

February 2005

# Chamber Chatter

Kearney Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 242, Kearney, MO (816) 628-4229

## Welcome 2005

### **The Chamber Board:**

#### **President:**

Phyllis Strobel

#### **President Elect:**

Scott Smith

#### **Directors:**

Randy Smith

Joan Updike

Jared Wolters

Joe Wilmes

Beverly Taylor

Dennis Devoy

#### **Treasurer:**

Joe Wilmes

#### **Ex. Officio:**

Kent Scheible

### **Calendar Of Events**

#### **February**

18 – Deadline for Chamber Chatter articles.

#### **March**

2 – General Meeting, 12:00-1:00, Knights of Columbus Hall.

27 - Easter Sunday

As the New Year begins I've been thinking about all we've accomplished in 2004. We've had a golf tournament, a new directory, the Christmas Tree Lighting, a booth at the James Festival. But – these activities are what we do every year. New in 2004 – the Chamber's involvement in Moonlight Madness, a coupon booklet, Business of the Month and our Thank you for Shopping Kearney campaign. This reflects our growing Chamber and an increasingly active community. Please remember the Chamber does so much more than publish a directory – we are here to support our town by helping business and tourism. We're here to help YOU. So, if your business is having an event – let us know! We'll be glad to put it on our website and publish it in our newsletter. We get calls every day asking about everything from Jesse James to "where can I get a key made?" Help us help you be successful by keeping us updated about your new employees, what's new with your business, or if you have moved to a new location. If you've read last week's Courier, you'll notice the Chamber has now taken out a full page and we have 12 businesses supplying ads to that page. Since

then I've gotten a few calls from more interested business who'd like to advertise so we may do this bi-monthly instead of once a month. If you'd like to advertise with the second Chamber page let us know! We're excited about what 2005 will bring. We wish you and yours a happy and prosperous New Year!

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### **Business of the Month – Shelley Bishop, Attorney**



1). What kind of legal services do you offer? I primarily practice in the fields of family law, guardianship/conservatorship adoption, bankruptcy, and traffic/dwi, although I'm always happy to consult with people on other issues and refer them to experienced attorneys who focus their practice in that field. I have

helped several businesses here in Kearney become LLC's. Additionally, I am a member of the Collaborative Law Institute of Missouri, Inc. We are an association of attorneys who practice collaborative law, a field of law which strives to allow the parties and the lawyers to resolve the financial and custody issues of a divorce rather than engage in a court fight. This is an exciting new development in the family law arena in which both spouses and their attorneys commit to resolving all disputed issues reasonably and without resorting to litigation. Collaborative law emphasizes cooperation, honesty and creative problem solving in negotiating a fair settlement as opposed to expensive and emotionally draining court room battles.

2). Where are you located? 310 Platte Clay Way, Suite E, Kearney, Missouri 64060.

3). How long has your business been in Kearney? I opened my practice on June 15, 2001, so I have been here 3 1/2 years.

4). What made you decide to set up practice in Kearney? I came here to be close to family. I moved here from San Antonio, Texas, where I worked in a larger firm and the idea of being on my own and practicing in a smaller community was very appealing.

5). Tell us a bit about yourself. I have a B.A. in Psychology from

Kearney Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following business for renewing their membership:

**Houseworth Lawn Care**  
PO Box 238  
733 Magnolia  
Excelsior Springs, MO  
64024  
(816) 630-0833  
jhousewort@aol.com

### NEW FACES

Wade Maupin, Shelter Insurance, welcomed Karen Stowe to his agency in October. Welcome aboard Karen!

**DO YOU** have something you'd like to share with other Chamber members? Or perhaps a community event you'd like to let others know about? Send it in to Chamber Chatter – it's at every Chamber meeting and posted on our website and is the perfect way to let others know what's new and exciting in your business! Deadlines are always 2:00 p.m., the Friday before the General Meetings. You can email your information to the Chamber at [kearneychamber@exop.net](mailto:kearneychamber@exop.net) or fax at 816-902-1234 or snail mail to PO Box 242, Kearney, MO, 64060. We love pictures too! We look forward to hearing from you!

