

Kimble County Chamber of Commerce

Newsletter

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

“NOT LIKE THE BRAZEN GIANT OF GREEK FAME, WITH CONQUERING LIMBS ASTRIDE FROM LAND TO LAND; HERE AT OUR SEA-WASHED, SUNSET GATES SHALL STAND A MIGHTY WOMAN WITH A TORCH, WHOSE FLAME IS IMPRISONED LIGHTNING, AND HER NAME, MOTHER OF EXILES. FROM HER BEACON-HAND GLOWS WORLD-WIDE WELCOME; HER MILD EYES COMMAND THE AIR-BRIDGED HARBOR THAT TWIN CITIES FRAME. “KEEP, ANCIENT LANDS, YOUR STORIED POMP!” CRIES SHE WITH SILENT LIPS. “GIVE ME YOUR TIRED, YOUR POOR, YOUR HUDDLED MASSES YEARNING TO BREATHE FREE, THE WRETCHED REFUSE OF YOUR TEEMING SHORE. SEND THESE, THE HOMELESS, TEMPEST-TOST TO ME, I LIFT MY LAMP BESIDE THE GOLDEN DOOR!” Emma Lazarus, 1883. – Know where that comes from? It was inscribed on the Statue of Liberty in 1901. All too often, we who were born in the United States, forget what a privilege and a blessing it is to be an American Citizen. We enjoy so many rights from the moment of our birth, that we assume, even when traveling abroad, that they are natural to every other place in the world. Well, guess what...that's not the case! Living in America and enjoying the rights of being a U.S. Citizen are similar to being best friends. Even with all our warts, our best friends are eager to make up after a spat, seek us out as a refuge, and love to share with us in good times and in bad. That's what we do with this wonderful country of ours, we share it...all with each other! This past week, Dilip and Pravina Khatri, owners of Econo-Lodge in Segovia, traveled to Austin, Texas, for a very special ceremony. They became United States Citizens at 2 PM, Friday, March 11th. Dilip was born in Kenya, Africa, and he and Pravina were married in Mumbai (Bombay) India, before 2000 guests at their wedding! They came to the U.S. in 1995, as winners of a lottery, offering visas. Paperwork in order and citizenship class studies complete, Dilip in the required suite, and Pravina looking beautiful, these two proudly became a part of our wonderful country. Joining them were 1009 other folks, just like them, representing 85 different countries. These new citizens realize the honor and privilege it is to be a U. S. Citizen, and I dare say, won't soon take it for granted like some of us, born here, are apt to do. So, when you see these two new members of our nation, give them a handshake and say a special welcome! The “melting pot”, begun by our forefathers, continues today...made a little sweeter, I think, by these two fine citizens of the United States and Junction, Texas! Way to go, guys!

JUNCTION LIONS CLUB BROOM & MOP SALE – Friday, May 18th is the annual Broom and Mop Sale held by the Junction Lions Club. The sale begins at 8 AM on the Courthouse Square and you can buy brooms, mops, brushes, quality cleaning aids for home, business, or industry. These products are made by the blind and are quality products. Plan to come on out to the “Caravan Sales for the Blind”! For info call 325/446-3641.

RELAY FOR LIFE – May 19th is Relay for Life in Junction it is shaping up to be a wonderful event. The Chamber will be selling “Restaurant Safari” tickets again this year for \$1 ea./6 for \$5 to win a \$20 gift certificate for every restaurant in Junction. The drawing will be held at the event on May 19th. You don’t need to be present to win. There are team games, lots of different food, luminarios in memorial and in honor of our loved ones, and loads of fellowship to support this worthy cause and find a cure for cancer! Everyone, please come out to the Relay for Life Carnival, this Saturday, May 19th from 1 PM till 1 AM and help “Celebrate for a Cure for Cancer”. For more information, contact Lisa Sanders at 325/446-2851.

LONDON DANCE HALL – Johnny Dickenson will be performing at the London Dance Hall in London Texas this Saturday, May 19th 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.

EMS WEEK – May 20-26, 2007, is EMS Week. Our own Kimble County EMS invites everyone to their Open House on Tuesday, May 22nd from 11 AM till 2 PM. Their business office is located at the end of Hospital Drive. It’s the big house at the top of the hill past the ambulance bay. Come on, Junction, let’s show these folks our appreciation and stop by to share a bite of food, and say, “Thanks for all your hard work and devotion, Kimble County EMS!”

