



WORKING IS A REALITY FOR MOST OF US, LOVING WHAT WE DO SHOULD BE IN THE PLAN

THINGS TO KNOW

## WORKFORCE & THE CHAMBER

Oh, those years of delight, before the drudgery begins, when family will cover your every expense and your days are filled with the occasional chore, some lollygagging and stress-free stretches of total bliss. Then we work our way into the gas-money and clothes we really want stage, and take a job to get those things. When school is over or higher education complete, off we go to make our way. Let me just stop and say here, money isn't everything.

We might be a clock-watcher, multi-tasker, maybe even an over-achiever, but we often feel the toll of the toil. Even if the position pays amazingly well (thinking of the twenty-somethings earning close to 50k their first year out) or is of the minimum wage variety (ramen noodles and spool furniture, living in our parent's basement), we all feel the same pain as we seek out a balance of income and joy from our efforts.

For some folks, great earnings offset the day-to-day unhappiness of a position that doesn't quite fit the vision of a dream job. Others are willing to settle for less compensation to experience the exhilaration of fulfilling duties. And occasionally, the stars align creating a masterpiece of exertion equal to income.

There has been a lot of discussion regarding millennials, or the "me" generation, as of late.

While their work ethic differs from their parents and grandparents, you must admire that they are capable of working smarter, not harder. Speaking in generalities here, they use technology to their advantage. Maybe I'm just a tad jealous they work from home by a large margin over us older folks. They spend their dough on things we find wasteful, but remember we were young once also. We should learn to speak their language. And they must learn to listen to our wisdom.

One of the goals of our Chamber is to promote a community workforce. Partner with us to educate our youth as they will be our future leaders. Let's learn to break the language barrier to overcome the challenges facing us and improve our outlook for the next 20 years and beyond. We can accomplish much working toward similar goals. If you are interested in promoting our community and improving our offerings, consider joining the Chamber's effort, and tell a friend or business owner. Invite them to share in the Chamber Connection.

**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.



## Chamber Champions

We are so appreciative of our top tier members contributing to the success of the Mt. Vernon Area Chamber of Commerce. Their level of financial support for our mission makes many things possible for growing our community. We strive to keep our eyes on promoting business and prosperity, growing the workforce and maintaining the small town feel that makes us strong.



## VISUALIZE THE GOAL

We have tee shirts for our Chamber. If you like the new decal design, you will love having the shirt. It's a great way to start a conversation about your business and our town. These are available at the Chamber for \$10 (extended sizes more). We have some on hand and can order more in the sizes you want for a large or small group. Celebrate Mt. Vernon and offer your staff a casual Friday shirt.

## WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK: OUR SOCIAL MEDIA BEST FOOT FORWARD

Technology is changing the face of small town business. We either jump on board or get left behind. As your Chamber, we are here to help. If you need assistance or ideas to get your business recognized on the world wide web, we might be able to help. There are many talented people in our community that are knowledgeable in web site design and can instruct on Facebook and social media platforms. We want you to thrive in today's market place. If there is interest we might even host a seminar or program where we can all learn a little more than we know.

### LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

Check out our new and improved website at [www.mtvchamber.com](http://www.mtvchamber.com). You can link to local businesses and learn about our community. Follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/mtvchamber) to keep up with events and local information. We appreciate your feedback.



### PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

This is your chance to participate in a Photo Contest sponsored by Mt. Vernon Community Betterment Council. Take photos while you are celebrating at Red, White & Boom on Friday, June 30th and submit for a chance to win a prize from Community Betterment. Full rules are available at the Chamber office. We invite all ages to submit photos, they will be displayed at the MARC and then judged by a local panel. First place is \$100, second is \$50 and \$25 for third. Stop in for details.



### New Directory Available

Promoting our members and their businesses is a top priority for a Chamber of Commerce. We are proud to reveal the new Chamber Directory for our community. Printed and designed by our friends at The Lawrence County Record/Squibb Media, this slick magazine will be a great resource for the public. Please let me know if you need some for lobbies, hiring packets or break rooms.

**SHOP LOCAL!**

**SHOP OUR MEMBERS!**

## Calendar of Events

**Relay for Life, 6pm-10pm, Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, on the Square in Mt. Vernon MO. RealyForLife.org. 417-447-1476.**

**Apple Butter Makin' Days Committee Meeting, 7am, Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber office, everyone welcome.**

**Chamber Board Meeting, noon., Thur. June 15<sup>th</sup>, CoC Office.**

**Business After Hours, Chamber Member The Lawrence County Record, 4:30pm Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 312 S Hickory St., Mt. Vernon, free, public welcome, snacks will be served. Come out to meet the businesses that make up your Chamber of Commerce.**

**Red, White & Boom, The Spirit of '76 Park, Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, all day free swim, other activities begin at 6 pm including free laser tag and National Guard activities, concession stand opens at 6:30, fireworks begin at 9:30 pm. Family friendly event, free, bring your lawn chair or throw a blanket on the ground.**

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

Follow us on  at Mt. Vernon Missouri Area Chamber of Commerce