

# Ava Area CHAMBER of COMMERCE *Newsletter*



July 2020



## What's Happening

**7/6** Economic Development  
Committee meeting @ 5:30pm

**7/13** Chamber Board Meeting  
@ 5pm

**7/14** July Chamber Luncheon  
@12pm

### 2020 Chamber Officers

**President:** Anita Madche

**V P:** Richard Sturgeon

**Secretary:** Gail Huffman

**Treasurer:** Betty Ridenour

### 2020 Board Members

Bart Ellison, Teresa Nash  
Kenny Fleetwood, Amy Porter  
Danny Letsinger, Glenda Little  
Brandi Stanifer, Bob Sorensen  
Caryl Stillings, Sheldon Shaver  
Richard Salgado

### Office Staff

Judy Shields, Director  
Nina Carter, Office Assistant  
Bill Jones, Office Support

### Chamber Board Meetings

are held on the second Monday  
of each month. To be a guest or  
add an item to the agenda,  
contact the Chamber office.

### Chamber Luncheons

are held on the second Tuesday  
of each month at 12:00 and are  
complimentary to members.  
Contact the office for infor-  
mation on hosting a Luncheon.

### Economic Development

Meetings held on the first  
Monday of each month at 5:30.

### Contact Us

810 Collins Avenue  
PO Box 1103 Ava, MO 65608  
417-683-4594  
director@avachamber.org

## Ava Chamber Continues to Grow

The Ava Chamber of Commerce would like to extend a warm “welcome” to our newest members, Ozark FunGuys, Bread of Life Thrift Store, Ace Grading, Land Clearing and Utility Installations, Travis Smith, and Leopard Horse Ranch & Rockledge Kennels. The addition of these new members brings the Chamber to 222 members! It is through the partnership and active participation of its members that the Chamber is able to accomplish great things for the Ava community.

## New Memberships Now ½ Price

New memberships are now pro-rated at half-price! Non-profits and businesses can join for the remainder of the year for as little as \$25.00 and \$40.00 and individuals for just \$17.00.

*Already a member?* Share this great news with a business owner, manager, non-profit member, or friend, and receive 5 free e-Blast ads for yourself for each referral who joins! Help them begin to reap the great benefits of being a member of our growing and thriving organization.

Together, we accomplish great things as we pursue the common goal of growing our community and strengthening our local economy.

## Citizens Meet Candidates Running in August 4th Primary



Joe Corum, KKOZ, Emcee & Moderator

A Douglas County Candidate Forum was held on Tuesday, June 30th at the Ava Community Center. This was a non-partisan event hosted by the Douglas County CHART in partnership with the Ava Chamber of Commerce. Members of the American Legion opened the event with the presenting of the flags and the Pledge of Allegiance and Missy Breshears sang our nation's National Anthem and America the Beautiful. All candidates running for the following positions were invited by letter to attend: State Senate, District 33; State

*Continued on page 3*



Secure your ad space in the 2020-2021 Ava Chamber Business Directory & Community Guide

Want to use your current ad? Just let us know, and you can take it off your 'to-do' list!

Even if you are doing a new ad, be sure to at least reserve your spot. Spaces are limited and are going quickly.

Contact us today to RSVP!

*You won't be invoiced until August!*



**LaTour Advisory Group**

has acquired the Appraisal Center of the Ozarks and Fox Trotter Inn property on Springfield Road and has relocated their offices there. Their office number is still 683-9553. They have listed the Fox Trot Inn as an Airbnb. You can check this out on their Facebook page at Foxtrotter Inn LLC . Be on the lookout for a Grand Opening soon!

*Freedom* has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men, and so it must be daily earned and re-freshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.



*~Dwight D. Eisenhower*



**Great Southern Bank  
Awarded as One of  
Forbes' "World's  
Best Banks 2020"**

Great Southern Bank, headquartered in Springfield, Missouri, has been recognized as part of Forbes' annual list of the World's Best Banks 2020.

The World's Best Banks list is comprised of the financial institutions that differentiate their services and build trustworthy relationships with their customers. 450 banks around the world are featured on the list, which was announced online on May 14, 2020, and can currently be viewed on the Forbes website.

Congratulations to Great Southern Bank and the Ava location staff! Great job!

## Citizens Meet Candidates *Continued from pg. 1*

Representative, District 155; Douglas County Commissioner, Districts 1 & 2; and Douglas County Sheriff. People were encouraged to submit questions for the candidates by email ahead of the event. Questions were presented to each candidate by Moderator, Joe Corum. There was a good crowd gathered to hear from the candidates and great participation. Folks not able to attend were able to listen to the event live on KKOZ Radio 1430AM or 92.1FM.

A Republican Candidate Forum, hosted by the Douglas County Republican Committee, will be held on July 13 at 6:30pm at the Ava Lions Club. This event will also be live on KKOZ.

Remember to cast your vote on August 4th!



**The Ava Art Guild Workshop** sadly announces that their July workshop has been canceled due to instructor illness. They look forward to seeing you at their August workshop. Workshops are free and supplies are provided by the Art Guild. Please call Caryl at 417-893-8638 or email [avaartguild@yhao.com](mailto:avaartguild@yhao.com) to reserve a space for the workshop.

**Douglas County Veterans Memorial Association** has resumed operations with Tuesday morning breakfast and Saturday night Bingo. Thursday night music is tentatively scheduled to resume in July.

Breakfast hours: Each Tuesday morning, 7-9AM  
Bingo: Every Saturday night. Paper sales begin at 4:30. Games begin at 6:30. Twenty Games. High Pots. Progressive Pot \$450.

