

Library location from 1976 through 1989.

Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

Your Daily Dose is Served...

FEATURED BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

MARION COUNTY LIBRARY Subdistrict #1

Sometime during the early years of the 20th century, Palmyra's library began as a one-room start-up in the old City Hall. Later when the city hall moved the library also moved. Volunteer, Rayford West, served as a librarian of sorts, with some books being purchased and some donated. In 1976, the BLP Club raised funds to purchase the little building at 119 W. Olive where the Serenity Club now meets. They didn't raise quite enough money for both the building and the move so the City of Palmyra made up the difference. It was then that the name became the Palmyra Bicentennial Public Library because it was moved and expanded during the Bicentennial celebrations.

In 1989, when Palmyra State Bank erected their new building, they donated the old bank building to the Library. The building was dedicated in 1990. Brian Stuhlman's Eagle Scout Project consisted of planning and moving the library from Olive Street to the Main Street location. Later, the former shoe store next door was added to the library building which expanded it to its current size.

In 2010, the library board knew efforts needed to be taken to stabilize the Palmyra Bicentennial Public Library's funding. Without additional revenue, the library would exhaust the bequests that supplemented its city and county funding, with drastic cuts in hours and programs coming when the money ran out. However, voters throughout Palmyra and unincorporated Marion County said no to a 10-cent tax levy for the library in the April 2011 municipal election.

The ballot rematch came a little over a year later in August 2012, when residents of the Palmyra school district approved a 15-cent tax levy. Thus, the Palmyra Bicentennial Library became the Marion County Library Subdistrict #1. The name change was made to reflect that the library is now tax-supported.

The Marion County Library Subdistrict #1 is so much more than four walls filled with shelves of books! In addition to having access to a varied and growing print collection, Marion County Library patrons can download Ebooks and Audiobooks to their devices. After the 2012 Bowling for A Cause, the Palmyra Chamber of Commerce made a generous donation to our library which was used in January 2013 to help join Missouri Libraries To Go, the lending consortium. Downloading books can be done from a link on the library's website, <http://marioncounty1.lib.mo.us>; a library card and card number is required for the download.

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"The public library is a source of entertainment, information, and education for all without regard to race, color, creed, or financial condition."

Peggy Northcraft

Take advantage of this community treasure!



Moving the Library to its present location.

Ellen Stuhlman shown at left.



MARION COUNTY LIBRARY BUSINESS INFO

Peggy Northcraft, Director • 212 South Main Street • Palmyra, MO 63461 • 573-769-2830 • <http://marioncounty1.lib.mo.us>

FEATURED BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

MARION COUNTY LIBRARY

Subdistrict #1

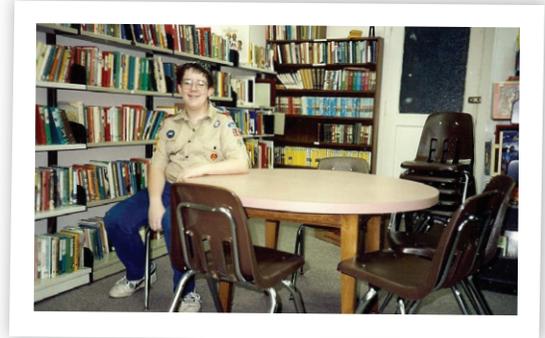
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Also on the library's website are some amazing Web Links. A Job & Career Accelerator provides an online resume and letter building tool with hundreds of occupation specific examples; a database of job and internship opportunities; over 1,000 occupational profiles; personalized career guidance testing; and ability to save work in a job search portfolio. Popular software tutorials – courses in Word, Excel, and Windows and Mac Operating Systems for example - can be found in the Learning Express Library.

Under the Genealogy tab, users have access to a Master Cemetery Index of all the cemeteries in Marion County. One can find where an ancestor is buried without searching individual cemetery records.

Still like to check out print books but the library doesn't have the book you want to read? The Marion County Library Subdistrict #1 has expanded its Interlibrary Loan Service. Stop in and see Leslie Gehring with your request.

The library currently employs two full time and three part time employees. Peggy Northcraft was hired October 1, 2012 as library director when Carol Brentlinger retired from the position. Peggy has helped guide the library board through the library's transition from city and county subsidized to tax supported. Four individuals volunteer their services year round, and in the summer a "volunteer group" assists with the Summer Reading Program and shelving books.



Brian Stuhlman proud to earn his Eagle Scout Badge with the move of the Palmyra Bicentennial Library to Main Street, January 1990.



Ruth Garner, Circulation Manager & Library Director Peggy Northcraft show off some of the library's new books.

NOTE: New Chamber Email Address:
palmyrachamber@gmail.com

Good Luck to the
Palmyra Panther
Football Team
as they compete for a
District Win!



