



DRURY ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS ARE ON A MISSION IN MT. VERNON

Chamber Connection

February 2017

THINGS TO KNOW

PLANNING AHEAD

Last month we chose a word we hoped would represent 2017, RESOLVE, which in part can be defined as to decide firmly on a course of action. We have the word now we are starting to see the players come into view.

We encourage the public to join the Drury team, pictured above, in a series of Town Hall style meetings to be held at the MARC. During the meetings, the Drury University Architecture students will be gathering ideas to piece together a comprehensive 20+ year plan for growth in our community. Each month the puzzle will have pieces added, but we need you and your ideas. We need high schoolers, twenty-somethings, families, churches and even our elders to assist and provide an outline of what the face of our community will look like in the coming years.

The first question we were asked is "what is the heart of Mt. Vernon." Hmmmm. Tough one. Once we determine the answer then the team can begin to develop a structured plan for us. We must make some decisions now, and we

get to dream a little. What would you love to see here that would encourage our biggest export, our children, to return after college, trade school or travel? How do we grow? What do we need? The final product is a series of 40 story boards and a book, approximately 200 pages, that can be utilized as a tool kit. Now is your chance to voice an opinion.

The Town Hall meetings will be at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 9th, March 2nd, April 6th and, the final presentation, May 11th. And this is just the start! Once the ideas are in hand we must follow through and determine how to accomplish the tasks, how to fund projects and carefully choose the ideas that will mean the most to the residents of Mt. Vernon and the surrounding area. Please contact the Chamber with any questions and follow us on Facebook at Visioning Advisory Committee.

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Mike Tebow – President; David Gregersen – Vice-President; Brian George, Ryan Squibb, Darren Selvidge, Nick Curl, Dianna Ross, Paula Parker and, Linda Woolery. Director Pam Dudley.

PASSPORT TO SUCCESS
ANNUAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET

You are cordially invited to attend the
 Mt. Vernon Area Chamber of Commerce
 Annual Banquet & Reception

February 18th, 2017
 Reception at 6 p.m. • Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
 at the MARC,
 822 W. Mt. Vernon Blvd., Mt. Vernon, MO

Tickets: \$20 per person
 RSVP by Monday, February 13 – 417-466-7654

Annual Members Banquet

Save the date! On Saturday, February 18th at 6pm Chamber of Commerce members and special guests are invited to attend the **Passport to Success Banquet**. We are selling tickets now at the Chamber. Prepare for a night filled with fun, dining catered by Maggie Mae's and entertainment from members of the Show Choir. We plan a silent auction and a travel theme including passport photos. You won't want to miss it!

Banquet Vote

Vote for one in each category at the Banquet. **Industrial Business of the Year** nominees:



Made With Pride in the USA



Business of the Year nominees:



Keen Bean Coffee Roasters



Green's Hotel Furniture



A Beautiful Mess Boutique



The Lawrence County Record



RAFFLE DRAWING AT THE BANQUET

Time is short to get your chance on the Heritage Rough Rider with 22LR and 22 MAG cylinder. We have tickets at the Chamber, \$5 each or 3 for \$10. You can also get tickets from Board Members, at the Record and other locations in town. Plus we will still be selling tickets at the Banquet. The gun will be given away at the end of the night at the Banquet and you do not have to be present to win. May the odds be ever in your favor.



New 2017 Chamber Member Decal

We are pleased to unveil the new decal for 2017. When you receive your decal please display in a prominent location in your business to indicate you are a proud Chamber of Commerce member. You may not realize it but some shoppers try to patronize Chamber members first and we hope that you do the same. BE PROUD and show the town you are part of the Chamber.

Calendar of Events

Shop Local!

ABMD Committee Meeting, 7 am, Tue. Feb. 7th, CoC Office, please join us, we are looking for more volunteers.

Visioning Advisory Committee Town Hall Meeting, 6:30 pm, Thurs. February 9th, the MARC gymnasium.

Chamber Board Meeting, noon, Thur. Feb. 16th, CoC Office, members always welcome to attend.

Annual Chamber of Commerce Members Banquet, 6 pm Saturday, February 18th, at the MARC. The evening will feature a **Passport to Success** theme, we will enjoy a great meal, awards, entertainment and networking with our neighbors. Plan to attend. We also need centerpieces and small logo gifts to set out for our guests, please contact the Chamber if you can assist.

Business Expo, Home and Garden Show and Taste of the Town, 9-2 Saturday, April 1st, @the MARC register in advance.

51st Annual Apple Butter Makin' Days, Oct. 13-15, 2017, BE THERE ON THE SQUARE!