

November 2006

Chamber Chatter

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

Two Christmas Events – Mark Your Calendar!

The Chamber Board:

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Lucinda Butler
Cathy Canterbury

Treasurer:
Joan Updike

Ex. Officio:
Scott Smith

Executive Director:
Siouxsan Eisen

Calendar of Events

November

10-11 – Kearney Holiday Open House. Check local newspapers for your favorite store's hours.

18 – Red Cross Blood Drive, Old Church Plaza, 11:00-3:00 p.m. Please call 816-781-1779 (David Levaton) to make an appointment.

30 – Christmas Lighting, 6:30 p.m., Lions Park and Old Church Plaza – bigger and better than ever! Please plan on joining us.

December

2 – First Annual Christmas Tree Walk, Jesse James Festival Grounds, 6:00-8:00 p.m. To adopt a tree, please call Eric Marshall at 903-4724.

We have one annual event that has taken on some new and exciting changes, and a new Christmas event – you won't want to miss either of them!
On Thursday, November 30th we will hold our annual Christmas Lighting Ceremony, 6:30 p.m. at Lions Park. As always the winners of the coloring contest will assist the Mayor in turning on the lights, and there will be hay rides and Santa of course! New this year is that Old Church Plaza will coordinate their Christmas lighting with ours and Kay's Celebrations will be handing out their delicious cookies and International Beanery will be providing the hot chocolate. In addition there will be Christmas carolers at Old Church Plaza. So after visiting with Santa you will want to cross the street to Old Church Plaza for some treats and music!
Then, on Saturday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. at Jesse James Park we will have the first annual Christmas Tree Walk. The Parks Department has planted about 100 trees and is asking the schools, businesses, families, or anyone interested in participating to adopt a tree and decorate it. The decorating will be done during the day prior to 6:00, and after that time you can walk along the path and enjoy all the beautiful Christmas trees. There will be refreshments, caroling, and at the conclusion of the evening a fireworks display!
The Chamber has adopted a

tree and we will need your help in decorating it. Here is our idea: we will be collecting business cards from all Chamber members, laminating them and hang them with a bow. What a great way to promote your business AND participate in the Tree Walk! So be sure to leave a business card with us soon – and see you out there at both events!

##

Business of the Month – Bill Hardacre, The Kiernan Companies, Inc.



1). *Please tell us the name of your company and what they do.*
The Kiernan Companies, Inc. Group Health insurance, Individual Health, Life, Dental Disability, 401(k) and COBRA
2). *Where are you located?*
3737 Elizabeth, Suite 200, Independence, Missouri 64057.
3). *What is your role within this company?*
Employee Benefits Consultant.
4). *What would you say makes your company unique?*
Caring attitude, outstanding client service team, willing to go the "extra mile", Value Added Services.
5). *Please tell us a bit about yourself*
Bill has worked with The Kiernan Companies for 16 years, he makes clients feel relaxed with him while making sure he covers

all areas of interest of concerns on their Insurance plan. Bill gives 100% of his time and effort at taking care of his customers.
6). *How can we contact you if we'd like to learn more?*

You can contact Bill at 816-795-1650 or email him at hardacre@kiernancompanies.com.

7). *Anything else you'd like to share with us?*

The following reasons are why The Kiernan Companies should be your Broker / Consultant.

- Proactive cost controlling, three (3) year Business Plan.
- Negotiate the best benefit package at the lowest cost annually.
- Dedicated Account Manager for billing and claims issues.
- Voluntary products for full & part-time employees.
- All Human Resource issues and procedure consulting provided at no charge to our clients.



##

Former CEO Visits Kearney

The former CEO of Edward Jones paid a visit to Jeff Vineyard, an investment representative with Edward Jones in Kearney. Hill was in town October 17 and he stopped by various Edward Jones offices to see how they were doing.

