



RANDOLPH COUNTY
—CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—
Pocahontas, Arkansas

RCCC Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4

Pocahontas, AR

September 15, 2025

Member Spotlight

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Executive Director

Upcoming Events

September 17, 12 pm
Student Ambassador
Applications due

September 18, 19, & 20
Maynard Pioeer Days

October 16, 12 pm
Hands of Learning
Ribbon Cutting

October 21, 6 pm
Randolph County
Chamber of Commerce
Banquet
St. Pauls Life Parish Center



"We are building character, one note at a time," is how Marilyn Hogan describes what is happening at Marr Street Productions in downtown Pocahontas. She should know. This endeavor is now 21 years old, having begun, she points out, as simple clogging classes in 2004. And now, through various expressions of music and the arts, the organization is building confidence, creativity, and education not just for "people," but for entire "families."

"That's one of the things that makes us unique," the Executive Director points out. "We focus not just on a single lesson for a single child, but on lessons for the entire family—one price—whether that is six kids—two kids—it makes no difference."

She explains Marr Street's "focus" a plethora of activities: Dance—clogging, ballet and jazz; Music—vocal and instrumental—guitar, violin, banjo, piano, drums and other instruments as instructor availability and time permit; Theatre—for youth, middle grades and older students and adults; and Martial arts—She started with Taekwondo some 18 years ago with Jon Walters teaching the martial art; He has since retired, but Marilyn herself received her 5th Black Belt this summer.

Why would she devote nearly a quarter century to this endeavor, one that is so incredibly physically and mentally challenging?

"We didn't have this when I was young," she says simply. "And I love it. All of it. I started when my boys were young—I knew the arts would build character." She later brought her talents to the schools and to the community. The organization has been a non-profit entity since 2014.

"Besides, I love it," she added. "I love music, dance, martial arts, theater, and I gotta' make sure we can do this so others can do it. And we are thrilled to have the Playhouse," she added, "an old theater itself, with a heritage of

quality, family-friendly productions—something dear to our hearts already."

"We are a volunteer organization," she added, though there are currently some twenty instructors on staff. "We all work. We all don't get paid for it. None of us. And that goes for me as well. Every penny goes back into the organization. We all get amazing benefits, but none of us gets paid one cent."

Additional information can be accessed on the organization's website.

New Members

American Made Store
Combined Media
City Pharmacy
The Little Blue Market

From the Director



The 2025-2026 school year is here, and the Randolph County Chamber of Commerce is seeking applicants for our Student Ambassador Program.

The Student Ambassador Program aims to connect with high school juniors and seniors who will be the next generation of leaders in our community. Being a Student

Ambassador prepares students for constructive and responsible participation in community affairs and furthering the mission of the Chamber of Commerce, which is to promote and perpetuate the business, commercial, manufacturing, agricultural, and civic interests of the surrounding territory.

Throughout the program, students explore our community – its resources, leadership needs, issues, and opportunities. They share ideas and learn what it takes to work together and to become decision-makers. They examine how to develop the abilities and skills needed to be responsible participants in community affairs. The primary purpose of the program is to provide a leadership laboratory through which Student Ambassadors enhance and supplement their academic, communication, time management, and other professional skills. This program is designed to motivate students to think seriously about the role they'd like to play and the difference they can make in their community.

Interested Juniors and Seniors who are enrolled in a school district or participating in a home school program in Randolph County are eligible to apply for this program. Applications will be available through high school counselors and the Randolph County Chamber of Commerce. The application deadline is September 17.

Seniors will be eligible for a scholarship opportunity. This program is co-sponsored by Randolph County Chamber of Commerce and ProMed Ambulatory Service.