



CHAMBER CONNECTIONS

MISSION STATEMENT

The Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce supports our business community to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.

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Follow us on:

2014 Chamber Celebration

WHEN: Wednesday, January 28, 2015

WHERE: Four Points by Sheraton

4011 Blue Ridge Cutoff, across from stadiums

\$21.00 per person - RSVP by Monday, Jan. 26 @ noon

Loretha Hayden, Immediate Past Chair of the Board, will honor the 2014 Board of Directors. A sincere thank you to the outgoing Board Members, Andy Powelson and Pat Searcy. You all have made a huge impact on the Raytown Chamber and the community in which you have served. The annual Chamber awards will be presented to the **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, CHAMBER PERSON OF THE YEAR & VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR.** The Current Chair of the Board, Mark Smith, will relay his plan for this year during this program as well.

Please join us at this annual celebration of the Raytown Chamber. We encourage you to invite your family, friends, employees or colleagues. This is a great opportunity to thank the board of directors and officers for their voluntary service to the betterment of the Chamber and the Raytown community.

Celebration Sponsor:

Luncheon Sponsor:



2015 RAYTOWN CORPORATE SPONSORS



DICK SMITH





WWW.THINKRAYTOWNFIRST.COM



Think Raytown First is a campaign to encourage doing business locally and a way to keep the community informed. To market to those traveling through Raytown on 350 Highway, the Raytown Chamber has obtained a bill board for seven weeks encouraging the Think Raytown First campaign. The bill board is located just past Fun House Pizza on 350 Highway. It is a great location and hope it will remind everyone no matter what to Think Raytown First. Remember we have window clings if you need one for your business or even your car.



Board of Directors

Mark Smith, Chair of the Board
Dick Smith Ford

Michelle Williams, Chair Elect
Mission of Hope Clinic

Jeff Hirst, Secretary/Treasurer
Four Points by Sheraton

Loretha Hayden, Past Chair
Lutfi's Fried Fish

At Large Members

Mike Gatschet
Dick Smith Ford

Alyson Jones
Bickford Assisted Living

Board Members

Kaylie Baker
Rok'it Advertising

Shawna Burns
Commerce Bank

Pam Clark
Clark's Appliances

Pat Ertz
Public Water Supply Dist. #2

Steve Mock
City of Raytown

Holly Grimwood
Raytown Emergency Assistance Program

Rene Purtee
Arvest Bank

Bruce Stansberry
Liberty Tax Service

Derek Ward
KCP&L

Mahesh Sharma, Liaison
City of Raytown

Dr. Allan Markley, Liaison
Raytown Quality Schools

Steve Guenther, Liaison
Raytown Main Street Assoc.

Staff

Vicki Turnbow, President
president@raytownchamber.com

Kyle Phillips, Operations Manager
kphillips@raytownchamber.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Each One Reach One Membership Drive will take place again in 2015 from March 1 to May 29. Even though recruiting of new members happens all year long, this membership drive is set up as a time for you to benefit from bringing in a new member. As you all know, membership is the backbone to the success of our Chamber. Take a look at who you do business with and ask them to join the Chamber if they have not already done so. All current members who bring in a new member (additional location, individual or business) will be eligible for cash and prizes throughout March, April and May. Grand prizes will be handed out at the June membership luncheon. Be watching for information to come through email, your monthly newsletter and at the monthly luncheons in regards to the membership drive. Only you can talk about the benefits you receive personally and professional from your involvement with the Chamber.

Overall 2014 was a good year for the Chamber. We increased membership and grew our existing events. The Senior Celebration held in September was a success and this year, the event should be even bigger. Attendees ranging from 21 to 90 had a great time eating, dancing and making new friends! Mark your calendars for September 12.

New for 2015, the Chamber will partner with CareSpot and bring to Raytown a Community Health Fair. We have set the date for Saturday, June 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Location to be determined so watch for details to come out over the next few months.

I look forward to continuing to be your President and will work hard to provide you with the best member benefits any Chamber can provide. We will continue to Think Raytown First with the hopes of building a stronger community and an even stronger Chamber.

