



- The Inside Track...**
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 - New members
 - Business After Hours
 - Calendar of Events
 - KMMA meets in Chanute
 - Trip planned to Dallas
 - Sculptures dedicated
 - Homebuyers event held

Volume XIV, No. 10

October 2006

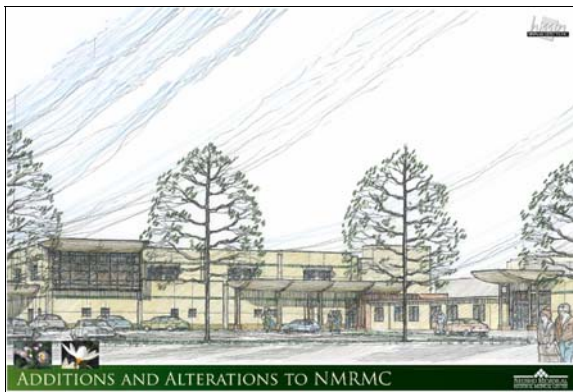
Ceremony kicks-off NMRMC construction project

An atmosphere of celebration filled the air at the October 2nd ground breaking for Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center's expansion project. The \$18.8M project will construct a new 40,000 square foot, two-story addition, and is expected to be complete in the winter of 2008. The current facility was built in 1949 and has undergone about a half-dozen major renovations. Construction on the current project will likely begin in about four weeks. Those speaking at the ceremony included NMRMC Administrator Dennis Franks, Chief of Staff Dr. Bruce Lee, Dr. Robert Harwood, chairman of the NMRMC Board of Trustees, and Scott Parish, chairman of the Neosho County Commission. Dr. Charles VanHouden also delivered the invocation. Construction will be conducted in three phases and will allow for the step-by-step replacement of the existing medical, surgical, observation and intensive care units of the hospital. The expansion centers on patient care areas, improving accommodations for medical, surgical and critical care patients, and their families.



NMRMC's CEO Dennis Franks (at left), board members, county officials and medical staff participated in the ground breaking ceremony on October 2nd. Below is an artist's rendering of the new construction. The \$18.8M construction project is scheduled to be complete in the winter of 2008.

Over the past two decades, the need for emergency care and diagnostic laboratory services has outgrown current medical space. Therefore, the construction includes a new state-of-the-art laboratory and emergency department. In the new emergency department the plans also include expansion of treatment rooms, improved privacy and comfort for families, and enhancement of services for the most urgent patients. Once completed, NMRMC's new lab will be centrally located, will double in physical size, and will increase testing capabilities.



NMRMC is a Critical Access Hospital (CAH), which is a designation based on a Medicare reimbursement classification. In Kansas, 84 of 126 community hospitals are Critical Access facilities. CAH facilities offer full emergency, inpatient and outpatient services. The primary benefit of a CAH is that it moves hospitals from the Prospective Payment System to a Cost-Based Reimbursement system.

Continued on page 2

Newsletter Sponsor for October

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 Ardie Madden ~ Leigh Ann Spillman ~ Don Everly

New Chanute city maps now available!

Beautiful color on high-quality paper. Easy to read street listings and designation of main traffic routes.

*The map details Chanute's Points of interest
 Parks ~ Schools ~ Cemeteries ~ Government offices*

The new map of Chanute is sponsored by:
 NuWa Industries Commercial Bank Cleaver Farm & Home
 Neosho County Community College
 USD #413 State Farm Insurance, Steve Payne Agent

Chanute Area Chamber of Commerce and Office of Tourism

2006 Board of Directors

Executive Board

Tim Fairchild, President

Commercial Bank

Steve Payne, President-Elect

State Farm Insurance

Dr. Nathan Falk, Treasurer

Chanute Chiropractic Center

Elected Board Members

Term: January 2007

Nancy Isaac, The Chanute Tribune

Steve Parsons, USD #413

David Reinhardt, Cleaver Farm & Home
Position to be filled

Term: January 2008

Darin Luebbering, Advanced Systems Homes

Tyson Jelinek, Edward Jones

Jim Earl, Penwell-Gable Chapels

Perry Hartman, NuWa Industries

Term: January 2009

Becky Waggoner, Home Savings Bank

Sheri Calhoon, Malson Real Estate

Sandra Strack, Frontier Farm Credit

Maury Thompson, Tri-Valley Dev. Serv.