Chamber Briefs...

PALMYRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MONTHLY MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2013

The Palmyra Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting at the VFW Hall Tuesday, October 8. President Michelle Merkel welcomed everyone including Brian Caldwell representing new Chamber business member ETC Computerland of Quincy, IL and FBLA student representatives Kelsey Martin and Jordan Nutt. Bowling For Palmyra, the September fundraiser for the Palmyra Nutrition Center and Paw Packs, raised over \$1300 thanks to community generosity and participation. The next fundraiser, the Christmas 5K Run, with proceeds going to the Palmyra Food Pantry, will take place November 23. Plans for Christmas In Palmyra, to be held Thursday, December 5, are in the works.

Taste of Palmyra, which will take place Monday, October 21 from 5 - 9 p.m., already has 40 craft vendors and 30 food vendors. Eleven Chamber businesses will participate in Trunk-or-Treat. Entertainment is being finalized, and good turnout is expected for both the Car and Tractor Shows.

UPDATE ON DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION AND SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT

Ed Dent, Chamber of Commerce Board Member, was the guest speaker. Dent has been actively involved with both Downtown Revitalization and the Senior Housing Project. "The Palmyra Chamber has joined with PACB, the city and individuals to raise \$10,000 for Roseman & Associates and the architects for a plan to move forward for Downtown Revitalization," said Dent. He said that the journey for revitalization has been quite a ride with the Senior Housing Project being a major component of that journey, and, in his opinion, a key piece of the revitalization.

Currently, with the exception of the law office and the old car wash, Weatherstone has a contract on or owns the 100 block north of the Courthouse. Dent had been working with a team familiar with tax credits to attempt to build affordable senior housing on this property. A change in funding rules thirty days before the project was to be submitted for approval meant there was a shortfall of funds. Thought cuts were made to alter the scope of the project, a loan was needed even to achieve this goal. When Weatherstone and Dent's team approached the city for the loan, the short time frame in which to make a decision may have been one factor affecting their decision to deny the loan request.

The Senior Housing Development may be a long-term work in progress. Dent is hopeful that the tax credits return to previous rates next September but is exploring alternate funding sources and is open to alternate uses for the property. He is, however, optimistic for the future of the Senior Housing Project, as he believes it can provide major benefits to our community. Weatherstone is currently moving forward, absorbing the cost for demolition of the former Architectural Woodworking.

Funding a plan for Downtown Revitalization is a collaborative effort of the Palmyra Chamber, PACB, the city, and individuals working together. Funding has been secured for the first two phases. Input will be sought for what community members want downtown to look like. If building owners choose to be reimbursed for changes made, there will be tax credits for following certain regulations. However, if building owners choose to do nothing or to make improvements with their own funds that is also acceptable.

upcoming events

CALENDAR

Sat., November 9th

BLP Holiday Gift Show

10am-3pm Palmyra High School

To register as a vendor contact Kathy at nicholsonk@palmyra.k12.mo.us. \$2 Admission (No Strollers Please!)

Sat., November 23rd

5k Christmas Run/Walk

10am - Flower City Park

Proceeds benefit the Food Bank. We will also have 20+ vendors in the Sesqui Building that day. Pick up your Christmas Crawl Card and get it stamped for the 1st time at this event! Register at showmepalmyra.com

Nov. 23 - Dec. 5th

Christmas Crawl

Once again this year, the Palmyra Chamber is sponsoring a Christmas Crawl. Participants will have a chance to WIN \$200, \$300 or \$500 in cash. An individual will be required to visit a set number of businesses and get their card stamped as their ticket for the drawing. On Thursday, Dec. 5th, individuals must be present at the Court House to win the \$1000. Would you like to be one of the businesses on the Crawl Card? Contact the Palmyra Chamber of Commerce at palmyrachamber@gmail.com. "Christmas Crawl" cards will be delivered to participating businesses November 22nd.

Thurs., December 5th

Christmas in Palmyra

Featuring:

3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off

6 - 7:30 p.m. Palmyra Courthouse Basement. All proceeds to benefit ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) Team Entry Fee: \$20. Registration form on showmepalmyra.com. \$5 Cover Fee for Tasting

7:30 p.m. Christmas Wreath/Basket Auction & 3 Christmas Crawl Drawings to total \$1,000!

Tue., December 10th

Business After Hours • 5-7pm

Old Stone House Inn. Sponsored by Flower City Mercantile & the Old Stone House Inn

REMINDER

YOUR NEXT CHAMBER MEETING IS AT NOON
Tues., November 12, 2013 • VFW Hall
Guest Speaker - Betsy Rush, Palmyra Financial
Advisor for Edward Jones with an overview of
financial services offered