

NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



How Small Business Season Keeps Money in Our Community

By now you've likely seen the statistics that shopping small/local keeps roughly \$68 out of every \$100 in our community, whereas shopping at a national chain means about \$43 remains here. Why is that important and what does it mean to you and your family? A lot more than you may think.

Where Do the Dollars Go?

While it's difficult to track the exact path of a dollar spent locally versus one spent at a chain, you can imagine it looks something like the graphic above.

That image is an example of what's called "indirect impact." Indirect impact is felt when a local business owner or employee spends the money they make locally but it's not the only kind of impact that can be felt by spending local.

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President's Message

Jay Woodrum

Wow! What a wonderful Community Prayer Breakfast we just had. Thank you to our speaker, Amber Oberheim, for sharing her moving story with our community. Thank you to HSHS St. Mary's Hospital for being our Gold Sponsor and for all your help. One last thank you to all of our amazing local churches for their involvement and support and our other sponsors. This was a record year with almost 300 attendees. We hope to keep this going and provide value to our members for many years to come.

Now as the season are changing quickly, we are coming up on the most popular time of year for shoppers, which means a busy time for businesses. Of course, there is Black Friday and Cyber Monday, and if you're a retail business I hope you're ready to accommodate the crowds both physically and virtually. But what I really want to talk about is November 26th, Small Business Saturday.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 9th LUNCHEON

12:-1:00 Luncheon
Fletcher Park Recreation Center

PROGRAM

Andrew Taylor
EDC of Decatur-Macon Co.

TOPIC

Positioning Macon County
for Growth

Member cost \$15
RSVP by Tuesday, Nov. 8th

NOVEMBER 3rd

Drive-up Pork Chop Dinner
Advance Tickets Only \$15
Sold up to Nov. 2nd

DECEMBER 6th TSA BELL RINGING

3-8 p.m. Airport Kroger

DECEMBER 14th LUNCHEON

Christmas Program
Mt. Zion Convention Center



Member
Spotlight



DOING
THE MOST
GOOD®

The Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce loves its member businesses and wants you to learn more about them by bringing you this month's Member Spotlight. The Salvation Army of Decatur located at 229 W. Main Street provides food, shelter, and emergency services to people in our community that are in need. Their programs include: food pantry, men's shelter, Pathway of Hope, assistance for Veterans, prescription assistance, and Homeless Prevention. Make a donation to be a Christmas Season Sponsor and sign up for bell ringing and other Seasonal activities at <http://www.sadecatur.org>.

**Nov. 2nd
Last Day to Buy**

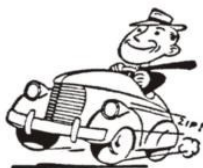


MT. ZION

CHAMBER

of Commerce

**Order 5 tickets for \$65 from
mtzionilchamber@gmail.com**



Pork Chop Drive-up Dinner

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Pick up 4:30-6:30 pm

First Baptist Church of Mt. Zion Parking Lot

720 W. Main Street, Mt. Zion

Only \$15

**Make checks payable to the
Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce**

**Includes 1" Thick 8 oz. Pork Chop, Green Beans,
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Roll & Butter, and
Subway cookie**

<https://www.mtzionchamber.org/events>

or

**Tickets can also be purchased at the following
Mt. Zion businesses: Del's Popcorn, Prairie State
Bank, Scott State Bank, Village of Mt. Zion, or by
calling 217-864-2526.**

Thank You

2022 Mt. Zion Community Prayer Breakfast

GOLD SPONSOR



SILVER SPONSORS

Churches of
Mt. Zion

EVERGREEN
SENIOR LIVING

IMBODEN CREEK
SENIOR LIVING & RECREATION



Land of Lincoln
Bank on learning more.



REFRESHMENT
SERVICES PEPSI

Thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers of the October 19, 2022 Mt. Zion Community Prayer Breakfast. The Churches of Mt. Zion were: Antioch Christian Church, First Baptist Church of Mt. Zion, Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Mt. Zion Christian Church, Passion Community Church, and Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church.

Thank you to our speaker Amber Oberheim for sharing her faith-based journey with our community.



