

Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

Your Daily Dose is Served...

FEATURED BUSINESS

TLB Tax Services

The Local Brand

TLB Tax Services was born in early 2015 when, after several years of working in the tax preparation industry, Paul and Tammy Rogers took the plunge and started their own business. Paul worked in several offices for the local HR Block franchise but spent the majority of four tax seasons working in the Palmyra office. "I always knew that if we ever decided to start our own office, Palmyra would be the place. I just really liked the people, and it felt a lot more like home to me."

Paul has a background in farm and small business. "That really helped me when I started doing tax work. Initially, it was just to understand things better for our own side-line business. At that point I would have laughed at the thought of doing it as a service for other people, but it actually came pretty naturally for me. I grew up on a cattle farm, and when it was that time of year, my parents talked about tax stuff at the dinner table. That was a big help, because really understanding someone's business is the key to looking ahead for them. With farms or business especially, it becomes more of a partnership than a simple service. We are determined to do great work, and stay fair in our pricing. That has really become an issue with some places."



Accountant Jerry Schoenborn in one of the new TLB offices in what was once the Tastee Freeze dining room.

Things changed very rapidly this spring for the business. Jerry Schoenborn joined the office in mid-March after a 2 year hiatus from providing tax and accounting services in his own office. Rogers says: "Jerry



TLB Owners Paul & Tammy Rogers with business partner, Jerry Schoenborn.

brings a lot to the business. With over 25 years in Palmyra doing taxes, it was really fun answering the phone when the news started getting around, and how happy that people were to hear that he was coming back. It was a good lesson too, seeing how much value that people place on someone in this role when they do a great job. We plan to be here for a long time, and it's good to be reminded of that."

That commitment was very much the motivation for the recent purchase of the Tastee Freeze building on South Main Street. The dining area has been converted to office space and the front of the building should be seasonally available for serving ice cream and grill items in 2017. The Rogers are looking forward to bringing back the local institution, but the expected problems with the long-empty building have



Paul Rogers, Tammy Rogers and Jerry Schoenborn in front of the new TLB Tax Services office. Yes, this used to be the Tastee Freeze.

TLB
Tax Services
The Local Brand

"I always knew that if we ever decided to start our own office, Palmyra would be the place. I just really liked the people, and it felt a lot more like home to me."

~Paul Rogers

TLB Tax Services Continued

pushed the target date to late next spring. "Everything always takes longer than you hope. We just want it to be right when we open it. People have great memories here, and we can't make it exactly what they miss because that time has passed, but we can make sure that they get great food. The name will unfortunately have to be changed because of trademarks, but we know that it will always be the Tastee Freeze locally, no matter what we call it," shared Rogers.

One visit to Paul's office and you can quickly tell that he and his wife share another passion. The walls are covered with photos of World Champion horse judging teams. Competitive judging combines knowledge of horses with public speaking skills. Since 2004, Paul has coached youth in national events. Surprisingly, it can be financially rewarding for the participants. Over 40 colleges and universities compete at the collegiate level, and some offer scholarships to incoming students. "We have right around 25 kids who have received scholarships to compete at the college level, and we are really proud of that, considering the costs of school. We could never justify the investment in terms of time and actual cost, if it wasn't for that."

The majority of the youth are from various parts of Illinois, but there are a pair from Marion County who have travelled extensively for the contests. Hana Murphy, who will compete for Oklahoma State this fall,

"Everything always takes longer than you hope. We just want it to be right when we open it. People have great memories here, and we can't make it exactly what they miss because that time has passed, but we can make sure that they get great food. The name will unfortunately have to be changed because of trademarks, but we know that it will always be the Tastee Freeze locally, no matter what we call it"

~Paul Rogers



The High Point Overall Winners at the 2015 AQHA (American Quarter Horse Assoc.) Youth World Show (from left to right): Coach Paul Rogers, Brooke Parrish, Laura Ganvik, Lillie Beringer, Hana Murphy and Coach Tammy Rogers.

