

# Kimble County Chamber of Commerce

# Newsletter

Tuesday, May 29, 2007

**FOLKS THAT COME AND VISIT JUNCTION ARE ALWAYS STRUCK BY THE LAID BACK ATMOSPHERE ENJOYED HERE -** We don't have to deal with traffic jams, long lines in the grocery stores, and are never too busy to stop and chat with a friend we haven't seen in a while when we are out running our errands. That relaxed way of life is part of the fiber of our lives that makes us who we are – a true picture of a small West Texas town, growing in lots of ways, yet staying the same in others. Often times, when you go to our hospital to visit someone, you end up visiting two or three other folks you know, that you weren't aware were in the hospital at all! The hospital caretakers are our family members, our friends, people we serve on committees with, and folks we sit next to in Church. It's the same at our schools, and our banks, and our stores...these people are all part of our ever growing circle of loved ones in Junction and Kimble County. So it goes with our Chamber of Commerce. In the city, you might not know who is involved in your Chamber of Commerce and their banquets are formal affairs, with suits and ties all around. Not so in Junction. This year, following a new tradition begun last year, your Chamber of Commerce will hold its second "Annual Chamber Picnic", a truly family affair, held on our own Courthouse Lawn under the beautiful Texas sky. The Chamber Board will be cooking hamburgers, helping in the serving lines, selling raffle tickets, and generally having a "hands on" evening in every sense of the word. Families are invited to come out and enjoy each other! We will have tables and chairs set up for everyone, but you might want to follow the example of Chamber supporter Judy Nickelson, who brought her own blanket last year, and let her grandkids play to their heart's content! 2006 Miss Congeniality Shawna Henderson ate watermelon until the world looked level last year! Then she and her friends enjoyed the street dance. **This Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6 PM, the Chamber of Commerce invites EVERYONE to come out and join your community in food, fellowship, and fun.** We will be presenting our annual awards for Citizen of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, the Medical Services Award, the Junction Independent School District Retirement Award, the Youth Community Service Award, and the City of Junction Police Department Award. We are also going to present a new award this year – the Kimble County Community Pride Award, to someone who goes above and beyond when it comes to taking pride in this community. Following our picnic dinner and awards ceremony, will be a street dance with music provided by Roy Silva and Grupo Suave! We started something new last year that proved to be quite successful...a raffle of prizes at the picnic. Each meal ticket will entitle you to one raffle ticket, to be placed in a bucket in front of the prize of your choice. Additional raffle tickets can be purchased for \$1.00 each. So far, we have a framed screening of the American Flag, \$20 in fuel donated by Les Williams Fina, a beautiful patriotic chip & dip plate donated by Cowboy Cottage, binoculars donated by West Bear Creek General Store, a silver University of Texas Longhorn necklace donated by Kerr County Federal Credit Union, an oil & filter change donated by Rite-A-Way Auto Service, several Meal Deals donated by Johnny's Exxon/Subway, a heavenly slumber folding hammock, and a Pizza Party donated by Milky Way Drive In. All of our meal tickets have two parts. Our grand prize drawing will be entered with the second part of your meal ticket. Junction True Value Hardware generously donated our grand prize, with a value of over \$150. This prize will be a two man inflatable boat, complete with two oars, two Zebco 202 rods and reels, including some tackle, and a net to haul that catch aboard! David and Sheryl Newton have once again shown their support for this community and their

Chamber of Commerce! We will also have a silent auction of a hand made knife, donated by Justin Bridges of Junction, TX. Justin's knives have been written about in several trade journals, and also in the Shoshone Wilderness Adventures publication from Dubois Wyoming, calling them, "Completely custom designed, handmade knives for the discriminating sportsman...these knives are simply the best that we have ever seen and used." He was also commissioned to build a pair of caping/skinning commemorative knives for the 1993 Rocky

Mountain Elk Foundation. The value of his handmade knife is \$500 and the bids will open at \$100. Many thanks, Justin, new supporter of the Chamber of Commerce. So, as you can see, we already have loads of fun lined up for our Annual Picnic. Remember, Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> for our Annual Chamber Picnic, at 6 PM on the Courthouse Lawn. Tickets are \$6.50 each and are available at the Chamber, Junction National Bank, and Kerr County Federal Credit Union. See you there!!!!

