

September 2007

# Chamber Chatter

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

## Business After Hours & Volunteers Needed

### The Chamber Board:

**President:**  
Joanna Williams  
**Vice President:**  
Jared Wolters  
**Liaisons:**  
Randy Smith  
Joan Updike  
**Directors:**  
Phyllis Strobel  
Jason Hoyt  
Faith Harms  
**Treasurer:**  
Lucinda Butler  
**Ex. Officio:**  
Rue Lovett  
**Executive Director:**  
Siouxsan Eisen

### Calendar of Events

#### September

13 – Business After Hours – 5:00 p.m. at the Jesse James Park.

14-16 – Jesse James Festival – too many events to go into here! Just visit the website [www.jessejamesfestival.com](http://www.jessejamesfestival.com)

#### October

21 – Car show/swap meet, Jesse James Park. There will be food vendors and a craft show too!

27 – Excelsior Springs Annual Dinner and Auction at the Elms. For more information contact Jeanne Buckman at 816-629-2768.

Mark your calendars – the Jesse James Festival Committee is hosting a Business After Hours, and Updike BBQ will be catering it! It will be at the Jesse James Park on Thursday, September 13, 5:00. This event is to help promote the upcoming Festival and get out the word for volunteers. And now a word from Lyle Updike: Jesse James Festival is almost here and that means that Lyle Updike (Updike BBQ & Catering), is preparing to cook for the JJ Festival volunteer workers. This will be Lyle's TENTH consecutive year of preparing his special recipes for the people that donate so much of their time and efforts to making the festival happen. For many years Lyle and the JJ Festival committee members and volunteers worked every day for those two weeks many times without having time to send someone to town to get food. Ten years ago Lyle bought a smoker on a trailer for personal use and starting cooking for the crew. Since that time, it has become one of the highlights of the festival for the workers. As a matter of fact, several workers have stated that the food is one of their main reasons for getting involved.

Because of the demand for his BBQ and his son Randall's success on the competitive BBQ circuit, they built two modern, mobile BBQ trailers with the help of many Kearney businesses, and are licensed as a mobile kitchen. (Those

trailers replaced two days of work of building a kitchen under a tent at the festival grounds).

Updike BBQ & Catering grew out of doing volunteer work for the community which Lyle readily agrees to do every year. Lyle says that it gets pretty hectic cooking three meals a day during those two weekends; however, he says it is worth it to see the enjoyment on the faces of the workers after eating his special treats.



If you haven't volunteered to help, this might be the year to do so. The food alone is worth it!!!

##

### Business of the Month – UNITE, a FairPoint Communications Company

1). *Your company name has changed to read "UNITE, a FairPoint Communications Company". Can you tell us about this new name and if there are any changes to how you do business?*

Fairpoint brings a multitude of outstanding resources to Unite but our basic hometown concept and our focus on customer service will remain the same.

2). *How big is your coverage area?*

Kearney and Platte City

3). *Please tell us a bit about yourself.*

I have been with Unite from its beginning. I have a feeling of personal accomplishment when I see how far we have come and I am anxious and excited about what the future may hold for our company.

4). *I know your company is very involved in the community. Please tell us some of the many events you've participated in.*

We have been involved in the Jesse James Festival, golf tournaments, Chamber and many other activities. The most enjoyable is the Halloween event on Main Street. It's always fun to see the great costumes.

5). *What would you say is unique about your company?*

I feel the most unique thing was our company's original concept of bringing advanced services for a fair price to small town America.

6). *What changes do you see in the future for UNITE?*

Well, I think the sky is the limit for this company.

Certainly our short term focus is keeping up with growth and providing new services such as HD.

7). *Anything else you would like to share?*

Unite sincerely appreciates the support we have always received from the Kearney business community. Unite intends to continue to provide first rate service and superior customer service. Unite will also

## NEW MEMBERS!

The Kearney Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome the following new members:

### Jim Beaty

Reece and Nichols,  
Kearney Associate  
13610 Scottie Dr.  
PO Box 1015  
Kearney, MO 64060  
816-550-9387  
Fax: 816-628-6374  
Email:  
[jimbeaty@reeceandnichols.com](mailto:jimbeaty@reeceandnichols.com)  
Web:  
[www.jimbeaty.reeceandnichols.com](http://www.jimbeaty.reeceandnichols.com)

### DM Custom Interiors, Inc.

Darin Haggart  
302 Platte Clay Way,  
Suite 106  
Kearney, MO 64060  
816-896-8181  
Fax: 816-903-9999  
Email:  
[darin@dmcustominteriorsinc.com](mailto:darin@dmcustominteriorsinc.com)

## Welcome!

##

**DO YOU** have something you'd like to share with the community? This is the place to do it – the newsletter is available in hard copy and also on our website and is a great way to let others know what's new with your business! For more information you can call the Chamber at 816-628-4229, email us at [kearneychamber@exop.net](mailto:kearneychamber@exop.net), mail us at PO box 242, Kearney, MO 64060 or fax us at 816-902-1234. We always like to hear from you!

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continue to look for new and innovative products for our customers. The Unite focus is to be a resource for your business.

##

### Ribbon Cutting Pictures!



On Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00, a ribbon cutting and grand opening was held at James Henry's salon, one of our newest members. The food was great and there were many door prizes. The winners of their drawings were:

- Rue Lovett, who won the \$30.00 gift certificate for the salon and a basket full of Redken products. The "Croc" flat iron and Paul Mitchell Smoothing products were won by Michelle Gilkerson. Jamie Fort won a Salon Certificate for \$30.00 and Brenda Martn also won a gift certificate for \$30.00. Tina Koontz writes: I want to thank Kearney and the Chamber of Commerce for their continued support. We had a great turnout and a lot of fun. We could not have done it without each of you!



##

### Local Business Owners & Chamber Member Receive National Recognition

Sharon and Bob Tate, owners of The UPS Store® in Kearney were recently

recognized for outstanding achievement by franchisor Mail Boxes Etc., Inc. The Tate's received the "Domestic Franchisee Excellence Award" at the company's global convention, held July 21-25 in Las Vegas, NV. The award recognizes Sharon and Bob for their dedication to growing the business, their commitment to community involvement, and their passion for consistently delivering world-class customer service. The award recipient is chosen from over 4200 domestic franchisees and is the most prestigious of several awards presented at the convention.

We are honored to have been chosen as the recipients of this award. We have worked hard not only to build our business, but also to be responsible members of the community. We want to thank our loyal customers who have helped make this achievement possible.



##

### Annual Dinner and Auction

I want to take a moment to say thank you on behalf of the physicians, employees and board members of the Excelsior Springs Medical Center and the Excelsior Springs Health Care Foundation for your continued support. **We hope you will consider providing a terrific auction item for our 15<sup>th</sup> annual dinner and auction.** Your gift is sure to be very popular among our participants. The Foundation was established to help provide needed financial support for the Excelsior Springs Medical

Center. Each year the Foundation raises money to help purchase new equipment, fund patient care, enhance educational programs, expand existing services and create new ones. Our goal remains to help the Medical Center continue to meet the ever-changing needs of the patients and community despite declining reimbursements and a patient's ability to pay.

The Foundation holds several fundraising activities throughout the year. Our upcoming event is the **2007 annual awards dinner and auction set for Saturday, October 27, beginning at 6:00 pm.** The dinner will be held at The Elms Resort and Spa. Please check our website for an on-line invitation. For more information, please contact Jeanne Buckman, 816-629-2768, e-mail [jbuckman@esmc.org](mailto:jbuckman@esmc.org), or visit our website at [www.esmc.org](http://www.esmc.org).

##

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