

and Area Economic Development Corporation



March 2017

"WHERE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY BEGINS"



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2017 Board of Directors

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ment Liaison: Zach Fayette, *First State Bank & Trust* 2nd Vice Chairman: Lisa Heuring, *Missouri Delta Medical Center* Secretary/Treasurer: Rick Lovall, *The Sanctuary* Past Chairman: Larry Eby, Vast Broadband

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SRC Staff

Mike Marshall, CEO/Executive Director Kathy Medley, Executive Vice-President Garth Fuchs, Director of Membership Development

SRC Annual Awards Banquet An Evening of Excellence

The Sikeston Regional Chamber will host its premier event on Thursday, March 30. Join us as we recognize the outstanding achievements of area citizens. Dinner will be catered by Ray's of Kelso.

This year for your convenience Table Services are available for an addition fee of \$100. Call the Chamber office for details. Click <u>here</u> to reserve your tickets or call 471-2498.

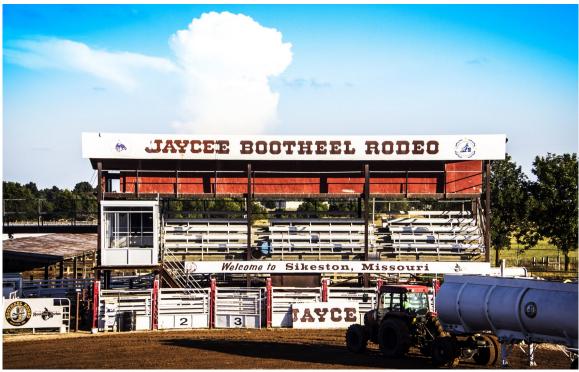




SRC Chamber Luncheon

The Sikeston Jaycees will host the next SRC Luncheon on Thursday, March 23, 12pm at the Jaycee Barn.

We're excited to hear the entertainment lineup for the 65th Sikeston Jaycee Bootheel Rodeo! Lunch will be \$10 per person. For convenience you can register in advance by clicking <u>here</u>.



Ground Breaking Ceremony

The Sikeston Jaycees will host a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the new Cattle Baron section on **Wednesday**, **March 8 at 11:30 a.m.**

Join us at the rodeo grounds as we celebrate the Jaycees' new expansion projects.

Welcome New Members

Mirtech Harvest Center 101 County Line Road 475-9621

Get Involved

If you would like to serve on one of the Chamber committees, or just help with an event, contact SRC staff at 471-2498 or chamber@sikeston.net.

SRC Committees; Annual Awards Banquet, Crawfish Crawl 5K-10K, Chamber Ambassadors, Emerging Leaders, Membership & Marketing, SRC Golf Tournament, VIP Committee, Workforce Development

From the Executive Director's Desk

History teaches us that great towns and cities were founded first on coasts and rivers. Then during the 19th century, as railroads became a major source of transportation and freight movement, the rails became the direction for growth. As we all know, our own city of Sikeston was founded along the railroad. In the 20th century as the automobile came into to use, roads and highways become the link to population expansion.

I've given this short history lesson on transportation to make a point. The US Senate, under the direction of Arkansas Sen. John Boozman included a provision in the 2017 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development bill to designate US Highway 67 as "Future I-57."

What does this mean? Currently, Interstate 57 extends from Chicago to Sikeston and then turns into US Highway 60. What the Senator wants to do is upgrade US Highway 67 to interstate standards and tie into I-57 to give the folks in Arkansas direct access to Chicago. This would require and upgrade to interstate standards of US Highway 60 from Sikeston (the end of I-57) west to Poplar Bluff and the south to the current US Highway 67. Just as Boozman sees the advantage of interstate connection to Chicago, with this connection we would have access to Little Rock and on further to the Texas market as well as access to Mexico.

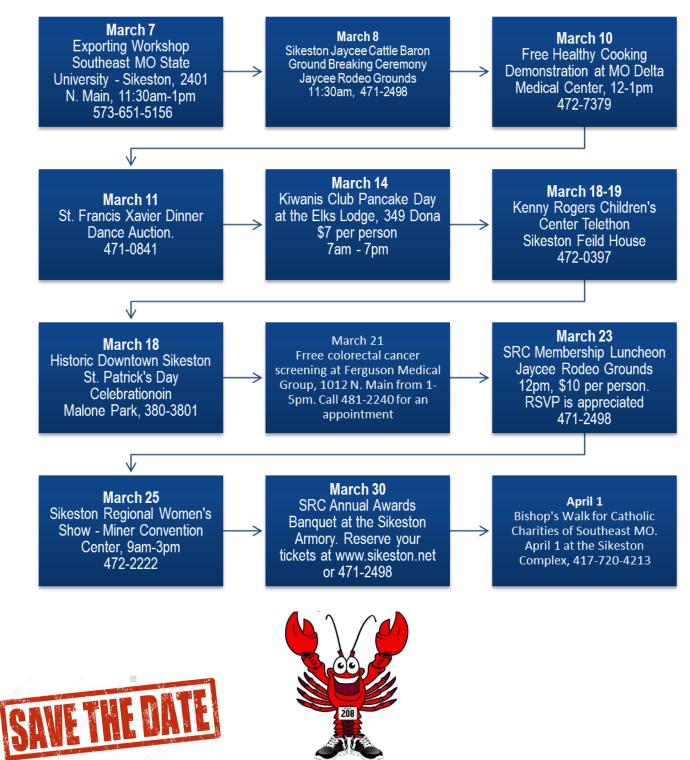
This would give Sikeston a real advantage - to use a popular term "GAME CHANGER." The presence of an official interstate highway is one of the key factors that developers consider when determining where to make major investments. We have seen how Sikeston's access to I-55 has helped our community grow. With the connection to the southern market, we become a major distribution center as well as the perfect location to locate retail and manufacturing business. We as a region should work with our legislators both in Jefferson City and Washington DC to make this happen. I would be interested to hear your thoughts on this. Please feel free to call me at 471-2498, stop by the Chamber office at 128 New Madrid Street or email me at <u>mike.marshall@sikeston.net</u>

Thank You SRC Corporate Sponsors



Events

Add your events to the SRC website by logging in to <u>www.sikeston.net</u>



- ⇒ SRC Crawfish Crawl 5K & 10K April 29 at the Complex Park runners, walkers, moms + stroller, everyone welcome!! Register <u>here</u>.
- ⇒ SRC's Golf Tournament Monday, August 28, 2017 at Fox Haven Country Club.

Member News

Saturday March 25 Time for Spring Cleaning!!! Is it time to clean up and clear out your space – but you hate to just throw your gently used items away? There is a new, local donation point that will provide you with a TAX RECEIPT for your donations – The Storehouse in Sikeston! The Lions Club of Sikeston is partnering with Spread Hope Now to provide an alternative outlet for your donated items. The Storehouse helps individuals or families in crisis at no cost to them. All items received are repurposed and given back to the community...to individuals who may be displaced due to losing their home to fire or re-establishing a household due to other circumstances. Collections will be from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Storehouse location526 S. Main Street (rear) Storage Unit 2, behind Anderson Green Insurance in Sikeston.

They accept the following: Purposeful household items, Small/large appliances in working order, kitchen items, furniture, lamps, clean sorted towels and linens, NEW mops, brooms, and cleaning supplies, Monetary donations are accepted to help buy essential supplies for families in crises (donations can also be made on line at <u>spreadhopenow.org</u>). Items that they do not accept: TV's, mattresses, car seats, cribs or clothing.

Contact Megan Hampton (573) 838-8261 to volunteer or for more information.

