

November 2011

# Chamber Chatter

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

## The Chamber Board:

### President:

Dr. Julie Holtz

### Vice President:

Wade Maupin

### Liaisons:

Randy Smith

Joan Updike

### Directors:

Steve McDonald

Jennifer Grossl

Craig Fischer

Debbie Holt

Jim Smith

Brian Narron

### Treasurer:

Lucinda Butler

### Ex. Officio:

Jason Hoyt

### Executive Director:

Siouxan Eisen

## Calendar Of Events

### November

**10** – Open House, A Touch of Health Chiropractic, 6-8 p.m.

**12** – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 10:00 a.m., Hidden Valley Funeral Home, 925 E. 92 Highway

### December

**2** – Platte-Clay Open House, 9-4.

**3** – Mayor's Christmas Tree Walk, Jesse James Park, 6-8 p.m.

**8** – Pajama Party, Downtown Kearney, 5-8 p.m.

## Member 2 Member Cards For ALL Chamber Members!

Our newest program, Member 2 Member, is being rolled out at the Chamber meeting on Wednesday, November 2. These cards are available to all chamber members AND their employees. Participating businesses have offered Chamber member significant discounts on their services. This is a great way to increase traffic between our members as well as support their business and also receive the benefit of being a member. If you did not pick up cards for yourself and your employees at the meeting, please come by the Chamber office or call and I can either bring them to you or have them mailed to you – just let me know how many you will need. We are very excited about this program and expect it to grow with more members participating in the future!

##

### Business of the Month – Marla Bressman, LMT, A Touch of Health Chiropractic

I'm so excited to have been chosen business of the month for November. In October I celebrated my 4<sup>th</sup> year in business as a Licensed Massage Therapist. Everyone has an idea of what a massage therapy can do for their body. Most look to a massage as a luxury. Those that come in regularly know that I am assisting them in their pursuit of optimal health. Whether I'm working out aches and pains or bringing

down stress levels, every massage that I offer helps the body in many ways. Did you know that massage can . . .  
Alleviate low-back pain.  
Ease medication dependence.  
Enhance immunity by stimulating lymph flow.  
Improve the condition of the body's largest organ – the skin.  
Increase joint flexibility.  
Lessen depression and anxiety.  
Pump oxygen and nutrients into tissues and vital organs, improving circulation.  
Relax and soften injured, tired and overused muscles.  
Relieve migraine pain.  
And massage can release endorphins – amino acids that work as the body's natural painkiller.  
Inside A Touch of Health Chiropractic Clinic we pool our resources to help families reach their health goals. With cold and flu season just around the corner, I would like to invite you to come in and see what we can do to help strengthen your immune system, so that it is more able to fight off sickness this winter.  
I'm one of the lucky people that get to do what I love. I am continually looking for new ways to improve my services and knowledge.



##

### Pajama Party in Downtown Kearney!

The downtown businesses are hosting a Holiday Mart and Pajama Party on Thursday, December 8th from 5-8pm. Employees will in PJ's and customers coming in to do business in their PJ's will receive in store discounts. We hope to have carolers on site and will have a contest for the best (and most tasteful) PJ outfit. There will be a full page ad in the Courier Black Friday insert and a 1/2 page ad the next week. We are still in the planning stages for the event. The landlord for Old Church Plaza has graciously offered to open his empty storefronts to any retail that would like to participate in the downtown event. Pampered Chef, Scentsy Candles, and a couple of others have tentatively agreed. If your business is interested or you know other local home business owners in retail (Tupperware, jewelry, cosmetics, etc) please contact Bob Tate at The UPS Store or Barb Strahm at the Courier. Let's keep those shopping dollars in Kearney this holiday season!

##

### Promises Kept: School Levy Oversight Committee

By Nancy Hull The Kearney

**NEW MEMBERS!**

Kearney Chamber of Commerce is glad to bring you our newest members:

**Star Investigations LLC**

Donald Woolen  
203 W. Washington St.,  
Kearney MO 64060  
816-260-2262  
fax: 816-781-3919  
[don\\_w@starinvestigationllc.com](mailto:don_w@starinvestigationllc.com)

web:  
starinvestigationllc.com

**Hidden Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services**

Alicia Dannull  
925 E. 92 Highway  
Kearney, MO 64060  
816-903-8888  
fax: 816-903-8889  
email:  
[aliciadannull@yahoo.com](mailto:aliciadannull@yahoo.com)

**Proforma Identity Marketing Group**

Patrice York  
7118 NE 134<sup>th</sup> St.  
Smithville, MO 64089  
816-585-7070  
fax: 866-683-0537  
email:  
[Patrice.york@proforma.com](mailto:Patrice.york@proforma.com)  
web: [proforma.com/img](http://proforma.com/img)

**WELCOME!!**

##

**Ribbon Cutting Picture!**

Here's a picture from the Premier Protein Ribbon Cutting – thanks to all who came out!



