

Ava Area CHAMBER of COMMERCE Newsletter

June 2021



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What's Happening

6/14 Chamber Board
Meeting @ 5pm

6/8 Chamber Luncheon
(see pg. 4)

2021 Chamber Officers

President: Anita Madche
V P: Richard Sturgeon
Secretary: Gail Huffman
Treasurer: Betty Ridenour

2021 Board Members

Bart Ellison, Patty Nelson
Bob Sellers, Amy Porter,
Danny Letsinger, Glenda Little
Bob Sorensen, Wes Davis,
Dick 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 each month.

Contact Us

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

Outstanding Citizens Recognized at Chamber of Commerce Membership & Awards Banquet

Joe Corum and Art Corum Receive 2021 John N. Dickison Award

The John N. Dickison Award recognizes a Douglas County citizen, outstanding in longevity in community service and dedication to the people of Douglas County. In a rare occurrence, the award had two recipients this year. Joe Corum and Art Corum, owner/operators of KKOZ Radio, were recognized and honored for their many years and countless hours of dedicated service to the people in the Ava/Douglas County community. These two brothers have done so much for the Ava Community for the past nearly 40 years. Their service to the citizens of Douglas County goes far beyond the operations of the local radio station they own and operate together with their families and employees.

Joe and Art genuinely care for the folks in our area, and it shows by the countless hours they dedicate to helping them and investing in their lives. Whether it's through business dealings, personal talks, prayers and support, or visiting the radio station, they always make you feel special and more than just a friend. People like Joe and Art make Douglas County a special place to live.

Ava
**City-Wide
Yard Sale**
June 4th-6th



Marie Bristol, daughter of John N. Dickison, usually presents her father's award, but was out of town at the time of the banquet. Will McFarlin is pictured presenting the award to Joe and Art.

Pick up Maps at Signal Gas
Station & Casey's General
Stores in Ava after 5pm on
June 2nd.

legislative

corner by Sen. Karla Eslinger



Greeting, Chamber Members.

During my first year in the Senate, I'm proud to have been appointed as one of only two freshman members to serve on the crucially important Senate Appropriations Committee, and I've accomplished some good things for the district in the FY 2022 State Budget:

- \$2 million to address deferred maintenance at career & vo-tech centers
- \$1 million for an advanced welding lab at MSU-West Plains
- \$575,000 for grants to help volunteer fire departments cover workers' comp premiums
- \$250,000 to supply rural fire districts with epi-pens.

My Senate Bill 72 is headed to Governor Parson's desk, which declares the first full week in September as Missouri Fox Trotter Week, and is designed to further promote the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association's World Show and Celebration. I sponsored this bill to help attract more people to Ava and Douglas County in September, and I look forward to working with the Missouri Division of Tourism to create more opportunities and exposure for Ava and the surrounding region.

I sponsored SB 582 to protect our sheltered workshops from actions proposed at the federal level which threaten workshops' ability to pay a commensurate wage for workers with disabilities, currently allowed by Section 14 C of the Fair Labor Standards Act. SB 582 places language that mirrors Section 14 C into our state statutes. This language was amended on to HB 432, relating to the protection of vulnerable persons, which was truly agreed and finally passed and also headed to the Governor. Missouri has 87 separate and independent sheltered workshops that employ more than 5,800 people with disabilities. I've served on the DOCO sheltered workshop board and I know first-hand of the opportunities they afford to our local residents with disabilities by providing a valid and valued option for employment and skills training.

I was also proud to support SB 153 (known as *Wayfair* legislation) so Missouri can begin collecting sales taxes from online retailers and level the playing field for our main street brick and mortar businesses. This legislation was championed by the Missouri Chamber for a number of years.

It is my honor to serve the residents of Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Ripley, Texas, Webster and Wright counties in the Missouri Senate, and it's always a pleasure to hear from friends and family back home. If I can help you in any way, please call my Capitol Office at 573-751-1882, or my District Office at 417-596-9011. You can also visit my webpage at www.senate.mo.gov/mem33, on Facebook: @SenatorKarlaEslinger, or follow me on Twitter: @seneslingermo.

DTO - Discover the Ozarks - Douglas County

Discover the Ozarks Festival *will be held in Douglas County June 18th - 20th.*



We are excited to announce that the fourth annual Discover the Ozarks Festival is on this year! During Father's Day weekend in June, the City of Ava and Douglas County is inviting visitors & locals to participate in a sampling of what this Ozarks Area of Douglas County offers. Whether you are interested in outdoor or indoor activities, historical adventures, square dancing, old-timey music, great food, local artisans, or Ozark culture, come join the adventure!

Throughout the three-day Festival there will be plenty of opportunity to explore, create fun memories, participate in indoor & outdoor activities, eat food and shop at the many stores! Discover the Ozarks Brochures with more details are available for pick up at the Ava Chamber Office and at local businesses.

Watch for updates on our Facebook page. DTO's website, www.discovertheozarks.org, has the complete event schedule of activities! Call 417-872-6287 for more information or to participate!

New Member Ribbon Cutting!



Flourish Integrative Wellness offers functional medicine for adults and children and is located upstairs in Jean's Healthway.

