

# Chamber Chatter

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

## Reminder – Coupon Booklet Printing Soon

### **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**

#### **November**

**12 14** – Christmas Open House. Please check with your favorite Kearney merchants for times and special savings.

**19** – 6:30 p.m. - ??

Christmas Lighting Ceremony in Lion's Park. Free hay rides, cookies and hot chocolate. Santa will arrive to hand out candy canes and pictures of Santa will be available for a small fee. Hope to see you there!

#### **December**

**4** – Christmas on the Farm, 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Watkins Mill. Admission is free! For more information please call 816-580-3387.

Just a reminder, folks – in conjunction with our Christmas Lighting Ceremony and Thank You For Shopping Kearney campaign, we will be giving away coupon booklets. If you are a business and would like to participate, please let me know ASAP. We will be going to print in just a few days!

The discount or give-away is at your discretion; however the expiration date should be relatively short-lived; be valid for no longer than 31 December 2004. We will be putting together another coupon booklet in 2005 so please keep that in mind too!

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### **Business of the Month – Bon Appetit Catering**

*How long has Bon Appetit been in business?*

We have been in business since June of 1994.

*What catering services do you offer?*

I have done catering for groups as small as 2 and as large as 750. My catering ranges from pies and desserts to complete dinners.

*What is your trademark dish?*

I would have to say my "trademark" dish is my tossed salad with sugared walnuts, dried cranberries

and my own homemade raspberry dressing.

*Tell us a bit about yourself.*

We came to Kearney from Springfield, Missouri in September or 1987. I have been married to Pete Rivard for 44 years. We have two daughters, Heather Heffington that lives with her husband, Mark and son Bryce in Springfield, Missouri and Gretchen Miller who lives with her husband, Mike and daughter Micha and son Montana in Kearney, Missouri. Cooking has always been my hobby. My husband and I had a restaurant, along with my parents, in Bridgeton, Missouri (a suburb of St. Louis) for 10 years. My husband went to work for the Red Lobster and then later went to work for Sysco Food Services of Kansas City where he retired about 4 years ago.



*Why did you decide to open your business in Kearney?*

I decided to open my catering business when my neighbor inquired about the possibility of me catering her son's wedding reception and I got the idea to do that kind of thing

on a regular basis.

*How has Kearney changed since you've been here, and is your business growing to reflect that change?*

In the 17 years that we have lived in Kearney it has changed completely. I can only imagine what will happen to Kearney in the next 17 years. As Kearney grows my business continues to grow mainly for word of mouth passed from one person to another.

*Anything else you'd like to tell us:*

I have been catering for Variform, breakfasts and lunches since I began 10-1/2 years ago. They were one of my first customers and we have continued with them all of these years.

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### **New Bench At The Boardwalk**

*Submitted by Geneva Hayes*

Hello all,  
Check out the iron bench outside the Boardwalk - but please don't look too close!! :) :)

The welding and grinding is a work in progress..... but if you know me I always have a story to share - so here we go:

I commissioned an experienced, local gentlemen to build a "New York Style"

## New Members!

**Kearney Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome the following NEW member:**

### Missouri Division of Workforce Development

Paul Ronan  
3100 NE 83<sup>rd</sup> St., Ste 2100  
Kansas City, MO 64119  
816-437-3635 Fax: 816-437-3643  
email:  
paul.ronan@ded.mo.gov  
web: www.greathires.org

### Kearney Education Association

Darlene Borchelt  
Summit Ridge School  
2250 S. Campus Drive  
Kearney, MO 64060

## WELCOME!!

**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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park bench that we could experiment with for the downtown area and at the minimum I would use it at the Boardwalk. I emphasized that we didn't want to sacrifice quality and that the welds were especially important. (Being a farm girl - I thought I knew about welding) The thought was a familiar one: support your local entrepreneur - save on shipping - \$400 cheaper - free installation – it seemed to make sense. Well 3 weeks later he visits me with a serious injury to his right wrist from a grinder accident that involved surgery, therapy, loss of work, etc. Being an honest, sincere man, not wanting to let me down, and excited about the project, he assured me he & his partner could still provide a prototype.

Last week I received a sheepish call letting me know the bench was ready and reassuring me that I didn't have to keep it if I didn't like it. Upon seeing the welds and grinds, I had to ask how he managed to finish the job with his bum arm. Frustrated with the results, he went on to explain that although he is trained for "medical quality" welding, due to the accident he was not able to do the work himself.... but that he would be able to personally provide the quality we needed in January after he gets caught up on his back load of work.

Feel free to check it out! It sits great, is of solid construction and will give you an "idea" of the style of bench that Darrell has in mind for the downtown area.

Go ahead and sit down! Watch the happenings of Downtown Kearney for awhile and you'll see why the benches are important to Darrell and I. Last weekend when I tried it out for the first time with my husband and friend Lucy - for just a moment we didn't have a care in the world and the welds didn't matter anymore. It was a cool, crisp afternoon, we watched the cars go by, waved at every one of them and enjoyed basking in the simple life of our hometown. So in short, I now own a New York Style park bench with a lot of character and am happy knowing

it was built locally by a man I have come to know and respect personally.

Enjoy,  
Jenny Hayes

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## July Chamber Event Kudos!

We received our final tallies from the Harvesters food drive in August. The following is an excerpt from one of our corporate headquarters Best Practices files that are distributed nation wide as a model for others to follow.

"The UPS Store food drive for Harvester's Food Pantry collected 3,022 lbs of food, which equates to 2,325 meals. Of the total amount collected, more than half, 1,528 lbs was collected by franchisees **Bob and Sharon Tate**, who conducted an event with their Chamber of Commerce (using the Public Relations Business-Event Sponsorship Program). Their chamber event, held in Kearney, MO in a meeting room donated by Platte Clay Electric, was attended by more than 75 local businesspeople – the largest event turnout in the chamber's history."

Thanks again to chamber members and citizens who helped make this drive so successful!

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## Holiday Packing and Shipping Tips from the UPS Store

This will be the first holiday shipping season for our store in Kearney and we are looking forward to providing our customers with the world class customer service they have come to expect. To make your holiday less stressful, remember to ship early. Don't wait until the last minute!

For military addresses

(APO/FPO) via surface the ship by date is Nov 13; via priority mail by Dec 11. For UPS Ground, transit times vary from one to five days based on the distance from Kansas City, so Dec 13-17 will be the crucial week. Also, consider that UPS ground transit times are not guaranteed Dec 12- 24. Ship early! The last day for UPS 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Air delivery by Dec 23 is Dec 21. Our staff will be fully prepared to handle the four phases of holiday shipping; mild panic, panic, full panic, and borderline hysteria!

Other seasonal tips:

**Traveling.** Don't schlep it. Ship it. Airport security won't pass wrapped packages.

**Addresses.** Make sure both receivers and senders address is on package. Put a copy inside the box.

**Call ahead.** Make sure receiver knows a package is coming.

**Protect items separately.** Separate individual packages in your box.

**2" rule.** The bottom of the box takes most stress; use 2" of cushion.

**Clean Boxes.** No gift wrap, kraft (brown) paper, string, duct tape, or masking tape.

**Or let the pros pack it for you.** Bring it to The UPS Store.

**Track your pack.** Find out where your package is and when it arrives.

**Save now, save later.** Keep all receipts for gifts. With UPS first \$100 insurance is free.

**Remember mother earth.** Recycle your peanuts with The UPS Store.

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