



**CHAMBER
CONNECTION**
Kristen Christiansen

**MAY
2015**

-- Welcome Larry & Kathy, the new owners of Kritter's Northcounty Campground, formally Clementz Northcountry Campground. They moved here from South Carolina with their daughter and are very excited about their new adventure. A special "Thanks" to Dan and Cathy Clementz for the years they put in as the owners and the hard work spent making it a great spot to camp. For more information on Larry and Kathy, check out the "Member Spotlight" next month. (That is a new feature on the bottom of our *new* website.)

--The Annual Dinner went well. We were very happy to see so many smiling faces from so many of our members. Decorating of the tables was fantastic by all that participated. Newberry Motors received the award for "Best Table" that night. Toni Parmaski received "Student Citizen of the Year", presented to her by fellow classmate Christopher Wendt. Ed and Jean Brondyke received "Citizens of the Year". They had a surprise guest presenter, their daughter, and it could not have been more fun to watch that unfold. Newberry Country Club received "New Business of the Year". Lance provided a great speech when he accepted the award presented by Colleen Duflo. "Business of the Year" went to Great Waters Coffee Co. Allan Alexander presented this award and had wonderful things to say about David Kenny, owner of Great Waters. "Employer of the Year" went to Rahilly's IGA. Brian Rahilly did a fabulous presentation engaging the crowd and conveying the values and work ethic you see at Rahilly's IGA. "Friend of the Chamber" was awarded to Newberry Area Tourism Assoc. (N.A.T.A.) for their great contributions and value in this community. Eunice Fillman presented the award and did a great job educating us on the history and how far the organization has come.

-- Social Media is a great advertising and promotional tool for our area. The Newberry Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page has been growing. We have over 75 new "likes" since the beginning of April, many of them this last week. It doesn't sound like much but the likes are just starting to snowball and the more shares people make, the more the information spreads to others. The current director will use the page to promote members, the area, and events. If your business has an event, sale, or promotion, please feel free to add it on the page, just keep in mind it will need approval so it may not show in the feed right away. If you have questions, feel free to contact us at the office, or email me directly at director1@lighthouse.net

--Northern Initiatives put on a workshop to assist with claiming your Google Business account, setting up a Yelp and Trip Advisor account. These are also great tools to reach out to potential guest we may have in our community. If you would like information on how to do this, the Chamber Director can assist you with this. Please call the office at (906)293-5562 or send an email to the address above. Northern Initiatives has also assisted in the development of the Explore M123 website and app. If you haven't taken a look, give it a try.

--Chamber members, if you are looking for an interesting way to advertise your business, consider a Newberry Chamber website banner advertisement. The banner ads are displayed on the right edge of every page on our website and rotate randomly. Each ad links directly to your own website. They are affordable, at only \$125 a year for an ad, not including set up fee. What a great way to have your business noticed by so many visitors.

****NEW WEBSITE****

Make sure to check out the homepage of the Newberry Chamber website (www.newberrychamber.net) to see all the great events taking place in our area on our new website! The site has been updated and is user friendly. The modern look is sure to engage those looking for a great place to vacation. Thanks Velvet Green Creations for a wonderful job. If you have events to add or you need to have your information changed or update, please give me a call.