Pictured from left to right: Sheila Carson, Brooke Veldkamp, Kalyn Veldkamp, Janelle Veldkamp RN, Micah Hubbard, FNP-C (Nurse Practitioner, Owner), Rachel Barry, Bob and Darlene Sorensen , and Judy Shields, Chamber Director.

Chamber of Commerce Shows Appreciation to Ava Area Businesses



The Ava Chamber of Commerce held their annual Business Appreciation Luncheon on the Ava Square on May 11th and welcomed a steady flow of over 200 people from area businesses & organizations. The weather was beautiful, helpers were aplenty, the food was tasty, and friendly conversation filled the air! Folks enjoyed eating their lunches under the shade of the gazebo and soaking up the sunshine while chatting with friends and networking with legislative reps and business/organization leaders.

A special note of appreciation to Ava Lions Club Members and Chamber Board of Directors for helping set-up, clean-up and for keeping those burgers and dogs coming fresh off the grill!

This annual complimentary barbecue lunch is the Chamber's way of saying "thank you" to our local businesses and organizations. They are a vital part of keeping our community vibrant and growing. Each of us can help keep our area businesses thriving and ensure that our local economy stays strong by shopping at home in our local retail stores and service-oriented businesses.

4th of July Celebrations

HOTO June 25th from 6-10pm!

This free community event is hosted by the Heart of the Ozarks Healthcare Center each year.

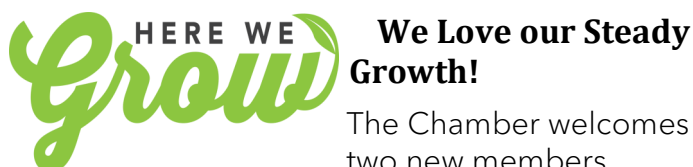


Bring your family and friends out for an evening of fun, and enjoy these activities: browsing vendor booths, Bingo, Crystal Lake fishing pond, car show, dunking booth, inflatables and games for the kids, live music, delicious food, an amazing silent auction, and a spectacular fireworks show!

Parking available at the event or across from Casey's at the Hwy 5 & 76 intersection. Shuttle buses available to bring folks up and down the hill. For more information or to have a vendor booth, call 417-683-4129..

Rockbridge July 4th from 5-9:30pm!

Bring your family & friends to Rockbridge's Annual Independence Day Celebration. Come join us July 4th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Enjoy live music, games for the kids, fishing, corral rides, train rides, several vendor booths, face painting, delicious food, and one of the area's best fireworks displays at dusk. Bring your chairs and enjoy an evening of fun!



The Chamber welcomes two new members during the past month! This makes 9 new members since January, with 1 ribbon cutting held in May. The Chamber accomplishes great things through the partnership of its members and the City of Ava -- The common goal of promoting, sustaining, and improving the Ava community.

June Chamber Luncheon

June 8th @ 12PM

Hosted by:

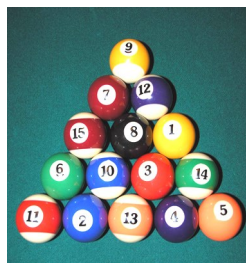
**Heart of the Ozarks
Healthcare & Ava Place**
at the Ava Lions Club

Upcoming Luncheons

July - Bethany Baptist Church

*August - Ozarks Small Business
Incubator (OzSBI)*

Ava Senior Center is bringing back their Pool Tournaments in June. They will be June 9th & 23rd (always the second & 4th Wednesday). There's a \$1 entry fee. Top 3 players get a free lunch at our Lunch Counter.



Chamber EDC Meets Monthly

The Ava Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee meets monthly and is looking for any interested citizens to join them.

The committee's goals are to improve our community, both esthetically and economically, bring new business to town, and strengthen the existing businesses in our area. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Call Dick at 417-872-6287 for more information.

Chamber Member News

Ava Art Guild will hold its annual Spring Art Show, showcasing art from the Ozarks in many mediums and categories. Show will be held June 2nd—12th (Wed.-Sat.) from 10 am to 4 pm. The show is free and open to the public. Come browse the art and vote for your favorite. The show is held at the Gallery at 303 E Washington Ave, across from the Douglas County Herald. For more information call 417-893-9638, visit avaartguild.org or follow us on Facebook.

Ava Lions Club is having a Quilt Raffle for two Beautiful Handmade Quilts! \$1.00 for 1 Ticket or 10 tickets for \$5.00.

Lions Club members will be at Farmers Market on the Square with one quilt and Town and Country Supermarket with the other on Saturday, June 5th. To purchase tickets or see the quilts, call Richard at 543-8939.

Ozark Action's Work Development Center has an On the Job Training Program to benefit employers and their workers. The advantage to employers is that they will pay up to 50% of a new hire's wages for a specific amount of time (depending on the job). So, if an employer knows they are going to hire someone anyway, Ozark Action could help with the salary for a while. The employer would need to apply and provide company verification. The employee would need to qualify for our program by either being low income, a Veteran, or have been on unemployment at some point. Any businesses/employers who might be interested can call Teresa Bruffett Workforce Development Case Manager at 417-204-1405 for more information.