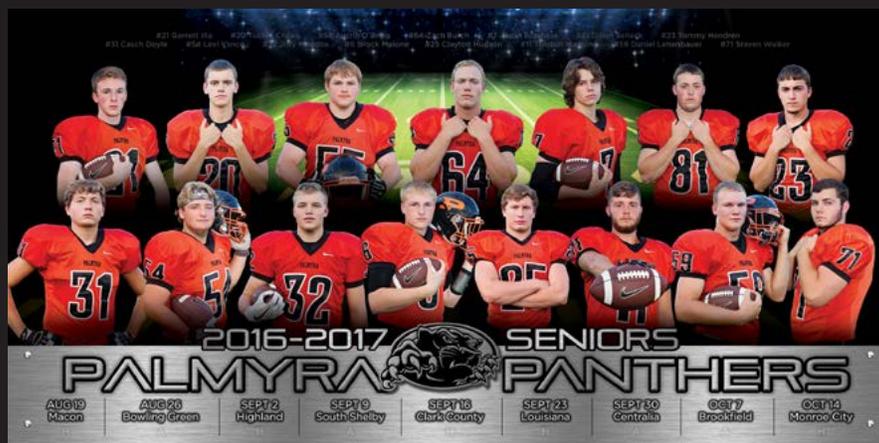
and Andrea Althoff who will attend Northeastern Oklahoma College as an incoming freshman. Paul Rogers elaborated, "Judging paid for my education at Middle Tennessee State University, at a time when I would've really struggled to get it paid for without tons of debt. I had a great coach and mentor that I am still close to today. He was a big advocate of paying it forward before that was a catch-phrase. Maybe a couple of these kids will look back down the road and realize what a jump-start that we tried to give them."

For now, Paul will make the daily drive from the family farm north of Quincy. Tammy has to be close to her workplace, so there are no immediate plans to move. "The drive is just about right for me," Paul says. "It gives me a half hour to plan my day, and during the long days of tax time a little while to think about things on the way home. A little drive seems to help things sort out sometimes."

TLB Tax Services plan to be in their new location by the end of August. TLB is currently open Tuesdays 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and by appointment but hours will expand during tax season. Stop in and see how one of your former haunts is being reused and recycled!

TLB Tax Services | 1025 South Main | Palmyra, MO 63461 | 573-773-2020 |  TLB Tax Services

Good Luck to the Palmyra Panthers this season!



KUDOS! 2016 MARION COUNTY FAIR

Heartfelt thanks and a round of applause go out to all contributors and supporters of the Marion County Fair. The input of so many dedicated hard-working volunteers is what makes the fair the success it is. If you see Fair organizers Randy and Michele Hopson be sure to add your personal thank you for all of the work they did.



The Palmyra Chamber is already planning for the 2017 Marion County Fair! Have an event to which you'd like to donate your time and talents? Please contact the Chamber at 573-769-0777, palmyrachamber@gmail.com or on Facebook ([Click Here](#)). We'd love to have you!



WELCOME! THE REBEL PIG

Please welcome new business owner, Doug Dry, and his restaurant, The Rebel Pig, to the Palmyra Chamber of Commerce. A ribbon cutting was held July 19 during the establishment's Grand Opening. The September 13th monthly Chamber Meeting will be held at The Rebel Pig.



UPCOMING! TASTE OF PALMYRA

Event chair Michelle Merkel has already held the first organizational meeting for Taste of Palmyra, and she would like to add you to the committee! Taste of Palmyra celebrates its tenth anniversary October 17, and your ideas on how to commemorate this milestone can help make the event even more successful. Michelle can be reached at HOMEBANK, 573-769-2001, or email [>Click here<](#)



Want to be a vendor? For Details/Forms, Click [>Here<](#)

Chamber Briefs...

SHARED WORK PROGRAM OUTLINED

The Palmyra Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting Tuesday, August 9, at Northeast Power. President Brian Caldwell welcomed all including speaker Dee Rose with the Missouri Department of Labor and guests Tom and Carol Lockett with Vatterott College and Ravenscraft Realty respectively. Caldwell thanked all contributors and supporters of the Marion County Fair and expressed the Chamber's distinct gratitude for all of the work Fair organizers Randy and Michele Hopson did.

