



WAKARUSA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Chamber Newsletter

SEPTEMBER ~ OCTOBER 2011

Mark Your Calendar

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- **Sept. 24th**
Historical
Museum Clean Up
Day ~ Volunteers
needed! 9 am -?
Call Todd Scheets
574-536-1300
- **Sept. 24th 2nd**
Annual Bluegrass
Fall Festival
1-5 pm
- **Sept. 26th**
Annual Chamber
Appreciation
Banquet
- **October 8th -**
Lamppost
Decorations and
Pumpkin Tree
UP!!

It's not too late...RSVP for Chamber Banquet!

You should have received your invitation to attend the Annual Chamber Appreciation Banquet! Please take time to RSVP! Email is quick and easy!! chamber@wakarusachamber.com! I will then Invoice and send you your tickets, or you can pay and pick up tickets at the door. Speaking of "TICKETS" !! How wonderful that your \$20.00 ticket puts you in a raffle for some great prizes!! A 32" flatscreen TV - sponsored by Pro IT Solutions, a Keurig System - sponsored by J&N Stone, a Beautiful Wall Hanging - sponsored by Miller's Senior Living and Beautiful Centerpieces - sponsored by Utilimaster Corporation.

Chuck Freeby, LeSea Broadcasting is the guest speaker and Vince Turner will MC the fun evening, Monday, September 26th at Nelson's Banquet Hall ~ 6:00 social, 6:30 meal.



2012 Maple Syrup Festival - April 20 & 21

The first meeting for the 2012 Festival is TONIGHT, Monday, September 19th at 6:00 pm at the Chamber Office. If you would like to get involved in the community, this is a great opportunity to do so. Sponsorship letters have already been sent out and the response; "tremendous" so far!

Thanks to YOU speedy responders:

GVC Mortgage, Martin's Custom Butchering, Bible Baptist Church, Hartman Electric, Inc. Gale & Ardythe Sayers, Miller's Senior Living, Henschen Oil Co., Larimer Furniture, Kindig & Sloat, Anglemeyer Osteopathic Family Medicine, Lechlitner Plumbing & Heating, Rieth Rohrer Ehret Leinhart Funeral Home, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Abel, OSMC, Utilimaster Corporation, WaNee Medical Walk-In Clinic, New To You Resale Shop, Schmidt Furniture & Cabinetry, Loucks & Weaver CPA, Thompson-Lengacher & Yoder Funeral Home, Glen's Tire, Yellow Creek Gravel, Dr. James & Sylvia Miller, Countryside Insurance, Richmond's Feed Service, Wakarusa Pro Hardware & Rental Shop,

URGENT

Chamber Members
need to respond!

- 1) **RVSP Annual Dinner**
- 2) **Lamppost Décor**
- 3) **Trick or Treating**
- 4) **"Bling" in the Holidays**

Thank YOU for Decorating A Lamppost!

- ~Alliance Marketing
- ~Cook's/Pro IT
- ~Dr. Weldy's Assoc.
- ~J&N Stone
- ~KeyBank
- ~Miller's Senior Living
- ~Reith Rohrer Ehret
- Leinhart Funeral Home
- ~Wakarusa Elementary School
- ~Wakarusa Public Library
- ~Waterford Street Family Medicine
- ~Interra Credit Union
- ~Wakarusa Pre School
- ~Bear's Auto Repair
- ~Richmond Feed Service
- ~Waky "C" Store
- ~Thompson Lengacher Yoder Funeral Home

There are a few posts left!! Put your name "Downtown" for a month for advertising! PLUS all who decorate get a business size ad in 6000 "directmail" bags!!



Meet Your Chamber Neighbor

The Wakarusa Chamber represents much more than a list of "Wakarusa Businesses" Behind each business name you will find hardworking people who are in this community for the sake of the community. YOU, our friendly, family owned business owners, are more than "business owners" YOU are friends, family, moms, dads, grandparents. YOU have hobbies and passions, struggles and successes, good ideas, hope and dreams! *Meet Your Chamber Neighbor* is dedicated to "You", the person behind the Business!

