



Chamber Chronicle

A monthly publication of the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce

A Yearly Favorite Is Back Again! 14th Annual Christmas Lighted Parade

Plans are well Underway for Kewanee's 14th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade, Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 p.m.. We Would like to invite you to be a part of this great evening of fun. As always, the Lighted Parade will be held in conjunction with the Lighting of Windmont Park.

The Chamber of Commerce is currently seeking entrants in the parade. This could be your business, church, organization or school. We encourage you to go "all out" decorating a float and making this a great success. (If you need advice on how to light your float or vehicle call us for some suggestions.)

Santa will also be making an official visit to Kewanee in the parade. The parade will begin in the Tenney Bowl parking lot and proceed to McClure St. and disband at Windmont Park to kick off the lighting ceremony.

It's easy to register yourself for this parade, see insert in this newsletter.



The Girl Scouts were in last year's parade dressed as presents.



New View Furniture

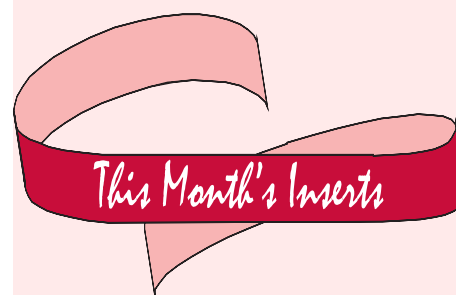
117 W. Second St • 309-761-8354
Mike Hill, Mgr

NAPA Auto Parts

221 S. Main St • 309-761-8089
Tyler Loos, Owner

Chandelier Beauty Salon

102 W. Central Blvd • 309-852-4717
Lavona Williams, Owner



**Abilities Plus
Business Bullpen
Lighted Parade
OSF**



Business After Hours

The Chamber thanks The State Bank of Toulon and The Station Restaurant & Catering for hosting our two Business After Hours Events in October.

As always, a great time was had by all. State Bank of Toulon served up ribeye sandwiches for the group and The Station treated us to the First Christmas Party of the Year with a sampling of what they can provide for all your holiday party needs.

We would like to say thank you to all our hosts in 2019 and to everyone who attended this year. Are you interested in hosting a Kewanee Chamber Business After Hours networking event? This provides an excellent opportunity for our members to make new business contacts and network with other members. It is also an opportunity for sponsors to show off their business.

To reserve a month to host a Business After Hours or to get more information, call the Chamber office at 309-852-2175. We are currently taking reservations for 2020. Call and let's pick a date!

SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 14, 2020
Annual Comedy Night

Queen of Hearts Raffle
Announcement
Coming Soon




Get ready for the 38th Annual Kewanee Chamber of Commerce Hard Core 5K! Race begins at 1pm on December 31, no matter the weather! Early registration is due by Dec. 24. Register online at www.getmeregistered.com/hardcore5k.

Sweatshirts, awards, prizes, afterparty, plus costumes & walkers welcome! It will be a fun time!



November Dates

- 7 Ambassador Meeting
Happy Joe's
Noon
- 8 Executive Committee
Chamber Office
7:30am
- 11 Veterans' Day
- 20 Board Meeting
Dist. 229 Office
7:30am
- 24 Holiday Open House
Downtown Kewanee
- 28-29 Chamber office closed
Happy Thanksgiving!

What are you getting for your Employees?

The gift that gives back
-- a Kewanee Chamber of Commerce Gift Certificate!
Get your's today! Call the Chamber today to get yours!



Holiday Happenings!

Things are shaping up for a great Holiday Season in Kewanee. The downtown shops will be holding their annual Holiday Open House on November 24. Then, right after Thanksgiving is Small Business Saturday is marking its 10th year. Make sure to keep your money in Kewanee.

On December 7th, in conjunction with the Kewanee Elks' Breakfast with Santa event, Little Miss Snowflake and Little Mr. Jack Frost will be announced. The Windmont Park Lighting will once again happen right after the Lighted Parade on Sunday, December 8.

Once again, the Kewanee Park District and the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce have teamed up to create a Holiday Drive through Northeast Park. During the Windmont Park celebration the lights at Northeast will be turned on and everyone can visit and drive through after walking through Windmont Park. More new displays crafted by the men of Kewanee Life Skills Center will be added. And, thanks to a successful fundraiser, there will be more lights too!. Thank you to Great Dane for providing the plywood for the colorful, hand-crafted displays.



**SMALL BUSINESS
SATURDAY
NOV 30
SHOP SMALL.
SHOP LOCAL.**

Little Miss Snowflake & Little Mr. Jack Frost 2019

Boys & Girls age 3-7 who live or go to school in Henry, Bureau and Stark counties are eligible to participate. Please send a non-returnable wallet size photograph with the name of the child on the back along with a bio sheet listing the following:

Name, address, phone number, birth date and parents name and signature.
Entries must be received by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 5th, 2019.