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the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs and a J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law. The University of Texas School of Law is recognized as one of the highest ranked law schools in the country. Since graduating I have worked as an Oil and Gas Attorney/Landman; as a contract attorney in the litigation section of a national law firm; as an associate in one of the larger firms in San Antonio, and then I moved to Kearney and opened my own firm.

I have two daughters, Piper and Dallas, who both attend school here in Kearney. Piper is in 9th grade and is a cheerleader for the football team and the girls' basketball team. Dallas is in 6th grade. We recently purchased a home here in Kearney and are looking forward to many more years here in this great town.

6). What do you see in Kearney's future, and how does your business fit with your vision? I believe that Kearney will continue to grow and I look forward to the firm growing with the community.

7). Anything else you'd like to tell us?

I'd like to thank all of my past and current clients for trusting me with their legal needs. I trust I have earned both their respect and their friendship. I hope to be considered whenever anyone in Kearney or the surrounding area has need of an attorney.

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### House Speaker Rod Jetton Appoints Rep. Doug Ervin to Chair Small Business Committee



JEFFERSON CITY – House Speaker Rod Jetton, R-Marble Hill today announced that Rep. Doug Ervin will serve as chair of the House Small Business Committee

for the 93<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly. "With the rules changes we are implementing there will be a much greater emphasis on the committee process and it is crucial that we have strong leadership in place," said Speaker Jetton. "Rep. Doug Ervin is the perfect choice to lead this committee. He possesses the knowledge and vision to guide this committee as it deals with small business issues in this state."

The House Small Business Committee considers and reports upon bills and matters referred to it relating to the establishment, growth, development, expansion, retention, and operations of small businesses in the State. As chair of the committee, Rep. Ervin will preside over committee hearings and be responsible for all legislation referred to the committee.

"With a greater emphasis on the committee process this session, my goal will be to send the best pieces of legislation possible to the House floor for debate," said Rep. Ervin. "I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle as we work to improve Missouri's small business climate."

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### New Women's Health Clinic at CCPHC

Beginning Wednesday, January 26, 2005, the Clay County Public Health Center will begin a new service for women in Clay County. The Women's Health Clinic in the Primary Care Unit will begin providing health care services for women. Jacki Witt, RNC, MSN, WHNP (Women's Health Nurse Practitioner) who will be the medical provider stated "I look forward to broadening our services by caring for women seeking comprehensive well-woman screening and risk assessment services, as well as individualized health education opportunities."

Women of Clay County who are either uninsured or underinsured and who have not

yet reached their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday are eligible to schedule an appointment through the health center (816-781-1600). Services in addition to gynecological services will include health physicals, health education, and referral if specialist services are needed. A report by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released in March 2003 showed nearly 1 in 3 non-elderly Americans (aged less than 65) are without health insurance. Missouri's rate of uninsured or underinsured citizens is estimated at 24.3% overall with the highest rates of uninsured among people 25-44 years of age. The Clay County Public Health Center has started this program in an attempt to address the issue of access to preventive health care. The Health Center expects to add additional days and hours to the clinic as word spreads of its availability and demand increases. Director of Public Health, Gary Zaborac, announced the opening of the clinic this week. Said Mr. Zaborac, "Our ability to expand this special service is a direct result of a collaborative partnership established between the Clay County Public Health Center and Northland Health Care Access. The \$25,000 grant award from NHCA allows us to enhance our primary care clinic to include additional opportunities for women's preventive health care services. We are grateful for this opportunity. It will allow us to increase availability of health care to a growing number of uninsured or underinsured women in Clay County who are finding access to health care difficult. This clinic will be a clinic operated by women for women".

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