Meet Your Chamber Neighbors at Provident Tool

Candy and Craig Henkler

I found great effort behind what stands today as "Provident Tool & Die, Inc.". It's not easy owning and operating your own business but funny how the hardships along the way seem to push us toward the optimal direction in the long run. As I listened to how the Henkler's started Provident Tool, in the midst of bureaucracy, red tape, difficult people and 6 children at home, I admire their tenacity. They have built and maintained a great business. A tour thru the tool shop finds very sophisticated equipment in a very organized and tidy atmosphere. The newly acquired company, Turnomat, connects Wakarusa with the WORLD as these parts are sent to 11 different Countries as well as to over half the states in the U.S. Outside of work, Craig enjoys beekeeping, fruit growing and wine making *and shares the fruits of his labor!* "I have a large family and it has come to be expected that I supply the honey and the wine" Craig stated. These hobbies keep Craig busy year around and



Candy Henkler, Harry Rombke, Craig Henkler

"it's about staying busy and not spending a lot of time in front of the TV". Having something to do when he retires is also part of the plan. Candy, who has played the piano since the 2nd grade, received a degree in Music Ed from IU and recently became Nationally Certified. She teaches piano to 28 students, is a member of the Goshen-Elkhart Music Teacher



Association (GEMTA) and serves on the Elkhart Symphony Board of Directors. She also plays piano and organ at area churches. I had the pleasure of meeting Candy's father, Harry Rombke, whom both

Craig and Candy spoke very highly of before he stepped into the office. At the age of 80, he fills a role in sales/billing/purchasing. Craig's mother, Betty Ford, helps out once a week also - keeping the shop spotless.

Candy and Craig have 3 children, Matthew, Trevor and Aaron (all Purdue Grads) and have also served as foster parents.



Yellow Delicious & Smoothie (Hybrid Yellow Del.)
Red Delicious

You can enjoy the "fruits" of the Henkler's labor at their home on CR 36, 1/2 mile east of SR 19.

**Apples in order of Harvest:
\$10 1/2 bushel**

- Macintosh
- Honey Crisp (\$20 1/2 bushel)
- Just picked this weekend!
- Macoun (hybrid Macintosh)
- Jonathan & Jonafree (hybrid)



**Their Honey is
\$4.50 = LB.
\$14.00 = Qt.**

ALSO: Plums & Nectarines!

2nd Annual Fall Bluegrass Festival

- 2nd annual Wakarusa Bluegrass Fall Festival
- Saturday, September 24, 2011
- Free Admission
- Stage Show 1:00 - 5:00 pm
- Open Jam starting at 5:00 pm until the music stops
- 2 Bluegrass bands: Wasepi Bluegrass Gospel Singers and the Leghorn Express
- Food and beverages available for purchase
- Wakarusa Bluegrass Festival T-shirts and hats available for purchase
- Free Will offering to be taken to help fund the festival. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy 4 + hours of top-notch bluegrass music!!
- SR 19 behind Vango

Sept. 24th 1 - 5 pm



Wasepi Bluegrass Band



Leghorn Express

60th Anniversary for Halloween/Fall Party!! 1951-2011

New Date: Thursday, Oct. 27th!! 6 - 8 PM

Remember when coming downtown for the Halloween/Fall Party was the social event of the season?! Families dressed up together, gardeners competed for the "largest produce" ~ stalk of corn, pumpkin, squash!

In celebration of the 60th year - we encourage you to "celebrate the fall season" Thursday, October 27th! Many new events have been added along with old favorites!

- ~Town trick or treating 5 - 7
- ~Miller's Senior Living trick or treating 5 - 6
- ~Downtown Activities 6 - 8 which include Costume Contest, Cake Walk, Carnival Games, Merchant Trick or Treating, Cotton Candy & Bag toss game.
- ~free cider & donuts!
- ~ Adult/Family Theme Costume Contest! →



DOWNTOWN Chamber Merchants!

If you are planning to hand out Treats to the "Trixters" Let me know!! A flier will be posted in your window the week before the event!!



