

Kimble County Chamber of Commerce

Newsletter

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

THIS NEWSLETTER IS JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF NEW THINGS BEING TRIED IN JUNCTION AND KIMBLE COUNTY - We have all heard the saying, "Necessity is the Mother of Invention", and that statement rings true even today. Challenges arise daily in our lives, and sometimes, when we are forced to find a new way to do something, we make a wonderful discovery! New ideas, no matter how ingenious, sometimes take a while to develop and be completely trusted. After all, we humans are just naturally resistant to change...we don't like it, we don't trust it, and we don't want it! It forces us out of our comfort zone, where, coincidentally, we are very comfortable! A prime example of this is our Chamber Annual Picnic. After years of theme based, formal chamber banquets, in a beautifully decorated community hall, our community has come to embrace our Annual Chamber Picnic, with hamburgers and potato salad, men in casual shorts, and a more relaxed, laid back, "old time Texas-style" gathering atmosphere. This year's attendance was up over 20% from last year, and our community gathered together knowing more what to expect. Your Chamber is delighted with the attendance and the positive feedback that we have received, and you can plan on attending a Chamber Annual Picnic in June of 2008! Same goes for our Newsletter. At first few knew where it was distributed, how to submit information, and were skeptical of its impact on our community. But, thanks to the open minds and generous spirits of our community, our distribution list grows weekly, information pours in to be passed along to you guys, and I am met with remarks like, "Oh great! Our Newsletter is here!" and "I can't wait to see what's going on this week! Thanks for bringing it by!" This positive, enthusiastic, accepting way of facing change has also been experienced by the organizers of the Angel Classic Softball Tournament. What started off as a small tournament, has blossomed into the heartwarming, community spirited annual celebration of a young man's life and the wish of those who loved him to honor his memory. I know that even in Heaven, the angels were cheering the teams on, just like our earthly onlookers on Friday and Saturday nights this past weekend! It was quite a testament to our community to see the turnout, including teams, spectators, and volunteer supporters. I don't even know the rules to slow pitch ball, but found myself cheering with the rest of the crowd! If you missed this year's event, mark your calendars for next year. It's truly a great community event! Another exciting event in Junction this weekend was the Tour de Forts, CTHRR, Bicycle Fun Run. Participants came from all across Texas to travel the ranch roads of Kimble and Menard Counties. Lots of hard work went into this event, a first for Kimble County, and Lynn Foreman and her volunteers did themselves proud! CTHRR's goal is to encourage and develop tourism in Kimble and surrounding counties, and this Tour de Forts is a fine example of their resourcefulness and dedication to their communities! Next year this event will be even bigger and better, as the "word" spreads through the biking community of what a great time was had! Folks who embrace new ideas, don't shy away from the prospect of failure, are what I consider "modern day mavericks". Red Steagall, Official Cowboy Poet of Texas, captures this spirit of adventure for the unknown and untried in his poem, "The Maverick Way" "A maverick's never worn a brand, at least not one that shows. He's free to travel where he will. The trail is one he chose. The tough times make them buckle up and bow their necks and pull. They never lay their shovel down until their bucket's full. Remember, nothing ever grows till someone plants a seed. The scenery changes only for the steer that's in the lead". Junction, thanks for embracing the "mavericks" among us!

FLAG DAY IS JUNE 14TH – The idea of an annual day set aside to celebrate the U.S. Flag is believed to have been the brainstorm of a schoolteacher in Fredonia, Wisconsin, named BJ Cigrand in 1885, who observed June 14th as "Flag Birthday". In 1889, a kindergarten teacher in New York, George Balch, planned ceremonies for the children of his school. His idea was adopted by the State Board of Education of New York. In 1894, the governor of New York directed that the Flag be displayed on all public buildings in June 14th. Later that year, the American Flag Day Association was organized in Illinois. In a patriotic program on Flag Day, delivered by Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane in 1914, "he

repeated the words that he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself.” Fly your flag this Thursday, June 14th, Flag Day. And, if you have any brainstorm ideas as to how the Chamber can accomplish placing the U.S. Flags around the Courthouse securely and to insure the tips not touching the ground, please give us a call! We are open to suggestions!

