

**MONTICELLO-DREW COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**
335 East Gaines Street
Monticello, AR 71655

The Chamber Post

September 2006

Volume 8 Issue 4



***Shop Monticello for
great selections and
hometown convenience.***

THE CHAMBER POST
is published by the
Monticello-Drew County Chamber of Commerce
Contact us!
335 East Gaines
Monticello, AR 71655
Phone: (870) 367-6741 Fax: (870) 367-0050
Email: monticellochamber@sbcglobal.net www.montdrewchamber.com

DREW COUNTY FAIR

September 16—23, 2006

September 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Billies vs Hamburg	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 Weevil Welcome Meeting	7	8 Billies @ Warren	9 UAM @ Sam Houston
10 Museum Anniver- sary Party	11	12	13 Chamber Board Meeting	14 Young Artist Perform- ance	15 Billies vs Fordyce	16 UAM vs Quachita <i>Parent Day</i>
17	18 Quorum Court	19 Fair Parade	20	21 City Council	22 Billies vs L.R. Mills	23 UAM @ Harding
24	25	26 Weevil Welcome	27	28	29 Billies @ McClellan	30 UAM @ N W State

- Sept. 6 Weevil Welcome Planning Mtg, 11:30, Chamber**
- Sept. 10 100th Anniversary Celebration for Drew Co. Museum & ARP Church**
- Sept. 13 Chamber Board Meeting, 12 noon**
- Sept. 14 2005 Nat. Federation of Music Clubs' Young Artist perform UAM, 7 p.m.**
- Sept 18 Quorum Court Meeting, 7 p.m.**
- Sept. 22 City Council Meeting. 6 p.m.**
- Sept. 26 WEEVIL WELCOME, MCCLOY PARK, 6 PM**

Dirty Delta Rice

September is National Rice Month

1 cup uncooked rice 1 can beef consommé' America has been celebrating the contributions of

1 cup chopped onion 1/2 lb ground chuck (browned) the U.S. rice industry for 16 years through the

1/2 cup celery 1 1/2 t. salt National Rice Month promotional program sponsored

1/2 cup bell pepper 1/2 cup water by the USA Rice Federation.

1 small can sliced mushrooms Dash of pepper National Rice Month helps to increase awareness of

1 stick of margarine paprika to color top of rice rice and recognize the contribution the U.S. rice industry

1/2 cup water chestnuts (optional) makes to America's economy.

Sauté' rice, onion, celery, bell pepper and mushrooms in melted Today, two-thirds of U.S. consumers are eating rice

margarine until soft. Brown 1/2 pound ground chuck and drain well. once a week, 85 percent have rice at least twice a month.

After ground chuck has drained, mix ground chuck and sautéed Almost all of US rice is produced in Arkansas, California

mixture together. Place combined mixture in a 9x13 casserole dish Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and Missouri. Rice accounts.

Pour can of beef consommé and the 1/2 cup of water over mixture. for over 30% of total value of crop production in

Add water chestnuts, salt and pepper. Stir all ingredients well. Arkansas. Arkansas producers utilize approximately 1.5

Place covered in 350 degree oven for 30 minutes and million acres, produce yields averaging 149

uncover for an additional 15 minutes. Sprinkle bushels per acre, amounting to \$900 million

paprika for color if desired. This recipe serves statewide. In Drew County, rice producers

eight. *By: Meri Whitney Ziemann,* utilize approximately 17,700 acres with 140 bushels per

Miss Drew County Rice, 2006

acre, amounting to \$10 million in production.

Great Arkansas Cleanup

Now in its 36th year, Arkansas' traditional fall statewide cleanup begins the Saturday after Labor Day, stressing the harmful effects of litter and the need for its removal and control. Thousands of volunteers across the state each year remove tons of trash from Arkansas' roadways, shorelines, parks and public areas, collecting recyclable materials and closing illegal dumps. This event is presented by Keep Arkansas Beautiful, sponsored by generous donors and supporters, and organized by local coordinators who recruit volunteers to clean up designated areas in their own communities. Last year, the cleanup was the most successful ever, involving 197 events in 54 Arkansas counties. Just over 30,000 volunteers picked up almost 4 million pounds of trash; cleaned up 4676 miles of roadway, 136 parks and public areas, and 1063 miles of shoreline; and closed 42 illegal dumps. Approximately one-quarter of the trash was diverted from landfills and recycled. The volunteer-driven effort provided the state and participating communities a cost-saving value of just over \$2 million.

Please let us know if your adopt-a spot roadside pick-up team, club or organization plans to participate in this program for 2006.