R-1 School District has kept its promises, according to a citizen oversight group. During a Thursday, Sept. 15, Kearney Board of Education meeting, Dave Hinck with the district's levy financial oversight committee gave a report on the group's work.

"What was promised to taxpayers is what is in the budget," Hinck said. Since voters approved the 56 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation tax rate increase in February 2011, the committee has met five times.

Committee members sat down with district budget documents and tracked whether the tax rate increase dollars were set to fund the areas the district said they would prior to the election, Hinck explained.

"The conclusion was that all items promised to taxpayers were included in the budget adopted by the district," Hinck told the board during the meeting's public comment portion.

The committee will continue to meet to ensure the budget is spent as planned, he said. Assistant Superintendent Randy Smith responded to Hinck's presentation.

"It is great we have this transparency," Smith said. "We are going to fulfill the promises made."

The committee consists of citizens and one school board member. Hinck, who leads the group, is executive vice president of KCB Bank. The tax rate increase generates an additional \$1.5 million a year. During his presentation, Hinck detailed the six areas the tax rate increase funds in the current budget:

- Class size reductions
- Technology upgrades
- Math, science and technology instruction
- After school tutoring, clubs and organizations
- Parents as Teachers

program

- Library, gifted and at-risk programs
- Staff writer Nancy Hull Rigdon can be reached at 628-6010 or [nancyrigdon@npgco.com](mailto:nancyrigdon@npgco.com).

##

**Kearney School District Education Foundation**

The Kearney School District Education Foundation is a not for profit foundation that is a separate entity from the Kearney School District.

The purpose of the Foundation is to enhance the learning environment, increase the effectiveness of instruction, help strengthen ties between the schools and community and provide scholarships to students.

In the past we have awarded grants to teachers for various technology improvements, books, and equipment and monetary grants to students. In order to provide these grants and increase the role of the Foundation, we need community involvement and monetary donations. For further information visit [www.ksdf1.org](http://www.ksdf1.org)

You will notice at the local restaurants coffee mugs with info regarding the Kearney School District Education Foundation.

Mike Coglean wrote a book titled "Kearney (Images of America)" he is graciously donating the proceeds from his book to the Kearney School District Education Foundation. If you would like to purchase this book you can purchase it at Amazon.

[http://www.amazon.com/Kearney-Images-America-Arcadia-Publishing/dp/0738578096/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1319644068&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Kearney-Images-America-Arcadia-Publishing/dp/0738578096/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1319644068&sr=8-1)

This is a wonderful book on the history of Kearney with great pictures. Please support the Foundation by purchasing this book.

##

**Clay County Public Health Wins Award**

"Signs of Suicide (SOS)" – Teen Suicide Prevention Awareness Program of the Clay County Public Health Center won a Group Merit Award for model programs at the annual Missouri Public Health Association conference recently. "This program has expanded from one middle school three years ago to over one thousand students last year in suicide prevention messaging", notes program manager Kathleen Welton.

Experts agree suicide is preventable (U.S. Surgeon General, 2001), and that lives can be saved with the implementation of comprehensive, evidence-based suicide risk reduction strategies, including public awareness campaigns, and by improving education and training in the identification, referral and treatment of potentially suicidal people. To reduce suicide attempts in Clay County, the "Signs of Suicide" (SOS) prevention program was initiated in 2008. "Signs of Suicide" prevention program developed by Screening for Mental Health, Inc. is an evidenced based curriculum (HRSA) for both middle and high school levels. SOS's goal is to help student identify signs of depression, self-injury and suicide in others or themselves and respond to them effectively. Through the SOS program, students learn about depression, suicide and the associated risk of alcohol use. SOS teaches the action steps students should take should they encounter the signs of depression or suicide within themselves or on behalf of a friend: **ACT**: **A**cknowledge your friend has a problem, **T**ell the person you **C**are and **T**ell a trusted adult, either with your friend or on his/her behalf. The presentation includes a DVD about the

signs of suicide and steps to take if you feel a friend or loved one is at risk. Students take a pre and post test and receive a wallet card with resource hotline numbers. According to the data, the program is effective in increasing students' suicide prevention knowledge. More participants responded they were confident in their ability to practice ACT on the post-test than on the pre-test, which met another goal of the program. Clay County's "Signs of Suicide" is a model program in teen suicide prevention awareness.



