

# The Downtowner

*A Newsletter of the Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership*

## Calendar of Events

### Friday, September 1st

- ⇒ No General Membership Meeting

### Thursday, September 7th

- ⇒ Kennewick Ave. Farmers Market

### Tuesday, September 12th

- ⇒ Organization Committee Meeting  
TEC 7:30am
- ⇒ Promotion Committee Meeting  
TEC 5pm

### Wednesday, September 13th

- ⇒ ER Committee, TEC 7:30am
- ⇒ Monthly Networking Meeting,  
Clover Island Inn

### Thursday, September 14th

- ⇒ Kennewick Ave. Farmers Market

### Wednesday, September 20th

- ⇒ Design Committee, TEC 5:30pm

### Thursday, September 21st

- ⇒ Kennewick Ave. Farmers Market

### Thursday, September 28th

- ⇒ Kennewick Ave. Farmers Market

### Friday, September 29th

- ⇒ Board of Directors Meeting, TEC  
7:35am

### Saturday, September 30th

- ⇒ Grapefest 2006, Downtown  
Kennewick 8am – 5pm

## Board of Directors:

#### Gary Hall

*President*  
Hall Engineering

#### Harvey Faurholt

*Vice President*  
Attorney at Law

#### Paul Scharold

*Treasurer*  
Scharold Enterprises, Inc

#### Joetta Rupert

*Secretary*  
Kennewick Irrigation  
District

#### Jo Harrington

*Past President*  
Harrington Home Medical

#### Mayor Jim Beaver

*City of Kennewick*  
Beaver Furniture Sales

#### Gary Earp

Windermere Real  
Estate

#### Lee Williams

The Williams Agency

#### Chuck Scribner

Player Sports Bar and  
Grill

#### Mark Blotz

Clover Island Inn

#### Don Lambert

*The Mission of the Historic Downtown Kennewick partnership is to enhance the prosperity of the downtown and preserve its History*

## HDKP's 2nd Monthly Networking Meeting

The Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership held its first monthly networking meeting at Ice Harbor Brewing Co. and had about 45 people come out to support this event. It was such a success that the Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership's Organization Committee has scheduled a second networking meeting for Wednesday, September 13, 2006 at Clover Island Inn, 435 Clover Island Drive around the pool from 5pm to 7pm.

This will include drawings, refreshments, and relaxing conversation, so bring your business cards and join the fun with your neighbors. These monthly networking events are a great way to meet other downtown business and community members.

## The History of Grapefest

The year of 1911, brought a phenomenal harvest to the Kennewick region. The Highlands area had been receiving water for the past 3 years via the Columbia Irrigation Canal which had increased the acreage available for farming. Kennewick celebrated with a Strawberry Festival and the first Annual Grape Festival held on September 21 & 22, 1911.

A float in a 1912 parade carried a banner proclaiming "Kennewick, Surely this is the Promised Land". The fertile area produced strawberries, grapes and fruit orchards by the addition of irrigation water and very hard work.

"M. H. Church saw a bright future in bottling grape juice. His wife had made a batch of delicious juice from his Concord grapes without adding any sugar. He decided to market it. It was to become Kennewick's biggest industry." "By September (1912) the plant was in operation- the first juice factory in the West."

*All quotes attributed to "KIN-I-WAK, KENEWICK, TEHE, KENEWICK by Martha Berry Parker, copyrighted 1986.*

Grapefest 2006 will be celebrated on Saturday, September 30th in Historic Downtown Kennewick. Grape Stomp teams compete for a cash prizes, The day will start with the "Grape Crush Rush" a 5k and 1 mile race". The 11th Annual Quilt Show and Auction by SEW-Q (Southeastern WA Quilters) will take place during the festival, and an "End of Summer Grapefest 2006 BBQ Cook-off" will be held in downtown Kennewick. Art, Craft and Food vendors, entertainment, and a Chalk Art contest will offer activities for the entire family. Come and celebrate the harvest

bounty of our region at Grapefest 2006 in Historic Downtown Kennewick, Saturday, September 30th from 8-5pm. Call 582-7221 for more information.





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## Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership Committee Reports

Design Committee – the Design Committee is currently overseeing six facade improvement projects. These projects total over \$200,000 in renovation to the downtown area. The Design committee chair Ted Luvaas has also designed Public Restrooms for Centennial Flag Plaza, which the Partnership is seeking a Community Development Block grant for assistance in building.

Economic Restructuring Committee – the Economic Restructuring Committee recently completed a new recruiting brochure for the downtown area. This brochure describes the benefits of the downtown and is generating interest in the area. In the month of August, we received four inquires about properties available in the downtown area. These inquires are coming from both inside and outside the Tri-Cities area and as far away as Dallas, Texas.

Organization Committee – the Organization Committee has created a schedule for the remainder of the year with regards to Networking Meeting and General Membership Meeting as follows:

*Wednesday, September 13th* – Networking Meeting, Clover Island

*Friday, October 6th* – General Membership Meeting – Topic Kennewick General Hospital

*Wednesday, November 8th* – Networking Meeting, site TBD  
*Friday, December 1st* – Annual Meeting, Clover Island

The Organization Committee would also like to welcome the August's new members of the Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership:

### **Business Members**

Visiting Angels, 300 W Kennewick Ave.

U.S. Bank, 303 W 1st Ave

### **Individual Member**

Pat Johnstone-Jones, Kennewick

Promotion Committee – The Promotion Committee held a Biscuit and Gravy Breakfast in conjunction with the Benton Franklin County Fair Parade Saturday, August 19th in front of Kennewick High School. The Partnership would like to thank the companies who helped make this event a success: Red Apple Market, Clover Island Inn, Costco, Inland Northwest Dairies. The Partnership would like to thank the volunteers who helped— Board Members: Gary Hall, Harvey Faurholt, Jo Harrington, Joetta Rupert, Don Lambert; Promotion Committee members: Andrew Hicks, Joyce Scharold; and special thanks to Kathy Kilgore, Sharon Palmer, Sandra Dallas and Chuck Turner.

## J Storm, Inc Floorcovering

J Storm, Inc Floorcovering is owned and operated by Jack Storm at 223 W First Avenue. The business has been in the family since 1956. He and his father, John Storm took over Swan Storm in 1983 with John retiring in 1995. The store carries all types of floor coverings, including carpet, vinyl, DuraCeramic, Laminte Flooring and ceramic tile. They also carry laminate counter top material