Board Associates

Randy Riggs, City of Chanute

Dr. Vicky Smith, NCCC

TBD, USD #413

Phil Jarred, Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA

Jonathon Johnson, Community National Bank

Justin Sager, Emprise Bank

2006-07 Chanute High School Reps:

Dallas Mildfelt & Stephanie Wilken

Legal Counsel:

R. Kent Pringle, Attorney

Tourism Board of Directors

Motel Industry Representatives:

Colleen Mills (Super 8 Motel)

and Todd Johnson (Tioga Suites)

City Representative: Nancy Isaac

Two Members at Large:

Penny Galemore & Cathy Cleaver

Chamber Representatives:

Jackie Witherspoon, Chairman,

Greg Bolton, Dr. Brian Inbody,

Deb Milkulka

Ex-Officio Members:

Brad Eilts, City of Chanute

Nancy Qualls, Main Street Chanute

Conrad Froehlich

Martin & Osa Johnson Safari Museum

Elly McCoy, Chanute Art Gallery

Betty Barnhart, Chanute Historic Museum

Staff:

Jodi D. Lucke, Executive Director

Anna Methvin, Executive Assistant

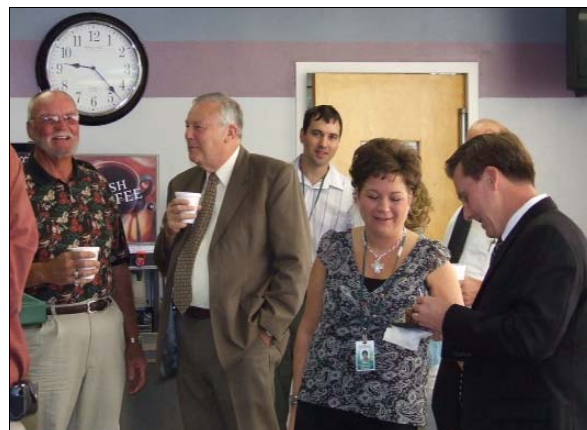
NMRMC ground breaking

continued from page 1



NMRMC served 27,613 patients in 2005 and the Carriage Club birthing center welcomed 332 babies. The Emergency room treated 7,300 patients, the Radiology Department staff took 18,609 images, the ambulance made 409 runs, and surgeons performed 2,099 cases.

Twenty physicians make up the active medical staff at NMRMC. A strong family practice tradition supports specialist in ob/gyn, orthopedics, pediatrics, internal medicine, radiology general surgery, dermatology and urology. Outpatient subspecialty clinics are scheduled on a regular basis. Visiting sub-specialists provide care in the field of cardiology ENT, nephrology, neurology, ophthalmology, podiatry and pulmonology. The Topeka based veteran's clinic also visits patients at the facility.



Welcome new Members

Cakes to Clowns

Tricia Tennent, Chanute

431-6450

Fastenal

1416 S. Santa Fe

Kevin French, Manager

431-3423



Thank you for your commitment to the Chanute Area Chamber of Commerce and Office of Tourism

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Members enjoy September Business After Hours events

Chamber members were entertained at two Business After Hours events during the month of September. To kick-off the month, on September 11th Bill Reinhardt invited members to a Ribbon Cutting and tour of the new Waddell & Reed office at 424 W. 14th. Bill also introduced Richard Webber who joined the office on July 17th as a financial advisor. To learn more about the financial services offered by Waddell & Reed, contact Bill or Richard at 431-4434.



From left, Chamber Ambassador Patty Allen, Chamber President Tim Fairchild, Bill Reinhardt, Elinor Whaley (office secretary) and Richard Webber.



Bill Reinhardt



Richard Webber.



