

## **JANUARY, 2012 HOISINGTON CHAMBER NEWSLETTER**

Another year has passed before us. The 2012 board re-organization was held at the December Board meeting. The new Hoisington Chamber of Commerce President is Gene Mooney, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president Brian Wilborn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Kathy Burt, and Secretary-Treasurer Brad Tajchman. New board members joining the team for a three- year term are Mary Charles, Kathy Burt and Brad Tajchman. Many thanks to Dunae Reif, Tony Szot and Jim Carney for their excellent support the past three years. Also we would like to express our thanks to Lee Van Scyoc for stepping in to fill the last two months of Jim Carney's term. Welcome to the new board!

The Hoisington Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet is set for Saturday, January 14, 2012..

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Knights of Columbus

114 N. Main, Hoisington, KS

Social Time 6:30 p.m. (Cash Bar)

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

(cost per person \$25.00)

***Guest Speaker - Marci Penner, Kansas Sampler Foundation Director.***

**Please RSVP by January 10, 2012**

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### **NEW CHAMBER MEMBER**

Hoisington Chamber of Commerce announces its newest Chamber Member: Mi Tierra Mexican Restaurant & Bar has joined the Hoisington Chamber of Commerce business community. The Chamber Ambassadors presented Mi Tierra with a Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting on Thursday, January 29. Drop by and welcome Manager, Raul Villasenor. Mi Tierra is open 7 days a week serving lunch and dinner. Welcome!

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

The City, Chamber and Hoisington Main Street are pleased to welcome Mi Tierra Restaurant and Bar to the Hoisington community. They officially opened on December 27, 2011 and have stayed very busy. Thanks are in order to all of the partners that worked to bring this project to fruition.

Kindscher's Mule Barn continues to make progress in its renovation and expansion of the buildings located at 157 and 161 S. Main Street. A community improvement district was recently established to help recover the cost of improvements. The Kindscher family has been ordering inventory and hope to have the hardware, ranch, farm and home store open in March of 2012.

The City of Hoisington is taking steps to create an Innovation and Growth Fund that will help our community to develop and thrive. These funds may be used to help leverage other funding sources or to incentive development in Hoisington. This fund will serve as a great complement to the Hoisington Area E-Community, which successfully placed all of its tax, credits and should have applications available for funding in the spring of 2012.

The City recently announced that the building located at 169 S. Main Street would likely be occupied by Subway sometime in 2012. More details will be forthcoming, as they become available.

Please continue your efforts to support our existing businesses while growing the community. If you have any ideas for economic development, please contact Jonathan Mitchell at [jmitchell@hoisingtonks.org](mailto:jmitchell@hoisingtonks.org) or contact the City office at (620)653-4125.

**Barton County unemployment rate: 4.5%**

### **Golden Belt SCORE Chapter Celebrates Huge Milestones in 2011**

Golden Belt Chapter 673 of SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) is proud to celebrate the achievements of its local board, along with the achievements of its organization at a national level. SCORE is a national service organization connecting retired business experts with small business owners and entrepreneurs. "Our chapter is here to help entrepreneurs grow their small businesses," says Chapter president Brock McPherson. "We help entrepreneurs with creating a business plan, outlining an operating budget, learning how to manage employees, or anything that has to do with starting, managing, and growing a small business."

During 2011, the national organization helped create over 70,000 jobs in over 58,000 businesses across the country at a cost of just \$98 per job. Since the organization was founded in 1964, SCORE chapters all over America have helped over 9 million entrepreneurs and small business owners. There are over 350 SCORE chapters in the United States consisting of over 13,000 volunteers.

At a local level, the Golden Belt SCORE Chapter has provided assistance and mentoring to approximately 160 clients since it was founded in 2003. These clients are from the five counties served by the Golden Belt chapter, including Barton, Pawnee, Rush, Stafford, and Ellsworth counties. "Our services are free and confidential," McPherson says. "Our board is made up of a nearly a dozen retired executives representing all aspects of the business sector. We are always taking on new clients."

Any new or existing small businesses interested in taking advantage of the expansive expertise of the Golden Belt SCORE chapter's growing board should visit [golenbelt.score.org](http://golenbelt.score.org) or call 620-793-3420.

### **City of Hoisington Update**

The City of Hoisington is preparing to wrap up another encouraging year. Despite numerous challenges and obstacles, the community was able to produce several positive economic indicators. As a community, Hoisington has seen its sales tax dollars increase by greater than eight percent. This is a positive economic indicator. Homes are selling and our school district continues to see positive growth trends. While it would have been easy to throw our hands up and quit, the community has come together to pursue prosperity. Thank you for your efforts.

In December, the City continued its efforts to clean up our community. Several dangerous, unsafe or unsightly properties were addressed and the police department increased its efforts to correct issues with nuisance vehicles. Through these efforts, we continue to hear positive feedback and our community's appearance continues to improve.

The City's governing body voted to fund upgrades to the City's power plant that are necessary to meet federal emissions standards. The RICE-NESHAP rules have placed a tremendous burden on municipal power plants in an effort to reduce emissions and hazardous air pollutants. By making these improvements, the City will meet federal requirements and will still be able to receive capacity payments from our base load power purchase agreements. These payments will pay for the improvements in less than four years.

The City also announced that Subway has an interest in moving to Hoisington to occupy the former Daylight Donut shop at 169 S. Main Street. This building was acquired by the City on September 9, 2011 and has been shown to numerous prospects since that time. This partnership has the potential to expand Hoisington's dining options moving forward.

On December 27, 2011, the City unveiled its new website at [www.hoisingtonks.org](http://www.hoisingtonks.org). Please check it out as you have time and provide the City staff with some feedback. We hope the site will continue to improve over time and with your help it can.

