

# JEFFERSON COUNTY

Volume 1 Issue 2

November 2006



**Watch our advertisement in the Holiday Shopper!**



Glacial Hills and the Jefferson County Chambers in a joint effort have a full page advertisement in the Holiday Shopper! Watch for your business name to be listed in this advertisement. This publication will go out to over 17,000 households.

## Oskaloosa Chamber Social

The next Oskaloosa Chamber of Commerce After Hours Social will be held from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. November 16, 2006 at the Lucky Spur Saddle Club Arena, 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 Gus Barnett and Jake Barnett of Barnett Chapel Oaks.

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.

## US Department of Agriculture (USDA)

**November 15, 2006 @ 7:00pm**  
**Perry American Legion**

Regarding:

1. Homebuilders/ Developers
2. Realtor
3. Public Bodies (Infrastructure/ Community Facilities)
4. Business and Community Programs
5. Community Nonprofits/ Faith-Based Organization
6. Also information on loans, grants, 1<sup>st</sup> time homebuyers and etc

For more information call 785-608-7243 or go to [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks/](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks/)

## Meriden/ Ozawkie Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting

November 16<sup>th</sup>, 12:00pm

The Flamingo Bar & Grill (in the strip mall in Meriden)  
\$6.95 for Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, corn, roll & non-alcoholic drink



**Membership Stickers are in! Pick up your stickers at this meeting!**

Jim McGrath, Jefferson Co EDC will be presenting information and maps on the population growth, new housing starts and commercial starts in Jefferson County.

## The Valley Falls Chamber of Commerce Meeting

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

Kendall State Bank Community Room

# JEFFERSON COUNTY

## Calendar of Events

### November

- 15<sup>th</sup> **USDA Program/ Loan Information** 7:00pm  
Perry American Legion  
Info: Deb, 785-608-7243
- 16<sup>th</sup> **Meriden/ Ozawkie Area Chamber Mtg** 12:00pm  
Flamingo Bar & Grill, Meriden  
Info: Jeanette Stiles, 785-484-3322
- 16<sup>th</sup> **Oskaloosa Chamber After Hours** 5:30pm – 7:30pm  
Hosted by Barnett Chapel Oaks  
Lucky Spur Saddle Club Arena, Oskaloosa  
Info: Gus Barnett, 785-863-2222
- 23<sup>rd</sup> **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** 11:00am – 1:00pm  
Provided by Steve's Thriftway  
Simple Simons Pizza, Valley Falls
- 28<sup>th</sup> **Perry Lake Association Meeting** 6:00pm  
American Legion, Ozawkie  
Info: Shannon Showalter, 785-286-0883

### 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
- 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

# 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

Jeff Van Petten opened the October meeting at the Branded B Ranch.

Scott Stanley reported advertising would continue for the Farmers Market.

Jason Pickerell reported on the Welcome Sign Committee's progress towards resurrecting the sail boat sign in Meriden. They have been talking to Perry Yacht Club about obtaining a boat. Neal Spencer with Ernest Spencer Metals has volunteered to donate the labor and design expertise to construct the sail out of aluminum.

Chuck Wilson reported the membership stickers have been ordered. Becky Nieman brought examples of membership plaques.

Rena Carmona announced the website was up and going. She encouraged everyone to check their information and let her know if any changes needed made. Rena was given round of applause for all of her work in creating the website.

Dave Taylor asked if the Meriden/ Ozawkie Chamber would be interested in doing a joint Christmas party with the other county chambers. The idea was discussed as well as locations and times.

Jeanette Stiles reported we have 50 members! The 50/50 drawing was held with Brad Tillery winning \$23.50. The Chambers proceeds will be used for the Welcome Signs.

Jim McGrath gave an update on county events. He reminded everyone that there was a committee forming to assist in looking at the zoning regulations. He also talked about the Jefferson County tourism report. Jim talked about businesses in the county, Old School Guide Service and Muddy Creek Game Preserve. He also announced if someone was interested in helping with the upcoming election, Jefferson County was looking for a presiding judge for a polling station. Interested parties should contact Linda Buttron with the county.

The meeting adjourned for networking.



L to R: Jay Sanders, Farm Bureau Financial Services and Dewayne Burgess, Roy Frey Western



Meriden/ Ozawkie Area Chamber Meeting  
October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006



L to R: Danny & Connie Payne, Highway 4 Automotive and Jason Pickerell, Denison State Bank



# Oskaloosa Chamber of Commerce



Minutes of Meeting  
October 11, 2006

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Minutes from last meeting read.

Membership in 40's, Chamber dues will now be billed

Treasurer's Report \$1331.78

Discussed old business and approved

Any announcements for newsletter should be in by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Dave spoke to Clark about countywide advertising, he does not have staff to support, but would support Sheryl. Dave will discuss with Sheryl to investigate further.

Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber wanting to do a quarterly ad periodically listing the three area chambers with benefits of being a member.

Old Settler committee was sent letter inviting them to next meeting, no response from any members.

Executive committee will plan on going to their next meeting.

Putting a hold on savings account until resolved.

Christmas committee reported about the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Home Town Christmas and what events would be done.

- Open house tours will be December 2, from 10:00 to 5:00.
- Special music around square 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00.
- Announcement of winners of poster & ornament contest @ 7p.m.
- Peoples choice award for best decorated Chamber of Commerce Business
- Lighting ceremony (ornament winners throw switch)
- Music @ Christmas tree lighting
- Prize drawings: Turkey/hams, tour participant/other drawings & refreshments
- House judging 12/18/06 between 7 & 9 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> places
- Secret Santa

Discussed getting membership plaques for chamber members

Website tabled until Jim returns.

Trash cans for city discussed, rotary club working on now, maybe several organizations could go in together.

- October 14, 2006 – Humane Society Live Auction – American Legion, Ozawkie
- October 24, 2006 After Hours, hosted by Sunflower Real Estate – Chili Feed located 712 Delaware 5:30 to 7:30 2 blks south of square.
- October 26, 2006 Perry Lake Association 6:00
- October 28, 2006, Lions Club Halloween Parade
- October 28, 2006 Taste of Elegance 6:00, Jeff West

A thank you made to Barb Farmer and family for donating memorial fund to the community center.

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-