Chamber members also helped the Waddell & Reed staff celebrate their new location by a Ribbon Cutting.

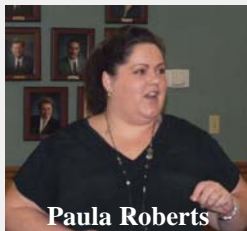
Chamber members also took advantage of the opportunity to re-congratulate Dr. Nathan Falk and the Chanute Chiropractic Center on being named the 2006 Exemplary Business of the Year at their open house on September 26th. Dr. Nathan and Erin Falk received the honor in June but postponed the open house until the completion of their office renovation.



Pictured from left: Erin and Nathan Falk, and office assistant Heidi Lilly accept the Exemplary Award at the June 12th Business Appreciation Banquet.



Teresa Starr



Paula Roberts

Local Pandemic Flu preparations discussed

Health department reps are getting prepared for the upcoming flu season...and spreading the word and sharing the precautions that are being taken in the event of a pandemic flu outbreak in our area. Neosho County Health Department Director Teresa Starr and County Health Nurse Paula Roberts spoke with Chamber Ambassadors in September and informed the group of what is being done to prevent a serious outbreak in the county and the plan to protect residents if a pandemic occurs. In the presentation, Ambassadors learned about the county-wide task force comprised of emergency preparedness officials, city and county staff, those in medical services and others that have been working together to address procedures in the event of a pandemic flu situation. Chamber Executive Jodi Lucke is also serving on the emergency task force. Starr and Roberts said that the public should be prepared and aware of the steps necessary to minimize the health effects of a pandemic. They shared health and safety information concerning pandemic influenza and encourage the public to visit Internet sites such as www.pandemicflu.gov to find material targeted for specific groups such as families, travelers, workers, communities, and health professionals. To learn more about how your business can better prepare for the flu season call the department at 431-5770.

KMMA members meet in Chanute



Members of the Kansas Motorcoach Marketing Alliance met at Chanute's Quarry Stone on September 27th. KMMA is a statewide organization of tourism professionals who work to attract touring companies to the region. Meetings are held across the state and this is the first visit to Chanute by members. Lead sponsor of KMMA is the Kansas Department of Commerce Division of Travel and Tourism. Kelli Hilliard, group tour manager for the KDOC Travel & Tourism Development Division, oversees activities of the organization. The meeting attracted members from across the state including tourism directors from Dodge City, Wichita, and the Kansas City metro area. KMMA is currently planning the 2007 National Tour Association (NTA) Convention set to be held in Kansas City. One activity of the NTA is a "FAM" tour, which is a regional tour of the state sponsored by the KDOC for motorcoach owner/operators. The local KMMA meeting has resulted in Chanute again being included in the 2007 FAM project. "Kelli (Hilliard) contacted me and said that she was so impressed with the historic Tioga and the atmosphere of the Safari Grill that she wanted to bring a FAM group to Chanute to visit the hotel and the Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum," said Chamber and Chanute Tourism Director Jodi Lucke. "It says a lot when a member of the KDOC staff is so impressed with what she sees in our community that she wants to showcase what we have to members of a nationwide FAM tour."

Those attending the FAM will also be encouraged to visit other tourist attraction in Chanute.

Chili, Drinks, Fun and Fellowship!

Chanute Chamber After Hours

Tuesday, October 17th

5:00 to 6:30 p.m.



Please join us in welcoming Amy and Ross Hendrickson and New York Life to the agency

In case of rain, the event will be held at the Chamber office

Thank You...



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Birdhouse Fund raiser for our son, Brett. We are truly humbled by your generosity. Special thanks to Jodi and

Anna for putting the fundraiser together, Bob Huffman for donating the birdhouse and Rhonda Kane for presenting the birdhouse to our family. We are again reminded of a special community with wonderful people every time we look at it. Thanks again and God Bless You.