Caldwell invited interested individuals to join Michelle Merkel and the Taste of Palmyra Committee which would welcome new members. The event will mark its 10th anniversary when it is held Oct. 17th. Contact the Chamber office (palmyrachamber@gmail.com; 769-0777) or Michelle at HOMEBANK if you are willing to help plan this year's event.

Dee Rose with the Missouri Department of Labor is reaching out to employers and business organizations about the Shared Work Program, an alternative to laying off employees. No one likes layoffs. They are bad for the business, the employee and the local economy.

The Shared Work Program is not job sharing! It is an employee retention program, a way of helping both employers and employees make it through a tough time that would have otherwise included a layoff. The program is for both public and private employers, large and very small.

The Shared Work Unemployment Compensation Program allows an employer to divide the available work among a specified group of affected employees instead of a layoff. These employees receive a portion of their unemployment benefits while working reduced hours. Shared Work is even more important to those employers that have frequent or prolonged lay off periods.

Any employer paying into an unemployment tax fund is eligible for the program, as long as taxes are paid and all unemployment reports have been filed. To participate, an employer completes an application for the affected unit within the company, and submits it to the Division of Employment Security (DES) for approval. Eligibility for the company depends on the reduction affecting at least 10% of the entire company, of a unit or specific department, or even 10% of a line in a factory. Eligibility also depends on normal hours for affected employees being reduced between 20 and 40 percent. The employer certifies that the fringe benefits provided will remain the same as if their normal hours had not been reduced or to the same extent as other employees not participating in the Shared Work Program.

Shared Work is a win for employers, employees and the local economy. Employers are better able to retain valued employees by utilizing the program, saving them thousands in rehire and retraining costs. Employees receive a supplement from the Shared Work Unemployment Compensation program that equals approximately a third of their daily wages for the days they participate in Shared Work. And, local economies do not suffer the effects of long term layoffs. For more information about Shared Work see www.sharedwork.mo.gov or call 573-751-9675.

The next Chamber meeting will be held at noon, Tuesday, September 13th at The Rebel Pig. Mary Gibbons with the Hannibal Chamber of Commerce will outline the Ambassador Program as used by that organization. The public is invited to attend.

Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

*Working Together for a
Stronger Future for the Palmyra Area*

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP:

You too can be a member of the Palmyra Chamber of Commerce. Businesses with only 1-3 employees can join for only \$75. Not-For-Profit and Non-Business Individual Membership is also \$75, while Retired Individuals may join for \$25. Membership runs January – December. An application and more information are available [HERE](#).

Visit

www.showmepalmyra.com
for everything Palmyra!

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS YOUR NEXT CHAMBER MEETING IS NOON

Tu. Sept. 13th

The Rebel Pig. Mary Gibbons with the Hannibal Chamber of Commerce will outline the Ambassador Program as used by that organization.

Tu. Oct. 11th

Sesqui Building. Political candidates for local offices will be invited to join us and make brief remarks.

Tu., Nov. 8th

El Nopal. A representative from the Christmas In Palmyra committee will update members on this year's event and how they can participate.

Tu., Dec. 14th

HATS. One or more members of the Palmyra City Council will join us with an update on 2016 accomplishments.

upcoming events CALENDAR

September 3

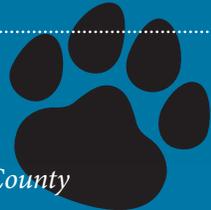
*Nick Smyser Golf Tournament ~ 8:30 am
tee time, Jackson Park Golf Course; free-will
dinner & live music to follow*

September 5

Labor Day

September 16

*Palmyra R-1 Homecoming ~
2 pm Parade on Main Street;
7 pm Football Game vs Clark County*



September 17

*Missouri Rural Electric Coop Annual Meeting
~ 10 am, Palmyra High School Gym*

September 29-October 14

FFA Fruit Sales

October 1

City-wide Garage Sales

October 17

*Taste of Palmyra ~ 5-9 pm, Main Street
Palmyra*

October 19-20

*Palmyra R-1 Parent Teacher
Conferences*

October 31

Halloween



November 12

*BLP Gift Show ~ 10 am-3pm,
Palmyra High School*

**Chamber Email Address:
palmyrachamber@gmail.com**



Palmyra MO Chamber of Commerce