If you have any comments, concerns or ideas for the City of Hoisington, please contact Jonathan Mitchell at [jmitchell@hoisingtonks.org](mailto:jmitchell@hoisingtonks.org) or contact the City office at (620)653-4125.

**Message from Michelle Moshier, Executive Director Clara Barton Foundation**  
**Foundation News:**

The Clara Barton Foundation will host its annual meeting at 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 30th at the Hospital, 250 W. 9th in the Turnbull safe room. Please use the main entrance of the hospital. All members of the Foundation are welcome to attend the meeting. The meeting will include annual reports from Curt Colson, Hospital President & C.E.O, Cheryl Steinert, Foundation President, Marty Schloemer, Auxiliary President. A special presentation will be given by Dr. Kipp Van Camp, a Clara Barton Hospital staff radiologist and accomplished author and speaker. Dr. Van Camp is board certified in Family Medicine, Diagnostic Radiology and Interventional Radiology. He has authored two books, "Always Allie" a soulful story of a family's life with and eventual loss of a beloved dog and his newest book titled: "Misdiagnosed: A Practicing Physician's Case Study in Health Care Reform." Dr. Van Camp is also a host on the Kansas City based radio show talk show called "Doctor's Orders". Please mark your calendars for January 30th and plan to join us.

**Clinic:**

Clara Barton Clinic will be closed January 2nd. Happy New Year!

Our newest certified Physician Assistant, Cassandra Montoya, PA-C is accepting new patients. She is a 2011 graduate of Wichita State University's Physician Assistant program. Originally from Holyrood, Kansas, she enjoys the family atmosphere of central Kansas and the friendliness of rural America. Cassandra is currently seeing patients at Clara Barton Medical Clinic and welcomes the opportunity to provide medical care to you and your family. Call 653-2386 today for your health care needs.



**Hospital:**

Clara Barton Hospital working in partnership with Dr. Durrett of Central Kansas Surgical Services welcomes Dr. Les Landau to the Hoisington/Great Bend area. Dr. Durrett and Dr. Landau are teaming up to better serve you. Surgical Services include: General Surgery and GYN, Laparoscopic Surgery and EGD/Colonoscopy all supported by today's most advanced medical technology and a Clara Barton Hospital team of caring healthcare professionals. For more information about Surgical Services at Clara Barton Hospital call 620-653-2114

Clara Barton Hospital Auxiliary meeting, Monday, January 16th at 5:30 p.m. in the Turnbull safe room.

**TIP FROM PRAIRIE ENTERPRISE PROJECT**

Provide exceptionally good service. You can usually tell if you are failing at this task. Some customers have no problem letting you know; others simply never come back. Good service is for average people and none of your customers are average - each is a different person with different needs. Let everyone know that you appreciate their business.

This tip was brought to you by Prairie Enterprise Project. We offer free and confidential business consulting to Barton, Russell and Edwards counties. For more information or to set up an appointment, contact Karmi Green at #620-617-1555 or e-mail pep1@ruraltel.net

**2012 LEGISLATIVE COFFEE SET – Saturday, February 4, 10 a.m.**

Mark your calendars with the following 2012 Legislative Coffee: February 4, 10:00 a.m. at the Hoisington Activity Center. This event gives local individuals the chance to network with our legislators directly. After hearing a brief update from each legislator present, the audience is given an opportunity to ask questions about hot topic issues, such as health care, education, budget concerns, etc. Elected officials invited to each of the coffees include Senator Jay Emler and Representative Bob Bethell. Donuts and coffee are provided. Legislative Coffee sponsored by Wilson State Bank.

**Kansas Wetlands Education Center - Celebrate the black-footed ferret's return**

Celebrate the rediscovery of the black-footed ferret, North America's rarest mammal, and its return to Kansas during the program "Back from the Brink: Black Footed Ferret Reintroduction in Kansas" from 2-3 p.m. on Jan. 15 at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center.

Learn if ferrets really dance and discover insights to this elusive but curious creature and the amazing efforts to save and return the species to the wild. The survival of black-footed ferrets is irrevocably tied to prairie dogs. Ferrets survive almost entirely on one prey species – the prairie dog. As prairie dog populations declined, so too did the black-footed ferret, until it was thought to be extinct. A Wyoming ranch dog played a vital part in the ferret's rediscovery 30 years ago, but that is all part of the amazing story you will hear during the program.

Presenter Dan Mulhern, US Fish and Wildlife Service, has led the effort to reintroduce black-footed ferrets in Kansas, with the first releases in December 2007. Working for USFWS since 1984, Mulhern has been primarily responsible for Kansas endangered species and migratory birds since 1988.

After the program, prairie dogs, and possibly a black-footed ferret, will be on display and children can make their own black-footed ferret to take home with them. For more information, call 1-877-243-9268 or 620-786-7456.

We want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the many volunteers and supporters of the Hoisington Chamber of Commerce. We have had a good year and with everyone working together we can have an even better 2012.

Best Wishes to you and yours for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.  
Pat Horton, President  
Stacey Bressler, Executive Vice-President

### **HOISINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENT CALENDAR**

January 5, 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Cardinal T-Shirts at the Chamber office

January 11 – 7:00 a.m. Chamber Board of Directors meeting

January 11 -Noon, Chamber Ambassador Club Meeting at Mi Tierra

January 12, 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Gambino's Pizza at Gambino's Pizza

January 14, 6:30 p.m. Hoisington Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet at the Knights of Columbus

January 19, 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Hutchinson Regional Medical Center at the Chamber office

January 26, 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Jim's Tree Service at the Chamber office

February 2, 9:30 a.m. Chamber Coffee hosted by Dairy Queen at the Dairy Queen

February 4, 10:00 a.m. Legislative Coffee at the Hoisington Activity Center