

# JEFFERSON COUNTY

Volume 1 Issue 3

December 2006



## Meriden/ Ozawkie Christmas Party and 1<sup>st</sup> ever After Hours!!!



Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
5:00 – 7:00 pm

Hosted by:

**Quality Custom Cabinets**

Membership Stickers are in! Pick up  
your stickers at this event!



### Oskaloosa Chamber Social

The next Oskaloosa Chamber of Commerce After Hours Social Sponsored by Westside Liquor Store and Paul and JoAnn Flower and will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. December 12, 2006 at Paul and JoAnn Flower's house, located at 909 Westview, Oskaloosa, Ks

Menu is yet to be determined but it's guaranteed to be "good" along with a giveaway of door prize(s) will be offered by Westside Liquor AND Paul & JoAnn Flower.

All Chamber members, reciprocal Chamber members, business owners, their employees and guest are encouraged to attend and bring their business cards for the drawing(s).

Any business interested in hosting a future Chamber social should attend one of the monthly meetings held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the Friendly Kansan or call Terry L. Burris at (785) 863-3570.

## Jefferson County Combined Chamber After Hours

January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
5:30 – 7:30pm

Hosted by:



**SpiritLakeKansas**

Please RSVP to your local chamber  
by January 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Directions:

From the EAST (Lawrence Exit (#204); Turn right onto US-24. In approximately 8.8 miles, Turn right onto US-59 and go North, 5 miles; Turn Left onto 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Go West approximately 1.8 miles to Linn Road; Turn left onto Linn Road and go South 1.7 miles to Horse Creek Drive, Turn Left onto Horse Creek Drive and enter the Spirit Lake campus. (notes: Linn Rd and 54<sup>th</sup> street are both gravel from this direction, there is a 15 ton bridge on 54<sup>th</sup> Street.)

From the WEST (Topeka): Go East on US-24 to Perry, KS; Turn Left onto Linn Road and go North 4.2 miles to Horse Creek Drive. Turn right onto Horse Creek Drive and enter the Spirit Lake campus. (notes: Linn Rd is on the North side of US-24 across from the HAMM Company sign and turns to gravel after about 2 miles; at 46<sup>th</sup> Street, Linn Rd bends East across a bridge and back north.)

From the NORTH: Go South on US-59 through Oskaloosa to 54<sup>th</sup> Street; Turn right onto 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Go West approximately 1.8 miles to Linn Road; Turn left onto Linn Road and go South 1.7 miles to Horse Creek Drive. Turn Left onto Horse Creek Drive and enter the Spirit Lake campus. (notes: 54<sup>th</sup> Street and Linn Rd are both gravel from this direction, there is a 15 ton bridge on 54<sup>th</sup> Street.)

From the SOUTH: Go North from the intersection of US-10 & I-70/Turnpike (Lecompton Exit # 197) Go North and follow the signs through Lecompton, Ks. over the Kansas River and North to US-24. Turn left onto US-24 and then Right onto Linn Road, go North 4.2 miles to Horse Creek Drive, Turn right onto Horse Creek Drive and enter the Spirit Lake campus. (notes: Linn Rd is on the North side of US-24 across from the HAMM Company sign and turns to gravel after about 2 miles; at 46<sup>th</sup> Street, Linn Rd bends East across a bridge and back North.)

## The Valley Falls Chamber of Commerce Meeting

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 12:00

Kendall State Bank Community Room

# JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Calendar of Events

### December

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> **Oskaloosa Home Town Christmas Christmas Tree lighting** Events throughout the day  
7:00pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> **Valley Falls Chamber Meeting** 12:00pm  
Kendall State Bank Community Room  
RSVP: Monica, 785-945-3315
- 8<sup>th</sup> **Lambda Tau Santa Sale** 4:00 – 9:00pm  
Ozawkie Township Hall
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Hometown Christmas Giveaway & Santa visit** 10:00 – 11:30am  
Delaware Township Hall, Valley Falls
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Santa visits Ozawkie, Lambda Tau** 2:00 – 3:30pm  
Ozawkie Township Hall
- 12<sup>th</sup> **Oskaloosa Chamber After Hours** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Hosted by: Westside Liquor Store & Paul & JoAnn Flower's house  
909 Westview, Oskaloosa
- 13<sup>th</sup> **Oskaloosa Chamber Meeting** 7:30am  
The Friendly Kansan  
Info: Dave, 785-484-3322
- 14<sup>th</sup> **Meriden/ Ozawkie Area Chamber After Hours** 5:00 – 7:00  
Quality Custom Cabinets, Meriden  
Info: Becky Nieman, 785-484-2117
- 17<sup>th</sup> **Santa visits Oskaloosa** 2:00 – 4:00pm  
Eagles Lodge, Oskaloosa
- 20<sup>th</sup> **Sharing Life With Others** 2:30 – 6:30pm  
Blood Drive sponsored by  
Valley Falls Rotary Club  
Info: Frank Schrimplin, 785-945-3354 or  
Gary Coleman, 785-945-3231