**LONDON DANCE HALL** – Southern Image will be performing at the London Dance Hall in London Texas this Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.londondancehall.com).

**BIKE RODEO FOR KIDS** – Kimble Hospital is sponsoring a Bike Rodeo for Kids this Sat. June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 till 11 AM. Dr. Joe King will be teaching bike safety, there will be helmets if needed, certificates of completion with photos for everyone, snacks and drinks for the kids. It's free!! So, grab your kiddo, ages 3 yrs, old and up, his trike or bike, and head out to the Courthouse this Saturday to learn about bike safety!

**JUNCTION HOUSING COMMUNITY MEETING** – Clara Kemp, Executive Director invites the families and those living in the apartments between Elm and Oak Streets to attend a meeting to get caught up on all that's taken place these past few weeks, and hear about the exciting new plans she and Becky Chenault, Business Manager, have in store for the residents. The meeting will be at the Activity Room at the apartments, Wed. May 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.

**TOUR de FORTS** – Central Texas Hills and Rivers Region has organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Tour de Forts bicycle fun run for Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup>. Bike riders register online [www.cthrr.org](http://www.cthrr.org) by June 1<sup>st</sup> for \$45. Cost increases to \$55 after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Riders will pick up their packets at the Kimble County Courthouse on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 6 PM, and that is the starting point for the rides both Saturday and Sunday. For information, contact Lynn Foreman [cavuforeman@ctesc.net](mailto:cavuforeman@ctesc.net) or call 325/446-9133. This exciting event shows signs of being a huge success, loads of fun, and a wonderful tourism event for Junction and towns around us so don't miss out! Volunteers are still needed and welcomed!

**FEATURED BUSINESS – PROJECT GRADUATION** – Lisa Sandlin made the suggestion that I feature this program. Project Graduation was born approximately 19 years ago, in Maine, after seven students were killed graduation night in an alcohol/drug related accident. JISD High School Principal Mary Murr wasn't certain just when Project Graduation began in Junction, but she was certain of its overall success! This year, over 75 kids, grades 9-12 were entertained in the Gym from 10 PM till 4 AM graduation night. They had to be inside by 12 midnight and couldn't leave once they entered, but Mary reported that the students were all there around 10 PM to begin the festivities! This is a totally parent sponsored program, with support from the community. Underclassmen donate the food their parents prepare, which included pizza, chips, dips, nachos, sandwiches, and cold drinks. Over \$8,000 was collected and used to buy prizes that were raffled throughout the night. All this money was local donations. \$100 prizes were awarded on the hour and \$50 on the half-hour. Kimble County Sheriff Mike Chapman presented six \$500 cash prizes at 3:45 AM to seniors only. Other prizes included flat screen TV's, cameras, vacuums, refrigerators, and ten \$25 gift certificates to Wal Mart. The students enjoyed basketball games, ping pong matches, card games, dominoes, dancing, and even an "American Idol" Junction Contest for those choosing to sing. Justin Boone and Lucas Lumbley won 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$100. Mikki Murr, Andrea Holland, and Jillian Haschke won 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$50. And Hazel Gunter and Allison Ensly won 3<sup>rd</sup> place and \$25.

The parents and students of Junction Independent School District worked hard to organize, promote, and put together this wonderful, fun, safe environment to celebrate graduation. They are truly deserving of all of our thanks! And thanks to Lisa for bringing this wonderful event to the attention of the Chamber. It helps to instill pride in our community when we learn of all the many efforts being put forth in one common goal – make and keep Junction and Kimble County a safe, prosperous, loving community in which to live. Atta Boy, Project Graduation!!!

Send us your feedback at [junctiontx@cebridge.net](mailto: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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