

Kimble County Chamber of Commerce

Newsletter

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

I HAVE HEARD MY WHOLE LIFE, "IF YOU DON'T LIKE TEXAS WEATHER, JUST WAIT A FEW MINUTES AND IT WILL CHANGE!" - That was the absolute truth this past week! And, just like folks today in Greensburg, Kansas, are crediting the "tornado sirens" with giving them twenty minutes warning of approaching tornadoes, possibly making the difference between life and death, our own community had a close call with tornadoes this past week. And, just like in Kansas, our Kimble County Sheriff's Department took care of us, too! Sheriff Mike Chapman and the Sheriff's Department personnel monitor the weather conditions for our community and that of communities in our area. They evaluate information, current conditions, current forecasts, and based on several different factors, decide if sounding the tornado siren is warranted. Just like taking care of this community by enforcing the law, our Sheriff's Department takes care of us by "sounding the alarm" if we are in danger. This past week, upon hearing the siren – a first for me personally – I called the Sheriff's Department to ask what it meant. You know you live in a small, caring community when the person answering the phone says, "It means, Connie, that there is a tornado in the area and you should get to some shelter!" On heading over to my Mom's, I wondered what kind of meeting was taking place at the Courthouse, and a few moments later, at the Church of Christ, too! Shows how much I know! I would later learn that folks in our community are a lot smarter than I! They knew to head to those big buildings, heavy in construction and sporting a basement, to take cover and be safer than they might be in their homes, possibly modular or lighter in construction. Our own daughter and granddaughters took shelter in the Courthouse, after throwing their dog into their shop to head downtown. When Arthur Leistikow and George Kirchman gave the okay to leave the Courthouse basement and stairwells, who should greet his family with tail wagging, but Sutton, the yellow lab! He had followed his family downtown, too, and our kind and caring Sheriff's Department had invited him, along with other four legged members of families taking shelter there, into the safety of the Courthouse. You just don't find that kind of caring in New York City! Remember to thank Sheriff Mike Chapman and the fine folks of the Kimble County Sheriff's Department for taking care of us! It's a big job, shouldering lots of responsibility, and they manage to handle it with care and kindness! Thanks Y'all!

TEXAS PECOS TRAIL REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, NETWORKING LUNCHEON, AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE – It's not too late to attend this fun and informative meeting. They still have a few spaces available for the luncheon, according to Keith Godwin, so call quick! Featured speakers include Frederica Wyatt, Dr. Grant Hall, and Lynn Foreman and this all takes place at Texas Tech at Junction, Thursday, May 10th from 9:30 till 1:30 PM. Come on out and learn about our area! For reservations, call Ms Keith Godwin 325/387-2927 or go to texaspecostrail@hotmail.com.

RELAY FOR LIFE – May 19th is the date for Relay for Life and Junction is really getting in "high gear" preparing for this 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. Watch for ticket sales to begin soon! There are also other items being raffled, teams being organized, and luminarios being sold. Come on out to the Relay for Life Carnival, 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 – Jake Hooker and the Outsiders will be performing at the London Dance Hall in London Texas this Friday, May 11th from 8 PM till Midnight. 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.

TWIST-OFF RODEO- Friday and Saturday, May 11th & 12th! Pre-show is at 7 PM both nights and features our own 2007 Miss Kimble County Pageant. Performances begin at 7:30 PM both nights. In this time of searching for a bargain, how about saving \$2 by buying tickets in advance! Adults \$8 advance/\$10 gate, Children (12 & under) \$4 advance/\$6 gate. Kids under kindergarten get in free! Dance tickets cost \$8 advance/\$10 gate, and Johnny Dickinson and his Big Country Band is playing both nights! Tickets are available at Chamber Office, 402 Main!

