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Jason M. Long, President

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Chamber Monthly, April 2009

President's Corner

Spring is here, tax time is here, and the demand of your business and your time may have never been greater. As we all work to find more sales and increase efficiency, our time becomes our most important commodity. During these times when it feels like I don't even have two minutes available, I remember this story from Laura Bankston called:

The Mayonnaise Jar and Coffee

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar...and the coffee...

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes."

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

Let's do lunch!

Wednesday, April 1, 2009
Quality Inn & Suites Richfield
Dave Forrest, Treasurer
Revere Local Schools

11:45 - Informal Networking 12:30 - Speaker
12:00 - Light lunch served 1:00 - Adjourn

Members admitted free with a reservation.
Please R.S.V.P. to 330-659-3300 by March 30.

Non-members bring \$11 check payable to Richfield Chamber of Commerce
No-shows will be invoiced \$11 for their reserved lunch.
Invite an associate. Bring your business cards to share.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

So the next time you are feeling overwhelmed and crunched for time... remember there is always time for coffee or lunch with friends, especially with those at the chamber. See you at our next lunch.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things - your God, your family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favorite passions - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else - the small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. Play another 18 holes. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand"

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented.

Links for Education

Plans are well underway for the 12th Annual Richfield Chamber of Commerce "Links for Education" Golf Outing to be held on Wednesday, June 17, at St. Bernard Country Club in Richfield. Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. Happy hour will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. The committee is actively seeking hold sponsors, starting at \$100, as well as donations for our raffle. We also need volunteers to help the day of the event. "Job" assignments include acting as a spotter for various contests, driving the beverage cart and helping with the putting contest. No prior experience is required! Please contact Karen Smik at 330-659-4750 or kls1650@roadrunner.com for additional information about the event and/or to volunteer for a job assignment. A registration form and sponsorship form are included in the mailing. A portion of the proceeds from this event will fund the Chamber's scholarships for graduating Revere seniors. Last year six \$1,000 scholarships were awarded and approximately \$44,000 has been awarded since the golf outing's inception.

April 1	Luncheon	11:45 a.m.	Quality Inn & Suites Richfield
April 8	Board meeting	7:00 a.m.	Scriptype Publishing
April 17	Newsletter Deadline		
June 17	Golf Outing - Steak Roast		St. Bernard Golf Club
July 26	Eddy's Bike Shop 16th Annual Sweet Corn Challenge		

Mark your calendar