Thank you for the wonderful music provided by: Julie McClarey-Smith, Zach Garrett, and Rich Hansen's Mt. Zion High School Mixed Acapella Choir.



NOVEMBER LUNCHEON



Andrew was slated to speak at our July luncheon, but he and his family came down with Covid; we have rescheduled his speech for our next luncheon.

Please join us at the November 9, 2022 luncheon at the Fletcher Park Recreation Center. Andrew Taylor will be our speaker on the topic "Positioning Macon County for Growth." Come find out the plans for Macon County. Andrew is the Economic Development Officer for Decatur & Macon County. He works to provide existing and potential area businesses with the information they need to grow and prosper.

Our luncheon on November 9th costs \$15 and starts at 12 noon; registration is from 11:30 – 12 noon. You can start going through the buffet line at 11:45 a.m. We will have three kinds of wraps, chips, cupcakes, and tea and water from the Black Iron Coffee Company.

Send your RSVP to mtzionchamber@gmail.com by Tuesday, November 8th to submit your reservation at <https://www.mtzionchamber.org/events/meetings/>. If you are paying in advance on the website be sure to send me your RSVP information with all the names of those attending from your business or organization. Optionally, you can still be invoiced or pay at the door.

2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President - Jay Woodrum
Peerless Cleaners & Restoration



Vice President - Allie Braden
Traditions Health



Treasurer - Danielle Diskey
Decatur Family YMCA



Secretary - Ashley Batchelder
Mt. Zion District Library



Zach Anderson - Bolen, Robinson
& Ellis LLP (BRE Law)



Tom Courson - Field Level
Agriculture, Inc.



Shelly Coslow - Decatur
Earthmover Credit Union



Laura Jones - Outgoing Officer
Advisor, Vieweg Real Estate



Linda Harper - Administrator, Mt.
Zion Chamber of Commerce



Jodi Lockwood - Vieweg Real
Estate



Dan McNeely - Diamond Bros.
Insurance, LLC



Kim Rhodes - Physicians Choice
Wellness



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Mt. Zion IL CEO



Mandy Moore, Chair and Molly Carpenter, Facilitator are our new members of the new entrepreneurship program at the Mt. Zion High School that began this year. It teaches entrepreneurship education and seeks to prepare youth, to be responsible, enterprising individuals who become entrepreneurs or entrepreneurial thinkers and contribute to economic development and sustainable communities. Seniors or juniors can take the year long class. Go to <https://www.mtzionilceo.com/> to learn more about the Mt. Zion IL CEO program. If you would like more information about how to become an investor, fill out the form at <https://www.mtzionilceo.com/investors>.

2023 Mt. Zion Expo & Taste

Expo and Taste
April 1, 2023

	Gold Sponsorship \$400	Silver Sponsorship \$200	Booth Space \$175/Early \$200 each booth only
Booth space	Two 10'x10' tables included	One 10'x10' table included	One 10'x10' table included
Sponsor Promotion	Exposure on Social Media at Event	Exposure on Social Media at Event	Exposure on Social Media at Event
Sponsor publicity	Sponsor name announced at Event	Sponsor name announced at Event	Sponsor name announced at Event
Sponsor inclusion	Sponsor name will appear on all Expo materials	Sponsor name will appear on all Expo materials	Sponsor name will appear on all Expo materials
Sponsor inclusion in Pre-Expo event advertisement	Sponsor name will appear on all Pre-Expo event materials	Sponsor name will appear on all Pre-Expo event materials	Sponsor name will appear on all Pre-Expo event materials
Early Bird Pricing (Pre-Expo event only, Feb. 1, 2023)	\$600	\$300	\$200 (includes \$275 once available)

Expo and Taste is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All proceeds go to the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact Mandy Moore at 815.461.4000 or mmoore@mtzionchamber.org.

On [page 6](#) you will find the Sponsorship Packages for the 2023 Expo & Taste, which will be a week before Easter, on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The prices have been **rolled back** and there are Early Bird prices on the Gold and Silver Sponsorships as well as an individual booth. The due date to order and pay for an Early Bird Price is February 1, 2023.

