Debbie Jeffries, owner and baker, has delicious homemade cinnamon rolls, breads and cakes, as well as the fudge memories are made of. They are located at 104 S. Main. Phone number (913)686-4700. email address: helenshomemadeheaven@cebridge.net

Chavez Decorating specializes in paint and stain applications with an emphasis on hand tools to ensure the highest quality of work. They also offer small repairs on drywall and can perform carpentry work to fix any small problem areas. They offer quality work at a fair price, while being clean, fast, and always on time. Rob Chevez and Kristie Spain, owners, may be reached at (913)967-9395. Their email address is roberto80123@yahoo.com.

Graham Indoor Advertising provides a personal and effective way to communicate your product, service, or event to a captive audience. Indoor Billboard advertising is the only form of advertising that allows you to target a specific male or female audience. Tarah Graham can be reached at (816)769-1955. Mailing address, 5 South Peoria, Ste 119, Louisburg, KS 66053. You may email her at grahamindoor@yahoo.com.

Matheny Chiropractic, 122 E. Park, Gardner, KS, 66030, offers massage therapy and nutrition assistance as well as chiropractic services. The office number is (913)856-7067.

CHAMBER DAY AT THE SPEEDWAY

Don't miss your opportunity to attend the largest Chamber networking event of the year. Business leaders from 30 Kansas City area chambers will be at the Chamber Day at the Races. See the attached flyer and RSVP to the Chamber office by September 14. Make checks payable to the Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce.

Fall Festival Information

The Chamber will have a booth again this year. We will need volunteers to help with the booth during the day. You are welcome to promote your business during that time. We also need volunteers to help with set up and down. Someone with a truck to help deliver display materials to and from the festival is necessary this year.

New High School Dedication and Open House

The Spring Hill Unified School District No. 230 Board of Education held its Dedication and Open House of the new Spring Hill High School on Sunday, August 26 at 19701 Ridgeview, Spring Hill, Kansas from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Open House-Captain Video -August 23, 2007-



NIFFY PRINTING-First Friday Donuts-September 7, 2007

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE OR EXISTING BUSINESS OWNERS IN MIAMI AND JOHNSON COUNTIES

The Small Business Development Center offers FREE individualized, confidential, and comprehensive consulting to prospective and existing small business owners in Johnson and Miami counties in Kansas. SBDC consultants are skilled small business professionals with expertise in many areas, including marketing and sales, accounting, financial analysis and cost control, personnel, inventory control, business start-up or acquisition, and business liquidation or sale.

The SBDC also accesses a wide variety of independent outside consultants, JCCC faculty, and other business professionals to provide the information you need to make your business successful. All of their services are FREE.

Some of the specific ways the KSBDC can help your business include:

Small Business Management

- Developing a strategic plan
- Providing professional business analysis
- Creating a human resources plan
- Identifying marketing strategies

Market Research and Analysis

- Identifying target market segments
- Tapping sources that can provide customer lists, site analysis, and demographic and competitor information

Financial Analysis

- Analyzing and assisting with cash flow projections
- Taking a financial inventory to determine growth potential and capital needs
- Exploring financing options and assist in developing financial plans for banks and investors

On Sept. 14, Robert Kolich with the KSBDC will be available at the Miami County Economic Development Department to provide services to area businesses. While appointments are encouraged, persons can also drop by 201 South Pearl Suite 202 between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more information or to set an appointment, e-mail the KSBDC at ksbdc@jccc.edu or call Robert Kolich (913) 469-8500 Ext 4240.

He anticipates being based from the Miami County Economic Development Department at least one day a month and is always willing to make site visits. If your firm provides professional services to other businesses, you are encouraged to stop in and talk with Robert about your firm. This will allow him to make referrals to other businesses in need of your services.

Janet McRae
Economic Development Director
Miami County

Office DEPOT | TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Asian American | Black Chamber of Greater KC | Blue Springs | Bonner Springs/Edwardsville | De Soto | Eudora | Fort Scott | Gardner | Gladstone | Grandview | Greater Kansas City | Hispanic Chamber of KC | Independence | Kansas City, KS | KBCC | KCADC | Lawrence | Leawood | Lenexa | Northeast Johnson County | Northland Regional | Olathe | Ottawa | Overland Park | Paola | Platte City | Raytown | Shawnee | South Kansas City | Spring Hill | Topeka

OFFICE DEPOT® CHAMBER DAY

AT KANSAS SPEEDWAY* \$35 Per Person | Networking and lunch in the VIP Pavilion (Outside Gate C)
 Friday, Sept. 28, 2007 | Parking is always free at Kansas Speedway

Network with business leaders from over 30 Kansas City area chambers of commerce. Plus, hear from Carl Edwards, driver of the No. 99 Office Depot Ford Fusion in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series. Don't miss the door prizes, great food and action on the track throughout the day.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (subject to change)

- 8:45 am USAC Silver Crown Series Practice
- 10:00 am OFFICE DEPOT CHAMBER DAY AND NETWORKING BEGINS
- 10:45 am CARL EDWARDS SPEAKS TO THE GROUP, followed by LUNCH, MORE NETWORKING AND DOOR PRIZES
- 11:35 am NASCAR Practice Sessions
- 3:10 pm NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series O'Reilly Auto Parts Qualifying
- 6:30 pm Midwest Ford Dealers presents SpeedFest (Display area outside Gate B)

To purchase tickets for Office Depot Chamber Day at Kansas Speedway, please call your local Chamber of Commerce before September 14.

Ticket packages will be mailed the week of September 17.



Calendar of Events

September

- Sept. 6-Noon Board Meeting
- Sept 7- First Friday Donuts-Niffie Printing
- Sept. 13-General Membership Meeting-Deborah Kohler-ActionCoach
- Sept 14-Deadline for Speedway RSVP
- Sept. 15-Fall Festival and Pony Express Rider
- Sept. 28-Chamber Day at the Speedway

October

- October 4- **11:00 am-2:00 pm!** 1st Option-Ribbon Cutting and Open House
- October 5- First Friday Donuts-Civic Center/Fagan Insurance
- October 11-Noon Board Meeting

October 12-8-10am.-

Deborah Kohler-6 Steps to a Better Business

October 18-General Membership Meeting-Mary Birch, Guest Speaker-

October 25-After Hours-Niffie Printing

November

November 5-Monday-Annual Dinner

November 8-Noon Board Meeting Meeting

December

December 1-Hometown Holidays

December 7-First Friday Donuts, Perfect Details, 516 N. Webster

December 13-Noon Board Meeting

December 20-General Membership Meeting