



Paxton Area Chamber of Commerce

All articles written by Kristina Phelan

“Encouraging Residents To Live Local, Be Local, And Buy Local.”

August 2014

July 4th Event A Great Success

We had an incredible day for our annual July 4th event! The weather was absolutely perfect and well over one thousand people attended the event!

Things looked a little different this year



with the biggest change being the location of the car and tractor show. Many car show contestants stated that they were much happier being under the shade of the many trees on the north end of the park. The food vendor area stayed the same but the children's area was moved to the southern side of the park.

The children's area was enhanced this year with 3 large inflatables that included a

bounce house, large slide, and obsta-



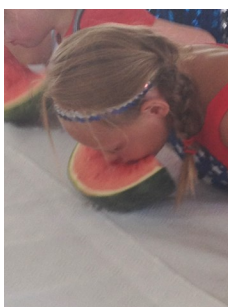
cle course. Instead of a penny find, Farmers Merchants Bank graciously donated nickels for the kiddos to find this year. The PBL cheerleaders were in charge of the many children's activities and we greatly appreciate their help every year! Bubbles from Joyful Bubbles

were a new addition this year as well.

Over 200 people attended the community worship service with the sermon heard from Jim Woods of the Vineyard Church. Many of those people stayed to hear Back Paiges play classic hits afterward.



Paxton Monical's donated 20 large pizzas to the pizza eating contest. Contestants had 5 minutes to eat as much pizza as they could stomach and none of them even got to their 2nd pizza! As the winner, Christian Denam went home with \$25.00 in Chamber Bucks.



enjoy in this event and it was as sweet as it was sticky!

The other popular contest was the watermelon eating contest. Both kids and adults got to

Contestants had to each their entire watermelon slice without using their hands! Carl Hopper went home with \$25.00 in Chamber Bucks. The kid contest winners were Dylan Ferguson and David King who received \$10.00 each in Chamber Bucks.

Barb Soltysiak beat out 6 other pies with her 5 Fruit Pie that she entered into the homemade pie competition. She went home with \$25.00 in Chamber Bucks for her efforts as well!

One of the major crowd pleasers were the many cars and tractors displayed for viewing. Tom Meents even brought his new Max-D monster truck to the park! Meents also took pictures and signed autographs for Paxton area residents.



Thank you to our amazing July 4th sponsors who made this day possible. Without them, our July 4th event just would not happen! Thank you to all of our many volunteers who helped in the day. We hope to see you out next year for another great July 4th event!

This Month Ahead:

August 11th

City Council Meeting

7:00pm

August 19th

PBL First Day Of School

August 20th

Lunch & Learn @ American

Legion Building, Noon

August 26th

Chamber Board Mtg.

Thank You To Our July 4th Sponsors!

523 Design
Ameren
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Mediacom
Nicor Gas Company
Northwestern Mutual-Tedd King
Paxton Hardware & Rental
Paxton IGA
Paxton Ready Mix
Pizza Hut

Illinois Concealed Carry Law & Your Business

Lunch & Learn Chamber Event August 20th

Have you wondered how the new Illinois Concealed Carry Law effects your business? What are your rights as a business owner? What should you do if someone comes into your business who is armed?

Join us at our next Lunch & Learn event on Wednesday, August 20th to find out



more about this law. Gibson City Police chief Steve Cushman will be showing us his presentation on this matter and Paxton Police Chief Bob Bane will also be present to help answer any questions that you may have.

The Lunch & Learn event will be held at the American Legion Building on Pells Street and will start at noon. A catered lunch will be served for an \$8.00 fee.

Reserve your lunch now by contacting

the chamber office at Kristina@paxtonchamber.org or by calling 217-379-4655. You can also just mail in your lunch reservation directly to the chamber at PO Box 75 Paxton, IL 60957.

Did You Know?

*Illinois was the last state to allow concealed carry.
(Source: USA Today)

*Think guns aren't in your neighborhood? It is estimated that there are 89 guns for every 100 Americans.
(Source: The Blaze)

Welcome New Chamber Members!

Welcome To Rob Pacey for becoming an individual member of the chamber.

Thanks for supporting our local businesses and the chamber with your membership!



Unique T.L. Inc., owner of America's Best Inn & Suites in Urbana, recently became a member. Check them out for a quick getaway at www.americasbestinnurbana.com. Welcome to the chamber!

Registrations Underway For Sept. 11th Golf Scramble

The annual chamber golf scramble is just around the corner on Thursday, September 11th at Lakeview Country Club. Now is the time to get your team together and represent your business as you enjoy a day of golfing and networking with other chamber members.



Different registration packages are available and range from \$60.00 to \$300.00. Please see the golf insert for more information on pricing. All proceeds from the event will go towards the new Community Improvements Fund that the chamber will be establishing to help with more expensive projects in the future.

The event will begin at 11:00am with lunch and registration. The chamber would like to thank Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services for once again sponsoring the lunch for the golf scramble. At noon their will be a shot gun start and the golfing will begin!

This year's theme is patriotic and every veteran who golfs will get 2 free mulligans in honor of their service. There will be prizes for the Best Patriotic Attire, Longest Drive, Longest Putt, Closet To The Pin, and Closest To The Line. Shields Automart will once again sponsor the Hole-In-One area and will give away a car if anyone gets a Hole-In-One on a specific hole.

On the day of the event, team members

can also purchase raffle tickets for the 50/50 raffle, a 50/50 putting contest, \$5.00 mulligans, and a \$20.00 team entry for the team trivia.