Fair Parade Party

The Drew County Fair parade is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 5 p.m. The chamber will be open during the parade to help celebrate *Drew County Fair Week*. We will be providing balloons for the children and Fair 2006 information. We invite residents to join us on the chamber porch September 19 to watch the 2006 Drew County Fair Parade.

Mark Your Calendars

October 14- Southeast AR Health Foundation
Dinner & Auction

October 17- Chamber/MEDC Awards Banquet

November 28- Carols of Christmas Parade

December 9 - Santa Train

Drew County Museum

The Drew County Historical Society will be celebrating the museum's 100th anniversary and the 99th anniversary of ARP Church with a party on September 10. Guests are encouraged to gather at the ARP Church on Wood Ave. at 2 p.m. for a presentation of music and church history. Guests will then parade on to the museum where mystery people will blow out the candles and cut the birthday cake.

Weevil Welcome 2006

Our 11th annual Weevil Welcome cook-out and celebration will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 6 p.m., in McCloy Park. Weevil Welcome is hosted each year by the City of Monticello and the Monticello- Drew County Chamber of Commerce to show appreciation for UAM and the outstanding contributions made to our region by the university's faculty, staff and administration.



Because of our generous sponsors, the Weevil Welcome celebration offers an evening of live music, a hamburger and hotdog cook-out, great door prizes and unlimited networking opportunities.

Plan now to join the fun! Tickets are only \$5 each and are available by calling the chamber office at 367-6741.

New City and County Maps

Thanks to the hard work of the Advance staff, new city and county maps are now available at the chamber. We also have maps of **Lake Monticello**.



Santa Train

Is Coming To Town

Arkansas Midland Railroad and the Monticello-Drew County Chamber of Commerce are bringing the SANTA TRAIN to town on Saturday, December 9. This colorful train will deliver Santa, Mrs. Clause and Santa Helpers to Monticello for an official holiday visit complete with toys and refreshments.

The train will be stopping at the Main Street crossing and children will have an opportunity to visit with Santa in the park located just south of the rails.

We expect hundreds of children to be on hand to watch the Santa Train as it rolls into downtown Monticello. The train will also be stopping in Warren and McGehee on December 9th, bringing Christmas excitement to children in our area.

THANKS to everyone who has renewed their 2006- 2007 Chamber membership. If you are not sure if your 2006 -2007 dues have been paid, please give us a call at 367-6741.

YARD OF THE MONTH



(Marilyn's grandchildren are shown in photo along with chamber director)

Marilyn McCarthy of 105 White Oak Lane was the winner of our Drew County Yard Of The Month award. This beautiful yard is still full of color and represents some of the outstanding work being done by gardeners around our county. To nominate your favorite yard for Drew County Yard Of The Month, simply call the chamber office at 367-6741. A new winner is selected approximately every 30 days through November.

RIBBON CUTTING

The chamber recently held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Sesame School, located at 1038 Scogin Drive in the HEC Complex. Sesame School was celebrating the grand opening of their new addition which houses classes and operations for three to five year olds.

Sesame School has been in operation here in Monticello for thirty-six years serving the needs of Southeast Arkansas citizens suffering from developmental delays.



NEW MEMBERS



The Vine Companies, LLC. Located at 304 N. Main St. is owned by Chad Curtis and Jimmy Allen. This company specializes in printing and marketing needs. The Vine Companies also provides a business plan development service and promotional and advertising services. Call (870)367-9600 visit their web site at www.thevinecompanies.com

Drew County Developmental Disabilities has offices located on East Trotter Street. They provide services throughout Southeast Arkansas for developmentally delayed individuals. In Drew County, we are very familiar with service operations such as Sesame School and The Other Way. However, this organization touches the lives of thousands of individuals each year throughout our region.

James Brian Phillips, a local representative for Humana Insurance, is another new member we are please to welcome.

Chamber Morning Coffee



The August Chamber Morning Coffee was hosted by UAM in the Gibson University Center. We had a wonderful opportunity to meet several of the new UAM faculty and staff members, as well as time to visit with many familiar faces. Our thanks to Dr. Lassiter for providing those fun "Evil Weevil" door prizes and to Aramark food service for the great buffet.

If you would like to schedule a month to host a morning coffee, please give us a call. Hosting a coffee is fun and offers a business a unique opportunity to spotlight your organization.



Guests enjoy a June Morning Coffee hosted by Monticello Health Care.

Just for Today

"Here is a test to find out whether your mission in life is complete. If you're alive, it isn't."

-Richard Bach American Author