All entries must be sent or dropped off at the
Kewanee Chamber of Commerce office
113 E. 2nd St.
Kewanee IL 61443

Questions should be directed to Jeanna Moore at 309-540-8588.

Pictures and canisters will be displayed beginning the week of November 11th, 2019 with all voting taking place at the **Kewanee Chamber of Commerce office**, 113 E. 2nd St. 1 cent will equal 1 vote. Voting will be available during regular business hours. **Voting will end Friday, December 6th at 3:00p.m.** Winners will be announced Saturday, December 7th in conjunction with the Kewanee Elks Club Lunch with Santa event. Winners should be prepared to participate in the Christmas Parade at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, December 8th as part of the Lighting of Windmont Park.

Winners will receive a \$25.00 Chamber gift certificate, mementos, as well as numerous other gifts. All participants will receive a Holiday Gift bag of goodies.

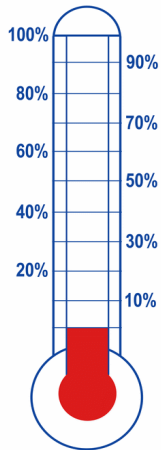
*Proceeds from the Lil Miss Snowflake and Mr. Jack Frost event
go towards the Kewanee Christmas decoration lighting fund.*



Old Glory

It's flown high above Downtown Kewanee for another year. After the observance of Veterans' Day, weather depending, it will be taken down, repaired and stored until Spring. Winter weather is hard on our flag and its cables, we don't want anyone to be injured by the winter wind. Goodbye Old Glory, until next spring.

Kewanee Area United Way



Our Goal

**Thank
You!**

Kewanee Area United Way Annual Campaign

October 1 – November 20

**The 2020 Goal is \$140,000
Supporting 17 agencies**

In 2020, there will be 17 agencies relying on funding provided through the Kewanee Area United Way. Check out our website for more information. Funding is only possible through the heart felt donations of the communities in Henry and Stark Counties. As business leaders in these communities, the United Way relies on you to lead the way.

Thank You for your generosity this year and every year! Please donate today by mailing your donation to PO Box 426 Kewanee IL. 61443 or donating through the website at www.kauw.org.

200 East South St
Kewanee, Illinois 61443
(309-761-8447)

kewaneeareunitedway@kewanee.com
www.KAUW.org
www.facebook.com/kewaneeareunitedway

Kewanee Lighted Christmas Parade



Plans are underway for Kewanee's 14th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade, **Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 p.m.** We would like to invite you to be a part of this great evening of fun. The Lighted Parade will be paired up with the Lighting of Windmont Park.

Please consider featuring your place of business, church, organization or school in our Christmas parade. We encourage you to go "all out" decorating a float and making this a great success. (If you need advice on how to light your float or vehicle call us for some suggestions.) Santa will also be making an official visit to Kewanee in the parade. The parade will begin in the parking lot of the former Tenney Bowl and proceed on to McClure St. and disband at Windmont Park to kick off the lighting ceremony.

Please let us know if you would help make this a success by filling out this form and mail or email to **chamber@kewanee.com** by Friday, December 6th . If you have any questions please call the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce 309-852-2175.

Thank you and here's to a Merry Christmas in Kewanee.

We (name of organization) _____ would like to participate in the Christmas Parade.

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____



Deck the Halls

with help from Abilities Plus

24 inch wreaths available for \$15
(shipping also available, see below)

Customer/Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Pick up Date _____

Item	Unit Price	Quantity	Total
24" wreath	\$15 each		
Wreath & shipping* (see below)	\$30 in IL or out of state		
Total Amt. Due:			\$

Abilities Plus accepts credit cards. Call for more details.

***Shipping Instructions - Sorry, we cannot ship to PO boxes. Cut off date to ship is 12/13/19. Wreaths shipped only in Continental U.S.**

(attach additional pages if more than one wreath is to be shipped)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Gift Card Message: _____

Submit orders to Abilities Plus, Attn: Andrea at:

1100 N. East St., Kewanee - (Voice) 309-852-4626 - (Fax) 309-852-0805 - ahofer@abilitiesplus.org

Pick up begins Nov. 25th until sold out at Abilities Plus (Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

All proceeds support programs and services at Abilities Plus!

SIX COUNTY ESN PRESENTS

BUSINESS BULLPEN

November 7 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Cedar Creek Hall
Galesburg, IL

Tickets are \$10

**For more details and to purchase tickets
visit <https://go.illinois.edu/BusinessBullpen>**



**Sponsored
By**



 **First Mid**
BANK & TRUST

Join us for an after-hours networking event that will feature a panel discussion on entrepreneurship. Local entrepreneurs will address the opportunities and challenges of starting a business and maintaining success.