LONDON DANCE HALL – Johnny Dickenson and Big Country will be performing at the London Dance Hall in London Texas this Saturday, June 16th from 9PM till 1 AM. Saloon opens Friday at 5 PM till 12 AM and Saturday from 5PM till 1 AM. For info call Billie at 325/475-2921 or 2296 or www.londondancehall.com.

CROCKETT KIMBLE CONNECTION CLUB LAMB SALE – If you are in the market for show lambs, the Goat Barn at the Fairgrounds in Kimble County is the place for you! This Saturday, June 16th at 6 PM, Mark Tillman and fellow show lamb raisers are hosting a multi-county club lamb sale. This sale is being held after a like sale in a surrounding county, and the evening before another. This is another example of a citizen of Kimble County teaming up with others from surrounding counties to bring travelers into Junction, hopefully for an overnight stay, therefore benefiting our restaurants, motels, and convenience/service stations. Way to go Mark! For more information, call Mark Tillman at 325/446-3587.

JULY 3RD FREEDOM CELEBRATION & FIREWORKS DISPLAY – The Chamber is pleased to announce the inclusion of food and craft vendors, and even some rides, at our Freedom Celebration scheduled for Tuesday, July 3rd – at City Park. Vendors will begin setting up at 3 PM. Registration forms are available on the Chamber website www.junctiontexas.net, by email junctiontx@cebridge.net, or can be mailed. Make plans now to join family and friends at the City Park, spend the late afternoon, evening, and watch the Fireworks at Dark-Thirty! It's the place to be on July 3rd!!!!

FEATURED BUSINESS – MILKY WAY DRIVE-IN – Katherine and Marty Dolphus beat a hasty foot to Junction from Burbank, California, because as Katherine says, “We believe this is truly God’s country!” They purchased the Milky Way Drive-In in 2004. Bringing over 28 years of restaurant experience to this new venture, customers are greeted at both doorway and drive-up window with inspirational Biblical Scriptures, a testament to the strong beliefs of this family. There are both very active in Junction’s Emmaus community and believe in conducting their business to “treat our customers like they ought to be treated”. They are strong community contributors, donating time and money to numerous events, are seen often visiting in the hospital, and would truly “lend you the shirt of their back” if you needed it. Katherine met Marty in his restaurant in Burbank years ago, and caught his eye with a wager over the outcome of the Dallas Cowboys vs. Washington Red Skins game. Celebrating their wedding anniversary on July 30th, 10 years later, they are still “making eyes” at each other and working shoulder to shoulder in the Milky Way and their Honey Baked Ham Restaurant in the movie district in Burbank. Marty, a native Texan, has converted his Maryland bride to “Texas ways”. She appreciates our wildlife, loves to hunt, and “wants to die right here in Junction, Texas”. Marty and Katherine have two sons. Tony works at Technicolor Studios in California and Mitchell plays football at the University of Minnesota. Marty and Katherine constantly add items to their menu at the Milky Way to expand their appeal to their customers. They are adding rice, beans, and guacamole to their enchilada plate, will soon offer cheese, beef, and chicken quesadillas, have plans to offer cookies and brownies on their menu, and will soon have a candy stand sporting pixie sticks, candy bars, and other goodies! The Milky Way is open Monday thru Friday from 7 AM till 8:30 PM and on Saturdays for lunch from 11 AM till 2 PM. Sunday is a day of rest and worship and they are closed. They welcome their customers into their “business home” for a friendly smile, an inspirational word, and a bite of something truly tasty!

MILKY WAY DRIVE-IN
1619 MAIN, JUNCTION, TX 76849
325/446-2695

Send us your feedback at junctiontx@cebridge.net to include something next week or just to say “Hi”. Your Chamber is promoting commerce and tourism and keeping you informed of events and happenings of Junction and Kimble County!

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