Don't forget to stop by the **A.M. Connections Networking**,
Tues. Jan. 20, at DSB Services!

My door is always open, come by anytime!

Vicki Turnbow, President



SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE

LUNCHEON SPONSOR:

Serve as a host to greet the attendees, put information at each place setting, 5 minutes on the agenda to talk about your business, company listed in the newsletter & Chamber's website. The cost of the luncheon sponsorship is \$160.00

June 24 - July 22 (Raytown Economic Development Update) Aug. 26

NETWORKING EVENT SPONSOR:

A.M. Connections are the third Tues. of the month at 7:30-8:30am. After Hours are the first Thur. of the month at 4:30-5:30pm. Receive 16 invitations to distribute to your customers, company listed in the newsletter & Chamber's website. Provide some beverages/refreshments, of your choice. The cost of the networking sponsorship is \$50.00 for each event.

A.M. Connections: June 16 - Aug. 18

After Hours: Feb. 5 - Apr. 2 - May 7 - June 4 - Sept. 3 - Oct. 1 - Nov. 5

Letter from the Chamber Chair

Dear Chamber Members,

First of all, I would like to thank you for your membership and your commitment to the Raytown community. If you've been here a while, you realize what a great place Raytown is with a rich history and a bright tomorrow. If you're new, I hope you're looking forward to discovering what Raytown and the Chamber have to offer. The Chamber exists to enhance the business community and the community as a whole and help continue to make Raytown a great place to do business and live.

The Chamber had a very successful 2014 under the leadership of Chair Loretha Hayden, highlighted by a successful Each One Reach One membership drive and Raytown's first Senior Celebration, the first of what will surely be a great annual event. For 2015, you can count on another great year with monthly luncheons featuring a terrific list of speakers like our Mayor, Raytown's School Superintendent, our Jackson County Executive, Raytown's Economic Development Director and more. Our "A.M. Connections" are a great way to network and socialize and maybe discover a few places that you haven't visited before and our "After Hours" events also offer a chance to gather with your fellow Chamber members. On top of all of that, we offer the ultimate networking opportunity with our participation in the annual multi-chamber Mega Office Party, plus a very successful annual golf tournament, numerous ribbon cuttings, Lunch and Learn seminars and more. If you're looking for a resource to get a business referral, assistance with city contacts, marketing opportunities through sponsorships, promotions of grand openings or to just get a phone number, the Chamber can help.

The Chamber is also active in the community putting on events like Raytown Night at the Royals, Raytown Night at the Mavericks and Senior Celebration. We also participate in the planning committees of Raytown Holiday Lighting, Raytown Arts and Music Festival and Downtown Raytown's Eggstravaganza.

All of this is made possible by our dedicated staff, headed up by our President Vicki Turnbow and lots of wonderful volunteers. Did I say "volunteers"? It is only with the dedication of numerous volunteers that makes all of this possible, but also creates some great opportunities for our membership to really get involved with the Chamber and promote yourself and your business. The Chamber has numerous committees that we'd love to have you involved in including Government Relations, Golf, Membership Services Retention and Recruitment, and more. Give Vicki a call and she'd be happy to tell you about the committees and other volunteer opportunities.

Thank you again for your membership and remember to **THINK RAYTOWN FIRST** and then, if you're not involved, get involved. You'll be glad you did. **Thank you - Mark Smith, 2015 Chair of the Board, Dick Smith Ford**