Photo ID: Kathleen Welton accepts a Group Merit Award for Clay County Public Health Center's "Signs of Suicide (SOS) – Teen Suicide Prevention Awareness Program from Bert Malone, Missouri Public Health Association's Awards Chairman.

##

## Letter to Parents

Dear Parent:

We write you today to urge you to join us in acknowledging and vigorously enforcing the laws against underage drinking in Missouri. As you know, not only is the youthful offender subject to arrest, but adults providing alcohol also face criminal charges. Please join us and other Northland moms and dads in encouraging all adults to decline providing alcohol to minors, and to report underage drinking.

Being arrested and charged with providing alcohol to minors is bad enough news. The charge will result in public humiliation (virtually all the cases of this nature end up on TV news) plus it will cost thousands in legal expenses. There may be probation; there could also be some jail time or even a prison sentence

if a young person is injured or dies because of the alcohol one provided, the civil liability is huge; you could literally lose everything

and spend the rest of your life paying for that one bad act.

It's important to talk to your children about alcohol use, to encourage them to wait until they're 21 before they consider drinking, and to stress that you are not putting your liberty and property at risk by providing alcohol to underage drinkers.

Alcohol use by children and teens is **not** a harmless "rite of passage." The adolescent brain—as we parents know **all** too well—cannot cope physically with the negative effects of alcohol. Studies show that half of those who started drinking before age 14 become clinical alcoholics, and drinking teenagers are seven times more likely to abuse illegal drugs.

It is a crime to provide alcohol to those under the age of 21. We are writing you today because we were stunned to learn that in the Northland, over 72 percent of high school students say they can "easily" access alcohol. And over 25 percent of high school students say they've consumed alcohol in the past 30 days. By stopping underage drinking, we'll improve the quality of life for our children and ourselves.

Most sincerely,

Bob Boydston,  
Clay County Sheriff  
Daniel White,  
Clay County Prosecuting Attorney

##

## Northern Hills Baptist Church News

Because we have a new senior pastor, **Pastor Jimmy Reed**, and his lovely wife, **Petrena**, from Choctaw, Oklahoma, we are having a "**Get To Know Us**" **Ladies' Lunch** in the fellowship hall of the Family Outreach Center on Saturday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. All ladies in the community are encouraged to come and welcome Petrena to the Kearney/Holt area! On Saturday evening, Nov. 26, **The Needhams**, a southern Gospel group will be at Northern Hills Baptist Church for a **concert at 6:00 p.m.** They will also be leading the music the following morning, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>, at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services. Please come and be blessed!

##

## Date for Mayor's Christmas Tree Walk Set

It's that time of year once again – time to dust off the Christmas lights and decorations, and decorate your tree in

Jesse James Park! Lighting of trees and festivities will be Saturday, December 3, 6-8 p.m. this event is open to anyone who wishes to decorate a tree – schools, groups, churches, clubs and businesses are all welcome. There will be entertainment and refreshments served throughout the evening and will culminate with a visit from Santa himself. Contact Eric Marshall at 903-4724 or Ryan Marcotte at 903-4730 for more information about adopting a tree to decorate.

##

## Platte-Clay Open House

Platte-Clay will hold its annual Holiday Open House on Friday, Dec. 2 from 9 to 4 p.m.

Stop by for refreshments, register to win prizes and join the Co-op for a light lunch from 11:30 to 1 p.m.

##

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Hidden Valley Funeral Home on Saturday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. Their address is 925 E. 92 Highway, near the Porters Building Center. An open house will follow. Please plan to come show your support for our newest member.

##

## Kearney Chamber to Adopt Family from Kearney Family Foundation

As we have done in the years past, the Kearney Chamber of Commerce will adopt a family – possibly two – of the many needy families from the Kearney Family Foundation. We will be given a list of their needs, which we will distribute to the membership along with the date when the Foundation will need to have their items delivered to them. Please be on alert for upcoming emails about this very important and worthy cause to help a deserving Kearney family make their Christmas better – and THANK YOU in advance for your generosity!

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