

Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber of Commerce
March 19, 2015

Scott Stanley, Country Harvest Apple Market, opened the meeting with congratulations to the Jeff West girls' basketball team for winning sub-state and their fine effort at State competition. The girls lost by 5 points to Hugoton who went on to take the State championship. The Chamber is offering a celebratory pizza dinner to the girls and also to the Jeff West wrestling team who competed in State competition this year.

Mollie McKinley has replaced Tyson Schreiner, Ernest Spencer Companies, as a board member of Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber of Commerce.

Scott Stanley introduced Shawna Warrington, Shawna's twin sister Sheena and her husband Aaron Boden, who are the new owners of Gambino's, Meriden.

Brittany Chaplin for Jefferson Economic Development shared that both the Food Council and Revitalization Council committee meetings are being well attended. They are gathering data and statistics and public input regarding the necessity of these Councils in Jefferson County. Anyone with an interest in the food business or community revitalization is invited to attend a meeting. The next Food Council meeting will be April 13 at 6:30 PM at Highland Community College, Perry. The upcoming Revitalization Committee meeting will be April 2 at 6:30 PM at Bitler's Cozy Café, McLouth.

Chuck Wilson, Chuck's Heating and Cooling, reported a very successful Pancake Feed on Saturday, March 7th. 341 people were served and the Chamber received \$1,926 leaving a net profit of \$1,400 to be used toward scholarships for Jefferson West Students.

Pat Happer, USD#340, shared that declining student enrollment was a concern in the district. Conversation followed regarding potential positives to address this concern i.e. the work of a new Revitalization Committee in action.

Scott Stanley introduced Deanne Armstrong, Prevention Specialist with DCCCA for Brown, Jackson and Jefferson Counties. Deanne presented an informative and provoking program regarding the teen use of alcohol in Jefferson and the surrounding counties. Resources of education and counselling, programs to inform and assist parents in guiding teens in life decisions were listed and explained. Deanna encouraged attending the Jefferson County Alliance of Service Council Wellness meetings which take place on the first Thursday of the month, September – June, from 1:00 PM -2:30 PM in Oskaloosa.

Next month's meeting will be Thursday, April 16th