There will be Happy Hour and Awards after the event. The deadline to register is August 28th. Teams can send in their registration form (see insert) and payment into the chamber office at PO Box 75 in Paxton.

"Our golf scramble is a great way to support our community, show pride in your business, and enjoy a day with fellow co-workers in a relaxed and fun environment," Kristina Phelan stated, "We hope to see many businesses out enjoying our golf scramble on September 11th!"



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**Chamber Of Commerce
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Vice President: Cliff McClure
- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Karen Abbe | Cody Kietzman |
| Lori Epps | Jason Mills |
| Roxi Giese | Candi Riecks |
| Andy Hudson | Ross Sorensen |
| Craig Kief | |

Executive Director

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Mailing: PO Box 75 Paxton
kristina@paxtonchamber.org
www.paxtonchamber.org



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Check Out Our
Chamber
Facebook Page
Today!

Do You Cater?

Would your business be interested in catering a future Lunch & Learn at the American Legion Building? We would like to use our business members for this service and welcome you to call the chamber office at 379-4655 to express your interest. Our 2014 Lunch & Learn dates are August 20th and November 19th. Call the chamber office to put your name on the list!

In Business News:



Congratulations to Paxton Dairy Queen for recently celebrating their 60th anniversary! We appreciate Ray Umble and his staff for

always serving up our favorite ice creams with a smile. Thank you to Umble for his continued support in the chamber and we wish you many more years in business and serving our community with delicious treats!



Thank you to Craig Riecks of Paxton IGA for donating 10 watermelons to our watermelon eating

contest at our July 4th event! The watermelons were delicious and over 20 kids and 10 adults had fun trying to be the first to complete their watermelon section without using their hands! Thanks again to the Paxton IGA for their donation!



A big thank you to Jason Mills of Paxton Monical's Pizza for donating the 20 large pizzas for our July 4th pizza eating contest! 10 adults chowed down

on thin crust cheese pizzas and tried to eat as much pizza as they could stomach in 5 minutes. The pizzas were so hearty that none of them even got close to starting on their second pizza! Thanks again to Mills for his donation!

Do you have any business news that you'd like to share with us? We'll publish it in our newsletter and our facebook page for FREE! Tell us about new employees, certifications, expansions, or products that you now have! Email Kristina @paxtonchamber.org with all of your details by the 15th of each month to be eligible for the next month's newsletter.

Company Picture Day

Charley Kietzman, of Life By Charley Photography, will be taking group photos on Thursday, September 25th. This is a great opportunity to get a nicely done professional photo



Charley will come to your business and take your photo on site for your convenience!

She'll also be taking individual pictures if you need an updated personal photo of yourself or your employees.

of you and your employees for a Christmas card, end of the year mailings, or to use on your company website! When you sign up for a time slot,

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to present your business in a professional photograph! Sign up today!

Company Picture Day

When: Thursday, Sept. 25th
Time: 8:30am-10:30am
(call the chamber office at 379-4655 to make an appointment)
Where: Your business!

Chamber Member Price:
\$50.00
Non-Member Price:
\$75.00

Individual Head Shots:
\$15.00 Chamber Members
\$20.00 Non-Members

Call 379-4655 to sign up!

Welcome Baskets Ready To Go



Over 20 of our chamber members have contributed to our welcome baskets

for new residents of the Paxton area. These baskets

are full of coupons, freebies, and promotional materials to introduce new residents to the different businesses in our area. The chamber has also included a bottle of water and snacks to help with the busyness of moving into a new home.

New residents who have moved into the Paxton area

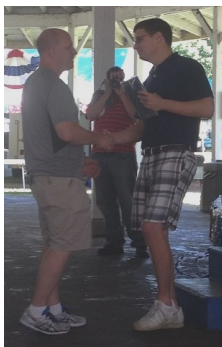
within the past 2 months can pick up their free welcome basket at the chamber office located at 165 S. Market Street during business hours. Only one basket is allowed per household.

If you would like to contribute to our welcome baskets please let Kristina know by calling 217-379-4655!

Golden Deeds Award Winners

Chamber Board Member Cody Kietzman announced the winners of the Golden Deeds Award at the chamber's July 4th event. This award has been presented to an outstanding male and female volunteer in our area since 1985. It was first led by the Paxton Exchange Club and is now sponsored by the chamber.

Pat Milchuck, of Simply Pat's Hats & Things, won the female golden deeds award this year among a large group of female nominees. She serves in many ministries at St. Mary's Catholic Church and is an active member of the PRIDE association. She also is a founding board member of the Peace Meal program and is a tireless volunteer to our community. Congrats Pat!



Alan Meyer, of Mom and Pop's Kettle Korn Stop, won the male golden deeds award this year. His business helps local community organizations like Paxton Youth Wrestling, youth football, Habitat For Humanity, and the American Heart Association. He is a member of the Champaign Fire Department and the Paxton Fire Department Honor Guard. He is also a coach for the youth wrestling program in Paxton. Congrats Alan!

Thanks to everyone who sent in nominations!

Chamber Summer Office Hours

The chamber office will be open on the following dates for the rest of this summer:

Tuesday, August 5th: 8am-4pm

Office will re-open to normal hours on Thursday, August 21st

However, Kristina will be available all summer via the following:

Chamber Office: 217-379-4655
 Kristina@paxtonchamber.org
 PO Box 75 Paxton, IL 60957

Hours subject to change without notice.

Please don't hesitate to contact me!