MEMBER MARKET



Blue Ridge
AUTO - TRUCK PLAZA

816-358-6500

6824 Blue Ridge Blvd. • Raytown, MO 64133
www.blueridgeautos.com

U-HAUL
Now available at this location



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

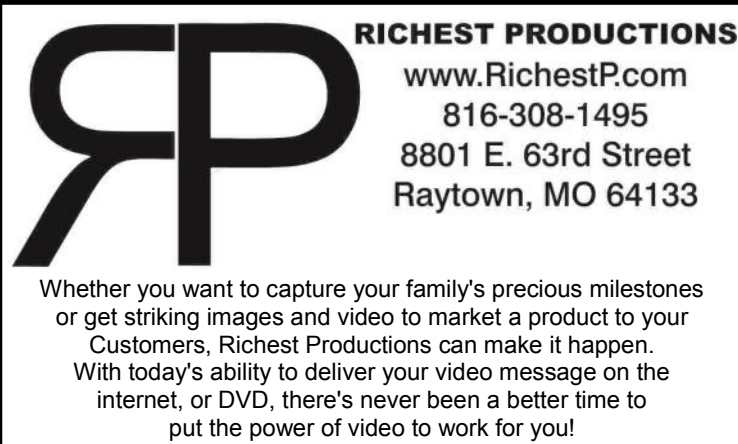
NEED A RENTAL HALL?

PARTIES ~ DANCES ~ RECEPTIONS ~ MEETINGS

SERVING THE GREATER KC AREA, THE HALL IS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED 1 1/2 MILES SOUTH OF THE TRUMAN SPORTS COMPLEX ON BLUE RIDGE CUTOFF AT SNI-A-BAR ROAD.

OFFICE HOURS: TUE.~SAT. 8AM~12PM

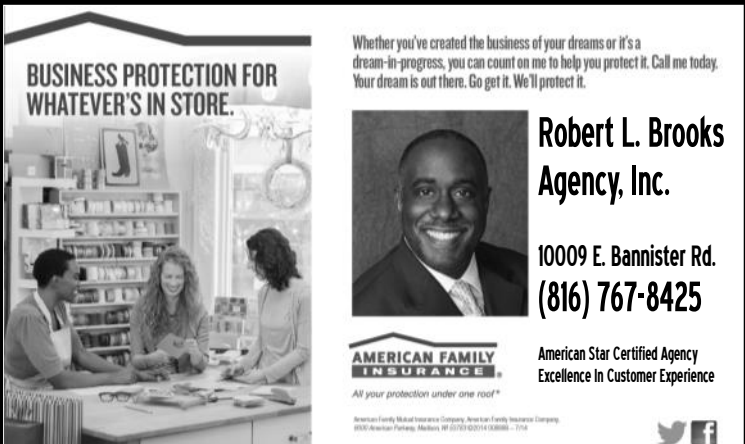
5101 BLUE RIDGE CUTOFF 816-356-4962



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EACH ONE → REACH ONE

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE DATES: March 1 - May 29, 2015

- New Member Packets will be emailed out to each current member sometime in January through Constant Contact. Please forward this packet to anyone you feel would be a great Chamber member. Printed packets will be available for pickup at the Chamber office.
- The current Chamber member who brings in the most new members will receive **\$500 Cash**; the second most **\$250** and the third most **\$100**. Each member that brings in one member will be put into a drawing to receive one of three \$50.00 cash prizes. These will be announced at the June membership luncheon.
- At the March, April and May luncheons – all members who brought in a member that month, will be in a drawing for a gift (to be determined).
- Each application received will be dated and if the recruited by space is left blank, staff will contact the company to see who they were recruited by. To be eligible for the cash prizes, the application and check for the full membership dues must be received before end of business May 29.

Help us grow OUR Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce!

MOCK INTERVIEWS AT RAYTOWN SUCCESS ACADEMY

Written by: Kayondez A./Mason C. (Student Ambassadors)

On December 2, 2014 we hosted an event that allowed the High School/Missouri Option student(s) to learn the proper way to apply for a job. Several area businesses assisted. Our list included: Recruiters, Owners, Assistant Managers; even the Kansas City Chief of Police was here at Raytown Success Academy to interview our student(s)! The interviewers were designed to address both the positive and negative. Therefore, in the future these students will know exactly how to get the job! There were many different varieties of industries represented like Financial, Military, Law Enforcement, Utility, Hotel, Food, Construction, and Design.

Here's how it worked. Every student had 15 minutes to interview with the representative of the company. Students had the option of selecting a few places to interview. The representative would fill out a paper that listed the student strengths as well as what they need to work on to do better in the next interview. The students seemed to enjoy this career program and looked very happy with their results.