Brad and Janet Eilts
Ryan, Matthew and Brett



Proud member of the Chanute Area Chamber of Commerce and Office of Tourism



October Calendar

Monday, October 9th

Executive Board meets at 11:30 at Opie's Pizza

Tuesday, October 10th

Chamber Ambassadors, noon in the NCCC Oak Room

Tuesday, October 17th

Chamber Board meets at 11:30 a.m. at Mo Gedi's

Business After Hours at McCune Robinson,

10 S. Steuben, 5-6:30 p.m.

Monday, October 23rd

Tourism Board, 11:30 a.m. at Safari Grill

Tuesday, October 31st

Jodi and Anna's 5th Annual Trick or Treat Visits

Fiesta entertainment returns to downtown

Entertainers from the 89th Annual Mexican Fiesta presented their Saturday programs in the Irene Neely Hudson Plaza Park on September 9th. The Chamber office and the Chanute Historic Museum served as dressing rooms for the dance troops from Newton and Lawrence.



"Sentinels of the Savanna" dedicated



The impressive "Sentinels of the Savanna" sculpture that has graced the lawn of the Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum for the past several weeks was dedicated on September 30th in a ceremony outside the Santa Fe Depot. The ceremony included recognition of donors Dr. Dwight and Phyllis Blackwood, and the contributions of Young's Welding, the Chanute High School Class of 1951 and the city of Chanute for their efforts in bringing the sculptures to the community.

The giraffe were created by Franklin Jensen, who also attended Saturday's dedication. Travelers along US Highway 400 see Jensen metal sculptures on his farm outside of Augusta where more than 30 pieces of artwork are displayed.



Dr. Dwight Blackwood



Franklin Jensen



Looking for a new adventure!
**Travel to Dallas on a
 Martin + Osa Safari**
Feb. 23, 24, & 25, 2007
 Visit Dallas' North Park Mall



home to the newest Martin+Osa Store

ITINERARY: Friday, 8:00 am: All brave souls shall leave Chanute on a bus; arrive in Dallas around 5:00 pm. Dinner included in the price. Sunday: The bus will leave Dallas in the morning and be back in Chanute by 6:00 pm.

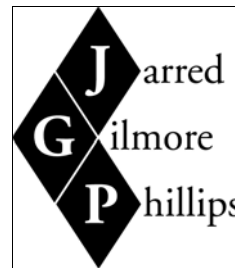
LODGING: Drury Inn with Continental Breakfast

SIDE SAFARIS:

- Visit North Park Mall and see the new store first-hand
 - Lunch and Tour Southfork, home of the Dallas television series
 - Travel to Grapevine, Texas to the famous Gaylord Resort.
- Dinner is on your own at any of restaurants within the Gaylord and will be followed by an Opryland Show.

TRAVELING EXPENSE: \$270 (Double Occupancy, Travel Insurance Available for \$19)

Contact Linda Aikins at
 Community National Bank, 431-2265



Phil Jarred, CPA
 Julene Gilmore, CPA
 Neil Phillips, CPA

910 W. Elm
 431-6342



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 431-5830



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Celebrating our 120th Anniversary!

First Homebuyers Seminar held



Local residents learned more about purchase options at the Chanute Homebuyer's Seminar held September 7th in the Alliance Room. The seminar was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Chanute, and the USDA Rural Development office located in Iola.



Local professionals were invited to participate in the seminar and introduce their products and services to potential buyers. Those participating included Malson Real Estate, Boone Real Estate, Advanced Systems Homes, Cleaver Farm and Home, and Community National Bank. Other representatives on hand were staff members from the Chanute Housing Authority. Organizers were pleased with the outcome of the first seminar and hope to conduct others on a quarterly basis. For information on how you can be involved in the next seminar contact the Chamber at 431-3350.



Thanks to you....

Thank you to everyone who donated to Operation Comfort 2. On September 8th, 34 boxes of donated items were mailed to our troops in Iraq. The boxes totaled 221 pounds and shipping was \$275. Nearly all of the donations were the result of the drive conducted by the Chamber and KKOY Radio on August 15th and postage was paid for with cash donations from Chamber members. Signs taped on each box read... "Hello from the Heartland of the USA! Chanute, Kansas. God Bless you...God Bless America!"



