MT. ZION CHAMBER of Commerce

VOLUME 31| ISSUE 11

November 2026 EDITION

LINDA HARPER, EDITOR

NOVEMBER 2026



President's Message

Laura Cullison

Hello everyone,

I want to start by thanking everyone who attended our 14th Annual Prayer Breakfast this past month. A special thank you to our speaker, Dr. Kelly Clark, for sharing his mission work experiences with us. We are also grateful to our Gold Sponsor, HSHS St. Mary's Hospital, our local pastors, volunteers, and all our sponsors who helped make this event possible. Without your support, we couldn't put together such a wonderful morning. This is an event I look forward to every year, and it was truly an honor to be part of it this year.

November brings several great opportunities to come together as a community, including our Veteran's Day Breakfast on November 11th at Antioch Christian Church. We hope you will invite any veterans you know as we recognize and celebrate the veterans who have given so much to our country. As the daughter and wife of a veteran, this event holds a special place in my heart. To all who have served, thank you for your service and sacrifice. We look forward to celebrating you! We will be serving a complimentary breakfast to all veterans and their guest.

And don't forget to check out our Shop Local promotion! It's a fun way to support our local businesses and even have a chance to win. I know how much our community values its small

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UPCOMING

NOVEMBER 11

Luncheon
12:00-1:00

Program
LindseyLife

Location
Mt. Zion Fletcher Park Recreation Ctr.

Member cost $15

RSVP by 11/10/2026

NOVEMBER 2
Mix & Mingle
4:30-6:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2
Shop Local Begins

NOVEMBER 6
Veterans Day Breakfast Sponsorships Due

NOVEMBER 11
Veterans Day Breakfast
Antioch Christian Church
7 a.m.

NOVEMBER 20
5-8 p.m. Ribbon Cutting & Business After Hours
Capelli's Studio & Spa, 121 Coffee Run & Emily's Slots

DECEMBER 9
Christmas Luncheon
Mt. Zion Convention Ctr.

MT. ZION CHAMBER of Commerce

2026-2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Laura Cullison
President
Evergreen Senior Living



Kyle Karsten
Vice President
Dove, Inc.



Trisha Beck
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Karalee Misner
The Solvr Group



Linda Harper
Executive Director
Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce



Ashley Batchelder
Outgoing Officer Advisor
Mt. Zion District Library

November 2026 Luncheon



Join us for the November 11, 2026 luncheon at the Mt. Zion Fletcher Park Recreation Center. Registration is from 11:30 - 12 noon. The luncheon buffet opens at 11:45. The luncheon program is from 12 noon until 1 p.m. The luncheon is $15 per person.

Our speaker will be Mike Berkes, Director of Program Development at LindseyLife in Decatur, which is an adult day care center that serves families in the greater Decatur area including Mt. Zion and Forsyth.

Enjoy our speaker and the delicious food prepared by The FourNine. Bring your business cards and network. If you have any information flyers you want to put on the luncheon tables before the luncheon begins, please do so and be sure to pick up any remaining flyers at the end of the luncheon.

Please send your RSVP to mtzionilchamber@gmail.com by Tuesday, November 10th or submit your reservation on our website at https://www.mtzionchamber.org/meetings. Be sure to send me your RSVP information with all the names of those attending from your business or organization so they can be included on the Attendee List. You can pay in advance at Event Registration - Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce (chamberorganizer.com); or optionally, you can still be invoiced or pay at the door.

President's Message continued from page 1

businesses, and as we head into the holiday season, I encourage everyone to shop local, support the businesses we know and love, and enjoy a meal at one of our favorite local member restaurants.

Our small businesses are what make our community such a special place. They are the heart of our community and a big part of what makes our Chamber so great. Let's continue showing them our support and keeping our local businesses thriving this holiday season!

Thank you for being part of the Mt. Zion Chamber. I hope everyone has a wonderful November!

Laura Cullison, President
Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce



Welcome New Members

217 Law LLC is a Central Illinois law firm located in Decatur, Illinois, specializing in personal injury, criminal defense, and family law. Attorneys are: Courtney Anderson, Fallon Conner, and Zach Anderson. Practice Areas: Personal injury (auto accidents, workplace injuries/workers' compensation, construction jobsites, nursing homes, premises liability, and wrongful death). Criminal defense (traffic tickets to severe felonies). Family law. Call 217-217-0217 for an appointment.