**Aaron's Mowing Service, LLC**  
Locally Owned Residential/Commercial Mowing Service. Also providing weed removal and gutter cleaning. Give us a call. We'd like to be your lawn maintenance specialist. Aaron McNeal—Owner/Operator 543-3677

**Bethany Baptist Church** is having their Vacation Bible School July 15-17, 6pm to 8:15pm. Ages 6 years thru teens. Fun rodeo theme! Call 417-683-2476 for more details. All kids welcome!

# IMMEDIATE JOB OPENINGS

**Koala Bear Daycare & Learning Centers**  
**Ava/Gainesville is now hiring** for the full-time position of Certified Childcare Director for their Gainesville location.

Required License: State of Missouri Childcare Director Certification for up to 20-60 children required. Salary based on experience.

Qualified applicant will have good supervisory and staff-management skills, be familiar with childhood milestones and development, be willing to teach and/or assist in classrooms as needed, and have good problem solving skills and a friendly attitude towards staff and parents. Our preferred applicant will have experience teaching and lots of patience and must be knowledgeable about state licensing rules and regulations and have experience with CACFP program.

Qualified applicant must be willing to be fingerprinted and have background and drug testing prior to start of employment.

Send resume to [koalakidsavamo@outlook.com](mailto:koalakidsavamo@outlook.com).

## Chamber Luncheon

CREATING CONNECTIONS

### July Chamber Luncheon

**July 14th at 12pm**

*Hosted by: Douglas County CHART*

@ Ava Lions Club Building

Upcoming Luncheons

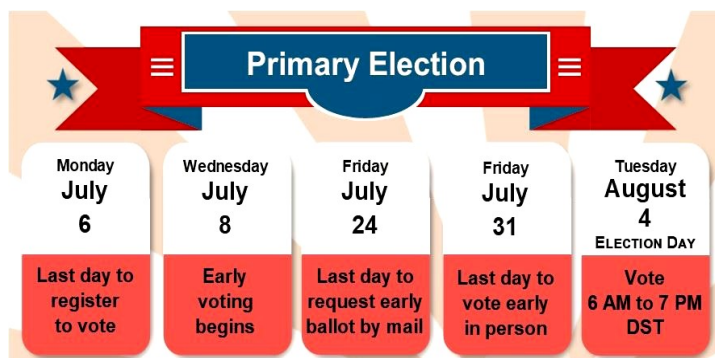
August – Open

September – 2BHealthy

October – DOCO Sheltered Workshop

### Penmac of Ava is Hiring!

Local 2nd and 3rd shifts available now! Starting at \$11.00/hr. Call us @ 683-2272 and we will schedule an appointment. We ask that you bring your proof of education, a valid, state-issued photo ID, and either a birth certificate or social security card with you.



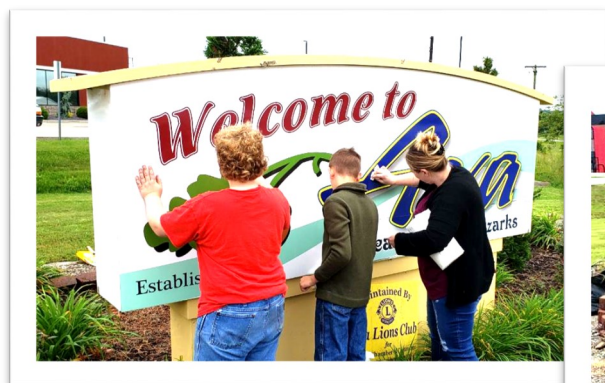




Much appreciation to the Ava Lions Club members who spent several hours of their time making the entrance to our town look beautiful! They worked hard raking, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, and even cleaned the Welcome to Ava sign! It's folks like this who keep our wonderful community looking ship-shape. Thank you!



**We Serve**



## Ava/Cassville/Willow Springs Ranger District Mark Twain National Forest



### *Planned work, events, or happenings in the month of June 2020*

#### **Fire/Fuels**

Fire staff are supporting the western fire season, specifically in the southwest, Region 3. When not on travel status for support purposes in the southwest, they have been helping with other tasks on the district such as mowing, maintenance and laying out cedar units for the Joint Chiefs project.

#### **Recreation**

Summer recreation is in full swing. All recreation areas on Ava and Willow Springs are open again. Pavilion (Noblett and Shell Knob) reservations are still not being taken yet because of social distancing requirements. We do ask that if you use a pavilion on a 1<sup>st</sup> come/1<sup>st</sup> serve basis that you practice social distancing. The Shell Knob Recreation Area on Cassville remains closed and the restrooms at Big Bay Day Use and Pine View Tower trailhead remain closed.

The Big Bay boat ramp repair contract on Cassville has been awarded. The work will begin when the water has receded.

The District would like to welcome Olivia Woolsey to our team. Olivia is in the Resource Assistant Program and will be a customer service representative at the Cassville office and will be assisting with the recreation program. Olivia is a recent graduate from University of Missouri in Columbia with a degree in Forest Resource Management. We are excited to have her as a part of our team.

#### **Administration**

The Ava office is cognizant of the impact of the Coronavirus and we are taking precautions locally. With this in mind, we are assisting visitors to the office outdoors, as much as possible, or by telephone. Access into the buildings is limited and a mask must be worn.

The Ava office would like to welcome Emily Ficker, joining us as the Support Services Specialist. Emily comes to us from the Department of the Interior, National Park Service out of Utah.

If you have any questions regarding the listed activities, please feel free to call the Ava District Office at 417-683-4428.