



Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

# Chamber News

Your Daily Dose is Served...

FEATURED CHAMBER MEMBER

## Flowers For You

What better place to open a Flower Shop than the "City of Flowers," Palmyra, Missouri! And that's just what Jesse Knowles did after working with flowers for just about twenty-five years.

Doing the flowers for weddings "on the side" while managing gas stations in Quincy, Illinois is how the journey began. At first, Jesse worked out of his home. While doing this, Knowles received a degree in Floral Design from a Chicago school. Later, he teamed up with a friend who owned a florist in Quincy.

When his cousin retired from his position at the wholesale floral supplier in Quincy, Jesse decided it was his opportunity to do what he loved. The establishment, Baisch & Skinner, has served northeast and north central Missouri, western Illinois



Flowers For You owner, Jesse Knowles.

and southeast Iowa florists since 1993. Jesse was there for two years, during which he not only honed his craft, but also developed relationships with area florists.

What brought Knowles to Palmyra? When Ginny Kuntmeyer sold Flower City Florist & Mercantile in 2014, she recommended Jesse to the new owner. After a few months, he decided he liked the community but yearned to own his own shop. With help from friends, he was able to find what he calls "the perfect location." "We're on Main Street but have our own parking right in front of the shop. Customers can get in and out easily." A savvy entrepreneur, Jesse called vendors he knew were retiring and was able to buy supplies to start up his business.



Flowers For You opened its doors December 3, 2014. The shop's specialty is fresh unique floral arrangements for all occasions. You'll find one-of-a-kind items, traditional silk arrangements, and specialty items for funerals or memorials. For those following trends, "this year it's bright colors," shared Knowles. You'll see Marita Reiff's and Lee Ann Stuhlman's familiar faces working there, as well as two delivery people and extra staff when needed.



Marita Reiff & Jesse Knowles work together on a silk floral project.

Of course, Flowers For You does weddings! Not just bouquets and boutonnieres, but church decorations, table centerpieces, and everything down to the last detail. They're still Knowles passion. One of his favorites, because it incorporated underwater flowers, was the Baxter-O'Laughlin wedding. They actually have a wedding every weekend from now until November!

Who doesn't think of flowers in Spring? See the lovely blooms that greet you when you drive up to Flowers For You and so much more when you step inside!

It's well worth the trip!

# Welcome New Chamber Businesses!

Two Ribbon Cuttings were held recently to welcome new businesses to Palmyra!  
Glad to have you here, Malie's Boutique and USB, United State Bank!



## MISS MARION COUNTY PAGEANT

How does a girl go about being a contestant in the Miss Marion County Pageant? Glad you asked!

- (1) Pick up a registration form from Humpty Dumpty Dare Care or Flower City Florist. Forms must be picked up by June 19.
- (2) Determine your age group:  
Pre-Junior ~ Ages 8 - 11  
Junior ~ Ages 12 - 15  
Miss Marion County ~ Ages 16 - 22
- (3) Meet with all interested contestants at the Sesqui Building at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 28 with completed entry forms. Be ready to have pictures taken.
- (4) All contestants will present a talent and wear "evening gowns."

Additional Fair Info at [www.showmepalmyra.com](http://www.showmepalmyra.com)



## Kudos!

Bravo, Ed Dent, owner of Palmyra's Country Butcher Shop, for supporting our veterans this Memorial Day weekend by helping organize the Wounded Warrior Rib at Heartland Lodge and donating the meat for this event! The event raised over \$14,000, and the Country Butcher Shop took first place in the Rib Challenge Contest!

Congratulations to the Marion County Library Subdistrict #1! The library has been awarded a grant by the Missouri State Library to digitize the Palmyra Spectators from 1880 -1955. Owners of the Palmyra Spectator, Mark and Patty Cheffey, have been extremely supportive. When the project is completed, the records will be searchable online via a link on the Marion County Library's website and that of the Palmyra Spectator.

**JOIN THE  
CHAMBER!**

## CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't already done  
so, you can join or renew your  
Chamber Membership for 2015!

Application available on the Chamber website.  
Become part of our Business Directory  
on the Chamber website!