TWIST-OFF RODEO- Your Chamber would like to thank all the folks involved with this past weekend’s rodeo. The Hill Country Fair Assoc. worked tirelessly to get the arena in shape for the festivities, and graciously invited our Miss Kimble County 2007 Pageant to be their Pre-Show. We had a wonderful turn-out both nights, and crowned a new Miss Kimble County 2007 and her Court, to boot! Thanks, again, guys and gals, and we look forward to being in the “same time and same place next year!” Connie Booth and the Kimble County Chamber Board of Directors.

MISS KIMBLE COUNTY PAGEANT – Ashley Gardner, daughter of Robin and Gary Gardner, sponsored by R.D. Kothmann Insurance Agency, was crowned Miss Kimble County 2007! Ashley, just like all the other contestants, worked hard to make her parade float special; a reflection of her experiences and her personality! Sailing through the interview questions, and looking stunning in a strapless ice blue gown on Saturday evening, a cheer went up as our Jillian Haschke, outgoing Miss Kimble County, announced our new Miss Kimble County 2007 Ashley Gardner! Ashley’s Court is comprised of Miss Kimble County 2007 1st Runner-Up Kristin Kothmann, sponsored by Generations III, dressed in a powder pink handkerchief hem gown on Saturday night. Kristin’s float was a vision of her dedication to academics, sports, and the Texas Hill Country, even sporting a life size mounted Turkey! All the contestants voted our new Miss Congeniality 2007, Dezaray Johnson, sponsored by Johnson’s Pest Control, who wowed the crowd in a navy blue beaded gown Saturday evening. That dark color didn’t do anything to diminish her sparkling personality that bubbled up from the first moment she was introduced! We hate to see our 2006 Miss Kimble County and Court move on, but are excited to “watch these young ladies strut their stuff and help promote Junction and Kimble County!” Congratulations! And, a special thanks to all the contestants, their families, and their sponsors for participating in our contest and supporting your Chamber.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – The Chamber is accepting nominations for Citizen of the Year, to be presented at the Chamber Picnic on Saturday, June 2nd. Nominations go to: Chamber, 402 Main, Junction, Tx 76849, marked “Citizen of the Year” or can be emailed. Deadline-May 18th

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD – The Chamber is accepting nominations for this award to be presented at the Chamber Picnic. Criteria as follows: Nominees 18 or under who exhibit good citizenship & “give back” to our community. Nominations go to: Chamber, 402 Main, Junction, Tx 76849, marked “Youth Service Award” or can be emailed. Deadline-May 18th

FEATURED BUSINESS – Econo Lodge – I-10 at Exit 485, 311 S. Segovia Access Rd. Junction, TX 76849 325/446-2475 or 1/800-768-1872 Fax 325/446-4232 While passing through our area on IH 10, going to Odessa, Dilip Khatri saw the closed motel in Segovia, sporting a For Sale sign. In his words, “It looked like a nice little property that we could buy and get started in the motel business.” He and his brother returned for a closer look, and bought this property in August of 2004. Renovations took most of three months, and in February, 2005, they held their Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening! Dilip and Pravina love the country location of this 32 room, quiet motel. They serve guests a continental breakfast, offer internet access, microwaves, and refrigerators in all rooms. They are pet friendly, too. Last week, wanting to “go the extra mile”, Dilip was seen buying Blue Bell Ice Cream to take back to Segovia for one of their guests to enjoy while sitting beside their beautiful pool, waiting on the deer to show up! Now that’s customer service! Dilip and Pravina also operate an RV park on property adjoining theirs. Dilip and Pravina hope to expand their small motel into a small resort...a vision for their future, complete with spa services and small basketball court for their guests to enjoy. They have taken the first step towards their vision, by revamping their tennis courts as we speak. They know this might take a year or two, but they are on their way to attaining their goal. Hard work and commitment are no problem for this family. They also want our readers to know that the Safari Lounge next door to the Econo Lodge is available to be rented for parties, too, either with or without the pool! Stop in and see the improvement, a “dream in the making” right here at Segovia! We are so proud for you!

ECONO LODGE BY CHOICE HOTELS
311 S.SEGOVIA ACCESS ROAD
Junction, TX 76849
325446-2475 1/800-768-1872
www.choicehotels.com/hotel/tx828

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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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