New Chamber Members

Pyramid Roofing Company

(417) 346-9013

Flourish Integrative Wellness

Integrative & Functional Medicine for
Adults and Children

(417) 812-8800

Rockbridge Trout Ranch Appreciates its Locals! Did you know that Rockbridge offers a free catch and keep fishing permit on the 1st Wednesday of EVERY month to our locals? Stop by the lodge to get your FREE permit, then head on out and reel in a big one! *This offer is valid for our catch and keep permits only. Must keep everything you catch, cost of trout is \$4.90 per pound. You do the catching and we'll do the cleaning! Bring your trout to our fish cleaning station, they'll weigh them and clean them for you! The next one is on Wednesday, June 2nd from 7AM-8PM.

Ava United Methodist Church is having their VBS June 21-25th from 5-7 PM. All Children welcome. A small meal will be served. It's a great time for parents to drop their children off for a night of fun and get out and do parent things. For more information call 417-683-4460.

Pioneer Heritage Festival of the Ozarks - Friday & Saturday, October 1st 2nd - Ava, MO.



PHFO was created to preserve and celebrate the culture and history of the Ozarks through preserving traditional skills and acknowledging local artisans.

- PHFO has space available for Artisans who would like to demonstrate their skills, share their expertise, and perhaps sell their handmade items. There is no entry fee for Artisans.
- PHFO would welcome any volunteers who would like to help with the Festival
- Expenses for the Festival are covered through support from our generous community through sponsorships, advertising and attendee donations. We welcome participation! Come join the fun!

For information: Find us on Facebook @ Pioneer Heritage Festival of the Ozarks, visit our website www.heritage417.com, or call 417-543-3401.

Chamber of Commerce Membership Banquet Highlights



John Dickison Award Nominees

Nominees for the 2021 John N. Dickison Award are (from left to right): Art Corum (KKOZ Radio), Joe Corum (KKOZ Radio), Janice Lorrain (Douglas County Community Foundation), Dawn Cox (DOCO Sheltered Workshop), and Josh Browning (Set Free Ministries).

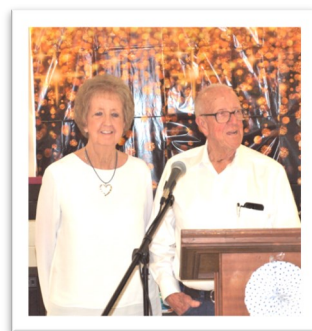
Will McFarlin Youth Award

The Will McFarlin Youth Award was awarded to Ava High School senior, Katlyn McFarlin. Katlyn received this award for her outstanding character and for her years of volunteering with the Ava Rural Fire Department and Bears Den After School Program. She is an exemplary role model to the youth in our community.



Will McFarlin is pictured presenting Katlyn her award, with his daughter Karcee.

Special Recognition



Special recognition and appreciation was given at the Chamber banquet to Max and Wanda Murphy, owners of United Country Area Land Realty. For the past 18 years, they have donated the office space that the Chamber resides in. The Ava Chamber of Commerce would like to say "Thank You" to Max & Wanda for their years of support and friendship.

Photos courtesy of Richard Sturgeon

WE JUST WANT TO SAY...

THANK YOU!

Banquet Sponsors, Helpers, & Supporters~

Our Banquet was Great Because of YOU!

Advantage Gas Service American Legion 2BHealthy/Evergreen Farms Archie's Family Restaurant Ava Art Guild Ava Ambulance District Ava Building Supply Ava Citizen's Action League (ACAL) Ava Country Club Ava Lions Club Ava R-1 Schools Bethany Baptist Church Blooming Blessings Boutique Cedar Chandeliers Restaurant City of Ava Curtis Department Store Dan and Betsy Herrell & The Jam Dandy Band Davis Tire & Wheel Discover The Ozarks DoCo Sheltered Workshop	Douglas County Herald Douglas County Veterans Memorial Association El Tule Oaxaca Restaurant Heritage Farm Home Pride Bank Hucklebuck Smoke & Grill Hurricane Car Wash Interior Solutions Impressions Floral & Gifts J & R Sand & Gravel J & S Golf Cars J Brothers True Value Jean's Healthway Jernigan's Quilts Katie West Art KKOZ Radio Marsha Roberts O'Reilly Auto Parts Pastor Bob Sorensen Pioneer Heritage Festival of the Ozarks	PC Express Penmac Staffing Services Pro-Design & L & D Trophies Pyramid Roofing Company Signal Sonic Subway of Ava Tax Diva Services The Cattle Baron's Boutique The Barn Bar & Restaurant Thelma Martin Seamstress Terry Lee Town & Country Bank Town & Country Supermarket Tracy Dewaard/Peace & Serenity Day Spa Trinity Lutheran Church United Country Area Land Realty VFW/VFW Auxiliary Walmart Will McFarlin
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A special thank you to Ava R-1 Schools for their generous hospitality and to Everyone who helped us in any way with the banquet. You are all much appreciated!

Sincerely,
The Ava Area Chamber of Commerce