Emily's Slots and 121 Coffee Run in Mt. Zion, Illinois is located at 1347 N. State Route 121, Mt. Zion, IL 62549, operating in partnership with 121 Coffee Run. Coffee & Drinks: Serves freshly prepared hot and iced coffee, specialty energy drinks, and pastries. The Gaming Lounge features a private, clean gaming area with modern slot machines and video poker (must be 21 or older to play).

The Village Garden & Home Decor is located at 200 Lewis Park Dr., Suite 2, Mt. Zion, IL 62549. It is a flourishing home décor and garden boutique offering thoughtfully curated home goods and gifts, garden essentials, and a full plant nursery with beautiful plants and trees. With décor, landscape elements, hardscape materials, and more all in one place, it offers inspiration for every corner of the home and garden. Call 217-855-6117.

Mark Avery is a retired business leader formerly with the *Grain Journal*. Mark joined as an Individual membership, which is for people who want to join, volunteer, and attend Chamber events but are not representing or marketing any business or organization with their membership.

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MT. ZION CHAMBER of Commerce

Ribbon Cutting

Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting & Business After Hours

Date: Friday, November 20, 2026, 5-8 p.m.
Where: 1339 IL-121, Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Ribbon Cutting at 5 p.m.

CSS CAPELLIS STUDIO & SPA

- Congratulate three new Mt. Zion businesses
- Enjoy refreshments
- Network & share your business cards
- Take a tour

EMILY'S SLOTS FEATURING 121 Coffee Run



Thank You Sponsors & Volunteers!

14th Annual Mt. Zion Community Prayer Breakfast
October 21, 2026



Gold Sponsors

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital

THREE LINK MEDIA

Silver Sponsors

Churches of Mt. Zion

Antioch Christian Church | First Baptist Church of Mt. Zion
Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church | Passion Community Church

CROMWELL MEDIA

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HICKORY POINT BANK

Prairie State Bank & Trust

Bronze Sponsors

Evergreen Senior Living | Land of Lincoln Credit Union
Synergy HomeCare | Refreshment Services Pepsi

Mt. Zion Chamber Directory

6th Edition

It is time to update our full-color membership directory! All members have an opportunity to promote themselves as active members in our communities. All members in good standing will be included in the membership and category listings at no charge. There is also the opportunity to advertise and those who do will be recognized in the directory. Creative Media Services, Inc. (CMS) will partner with the Chamber and coordinate the advertising and design services.

Distribution — All Members, Chamber Events, and Public Locations

Directory Specs — 5.5" x 8.5" • Full Color

For the Advertiser —

To include your advertisement in the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce Directory - 6th Edition, please **fill out the form below and email the ad to: CMS** - cridenour@cmsdecatur.com Attention: Carolyn Ridenour. The advertising deadline is: Monday, October 26, 2026. Invoices will be sent by the Chamber and are payable upon receipt.

Advertising Sizes/Dimensions/Rates —

1/4 Page • 2.375" x 3.875" • $295
1/2 Page • 5" x 3.875" • $395
Full Page • 5" x 8" • $495
Full Page (Inside Front or Back Cover) • 5.5" x 8.5" w/.125" bleeds (no crop marks) • $550
Full Page (Back Cover) • 5.5" x 8.5" w/.125" bleeds (no crop marks) • $650

When supplying a print-ready ad, keep in mind that it should be sized to fit the exact dimensions of the ad size you have purchased. Accepted file types include ai, eps, pdf, jpg, and tif. If it is a raster-based file, please make sure that its resolution is at least 300 ppi at its full dimensions.

If needed, Creative Media Services can design your advertisement at the following rates::

1/4 Page • $50
1/2 Page • $80
Full Page (all full-page options) • $130

If submitted ads do not meet design criteria, Creative Media Services will contact you about required services.

TO PLACE YOUR AD CONTACT:
Carolyn Ridenour — (217) 521-3265
Creative Media Services, Inc.
cridenour@cmsdecatur.com
or
Linda Harper — (217) 521-2884
mtzionilchamber@gmail.com

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
MT. ZION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 84 • Mt. Zion, IL 62549

(217) 864-2526
mtzionchamber.org

☐ **I'd like to place an ad in the Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce Directory - 6th Edition**

I understand that if the ad requires services from CMS, the design work will be added to the total amount due and payable to Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce.

Select Ad Size: ☐ 1/4 Page ☐ 1/2 Page ☐ Full Page ☐ Inside Front/Back Cover ☐ Back Cover ☐ Require CMS Design Services

Company Name | Contact Name | Signature | Date

Contact Email | Address | Contact Phone Number

$300 Shop Local Contest!



Enter for a chance to win a $300 gift card from a local business.