MISS KIMBLE COUNTY PAGEANT –The Miss Kimble County Pageant 2007 contestants will be introduced during the Pre-show at the Rodeo at 7 PM on Friday night. Saturday morning at 10 AM, we invite all of Junction to their “The Junction Girls...Who We Really Are” PARADE, where contestants ride a float of their own creation, down Main Street, beginning at the Chamber Office. After the parade, the contestants will go to the Courthouse steps and each answer an interview question. Our 2007 MISS KIMBLE COUNTY PAGEANT WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE OVER KMBL on 1450 AM!! THIS BROADCAST IS SPONSORED BY NELSON MOTORS!!!! TIM BATES AND NELSON MOTORS graciously offered to sponsor this broadcast, thereby including all of Kimble County – even those folks at home! Watch for Tim and the Nelson Motors “break truck” to end the Miss Kimble portion and begin the Ugly Pickup Contest portion of the parade. His Patriotic truck will be announcing their “A Million Thanks” Campaign. Hot on his heels will be the PT Cruiser of KMBL1450 AM! We can’t thank these girls, their sponsors, or Nelson Motors and KMBL enough for their support!

UGLY PICKUP CONTEST – There will be a return performance of the Ugly Pickup Contest on Saturday May 12th, bringing up the rear of the Miss Kimble County Pageant Parade. Ugly Pickups, which must be self propelled, to the Chamber Office that morning at 9 AM, and a story about your entry. There will be cash prizes and a good time had by all... I promise!

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – The Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for their Citizen of the Year Award, to be presented at the Annual Chamber Picnic on Saturday, June 2nd. Please send your nominations to the Chamber at 402 Main, Junction, Tx 76849, marked “Citizen of the Year” on the outside of the envelope or email them: junctiontx@cebridge.net. Selection of this year’s “citizen” will be made by the last five Citizens of the Year.

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD – The Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for this, also to be presented at the Annual Chamber Picnic. Criteria for nomination, is as follows: Nominees are 18 or under who exhibit good citizenship and voluntarily “give back” to our community. Please send your nominations to the Chamber at 402 Main, Junction, Tx 76849, marked “Youth Service Award” on the outside of the envelope or email them: junctiontx@cebridge.net. Selection is made by the Chamber Board of Directors.

FEATURED BUSINESS – Best Western Dos Rios – 244 Dos Rios Drive, Junction, TX 76849 325/446-3700 or 1/800-WESTERN Fax 325/446-9029. Entering Junction from the west, you just can’t miss the beautiful new Best Western Dos Rios. This motel, completed on March 23, 2007, is truly “a family affair” with the owners being long time friends and part of the Texas Hill Country. The families of Paul Ramsdell of Roosevelt, Dr. Joe David Ross of Sonora, and George Alexander of San Angelo, looked far and wide, and then chose Junction for the home of their latest venture. With over 30 years of experience in the hotel/motel industry, they decided on Junction “because of long time roots in this area” and knew it was “a wonderful opportunity to do business in our hometown”. This group, along with General Manager Lynda Townsend, who also, incidentally has over 25 years experience in the “industry”, take great pride in their new facility, which boasts 52 rooms, including 4 suites, and several rooms that are handicapped accessible. Each guest is invited to enjoy a full hot breakfast, free, each morning! Paul Ramsdell is quick to tell anyone within listening range, “Our guests are our #1 priority!” No hesitation there...it’s all about pleasing their customer, whether you are staying in a suite, or a child enjoying the pool and looking for a snack. Their beautiful pool is a great way for guests to cool off after enjoying the complete fitness room on site! Rooms include a business desk, two

phones, refrigerators, microwaves, coffee makers, hair dryers, ironing boards, free high-speed internet, and there is a printer in the lobby for the convenience of their guests. Many standard discounts are available, and Paul and his staff will work with individual groups to encourage travelers to “pick Junction for a change”. Always glad to sponsor a local event or participate through donation, Paul reminds Junction that they have the breakfast area which can be used for reunions and parties, subject to availability. Junction and Kimble County are growing and fine businesses like Best Western Dos Rios are just one example! Stop in and take a tour of the facility...it’s just beautiful!

BEST WESTERN DOS RIOS
244 Dos Rios Dr, Junction, TX 76849
325446-3700 1/800-WESTERN
www.bestwestern.com

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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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325/446-3190 e-mail: junctiontx@cebridge.net www.junctiontexas.net