Dress for the Decades Costume Contest! Win Prizes!!!



50's 60's 70's 80's 90's 00's



*Christmas is Just Around the Corner.... Less than 100 days, 95 to be exact!!!
What is your business going to do this year??*

Bread...it's in the bag is going to hold their Christmas Open House the first 2 Saturdays in December, (Dec. 3 & 10) from 9am - 3 pm. Sherry offers gifts and samples and will make a custom gift baskets while you wait.

To Bling or not to Bling!!?? I have a question!

I've done some research and found that area towns hold their Christmas Retail events in November. I propose that we do the same. I would like some input on this idea: "Wakarusa Blings in the Holidays" to be held Saturday, November 19th. Waky Chamber Merchants would play off the "JEWELRY" Theme. I think we all know of someone who makes jewelry, each retailer can host someone in their store. I think having some offering to appraise 1 piece of gold jewelry for FREE would bring a lot of people out! Instead of charging a jewelry person to be in your store - I would ask for 1 piece of jewelry to be put in a grand prize give away. (if you don't know anyone who makes jewelry I have MSF resources). It seems like far away - but we really should start meeting now to make this a top-notch effort. This would do away with the treasure hunt that draws less than 100 people. I think this is a little more conducive to merchants outside the downtown area and merchants such as tire stores and manufacturers, as each can host a unique jeweler. Marketing can include a map of participants. Yes, No, Maybe!! I'LL BE WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!

Introducing... Pro IT's "Solutions" Section. Answering Technology Questions We All Need Advice On!

Pro IT "Solutions" Section!

Things to consider when shopping for a TV.

Plasma - traditionally Plasma TV's produced the best overall HD picture out of any flat screen TV. This was in large part due to the fact they could accomplish a true black in the display which may not sound like a big deal but the contrast and depth that comes along with that makes the images pop right off the screen. This main advantage has faded in the past few years as LCD TV's are now able to rival Plasma's "True black" depth. The negatives that come with a Plasma TV far outweigh any advantages in my opinion. A few of these disadvantages include their fragility (must be shipped standing up), their heavy weight makes them more difficult/dangerous to wall mount and the high voltages necessary to activate the Plasma elements makes them very energy inefficient (power hungry) also Picture quality degrades with time due to phosphor wear much like a traditional CRT tube television. These sets can still be a good purchase at the right price, as they are considerably cheaper than LCD/LED TV's.

LCD (CCFL-backlit LCD) vs. LED (LED Backlit LCD) - first of all both of these units are technically LCD TV's but there are big differences between standard LCD and LED TV's. If budget is not an issue always go for a LED backlit TV every time (after carefully considering reviews and TV specs etc.) Reasons include screen brightness (LED TV's are so bright you can easily see the picture even in a room that has lots of windows/lights etc). Also LED TV's consume considerably less power than both Plasma and standard LCD TV's. If you are looking for an ultra-thin TV perfect for wall mounting LED TV's are the only way to go, some are amazingly thin at 1/2" thick.

Other Specs to consider:

Hertz (Hz) - 60Hz, 120Hz, 240Hz, 480Hz - Hertz (Hz) is basically how many times/per second the picture on your TV is updated. The higher the Hz, the crisper and more fluid the picture will appear. Also during fast-moving scenes (sports and movies) there will be less fragmenting and pixilating on faster Hz TV's

Resolution - 720p, 1080i, 1080p - all of these resolutions are known as HD (High Definition). While 720p and 1080i are very similar in picture quality the only way to obtain Blu-Ray quality is to have a TV THAT IS 1080p capable. If you play a Blu-Ray movie on a TV that isn't 1080p the picture will downscale and you won't really be experiencing the movie in full Blu-Ray quality. When shopping for a TV, I would recommend paying the extra money to ensure your TV is 1080p.

There are many other specs and circumstances that we consider when we are recommending a TV for a client but the information above can definitely help you when shopping for a TV on our own. Contact us at 574-862-0021 if you'd like more information.

Alex J. Cook
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Submit YOUR Questions to the Chamber!

www.wakarusachamber.com