



ROTARY EXPRESS

Rotary Club of Harrisonville, Missouri | September 8, 2021 | **Service above self. One profits most who serves best.**

Today's program



Today is our monthly business meeting plus a classification talk by **Sam Styron**.

Future programs

- SEPTEMBER 15 - Brent Probasco
- SEPTEMBER 22 - TBD
- SEPTEMBER 29 - Jon Taber
- OCTOBER 6 - Bing Schimmelpfenning
- OCTOBER 13 - Sam Cardenas

Birthdays

- SEPTEMBER 30Carol Looney

Officers & Directors

- PresidentLori Watson
- President-ElectJeff Kleinsasser
- SecretaryJill Filer
- TreasurerJessica Junge
- Sergeant-at-ArmsCarol Looney
- Past PresidentDoug Meyer
- DirectorsJudy Franklin,
Cindy Greenwell, Larry Pfautsch,
Gabe Sweitzer
- DGJoan Marie Kramer
- Asst. DGBing Schimmelpfenning

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County's growth continues to move south, collector says

Several measures of county growth were shared last week by Cass County Collector of Revenue Chris Molendorp, a guest of Laurence Smith. Chris shared the latest data from the 2020 census, which showed a 7.8% increase in county population over the past decade, growing from about 100,000 in 2010 to 107,802 in 2020, making Cass one of the 10 largest counties in Missouri.

Chris began with a shout-out to service clubs like Rotary that "continue to lead the way" in their communities. He has been busy speaking to various clubs and bank boards, sharing the county's growth story. He was accompanied by Caleb Dreyer, an intern in the Collector's office, who is soon headed to law school.



"These are unprecedented times for Cass County," Chris said. "We are averaging 11 new people a day." The 2020 census shows a population of 107,802, up from roughly 100,000 in 2010. Much of the residential and commercial/industrial growth is in the north, especially around Raymore, Lake Winnebago and Loch Lloyd, but Chris said it is quickly moving southward. The population of Harrisonville has increased only marginally in the past decade, from 10,109 to 10,078. However, the city is seeing significant growth this year in housing and retail development.

Chris honed in on the huge warehouse/distribution center buildings being built in Belton — four buildings on the site of a former golf course — and in Raymore at the Cass Parkway exit on I-49 on the former Good Ranch property. Five more of these buildings are planned. "I predict that this is just the beginning," he said, "and it's coming right down the highway." These warehouses are a direct response to the move away from brick-and-mortar retail shopping to online buying. Chris said hardly a day goes by that business and industrial prospects are requesting maps and other information from his office.

Two competing developers, North Point and Van Trust, are constructing these facilities and leasing space to dozens of nationally known companies. Chris explained that in all of these developments, the city owns the land, which results in tax advantages for the developers. The financing also involves so-called Chapter 100 tax incentives.

These buildings are estimated to employ 2,800-3,000 people, so it's not surprising that new apartment complexes are being planned in the surrounding area.

The Collector's office has a big job, maintaining 48,611 real estate accounts on which property taxes are paid and 43,611 personal property accounts. His office collects and disburses taxes for 87 different entities, including 14 school districts, 23 cities, 14 fire and ambulance districts, and many others. About two-thirds of tax revenue — some \$99.7 million — goes to the public school districts.

Announcements from last week's meeting

- Judy Franklin won the Secret Greeter dollar coin.
- Mark Rorvig, new HHS principal, attended his second meeting and briefly introduced himself to the club.
- President Lori called attention to the new bank for PolioPlus contribution. It replaced the Happy and Sad emoji banks that were introduced by then-President Bing Schimmelpfenning several years ago. The new bank reads "Be the change you want to see."
- Carol Looney announced that flag slots were full for Labor Day but we are lacking two people for 9/11 Patriots Day.
- The club sang "Happy Birthday" to Sarah Turgeon. She was accompanied to the meeting by another staff member from Abundant Life Chiropractic.
- Asst. District Gov. Bing Schimmelpfenning gave a district update. He shared the RI theme for this year: Serve to Change Lives.



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

must satisfy at least 13 of 25 goals. This will be tracked online in Rotary Central.

RI President Shekhar Mehta of India is looking for all clubs to have a Rotary Day of Service and submit photos. Bing noted that RI has added a seventh Avenue of Service: the environment. He also explained the District Governor's citation program. To earn a citation, a club

Dental Clinic speaker

Raymond Munoz, outreach coordinator for the Cass Community Health Foundation, gave us an update on the Cass County Dental Clinic at our Aug. 25 meeting. Their annual fundraiser, the 27th Annual 5K for Health, is being held this Saturday, Sept. 11, starting at 8 a.m. at Belton High School's Southwick Stadium.



Indicators of county growth