The Chamber office recently received more donations from the Galesburg Christian Church. The donations will likely fill another 15 to 20 boxes. If you would like to contribute to help with the cost of postage, please contact the Chamber at 431-3350 or forward donations to PO Box 747.



Board approves new Mission Statement



The Chamber of Commerce and Office of Tourism Board of Directors held a retreat September 14th to discuss the program of work for 2007. One topic of discussion was the Chamber's current Mission Statement and the need to fine-tune the message therein. The

Mission Statement read: "The Chanute Area Chamber of Commerce and Office of Tourism shall create, conduct, and promote activities which enhance business, industry, and the quality of life in the Chanute area." It was agreed that the statement needed to be shortened and more precise to the organization's program of work. At their September 19th meeting the board unanimously voted to change the Chamber's Mission Statement to read that the organization is dedicated to "Promote, Attract and Represent new and existing business."



Member F.D.I.C.



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Chamber Ambassadors meet Tuesday, October 10th At Noon in the Oak Room Don't forget to bring a guest Special Prize awarded!



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Certified Fiber Optics Networking Courses

Two certified fiber optics networking courses which are accredited by BICSI and sanctioned by the Fiber Optics Association (FOA). The week of intense fiber optic network training starts Monday, October 9th, 2006.

Session 1 - Certified Fiber Optics Technician Course will teach you how to design, install, terminate, splice, and test fiber optics networks. This program includes 75% hands-on activities and certification test is given on the final day of class. This CFOT Class is accredited for BICSI CECs (Continuing Education Credits): RCDD 21, Installation 12 and is sanctioned by the Fiber Optics Association (FOA). Tuition includes all study materials and consumables. Visit www.bdidataynk.com for more course information. **Cost: \$395**

For Registration call 620-431-2820 ext. 234. Class Schedule: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, October 9, 10, 11, 2006, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., NCCC's Rowland Building, Room 327.

Session 2 (Optional) - Advanced Fiber Optics Network Testing & Maintenance will teach fiber optics testing standards with little theory and considerable hands on activities. This 75% hands on course explores the overall spectrum of testing and maintenance of single and multi mode fiber optics networks and provides a detailed overview of various equipment used in testing and maintenance. Subject matter includes a detailed study of ANSI/TIA/EIA-526-14A, OTDR fundamentals and uses, OTDR vs. Insertion Loss Testing, Return Loss Testing, and Attenuation testing using the Power Source and Light Meter. Advanced Certification Test is given on the final day of class. This course is accredited by BICSI for 14 RCDD CECs and 12 Installation CECs. Tuition includes all study materials, consumables and PC-Based Simulated OTDR Software. **Cost: \$425**

For Registration call 620-431-2820 ext. 234. Class Schedule: Thursday, October 12 & 13, 2006, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Rowland Building, Room 327.

Local attractions promoted at Kansas Marketplace



Chanute Chamber and Tourism Director Jodi Lucke attended the Kansas Department of Travel and Tourism Marketplace in Salina on September 20th. The event was held to showcase the state's tourist attractions to members of a familiarization tour conducted by the Kansas Department of Commerce. Forty-eight tour companies attend the event and received information on Kansas attractions. The Chanute "safari-themed" booth featured information on the Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum and all other local tourism entities.

You're invited to WINE & DINE



A "Beautiful Evening with Beautiful Wines and Fine Food" will be held on Saturday, October 21st from

6:00 to 8:30 P.M. at the Chanute Masonic Temple. The event is sponsored by the Neosho County Community College Foundation. This unique event will be fun, inspiring and a great opportunity to network, catch up with family, clients or colleagues, make new friends or reconnect with old ones.

Beginning with wine appreciation served up "education not intimidation" style, the evening also offers a fabulous dining experience with food being provided by Mo Gedi's, the Safari Grill, and Tall and Shorty's. It is very possible that "surprise" offerings will also be added!

Limited tickets are available at the foundation office. Price is \$50.00 per person. Call Bob Christiansen at 431-2820 x 243. All proceeds from the event benefit the NCCC Foundation.



