



NEW EVENT – THE TASTE! CHAMBER FUNDRAISER OFFERS SAMPLING OF LOCAL FLAVOR

THINGS TO KNOW

# Introducing - The Taste!

I remember my dad teasing when I was a kid – you can call me by any name you want just don't call me late for dinner. This is your chance to not be called late to dinner. Get your tickets now at the Chamber for a delectable new event where you can “taste” an all-you-can-eat sampling of offerings from many different food vendors, caterers and restaurants around the area. As of today, we have the following signed up to bring their goodies: **Hog Tide BBQ, Mazzio's, Keen Bean, Dinners Done, Lizzy Jeanne's, Hot & Bothered BBQ, Supermercado La Michoacana, Maggie Mae's, Pizza Hut, Red Rooster, Goodies and Prime Cut.** Plus, numerous others have given us a maybe! You cannot go wrong with all these flavors. Where else can you eat out for **\$10** per person or **\$15** at the door (**only 300 tickets available**) and get to try all this variety? We are excited to offer new events that may become an annual tradition for Mt.

Vernon. If you attended the 2017 Business Expo we had a smaller scale version of The Taste! and it was a hit. If you have ideas for events to feature local business, please feel free to share, we are looking for ways to promote you at every turn. We are your Chamber Connection.



**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.

## Chamber Champion



We already have our First Chamber Champion for 2018, **Blevins Asphalt**. Without our high-level sponsors, it would be nearly impossible to create new events and offer a progressive vision at the Chamber. Did you know they are currently accepting asphalt shingles at both plant locations in Springfield and Carthage? Shingles need to be clean with very little foreign material and there is a disposal fee. **Blevins Asphalt** is one of the oldest family owned paving contractors in the four-state area. Founded over half a century ago, they still believe in the commitment to excellence that transformed a small father and son enterprise into the industry leading corporation they are today. We would like to thank our members at all levels for continued trust in a partnership with the **Mt. Vernon Area Chamber of Commerce**. We seek out ways to better the business climate in our little piece of the world, bring information to our members and offer events that encourage our neighbors to spend local.

## INSURANCE UPDATE

Chamber membership has its privileges. Your small business may qualify to participate in a new approach to medical plans for small employers. The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and the Missouri Chamber Federation (MCF) have taken action to help Chamber members. Teaming up with **Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Missouri**, they have unveiled a new health program that can lead to more rate stability and is a smart solution that offers potential savings for groups with **50 or fewer** eligible employees. We want to get you all the details at two upcoming meetings, **Thursday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30 to 6:30 pm and again Friday, Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 8 to 9 am** at the Chamber office, 425 E Mt. Vernon Blvd. The presenter will be **Croley Insurance and Financial** out of Springfield. Please **RSVP** for seating. Several members of other Missouri Chambers have already taken advantage of this program and are realizing savings **5% to 20%**. As a proud member of **MCF** we look forward to our members taking advantage of the program and hearing their success story.



Is it time to renew your membership? We have due dates in March, June, September and December each year dependent upon your original sign up date to become a Chamber member. We developed a new invoice method as a friendly reminder for your Chamber dues. We hope this system is clear, easy to read and understand but most of all, we hope you choose to maintain your membership in the Mt. Vernon Area Chamber of Commerce. We strive to provide big city options with small town quality service.

## ABOUTtown

### EVENTS THAT MATTER

It's a long held tradition for Chambers to host events called Eggs & Issues. We want to present our new format 'About Town' to provide important topics to our members. Please look for the 'About Town' logo as we host informational meetings, legislative updates and breaking news from our Chamber members to you in this new format. We are always scouting trends in other similar size communities to meet/exceed current standards. Our first presentation will be the Insurance Update Thursday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30 to 6:30 pm and again Friday, Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 8 to 9 am at the Chamber located at 425 E Mt. Vernon Blvd. Please RSVP [chamber@mtvchamber.com](mailto:chamber@mtvchamber.com) or 466-7654 so we can count you in. Other businesses are already taking advantage of this new opportunity to see a cost savings in their insurance benefits.



### Website Offers Job Postings

At the request of several members and the community the Chamber website is now listing job postings. We can be found at [www.mtvchamber.com](http://www.mtvchamber.com) with a sharp, easy to navigate site. You can locate the jobs under the **Business Directory** tab, select **Job Opportunities** from the drop-down menu. As you have postings, just email the Chamber to add the listing. We will also share Facebook job openings when we see them or if you notify us.

## Calendar of Events

**Chamber Board Meeting**, noon, Thur. January 18th, CoC Office, members always welcome to attend, we will induct our new Board members at this meeting

**The Taste!** 6 to 8 pm, Thurs. January 18<sup>th</sup> at the MARC gym, purchase tickets in advance for **\$10** or at the door for **\$15, only 300** tickets will be sold so get yours early

**About Town – Insurance Update**, 5:30 to 6:30 pm Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> and again 8 to 9 am Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at the CoC Office, 425 E Mt. Vernon Blvd, please RSVP

**Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet**, (theme to be announced) Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at the MARC, tickets available soon, it will be a fun-filled evening for the whole family

**52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Apple Butter Makin' Days**, Oct. 12-14, 2018, BE THERE ON THE SQUARE!

**Mt. Vernon Area**  
Chamber of Commerce