This holiday Shop Local from any of our member businesses from November 2, 2026 - December 4, 2026. Contest details at: https://www.mtzionchamber.org/MZCCevents.

SHOP LOCAL. SUPPORT LOCAL. WIN $300!

Support local businesses and you could win a $300 Gift Card!

The **Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce** is encouraging everyone to shop, dine, and spend local this holiday season at any of our member businesses.

HOW TO ENTER

Shop at a participating **Mt. Zion Chamber of Commerce member business** and spend **$25 or more in a single transaction**.

SAVE YOUR RECEIPT.

Complete a Shop Local Entry Form for each qualifying purchase.

EVERY $25+ PURCHASE = ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN!

🎁 **GRAND PRIZE: $300 GIFT CARD**

Shop at member local restaurants, retail stores, boutiques, hardware stores, and other participating Chamber businesses.

Qualifying purchases:

November 2 – December 4

MZCC Participating Shop Local Businesses w/contest entry forms:

121 Coffee Run
121 Fitness
Bevo's
Capelli's Studio & Spa
Crawford's Pizza & Pub
Decatur Family YMCA
Del's Popcorn Shop -- Mt. Zion
Doherty's Pub & Pins
El Corral Mexican Restaurant
Four Star Family Restaurant
Kenney's Ace Hardware
Key Cannabis
Las Margaritas
Mi Casa Mexican Cuisine
Mt. Zion Liquor
Plume
Shop On Main
Stix on 36
The Party Shop
The Village Garden & Home Decor LLC
The Wharf Kitchen and Bar
Unique Boutique Salon & Spa



MT. ZION CHAMBER of Commerce

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST

Sponsor:

MCK CPAs & ADVISORS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Honoring All Who Served

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TUESDAY

NOV 11, 2026

07:00 AM

DOORS OPEN AT 06:45 AM

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH
5409 E. US ROUTE 36
DECATUR, IL 62521

Program:

Macon County Honor Guard
Mt. Zion High School Mixed Acapella Ensemble
Speaker: James Keith (LTC, USAR, ret.)
Roll Call of Armed Services

★ ★ ★

RSVPs Appreciated by Nov. 6th

WWW.MTZIONCHAMBER.ORG/MZCCEVENTS
OR CALL 217.864.2526

★ ★ ★

COMPLIMENTARY TO ALL VETERANS & GUEST:
COFFEE, WATER, BAKED GOODS, BACON,
AND EGGS FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM

MT. ZION CHAMBER of Commerce



Our Third Annual Mt. Zion Chamber Business Christmas Decoration Contest is starting this Friday, November 6, 2026. If you would like to be a $100 sponsor, I will put your logo on all promotional communications and posts for the contest. We are offering a $100 prize for each award category. Any business or organization in Mt. Zion or Decatur can compete.

If you want to enter the contest, there is a PDF fillable Entry Form available to download on our website. The contest information is attached and on our website at https://www.mtzionchamber.org/MZCCevents. Entries are due by Friday, December 4, 2026.

MT. ZION CHAMBER of Commerce

REFRESHMENT SERVICES PEPSI



Sip & Shop *at* EVERGREEN

NOVEMBER 14 | 10AM - 2PM

4825 EVERGREEN COURT, DECATUR



Sip on coffee & mimosas, shop local vendors, and mingle! Just drop in, no RSVP needed.





COME SHOP LOCAL!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!

EVERGREEN SENIOR LIVING

RING FOR A DAY & RECEIVE FREE RADIO ADVERTISING

WHY WE NEED HELP

Did you know, based on 2 hour shifts, it will take **1400+ volunteers** to cover all the Salvation Army Kettle locations in Decatur during the holiday Season?

This holiday season (November 6th - December 24th) The Salvation Army in need of $600,000 to reach their Christmas goal.

Donations in the red kettle stay local – directly impacting the lives of your neighbors by helping them in their time of need. When you ring the bell, you're making change happen.





VOLUNTEER FOR ADVERTISING

Volunteer for a minimum of 8 hours, Monday-Saturday. You, your staff, friends, and family can choose the days and times that suit you best, with the option of four separate 2-hour shifts. **Simply visit ringforgood.org/decatur to book your preferred days and locations.**

The Salvation Army will share your contact information with Luci Englum, General Manager of Cromwell Media, who will contact you after Christmas. You'll have the opportunity to **air $300 worth of FREE advertising** during the first quarter (January-March) on a station of your choice (subject to availability).

As an extra touch, The Salvation Army is happy to provide a sign with your name on your kettle during your shifts. They'll also keep a separate count for each kettle so you'll know exactly how much money you've raised during your volunteer hours.