Smoked Corn Anyone?



Instructor featuring Art Talk lecture series

Neosho County Community College Art Instructor Brad Wilkinson will be presenting a lecture series on art around the world. All of the lectures will be held in room 106 of Sanders Hall and begin at 7 p.m.

"If you have questions or just want to learn more about art, these monthly 1st Tuesday Art Talk sessions are designed to provide an opportunity for you to become acquainted with art," Brad said. "Visual examples of art will be utilized and then dialog/discussion will follow. Maybe you've wanted to select an art work for your office or your home or maybe you just want to learn more about art in a non-class environment. If that is the case, we welcome your presence." All lectures are free to the public. For more information contact the college at 431-2820.

1st Tuesday Art Talk

Nov. 7 Acrylic Painting
 Dec. 5, Euro craftsmanship
 Jan. 2, Travel to Europe
 Feb. 6, Cathedrals of Europe
 March 6, Uniquely American Art
 April 3, The Landscape in Art
All lectures begin at 7 p.m. and held in Sanders Hall Room 106

McCune-Robinson Business After Hours Tuesday, October 17th 5-6:30 p.m. 10 S. Steuben



We need **YOUR** help planning events & activities celebrating this achievement!
 Call Bob Christiansen for more information:
 (620) 431-2820 X 243



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Malson Real Estate



Thank you to everyone who helped make the
2007 Pancake Breakfast a huge success!

Safari Brewery participates in Denver's Great American Beer Festival



Todd Johnson and members of the Safari Grill and Brewery "Brew Crew" recently participated in the Great American Beer Festival in Denver. They returned to Chanute October 3rd. They entered five Safari brews, competing with 2402 beers being judged during the competition. Although they did not return with any medals, the crew was very pleased with the exposure and feedback they received from those attending.

"We had 8-5 gallon kegs of beer, which is 5,128 ounces," Todd said. "Each person tasting a beer got a 1 ounce pour, and we ran completely out of all our beer midway through the 4th session, so we had 5,128 samples given out (give or take!). For the first time ever, the festival sold out for all four sessions, so 35,000 people were in attendance. There are 69 categories that are judged, and I learned a lot about how choose which category to enter a beer into and about entering the same beer in multiple categories for next year."

It cost \$175 per beer to be judged at the festival and, because of the recognition received if a participant wins a medal, many of the breweries have local businesses or individuals "sponsor" a beer to help offset the cost.

"While in Denver we figured out that marketing ourselves as a good place to spend the night on their way to Branson, Missouri seemed to really appeal to several people," Todd said. "We also met several execs from Boulevard Brewing Co. who said they would be visiting us, as well as many other breweries in Kansas and Missouri."

Todd added that they received a lot of questions about how they got the Safari theme in Chanute. "I was surprised at how many people already knew of the Martin+Osa stores, but of course hadn't yet made the Chanute, Kansas connection," he said. "We had several people that 'just had to try our beer' because they had been to Africa, liked a particular beer name, liked our costumes (only 4 booths had costumes), didn't know they brewed beer in Kansas (were only five Kansas breweries there), were from Chanute, had friends from Chanute, or at least knew where Chanute was."

Although new to the brewing industry, the Safari recently tied for 2nd with nine other microbreweries in Kansas on the site www.ratebeer.com. The Safari features 12 beers - six light and six dark - all brewed on-site. For more information on the Safari microbrewery phone 431-3343.



Thank you...

Several Chamber members got in to the mix of preparing corn on the cob for the Smoked Corn booth during Artist Alley. Kudos to the residents of Guest Home Estates II & III who helped shuck and silk the corn on the cob and other members to helped at Tall N' Shorty's on Thursday night prior to the festival. A very special thank you to Becky



Waggoner and Sandra Strack who chaired the project, Greg Bolton who smoked 1,000 ears of corn, and all of those who worked the booth at Artist Alley. Your willingness to give your time on such a busy day made the project possible.



Your commitment to the Chamber is truly appreciated!



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