The committee has been working on putting on a great Expo & Taste. We are going to have a Easter Egg Hunt, coloring contest, a free picture with the Easter Bunny, a new game to get more meaningful engagement between the attendees and the exhibitors, Mt. Zion squad car and fire truck, blood mobile, Rich Hansen's choir, fashion shows, and more....

In addition to our Gold and Silver sponsorships, we are also looking for the following sponsors: Easter Egg sponsor, bicycle sponsor, and stage shows sponsor.

You won't want to miss this fun 2023 Expo & Taste. Email mtzionilchamber@gmail.com. The Expo contract and the Taste contract are included in this newsletter.

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Small Business Saturday was created to encourage consumers to shop local. Our local businesses are what makes up our great chamber and our community, so why not celebrate each other and show some giving spirit this holiday season. Stop for lunch at one of our amazing restaurants, enjoy the small town feel of some of our shops, or purchase some gift certificates for that special someone, and don't forget to grab some coffee to enjoy while out running around.

Choosing to keep your dollars local not only improves and supports our local businesses and chamber members, but it helps improve our community. I would like to encourage everyone to take a little time Saturday, November 26th, and visit a local business.

Sincerely,
Jay Woodrum
MZCC President

MT. ZION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
<https://www.mtzionchamber.org>

1400 Village Parkway, Mt. Zion, IL 62549
(217)864-2526



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Johnny Goes to Band Camp

When your son or daughter has a school expense like a club trip, sporting event, yearbook expense, camp, or graduation program, do you email Elon Musk to fund it? No. You ask your local pizza parlor or favorite small business owner. They get their name listed as a sponsor and your child is one step closer to their goal.

Small Nonprofits Win

Along the same lines of sponsors, when it comes to local nonprofits and raising money for local causes or even natural disasters, it's the local businesses that come through. They understand the importance of helping neighbors. Yes, large companies give hundreds of thousands of dollars to large nonprofits. We're not discounting that. But local charities and nonprofits are often not on their funding radars. Chains are doing their part donating to the United Way and national groups like the American Cancer Society. Local charities often rely on local support.

We Enjoy a Better Quality of Life

According to [studies compiled by the Institute of Self Reliance](#), "the more locally owned businesses per capita that a community has, the better off that place is on many of the other indicators of community health. The larger the share of transactions in our economy—buying, producing, investing—that involve a locally owned business, the more thriving, equitable, and resilient our economy and community can be."

Local Vendors and People Win

During COVID and immediately after reopening, there were supply chain issues (we're still feeling them in some industries). Many of those issues were due to lack of transportation or lack of labor in the transportation industry. That caused many businesses to look for local options to meet their needs.

When local businesses pay for things they need to do business (like inventory, utilities, equipment and pay to employees) locally, that has a *direct* impact on the local economy.

Chains and local businesses pay a salary to local employees so they both have a direct impact on the local economy. However, a chain is limited in where it can get its inventory, equipment, and other items from. These costs are probably paid to, or dictated by, corporate. A small business owner makes those decisions themselves and can choose to keep some of those purchases local as well.

Jobs Are Plentiful

In times when jobs are needed most—in high unemployment—local businesses are there. According to the article "The Contribution of Large and Small Employers to Job Creation in Times of High and Low Unemployment," which appeared in the *American Economic Review*, "...in times of high unemployment, small businesses both retain and create more jobs than large firms do."

Where you spend your money is an investment in the growth and prosperity of our area. You're either investing for maximized returns on your holiday dollars by spending local or you're not. We hope it's the former.

[Christina Metcalf](#) is a writer/ghostwriter who believes in the power of story.



