



Paxton Area Chamber of Commerce

All articles written by Kristina Phelan

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

June 2015

Phelan To Resign From Chamber

Dear Chamber Members,

It is with a heavy heart that I must say that I will be resigning as the Executive Director of the Paxton Area Chamber Of Commerce. I have absolutely loved the past two years and have learned so much about the wonderful community of Paxton. I will definitely miss all of our members but know that this next step is right for me.

I will be continuing my career as the Business Manager of

Creekside Community Center in Cissna Park. I look forward to being on the other side of the fence as a chamber member and have no doubt that the chamber will continue to grow and succeed.

I will be working from home until my replacement is hired. I plan on still being around this summer to coordinate our July 4th and Golf Outing events if needed.

Thank you so much to everyone who has made my

experience at the chamber so great! Also, a special thank you to my amazing Board of Directors (past and present) who give so much volunteer time to the chamber. Without them, there would be no chamber! Again, I am sad to be leaving but excited about this new opportunity.

I will miss you all!

Sincerely,
Kristina Phelan



Executive Director Needed

*The Paxton Area Chamber Of Commerce is in need of an Executive Director who can maintain the chamber office, plan large events, and continue the chamber's vision to support local business. Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Excel, email, social media, and marketing. Knowledge of Microsoft Publisher is a plus. Excellent customer service skills required. Applicant must possess leadership skills, be a self-starter, and comfortable working alone. This position is 10 hours a week and has a flexible schedule. Send cover letters and resumes to: **Chamber Hiring Committee** c/o Andy Hudson PO Box 70 Paxton, IL 60957*

Mark Your Calendars For July 4th!

9am-3pm

Pells Park



See Insert For Final July 4th Schedule

Thank You To All Of Our July 4th Sponsors!

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 523 Design | Farmers Merchants National Bank | Nordic Total Fitness |
| Ameren | Fiorillo, Shaffer, & Associates | Northwestern Mutual-Tedd King |
| Baier Family Funeral | First National Bank | Paxton Clinic |
| Busey Bank | Gibson Area Hospital | Paxton Hardware & Rental |
| CCRPC Workforce Development | Heiress Promotions | Paxton Healthcare & Rehab |
| Cheesecloth & Butter-milk | Hudson's Drug & Hallmark Shop | Paxton IGA |
| Cleary Equipment, Inc. | Illinois Knights Templar Home | Paxton Subway |
| Colmac Coil | Kief Realty | Pizza Hut |
| Compass Insurance Partners | Mediacom | Shield's Auto |
| Country Thyme Tea Room | Moore Surveying & Mapping | Tim's Lawn Service & Snow Removal |
| Doug's Compounding Pharmacy | NexStep Commercial Products | Rob Pacey |
| Down To Earth Hardscapes | Nicor Gas Company | |

Forty Under 40 Nominations

The Central Illinois Business magazine is now taking nominations for their Forty Under 40 2015 awards. The winners will be chosen based on experience, achievement, leadership, innovation, and community involvement.

A nomination form can be found online at www.centralillinoisbusiness.com/fortyunderforty. The award luncheon will be

held on October 8th at the Hilton Garden Inn. If you have any questions please call Sarah at 217-351-5376.

Our Chamber President, Andy Hudson, won this prestigious award in 2010. The deadline to nominate someone is June 19th so

let's get some other Paxton Area members nominated to put Paxton on the map!

Do you know of someone else in our membership who has won this award?

Please let us know so we can honor their achievement!



This Month Ahead:

June 5th

PBL Graduation

June 5th & 6th

Paxton Wide Garage Sales

June 8th

City Council Meeting 7pm

June 16th

Chamber Exec. Board Mtg.

June 21st

Father's Day

Sturm Receives Award



Jeff Sturm, of **Jeff Sturm Insurance, Investments & Retirement**, has received the Silver Key Award from Pekin Insurance. Sturm received this award by meeting the criteria of excellence, dedication, and commitment while selling Life Insurance. This puts Sturm in the top 3% of Pekin Insurance Agents.

Congrats to Jeff for this great accomplishment!

Summer: Survive Or Thrive?

With the school year finishing up many of our members are looking forward towards the summer season. What does summer mean for your business? Is it busy with bored adolescents trying to fill their days with something, anything, to do? Or is your business slower in the summer due to family vacations, odd schedules, and the never ending call to be outside under the sun?

I have been amazed at how the school year affects many of our businesses. Even here at the chamber, it is hard to get even half of the board members together in the for a meeting due to

vacations, childcare schedules, and covering for co-workers who are on vacations themselves.

If your business tends to dip down during the summer I recommend looking into doing some kind of fun one-day event. It doesn't have to be big, even just putting up a free popsicle stand outside your business will create buzz and draw people in. Maybe consider doing a special freebie item on a certain day and do a lot of marketing beforehand on the media outlets in town.

If your business tends to skyrocket during the summer consider hiring a few extra people to help

with all of the headaches and questions that come with all of the kiddos out of school.

And, for those of you whom summer doesn't affect business at all, I want to encourage you to still do something special for your employees and customers. Maybe a company picnic in the park or rent a bounce house for a day?