### January

- 18<sup>th</sup> **Combined Chamber After Hours** 5:30 – 7:30pm  
Spirit Lake  
12639 Horse Creek Drive, Perry

# THE VALLEY FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Minutes of the Meeting November 2, 2006

The meeting of November 2, 2006, was called to order by President June Huston. Jim McGrath was introduced as guest of the Chamber and as a prospective member.

**The Minutes** were changed by the insertion of \$10 for the \$6 reported in the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes made by Gary Coleman and seconded by Bob Zieg. Motion was approved. Leslee Bowers reported that the Chamber now has 64 members including Petro Service Station and Fat Jack's Soda Shoppe.

**Treasurer's Report:** was approved as received by voice vote.

**City Report:** Mayor Bob Zieg reported that the Kansas Parks and Wildlife \$28,000 grant for the walking trail has been rejected for the third time. A new grant may be possible but not developed by Bob.

**Old Business:** President June Huston announced the receipt of an invitation for Open House for the Meadowlark Extension District at the Courthouse Basement, Oskaloosa, on Monday, November 6, to meet the District Agents and Staff and their office. Denise reported that a "great turnout" for the Halloween activities made for a huge success. The Kansas Highway and Transportation is having meetings scheduled in November for updating the public concerning highway projects, funding, and scheduling. The meeting for this area will be on November 20. Contact June Huston for information.

**New Business:** It was announced that funding for the county Chambers of Commerce Newsletter is being studied by a committee headed by Terri Burris and funding through Glacial Hills is possible. President June Huston announced the approval of a Holiday flyer with a calendar of events scheduled by the local community and developed by the Holton Recorder and to be inserted in area newspapers including North Topeka. Distribution will reach 17,000 to 18,000 residents. Information was given by President Huston from Community Christian Council and the School office. The listing of Chamber of Commerce members will be included. Events will be for this fall through January 2007. The cost to the Chamber is \$200. President Huston obtained the approval from several Chamber members for this publicity.

**Home Town Christmas:** Leslee Bowers will make up the calling list; two or three volunteers were obtained at the meeting to make calls. Mayor Zieg will also work on this project. Calls will be ready to be made next week. Santa Claus will arrive by fire truck to greet everyone on December 9 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers offered to assist.

**Items from the Floor:** Leslee Bowers indicated she needed help stuffing envelopes for the "Fall Festival 2007" mailing; several members volunteered to assist.

**Jim McGrath,** executive director of the Jefferson County Economic Development Commission was introduced by President Huston. McGrath announced that the three Chamber of Commerce organizations of the County are labeled as member "stakeholders" and the 35 stakeholders will be invited to the next meeting of the Economic Commission. June Huston and Terri Burris are the newest members. McGrath said there were over 50 members of the Ozawkie/Meriden C of C and he congratulated those present at the meeting and that it was important that a good representation of our 64 members were interested in the happenings in the County. McGrath outlined the commercial and residential development happening in the County. Between 2003 and 2005 there were 23 newcomers in business development and between 2003 through August 2006 there were 365 new homes built; making an increase of 20% in population since 1990 to a total of 19,160 population for the County. The County has become a commuter's community with 67% of the work force working out of the County. Mr. McGrath indicated that County Appraiser Kathy Wagner and Chris Schmeissner, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and information technology director, have assisted him in developing a group of maps which he showed and described to the group. Plotting new residents and new commercial construction shows, on the maps, that people are moving into the County. Status of the roads and new home development is shown on the maps. Clusters of population, showing new growth indicates an increase in population in the southeast part of the County. McGrath said that Jefferson County is 7<sup>th</sup> in the State showing population growth. Colors indicating the patterns of these developments are found on the maps which are available at the Economic Development office in Oskaloosa.

Frank Shrimplin, Secretary



## Meeting Minutes

### Minutes of November 16<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

Jeff Van Petten opened the November meeting at the Flamingo Bar & Grill.

Members picked up their new membership stickers.