Expo and Taste

April 1, 2023

Gold or Silver Sponsorship Packages Due February 28, 2023 Early Bird Sponsorships & Booths Payment Due February 1, 2023

	Gold Sponsorship \$650	Silver Sponsorship \$400	Booth Space \$375/Early \$200 <i>Non Member:</i> \$425/Early \$375
Booth space	Two 8x8 booths Electricity included	8/8 booth Electricity available \$25	8/8 booth Electricity available \$25
Sponsor Promotion	Designated as Gold Sponsor at Event	Designated as Silver Sponsor at Event	
Sponsor publicity	Sponsor name announced at Event	Sponsor name announced at Event	
Sponsor Inclusion	Sponsor name and logo on all Expo communications.	Sponsor name and logo on Expo communications.	
Sponsor inclusion in Pre-Expo event advertisement	Sponsor logo on Expo flyer & newspaper ad. Sponsor logo on all Expo email and social media messages. Email blast your ad & on Chamber Facebook page.	Sponsor name on Expo flyer Email blast your ad	
Early Bird Pricing If registered and paid before Feb. 1, 2023	\$600	\$350	\$200 member \$375 non member

Business Name & Contact Name: _____

Gold: _____ Silver: _____ How Many Booths: _____ Electricity: _____

Email: mtzionilchamber@gmail.com

Mail Payment to: P.O. 84, Mt. Zion, IL 62549



Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce 2023 EXPO Contract

Show Date: April 1, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Mt. Zion Convention Center

Set Up Date: March 31, 2023 | 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Booth Space: 8' x 8'

Fee: Early Bird Non-Member \$375 or Early Bird Member \$200 per booth space, if registered by Feb. 1, 2023.

After Feb. 1, 2023 booth space will be allocated on a first-come first-serve basis at

Non-Member Price of \$425 or Member Price \$250 Registration Form & Payment Due by March 17, 2023.

(Non-member price for both Early Bird and non-Early Bird includes a free membership.)

- All Early Bird booth contracts and checks must be received by Feb. 1, 2023 to retain a discounted booth space.
- All exhibitors must restrict their exhibit to the business registered with the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce.
- All multiple businesses that are Chamber members, must register each business they wish to exhibit.
- Doors will be open for setup on Friday, March 31, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All exhibitors are to be set up by 5:00 p.m.

- Exhibitors will unload in the front and park to the immediate north & east of the Convention Center on April 1, 2023.
 - Exhibitors will **NOT** remove their display before 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 1, 2023.
 - Exhibitors will **NOT** sell any illegal items.
 - Exhibitors will remove all trash, paper, boxes, tape, etc. from their space.
 - Exhibitors will cooperate with all requests of show personnel.
 - Exhibitors **MUST** keep display within confines of their space and not go into the aisles.
 - The Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce or the Mt. Zion Convention Center will not be held liable for any losses, damages or injuries sustained by exhibitors in any manner whatsoever.
 - No refunds or credits for cancellations for any reason after March 17, 2023.
 - Exhibitors will be supplied (1) table, (2) chairs, table cloth, pipe and drape on three sides.
- You must supply extension cords and display accessories. Wall booth spaces are for booths that need electrical outlets.

Electrical Booth space will be available to those who pay the \$25.00 fee.

- Door prizes can be announced during the Expo. It is suggested that you arrange for door prize and sign-ups and/or drawings at your booth.
- All Chamber exhibitors must be a member in good standing at the time of the Expo with dues paid in full; the 2023 membership dues is due January 1, 2023.
- For questions or special requests, please call the Chamber at 217-864-2526.
- Make checks payable to: Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce. Mail to: P.O. Box 84, Mt. Zion, IL 62549.

Return The Bottom Half With Your Payment

Business Name (Please Print) _____

Contact Person (Please Print) _____

Phone _____

Electricity: Yes _____ No _____ (110v)

Note: **There is an added \$25 charge for booth electricity. (\$25.00)**

Booth: Business _____ Taste _____ Electricity _____

Early Bird Non-Member \$375 or \$200 Member per booth price.

After Feb. 1, 2023, price for Non-Member \$425 or Member \$250 per booth.

Mail to:

Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 84

Mt. Zion, IL 62549



2023 TASTE Contract

Do not miss this opportunity to serve one of your delicious entrees to the crowd of local residents attending the EXPO & TASTE on Saturday, April 1, 2023.

