



Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

Your Daily Dose is Served...

FEATURED CHAMBER MEMBER

U N I T E D S T A T E B A N K

United State Bank, USB, is a little like “the new kid on the block” in Palmyra. It acquired the former F&M Bank Branch on the north end of town and held its grand opening just a few short months ago. But USB is not “new”, and its roots are right here in rural Northeast Missouri.

The history of the United State Bank began in 1922 when Lorenzo H. Gnuse, Sr. founded the Durham State Bank. Mr. Gnuse was commissioned by the State of Missouri to assist in the liquidation of banks throughout Missouri that were failing due to the nationwide depression. Mr. Gnuse was sent to Durham to liquidate the Durham Savings Bank. The citizens of the community desired a new bank, and Mr. Gnuse agreed to organize one.

Six years later the citizens of Lewistown, Missouri approached Mr. Gnuse to charter a new bank in Lewistown because the two banks in Lewistown had failed, again due to the depression. Mr. Gnuse with the help of his wife, Ida Gnuse, and brother, Solomon Gnuse, established the Lewistown State Bank in 1928. Both banks remained opened during the depression. In 1936, the two banks were merged. Later in 1973, a branch was opened in Ewing, Missouri; and in 1991 a branch was opened in Edina, Missouri at which time the name of the bank was changed to United State Bank.

In March 2015, two branches were purchased and merged with the existing three branches under the United State Bank name: one in Palmyra and another in Shelbina, Missouri. USB been family owned since 1922; President and CEO Charles Gnuse as well as his children continue on with the family business to this day!

United State Bank’s mission is to provide premier financial services to Northeast Missouri. How do they

School Spirit Debit Cards



Brett Hamlin, Palmyra branch manager and an Assistant Vice-President with USB.

achieve this? Through sound credit services and an “ample selection of state of the art deposit services.” The results? Customer loyalty, the retention of talented staff, and a fair return to stockholders on their capital investment.

Brett Hamlin is the Palmyra branch manager and an Assistant Vice-President with USB. Brett started with the bank in Edina three years ago. “We are excited to be in town and serve another great Northeast Missouri community of people, businesses and farmers.” The two new branches are in response to USB’s overall customer base expanding south of the bank’s former locations on Highway 6.

“Palmyra is the largest town we’re in,” shared Hamlin, who left Edina to become branch manager here. “We are a community



F E A T U R E D C H A M B E R M E M B E R

bank that's customer service driven. Ag is a big focus for us." USB is nationally ranked for its agricultural portfolio.

School Spirit Debit Cards, including one for the Palmyra Panthers, give back to the community. The program is designed to encourage school loyalty through cardholder participation with donations made by the bank to the school. To obtain a school spirit debit card, USB collects a \$5.00 donation from the cardholder, which is added to the bank's periodic donation based on cardholder participation. "Selecting credit when completing transactions at stores instead of selecting debit increases the amount of the donation for the school of choice," Hamlin says. The recipient school is free to use the funds for any purpose that will benefit the school.

USB supports the Marion County community in other ways as well. The bank is an annual sponsor of the Chase Anderson MDA Rodeo and was a sponsor of the Tate Shade Bull Bash. USB is a buyer at livestock 4-H market sales in all four counties in which branches are located.

Youth literacy is of utmost importance to USB. United State Bank has partnered with EverFi, Inc. and Banzai, Inc. to bring interactive financial management programs to Palmyra and Philadelphia high school students this coming school year at no cost to the school or students. This web-based program uses the latest in new media technology - Level 4 simulators, avatars, gaming and adaptive-pathing - to bring complex financial concepts to life for today's digital generation. Through this platform, students will become certified in hundreds of topics in personal finance, allowing them to become more informed, responsible citizens.

Stop in at USB in Palmyra and meet the staff: Brett Hamlin, Assistant Vice-President and branch manager; Judy Dewey, Bianca Strubinger, and Allen Wilkerson.

USB's lobby is open 9:00 to 4:00 Monday through Friday. You can transact business at the drive-up 8:30 to 4:00 Monday through Thursday and until 5:30 p.m. on Fridays. Saturday drive up hours are 9:00 to 12:00. Of course, the ATM is available 24 hours.

USB- United State Bank | 201 North Main | Palmyra, MO 63461 | 573-769-4897 | www.usb1.com



KUDOS!

Hats off to Chamber Board Member, Betsy Rush, Edward Jones Financial advisor, Palmyra! She is the recipient of a 2015 Edward Jones' Eagle Award for her "clear vision of client and business goals." Less than 15% of the firm's financial advisors received this distinction.

Congratulations to Destiny Reed, our 2014 Marion County Fair Queen who was crowned the 2015 Missouri State Fair Queen in Sedalia, Missouri on Friday, August 14. We are proud of you! And to you from the new State Fair Queen: "Thank you so much! The Chamber has been so supportive of me throughout my year as Miss Marion County, and I could not be where I am now without all of you!"

TRI-CITY CHAMBER STEAK FRY

You missed a good time if you missed the Tri-City Chamber Steak Fry! Golfers had a great time on the course at Jackson Park and about sixty-five dinners were served. Thank you to HATS, Kerley's and the Old Stone House Inn for providing the sides and to all who donated door prizes. It was wonderful welcoming friends from the Hannibal and Monroe City Chambers.



Guests enjoying themselves at the Tri-City Steak Fry. (Photo compliments of Mark Cheffey, Palmyra Spectator.)



2015 TASTE OF PALMYRA LOOKING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Taste of Palmyra Committee is looking for a few good members! Your new ideas and enthusiasm can add fresh touches to an event that continues to grow larger and more popular each year. Be part of making it even better.

Stop in and see Michelle Merkel, Taste of Palmyra Event Chair, at HOMEBANK. You can also give her a call at 573-769-2001 or email her at mmerkel@myhomebank.com. This year's Taste of Palmyra will be held Monday, October 19, from 5 - 9 p.m.



UPCOMING MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS YOUR NEXT CHAMBER MEETING IS NOON

Tues. September 8th, 2015

Luncheon will be held at SSD Build and catered by the Country Butcher Shop. Josh Steffen, Principal of SSD Build, will present a program on Mixed Use Development – Making Downtown Buildings Profitable. He will also be giving away a \$500 gift certificate which includes analysis of current building and front exterior design.

Tues. October 13th

Luncheon will be held at HATS. Our guest speaker will be Jared Pontius, new High School Principal at Palmyra R-1.

Tues. November 10th

Luncheon will be held at the Old Stone House Inn.

Chamber Email Address: palmyrachamber@gmail.com



upcoming events CALENDAR

September 3

5:30 p.m.: Quarter Auction, Maple Lawn Dining Room

September 5

8:30 a.m.: 2nd Annual Nick Smyser Memorial Golf Tournament, Jackson Park Golf Course

September 5

10 a.m., 7 p.m.: Dailyr's 10th Annual Kickball Tournament (morning), Flower City Park; Dance & Silent Auction Sesqui Building (evening)

September 10

4:30 & 7:30 p.m.: Carson & Barnes Circus, Flower City Park

September 11

Palmyra R-1 Homecoming

September 19

9 a.m.: JC Breault Memorial 5K Walk/Run, Flower City Park

September 19

10 a.m.: Missouri Rural Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, Palmyra High School Gymnasium

September 26

7-10 p.m.: King's Daughters' Trivia Night, American Legion Hall

October 3

Palmyra City Wide Garage Sale

October 19

5 - 9 p.m.: Taste of Palmyra

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP:

You can always join or renew your Chamber Membership by downloading the application by clicking [here!](#)