It was announced there will be a joint Chamber After Hours, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30pm hosted by Spirit Lake.

The 50/50 drawing was held with Jim McGrath winning \$22.50 and the same amount being added to the sign fund.

Jim Bowen, acting Post Master of the Meriden Post Office talked about the services they offer.

Jim McGrath, Jefferson County EDC, presented his Economic Growth “Snapshot”.

The meeting adjourned for networking.

### Minutes of the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Directors Meeting

Merlin Mahoney and Jim Noll with the Meriden Threshers Association gave a presentation on their organization, events and facilities. There was discussion about joining forces and utilizing the facility for a summer celebration for the community that would be sponsored by the Chamber. There was also discussion on how the two organizations could work together to promote each other.

Becky Nieman will order 100, 6 x 6 granite membership plaques that will be mounted on wood. She will also order the year identification tags to be placed on the plaques.

Larry Froelich will attend the zoning reorganization meeting at the courthouse, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm.

Quality Custom Cabinets will host the first After Hours and Christmas party, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 7:00. There was discussion on having co-sponsors to help cover the refreshment expense. It was decided to announce at the next meeting that there was an opportunity to co-sponsor if a business wanted to.

Jeff VanPetten brought up the Chamber sponsoring a Halloween Trunk-or-Treat next year for the community. The group discussed this idea favorably. The consensus was to conduct this right after the school parade and offer some type of dinner (hot dog & drink). The thought was this would be a good way to get the kids a little dinner and fill the time before traditional trick or treating begins.



# Oskaloosa Chamber of Commerce



Minutes of Meeting  
November 9, 2006

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Last months minutes read and approved.

Current membership is 45, will be mailing statements at renewal which will include application for current records. Should be going out in December or January.

Old Business: Cheryl Wannell declined to help with advertising, too busy. Becky Wise is checking with a friend. Barb Farmer gets a lot of requests for information on Oskaloosa.

Old Settlers – nothing resolved they have held no meetings. Dave spoke to bank the account is still in Oskaloosa Chamber of Commerce name. Julie is only one that disburses money on the account. She will contact Dave before disbursement of any money.

Guy Settler – Glacial Hills \$1000 grant money to promote community. For every dollar we come up with they will do \$2. This will go out to over \$18,000 households. It will be a full page ad with color and artwork, calendar of events for all areas and will list all chamber memberships. All three area chambers will go together for a cost of about \$150 to \$175 a piece. Happening very quickly, goes to press Friday.

Christmas committee reported that they will need money for drawings and contests.

Moved tree lighting ceremony to 5:30. Terry Burris will be calling members to see if they will be on tour and asking for brochures and business cards, for access to individuals businesses. Cathy Daily needs cookies for the tree lighting. Will set up PA system with Christmas music in between carolers.

Allen Wise would like to see someone take pictures to promote the community events and have them burned to CD, maybe have a virtual tour on website.

Jim McGrath/Economic Development will put up \$200 towards cost of website. Still looking for someone to build the website.

Jim McGrath showed maps of the community from the GIS office, new zoning laws for zoning review. Population and new housing comparison, where homes are being built.

A meeting will be held at Perry American Legion, Wednesday 7 p.m.  
November 21, 2006 meeting at court house zoning changes proposed.

Dave showed the Meriden Chambers new logo, sticker that can be put on door or window, we would like to do something similar. Dave's daughter is working on putting a logo together.

Heather Reed announced opening a new business Cowboy Bleu – an antique and home furnishings store. Grand opening will be Friday November 11, 2006.

Debbie with A Childs World Daycare will be taking donations for new or used toys. They will also take cash donations, items can be dropped off at the day care.

After hours mixer will be November 16, 2006 at the Lucky Spur Saddle Club, hosted by Gus & Jake Barnett from 5:30 to 7:30.

Jim McGrath reported that the Valley Falls Chamber had 65 members, Meriden 50 members and Oskaloosa 40 members, which makes Jefferson County with a higher membership than Topeka.

Linda Loving announced that the Community Center to be located on the Northwest corner of square is now official.

Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 288  
Meriden, KS 66512

**Membership Benefits** – May vary between Chambers

Business and customer referrals	Listing in business directory
Networking	Business counseling
Redemption of Chamber gift certificates	Ribbon cutting and ground breaking ceremonies
Use of Chamber logo in advertising	Membership plaque
Discounts on Chamber sponsored events	Newsletter
General membership meeting programs	Event coordination
Web site promotion	Association with other leading businesses in Jefferson County

**Would you like to have  
your newsletter e-**