Remember, if you need help spreading the word about any events this summer just email me at and I'll get it done!

Kristina@paxtonchamber.org

217-379-4655



Sign Up Today To Host A Chamber Connection!



June 9th: OPEN

July 14th: OPEN

August 11th: OPEN

September 1st: Doug's
Compounding Pharmacy

October 13th: OPEN

November 10th: OPEN

December 8th: OPEN

Open dates are first come first served! Call 379-4655 to reserve your month!



Like us on
our
Facebook
page a

[www.facebook.com/
paxtonchamber](http://www.facebook.com/paxtonchamber)

**Chamber Of Commerce
Board Members**

President: Andy Hudson
Vice Pres.: Cody Kietzman

Karen Abbe Craig Kief
Ashlee Bertan Neal McKenry
Josh Didier Jason Mills
Lori Epps Candi Riecks
Ross Sorensen

Executive Director

Kristina Phelan
Phone: 217-379-4655
Address: 165 S. Market St.
Mailing: PO Box 75 Paxton
kristina@paxtonchamber.org
www.paxtonchamber.org

Upcoming Events:

July 4th Event

Saturday, July 4th
9am-3pm
Pells Park

Flea Market Vendors Needed!

The flea market will be open from 9am-3pm and costs \$20.00 for a 10'x10' spot. Contact the chamber office for a registration form.

Non-Profit Food Vendors Needed!

Any non-profit group is welcome to have a food stand at the event. The cost is \$35.00 for the day. Please call Candi Riecks at 217-714-3017 to sign up.

Extra Mile Award Discontinued

We will no longer be awarding the Extra Mile Award due to low participation in the program. We appreciate everyone who has nominated employees and those who have won the Extra Mile Award in the past.

If you have an Extra Mile Award station please return it to the chamber office.

Golf Scramble



Friday, July 24th
11am-6pm
Lakeview Country Club

**We Only Have A
Few Spots Left!**

Sign Up Your Team Today!

Team Costs:

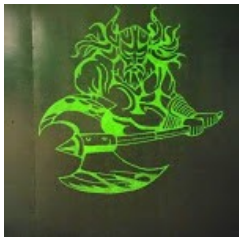
\$350.00 Team of 4
\$200.00 Team of 2
\$100.00 Single Player

Other Options:

\$75.00 Hole Sponsorship
\$10.00 Lunch Only

All profits from this event will be going towards the Community Improvement Fund.

New Member Ribbon Cutting Saturday, May 30th



Nordic Total Fitness will be opening their doors at 207 N. Market Street on Saturday, May 30th. Come to their ribbon cutting at 11:45am that morning to see all of the improvements that they have made to the building! They will be having membership specials as well so be sure to stop by!

Nordic Total Fitness is dedicated to help you with all of your fitness and health needs. You can contact them at 217-579-1047 or check out their website at www.nordictotalfitness.com. Welcome To The Chamber!

Welcome Baskets Going Strong

Have you gotten your business name into our Welcome Baskets yet? We have been busy handing out baskets to many new residents in our area and want to promote your business!

We will take any non-food item for our Welcome Baskets. They are a great way to introduce your new customer to your business and create customer loyalty. We've had so many new

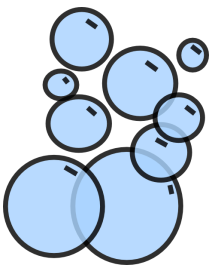
residents come in that we ran out and had to start a list! If you'd like to help contribute to the Welcome Baskets just contact the office and we'll come pick up your goodies!

Remember that Welcome Baskets are only available to those new residents in our area who have moved here within the past 2 months. One basket per household.

Summer Office Hours Reminder:

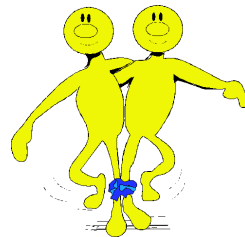
Starting June 3rd, the chamber will not have normal business hours at the office. Please call the office at 379-4655 if you need help or would like to set up an appointment. Kristina is also available by email at Kristina@paxtonchamber.org

Popular July 4th Activities For The Whole Family!



Joyful Bubbles Is Back!

Did you have fun playing with all of the big bubble wands last year? Joyful Bubbles will be coming back this year to show off their bubbles! Items to take home will also be available for purchase.



NEW Family Games Area

We will be having multiple heats of a 3-legged race so that the entire family can participate! Look for other family friendly games like Tug-Of-War and Sponge Race! Sign up at the chamber tent to participate.



Local Pastors will be having a **Blessing of the Bikes** at the Motorcycle Area. Bring your bike and join us as we cover your travel with safety in prayer!



The Bounce House Area Is Back!

Buy your bracelets for just \$3.00 for unlimited access on all of the bounce houses! Thanks to Paxton Church of Christ for coordinating this area for us again this year!



Watermelon Eating Contest Is Back!

We had so much fun last year that we are bringing this contest back! Children and adults can both try to eat their watermelon slice the

fastest to win Chamber Bucks! Sign up at the chamber tent to participate.



New Dog Training Show

Want to see some dogs show off their skills in hunting? See the show at 1pm and thanks to Gun Dog Success for attending this year!