Congratulations to Excelsior Springs Medical Center



USDA Rural Development, along with U.S. Congressman Sam Graves, presented a \$4,000,000 Mock Check to Excelsior Springs Medical Center on Thursday, October 26th. The loan funds will be used for the expansion of the medical facilities outpatient capacities. The outpatient specialty clinics and a new wellness center will be housed in addition along with Rehabilitation services and a community outreach meeting area. This will allow the hospital to bring more specialists from the urban hospitals to treat patients here. It will also give ESMC space to offer wellness programs to help improve the health status of our community.

##

DO YOU have something you'd like to share with the Kearney Chamber community? This is the place to do it – this newsletter is available on our website and in hard copy at our monthly Chamber meetings! You can send your information to the Chamber via email at

kearneychamber@exop.net, snail mail us at PO Box 242, Kearney, MO 64060 or fax us at 816-902-1234.

We always love to hear what's new with you or your business!

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Prudential Snook Sells Office

Steve Snook, Owner of Prudential Snook, REALTORS announced that he has accepted a position with Prudential Real Estate and Relocation as a Business Consultant. As a result of this opportunity Steve has reached an agreement with Debbie Hahn, one of Steve's long time associates, to purchase the Prudential Snook, Cameron office. Prudential Snook in Kearney is being purchased by Ben Carter and Joe Duffey of Prudential Carter-Duffey, REALTORS, with offices in Liberty and Platte County.

Steve Snook purchased the business in 1984 from Leo and Mary Farnan. The business was known as Farnan Real Estate and was started in 1959 by Mr. Farnan. Since 1984, the business has grown from 2 million in sales volume to over 41 million in 2005. "The people I have worked with over the years made it all happen," Snook said. "I have been very blessed to be surrounded by great people. I have all the confidence in the world that Debbie Hahn will continue to exceed the standards that I have set and will take the business to new heights. She is the best at what she does ... no doubt about it. I have seen too many return surveys from clients that go on and on about Debbie's high level of commitment and service."

##

Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be taking place at Old Church Plaza on November 18th from 11 to 3 pm. The Red Cross will be sending one of their "Blood Mobiles" and staff to conduct the drive. I have been asked by the Red Cross to solicit appointments, so they can schedule an efficient flow (no pun

intended) of people, and minimize wait times.

This is a great opportunity for Kearny, its businesses, land owners and citizens to make a meaningful, non-monetary donation that will 100% go to saving lives and helping those in need.

To make an appointment or get more information, please contact David Levaton at (816) 718-1779.

#

First Baptist Church Announces 2nd Morning Service

Beginning November 5, 2006, First Baptist Church Kearney will have two Sunday morning worship services. Here is the new Sunday morning schedule: Early Worship at 8:15 am, Sunday School at 9:30 am, and Morning worship at 10:45 am. They're making more room for you to join them for worship!

##

Museum to Hold Open House

The Kearney Historic museum is having a Holiday Open House on Friday, December 8th, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 9th from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. Everyone welcome, light refreshments will be served.

##

New Lunch Option at Scrappy Cafe

The Scrappy Café now offers a fax in lunch option. It's easy and convenient – to sign up and receive your menu and fax sheet, please call them at 816-903-3500 or email scrappycafe.com.

##

Bridge Re-Opens

On October 16th, at 1:30 p.m., Route 92 Bridge over Carroll Creek re-opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The Carroll Creek bridge is located 2.5 miles east of

Kearney. The project also included grading, drainage and pavement improvements. Route 92 remained open to traffic while the new bridge and pavement were constructed north of the existing bridge. Here is a picture from that day:



##

Retirement Event!

As mentioned at last months Chamber meeting, the UPS Driver for Kearney north of 92 Hwy will be retiring at the end of this year. Bill Forbis has served the Kearney area for 23 years. His brown truck has become almost invisible to many as he accomplishes his daily routine. Yet he is providing a valuable service to the community. Bill has followed many families through several address changes and even with the incorrect addresses packages find their way to the correct people. He always has a smile on his face and a spring in his step. Please help us celebrate his service on November 8th at 5pm. We will have light refreshments. His wife, Alice, and some folks from UPS will be at The UPS Store in Kearney for about an hour. Tell a friend, tell a neighbor, BUT DON'T TELL BILL! Help us get the word out. Thanks, Sharon & Bob Tate