We would like to thank the following organizations for their support and helping the students of Raytown Success Academy with their Mock Interviews:

Bordner Installation Group Inc. - Arvest Bank - Price Chopper - Dick Smith Ford - Unity Village
Hy-Vee - Raytown Water - KCPD - Four Points by Sheraton - Carlito's - Blue Ridge Bank and Trust
Cosentino's Apple Market - Aviation Institute - Westlake Hardware - Anna's Design of Hollywood
Public Water Supply District #2 - US Army

Teachers, Mr. William Grother and Mr. Tom Roper would like to also thank Mrs. Vicki Turnbow and Ms. Rene Purtee for donating time, a few days in advance, to coach our students on the proper way to "dress for success." In addition Ms. Turnbow returned the day after to participate in our post-processing event. These before and after visits greatly added to the effectiveness of our mock interview day. Thank you ladies!!!

They hope to do this again in the spring, but will definitely look to continue it next year and for years to come. Special thanks to Vicki Turnbow who helped us, secure Raytown Chamber members to contact and to all the businesses who participated in this splendid endeavor and to Ridgewood Donuts who graciously donated donuts for the day.

CHAMBER RENEWALS

- ☺ **Rayview Construction, Inc. 2011** Steve Bakken
- ☺ **Missouri Mavericks Professional Hockey 2009** Ben Gaul
- ☺ **V's Italiano Ristorante 2013** Greg Hunsucker
- ☺ **Summit Media Publications, Inc. 2005** Sean Allison
- ☺ **Southeast Enterprises, Inc. 1995** DeeAnn Stock, Megan Gurera, Sheryl Wilson
- ☺ **Courier Printing 1990** Thomas Lankford
- ☺ **Tom & Donna Gibbens 2008**
- ☺ **Raytown Lee's Summit Community Credit Union 1992** Donna Bunton
- ☺ **Central Bank of the Midwest 1991** Aaron Neill
- ☺ **Truman Heartland Community Foundation 1996** Phillip J. Hanson
- ☺ **Brandt's Glass LLC 2014** Eric & Laura Brandt
- ☺ **Edward Jones 1983** Mark Sandy
- ☺ **Land Specialties Mfg. Co., Inc. 1972** Donald "Gene" Land
- ☺ **goodbidding.org Thrift & Flea 2010** David McGee
- ☺ **Charlotte Belger 2000**
- ☺ **Lane Avenue Baptist Church 2012** Jerry Applegate
- ☺ **USA800, Inc. 1978** Tom Davis, David LaBatt
- ☺ **Clarice Titus 2003**

☺ *We would like to thank our members who gave 110%.*

NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

MILLIE'S COTTAGE ACCENTS & ANTIQUES
Merlene Brush
 5239 Blue Ridge Blvd.
 Raytown MO 64133
 816-516-1694
 milliescottage@gmail.com
 milliescottage.com
 Retail Sales
 Recruited by City Hall

GIRL SCOUTS NE KANSAS/NW MISSOURI
Wanda Thomas
 8383 Blue Parkway
 Kansas City MO 64133
 816-358-8750
 wandathomas@gkskmo.org
 gkskmo.org
 Not for Profit Organization
 Recruited by Rene Purtee

PREVEYCARE LLC
David Wilson
 10001 E. 67th St.
 Raytown MO 64133
 816-287-0728
 dave@preveycare.com
 preveycare.com
 Health Care Services
 Recruited by Diane Krizek

NEWZROOM CAFÉ
Marvin & Michelle Russell
 6020 Blue Ridge Blvd.
 Raytown, MO 64133
 (816) 308-5250
 newzroom@live.com
 www.newzroomcafe.com
 Restaurant
 Recruited by Andy Noll

Welcome!



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT ON...



shepherd's center
 OF RAYTOWN

Address: 7900 Blue Ridge Blvd. KC MO 64138

Phone: 816-356-9000

Email: shepherdcenter@sbcglobal.net

Website: shepherdcenterraytown.org

Founded: 1989 **Chamber Member since:** 1992

Employees: 3 **Hours:** M-F 9-12 & 1-4

Services: The Shepherd's Center of Raytown provides services for those older adults, 55 and older who live within the Raytown School District. These services include: Meals on Wheels, Wheels That Care, Handyman Repair, Senior Companion/Respite Care, Phone Friend, Seasonal Yard Clean-up

Programs: Adventures In Learning, Book Club, Bouncing Back Support Group, Breaktime Club, Exercise Group, T'ai Chi

Future Plans: Continue to look for ways to serve the 55 and older community in Raytown.