Setup is Saturday, April 1st from 9 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

- NO CHARGE for Taste Booth for Chamber members – Booth size 8 x 8
- Serve time: 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Each booth provides a minimum of 200 single food servings for one ticket
- Each booth provides necessary serving items (extension cords, napkins, plates, forks, etc.)
- Taste tickets will be for sale the day of the event at the Mt. Zion Chamber Booth only in packs of 5 tickets for \$8
- **Vendors will be reimbursed \$1.00 for each ticket turned in by 2:00 p.m.**

If you would like to be part of the TASTE, please complete the attached reservation and return by mail: PO BOX 84, Mt. Zion, IL or email: mtzionchamber@gmail.com by **March 17, 2023.**

BOOTH RESERVATION

Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____



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217-254-9942



Amber Burdine
Licensed Partner
217-791-3322



JimCleveland@Remax.net



www.DecaturHomes.com



For more information about our properties, call Jim at 217-433-1144

ACTIVE LISTINGS

Address	Details	Price	MLS #
90 Webster Ct	4 bdr/1 bth/Handyman special	\$19k	6220876
3158 E Garfield Ave	NEW LISTING! 1 bdr/1bth/.32 acres/1 car garage	\$24k	6224628
1613 E Prairie Ave	2 bdr/1 bth/investment property/1 car garage	\$24k	6222566
270 E Mueller Ct	LAND/LOT Gated subdivision/.65 acres	Upper \$20's	6223435
1840 Buckhead Ln	LAND/LOT Gated subdivision/.82 acres/cleared	Upper \$30's	6222659
355 E Mueller Ct	LAND/LOT Gated subdivision/overlooks Lake Decatur/utilities in place	Lower \$40's	6222750
365 E Mueller Ct	LAND/LOT Gated subdivision/.42 acres/overlooks Lake Decatur	Mid \$40's	6222748
724 W Prairie Ave	3 bdr/1 bth/historic West End home/ As is!	Upper \$40's	6222568
1939 Mill Stone Rd	REDUCED PRICE! 2 bdr/1 bth/ duplex/screened-in porch/.27 acres	Mid \$70's	6220970
2233 Windsor Rd	3 bdr/1.5 bth/.50 acres/2.5 car att garage/patio	Lower \$80's	6222764
201 Sylvan Dr	NEW LISTING! 2 bdr/2 bth/lake Decatur views/remodeled throughout	Upper \$80's	6224739
2530 Lake Reunion Pkwy	LAND/LOT Residential building site/Mt Zion Schools	Upper \$90's	6215079
3345 N Woodford St	COMMERCIAL LISTING priced @ \$139k or RESIDENTIAL LISTING priced @ \$89,897		6221443
1910 W Grand Ave + 1385 N Dennis Ave + 2142 E Johns Ave	NEW LISTINGS!! 3 home package	\$114k 6223478 + 6223477 + 6223475	
2676 Forest Crest Rd	REDUCED PRICE! 3 bdr/1.5 bth/1.88 acres/3438 sq ft living space	Upper \$180's	6221893
820 S McKinney Ln	REDUCED PRICE! 3 bdr/3 bth/indoor – inground pool/hot tub/.95 acres	Upper \$180's	6223224

Active/Under Contract Listings

1544 W Olive St	CONTRACT WITHIN 28 DAYS!!	\$114k	6223476
5707 S Kruse Rd Mt Zion	CONTRACT WITHIN 17 DAYS!!	\$184k	6224665
1991 N 2600 East Rd Moweaqua	CONTRACT WITHIN 13 DAYS!!	\$229k	6224725



RE/MAX Executives Plus
151 East Decatur St
Decatur, IL 62521
(217) 428-9500 Office

Malia
Sutherland
Transaction
Manager
217-421-9507



Diana Kirby
Listing Manager
217-421-9526



Each Office Independently Owned & Operated



Shop Small Local Businesses

Throughout the Holiday

Small businesses provide our communities with good jobs, quality customer service, and the character that makes our towns and neighborhoods feel like home. Please shop local small businesses this holiday like:

121 Fitness
BoxDrop Mattress & Furniture Outlet
Decatur Jewelry & Pawn II
Del's Popcorn in Mt. Zion
International Eyecare Center
Kenney's Ace Hardware
Mari-Mann Herbs
Shop On Main
and many others....

See our alphabetic or category listing of business members at:

<https://mtzionchamber.org/directory/>