[Click here for Membership Form!](#)

# Chamber Briefs...

## PALMYRA CHAMBER MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH

The Palmyra Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting Tuesday, May 12 at Kerley's. President Rodney Kuntmeyer welcomed Chamber members, Palmyra High School FCCLA sponsor Marcy Minnick, her assistant Diann Brumbaugh and their students: Abi Olson, Chapter President; Zac Scott, Vice-President; Makayla Nutt, Past Chapter President & State Officer; and Elizabeth Meyer, Past Regional President.

## HOWDY NEIGHBOR UPDATE

Michelle Merkel provided an update on Howdy Neighbor Day coming up June 13. Some vendors have already signed up, but spaces are still available. Vendor forms are available online at [showmepalmyra.com](http://showmepalmyra.com) or by calling Jesse Knowles at 573-769-0404. Games for young and old are planned, and the Heritage Seekers will have the Old Marion County Jail open for tours.

## PHS FCCLA STUDENT LEADERS PRESENT

The four FCCLA students took the floor, introducing themselves, and presenting an enthusiastic review of all the Palmyra R-1 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapter has accomplished this school year. Their motto was "Believe in your selfie." And that they did! Representatives traveled to state, regional, and national meetings and competitions, improving interpersonal communication skills, developing greater leadership potential, and exploring career preparation opportunities in Family and Consumer Sciences education.

Not only did local students attend these events, but several shone. Elizabeth Meyer presented workshops at the state, regional and national FCCLA conferences on fundraising for No Kid Hungry, a national charity that works to ensure every child in the United States has access to healthy food. Landon Merkel, Elizabeth Meyer, Makayla Nutt, Abi Olson and Zac Scott competed at the state level in the STAR competition (Students Taking Action with Recognition) because of their stellar performance at the regional level. Abi Olson & Kelsey Vail were chosen to attend the national Distracted Driving Conference in Washington D.C. on behalf of their FCCLA chapter.

Palmyra R-1 FCCLA raised money for the Honor Flight for its service project and also raised money to bring motivational speaker, Mike Donahue to Palmyra with his "walk-a-mile in someone else's shoes" message. The 120 member group helps in a variety of community events and conducts fundraisers to help pay for its activities and charitable donations.

"When I went to nationals, I felt like I found a second family. It was incredible," shared Makayla Nutt.

Zac Scott recounted the pressures he felt as a freshman. Now a sophomore, he said, "This year, I found FCCLA. It lifts the weight off your shoulders. It helps you carry it." FCCLA: it's all about family.

Mark your calendars for the date and place of the next Chamber meeting: the lunch meeting will take place at EL NOPAL. Nancy Goellner, Jesse Knowles, Ginny Kuntmeyer, & Marita Reiff will update the membership on Howdy Neighbor Day & the Flag Day Parade. Destiny Reed, the reigning Miss Marion County, will share highlights of her year as Fair Queen.

## upcoming events CALENDAR

June 5-6

6 p.m. – 2 a.m.: *Relay For Life of Marion County, Flower City Park*

June 9

10 a.m.: *The Spoon Man, Palmyra Elementary School gym*

June 12

*Marion County Fair Tabloid Ad Deadline*

June 13

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.: *Flag Day Parade and Howdy Neighbor Day on Main Street & around the Courthouse*

June 13-14

*JC Breault Memorial Co-Ed Slow Pitch Tournament, Men's Field, Flower City Park*

June 19

*Last day to pick up registration forms for Miss Marion County Pageant at Humpty Dumpty Dare Care or Flower City Florist*

June 28

3 p.m.: *Contestants return completed Miss Marion County Pageant entry forms to the Sesqui Building for a "Meet-&-Greet" and photo session*

## UPCOMING MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS YOUR NEXT CHAMBER MEETING IS NOON

**Tues. June 9th, 2015  
Luncheon at El Nopal**

*Nancy Goellner, Jesse Knowles, Ginny Kuntmeyer, & Marita Reiff will update the membership on Howdy Neighbor Day & the Flag Day Parade. Destiny Reed, the reigning Miss Marion County, will share highlights of her year as Fair Queen.*

**Tues. July 14th**

*Luncheon will be held at Northeast Power and catered by C&R Market. Staff from Northeast Power will present the program.*

**Tues. August 11th**

*Luncheon will be held at the Sesquicentennial Building and catered by County Market. Doug Meyers, Palmyra Parks & Recreation Director, will present an update on activities at Flower City Park.*

**Chamber Email Address:  
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 **Palmyra MO Chamber of Commerce**