Business Philosophy: Active, independent living for older adults is what we're about at Shepherd's Center of Raytown

Our business is a Chamber Member because: It is an excellent opportunity to share our mission with others while at the same time engaging with other businesses and learning about them.

Can you help???? Let us know if you would like to volunteer!
Just call 356-9000!



Our Members in the News



Morning Coffee Networking at ...

Raytown Chamber
5909 Raytown Trfwy.



AFTER HOURS NETWORKING AT ...

EXTREME GRAND PRIX
6731 BLUE RIDGE BLVD.



Chamber Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies were held last month at two new businesses in Raytown. **AutoMax KC** is located at 11900 E. 350 Highway and have done some wonderful improvements to their building. **Millie's Cottage Accents & Antiques** is located at 5239 Blue Ridge Blvd. and offers some unique items in a cozy home setting.

Welcome to these new Raytown businesses!



Upcoming Member Events

JANUARY A.M. CONNECTIONS NETWORKING

The next "A.M. Connections" event will be held at **DSB SERVICES, 10310 E. 63RD TERR.** Come by anytime between **7:30 to 8:30 a.m.** to network with other businesses within the community. An added bonus will be to see the business who has agreed to host the event and find out what they can offer to you!



RAYTOWN CHAMBER MEET & GREET

New Members who have joined the Raytown Chamber within the last 6 months will be invited to a Chamber Meet and Greet on **Tuesday, February 10 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm** to be held at the **Boulevard Grill located inside the Four Points by Sheraton located at 4011 Blue Ridge Cutoff** will host this event. We are asking veteran members to attend and help us welcome the new members. There will be a cash bar and refreshments available along with some great networking. Bring plenty of business cards to exchange with other members. Be watching for further information and please remember a reservation is required even though it is no charge to attend for this event.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEONS

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor David Bower

WHEN: Wednesday, February 25, 2015

WHERE: First Baptist Church of Raytown, 10500 E. 350 Highway
\$21.00 per person - RSVP by Monday, Feb. 23

SPONSORED BY:



**2015 MLK
Celebration**

in Raytown!

January 18, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.
at **Graceway** (5460 Blue Ridge Cut-Off)

*Celebrate Dr. King's legacy,
build community & help others!*

Featuring speaker John Wiley of The River Church,
Mayor David Bower, a Community Choir and the annual
MLK Today Essay Contest!



For Info: Call 816-353-2296 or visit us on Facebook
(www.facebook.com/RaytownMLKcelebration)
or Twitter (#RaytownMLK).



**RAYTOWN
NIGHT WITH THE
MAVERICKS**

MARCH 6, 2015 7:05PM

MISSOURI MAVERICKS VS. RAPID CITY RUSH
TICKETS \$ 16.00 (TERRACE SECTION—\$ 21.00 VALUE)
TICKETS \$ 23.00 (RINKSIDE SECTION—\$ 28.00 VALUE)

*Don't miss the fun and excitement
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BUY YOUR TICKETS AT THE CHAMBER OFFICE!
TICKET SALES END February 27!



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DATED MATERIAL

JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Check your weekly Chamber Connections C-mail for an up-to-date calendar</i></p>				<p>1 Chamber Closed</p> 	2 Chamber Closed	3
4	5	6	7 12:00pm Member Services - Recruitment Cmte.	8	9 8:00am Government Relations Open Round Table Discussions	10
11	12	13	14 7:15am Board of Directors	15	16	17
18	19		21	22	23 8:30am Member Services - Retention Cmte.	24
25	26 12:00pm ➤ DEADLINE ◀ For lunch reservations	27	28 11:30am <i>Chamber Celebration Luncheon</i>	29	30	31