Facilitator John Hoscheidt, WRMJ Radio, will lead discussion. Attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions.

Join us at 5:30 p.m. for appetizers and a cash bar. Our grand slam panel will take the field at 6 p.m. and includes:
Michael Acerra

- Lux Blox

Ron & Teri Pankau

- John H Best & Sons

Sue Sangmoen

- Heartfelt Gifts, Inc.



Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission Insurance Compliance Newsletter

JB Pritzker, Governor

Michael J. Brennan, Chairman

Vol. 1 Issue 7

RECENT NEWS

IWCC v. James O'Connell, Individually & Owner of Triple M&B, LLC aka McBrody's Restaurant

On September 25, 2019, the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission assessed a penalty of \$1.3 million against the owner of a restaurant/bar located in Joliet, IL. Mr. O'Connell and his wife operated a restaurant/bar called McBrody's in downtown Joliet for 11 years. Mr. O'Connell operated his business without workers' compensation insurance. In 2014, the Insurance Compliance Division brought a non-compliance action against Mr. O'Connell for his failure to carry workers' compensation insurance.

In August 2014, Mr. O'Connell agreed to pay a minimum fine of \$10,000 to settle the non-compliance case. He was to pay his fine over several months. Instead of making payments, Mr. O'Connell defaulted on his payment agreement, despite several attempts to get him to abide by his payment agreement. Finally, Insurance Compliance Division took the matter to hearing. Mr. O'Connell failed to appear at any of the hearings before the Workers' Compensation Commission.

In September 2019, the Commission found that Mr. O'Connell, individually and as owner of the McBrody's Restaurant had knowingly failed to obtain workers' compensation insurance for a period of 2,764 days and fined him the maximum penalty of \$500 per day for each day of non-compliance or nearly a \$1.4 million penalty.

Insurance Crime

The National Insurance Crime Bureau recently referred a case to the Insurance Compliance Division for investigation. The case involved a down-state company that produced nails and drill bits. This manufacturing company had allowed its workers' compensation insurance to lapse. Unfortunately, one of its workers suffered a work-related injury during the time the company was uninsured.

When the injured worker filed a workers' compensation claim with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC), the owner of the company submitted the claim under the workers' compensation policy for a company owned and operated by his wife. The insurance carrier for the wife's company investigated the claim and denied the claim when it determined that the worker did not work for the wife's company but worked for the nails and drill bits company. The insurance carrier reported the case to the National Insurance Crime Bureau. The Bureau reported the case to the Insurance Compliance Division. After our investigation, we assessed a \$100,000 fine against the manufacturing company for its failure to be properly insured.

FAQ'S

❖ *How many employees do I need before I am required to get workers' compensation insurance?*

If the employer has one employee, even a part-time employee, the employer must provide workers' compensation insurance.

❖ *I am just getting my new company off the ground. Is there a grace period, before I have to get workers' compensation insurance for my employees?*

No. As soon as your first employee starts working, you have to cover that employee with workers' compensation insurance.

❖ *Can an employee be fired for reporting an accident or filing a workers' compensation claim?*

It is illegal for an employer to harass, discharge, refuse to rehire, or discriminate in any way against an employee for exercising his or her rights under the law. Such conduct by the employer may give rise to a separate suit for damages in the circuit court. However, if an employee, with a pending workers' compensation claim, may still be disciplined or fired for other valid reasons.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Presentation at the Beardstown Chamber of Commerce – Beardstown, IL

On October 23, 2019, Outreach Coordinator, Gloria Jimenez will be giving a presentation at the Beardstown Chamber of Commerce (Beardstown Chamber covers Cass County) on the employer's responsibility to provide workers' compensation insurance.

Presentation at the Byron Chamber of Commerce – Byron, IL

On November 4, 2019, Outreach Coordinator, Gloria Jimenez will be giving a presentation at the Byron Chamber of Commerce. (Byron Chamber covers Ogle County) on employer's responsibility to provide workers' compensation insurance.



A Healthy Workplace Event

Drugs Don't Work - An Employer's Guide to a Drug-free Workplace

Wednesday, November 6 | 7:30 – 9:15 a.m.

OSF HealthCare Saint Luke Medical Center
East/West Conference Room

James D. Owens, Stark County state's attorney; Cheryl Crowe, director of OSF Behavioral Health, and Troy Overholt, vice president of OSF Occupational Health, will lead a panel discussion on community trends in substance abuse, legal implications of marijuana legalization and steps of the drug testing process. Breakfast will be available starting at 7:30 a.m.

For questions, please contact Business Development specialist Linda Hawkins at linda.c.hawkins@osfhealthcare.org or (309) 677-0883.

Register online by November 4 at osfsaintluke.org under "Attend an Event."



OSF[®] HEALTHCARE