



Chamber Chat

Eldridge-North Scott
Chamber of Commerce

November 2009

Eldridge-North Scott Chamber Power Lunch Series

Identity Theft: Business & Personal

Join us for lunch and an informative program led by
Per Mar Security
Director of Investigations Dan Conroy

Thursday, November 19
Noon—1PM

Scott County Library, Eldridge Branch

Cost: \$10 (Members)\$15 (Potential Members)

Reservations due November 17. Call 285-9965 or
email "info@northscottchamber.com"

2009-2010 Board Members

President

Patty Denner
Kings Materials
285-2565

1st Vice President

Matt Briehl
DuTrac Community Credit Union
285-7100

2nd Vice President

Dr. Joshua Lawlor
Park View Back & Neck Care Ctr.
285-8230

Secretary/Treasurer

Matt VanWaus
City of Eldridge
285-4841

Members at Large

Kim Wilkins
Ruhl & Ruhl
441-5177
Brenda Drummond
First Central State Bank
285-285-2033
Lynnette Olson
Valley Bank
285-8800
Seth Porter
Porter Insurance
285-4321

Past President

Linda Reickard
United Egg Producers
285-9100

Director

Carolyn Scheibe
carolyn@northscottchamber.com

Office Manager

Ann Mohr
ann@northscottchamber.com

Chamber Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Office – 285-9965
Fax – 285-9964

www.northscottchamber.com



The McCausland Post Office celebrated its Grand Opening with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, October 10. Cutting the ribbon is McCausland councilman Lloyd Claussen and American Postal Workers Public Relations Director Sue Carney, along with Chamber Directors and Ambassadors. (photo courtesy of NSP)

Moonlight Chase Grant Applications Due

The deadline for the 2009 Moonlight Chase Grants is 12:00 Noon, Friday, November 20, 2009. All applications must be in the Chamber offices by that time. The criteria for the grants are: 1) Must be a project in the North Scott area, 2) Must benefit the community as a whole 3) Must be a not for profit organization. More information is available on the Chamber's website at www.northscottchamber.com.

THREE NEW FACULTY MEMBERS JOIN ASHFORD UNIVERSITY

Three new faculty members joined the staff at Ashford University this fall:

- **Dr. Lee Cartwright** is teaching organic and quantitative chemistry courses at Ashford.
- Now teaching Ashford's general chemistry and college physics courses is **Dr. Karen Meade**.
- **Dr. William Woods** is teaching marketing courses and several general business courses this semester.



The North Scott Chamber, along with Ashford University, hosted their first Biz n Breakfast on Wednesday, October 21. Pictured speaking to the group is Patricia Niemann from Ashford's Aspire Program.

North Scott Chamber Looking for Membership Salesperson

The North Scott Chamber of Commerce is looking for an individual interested in selling Chamber memberships on a part-time basis. For more information, contact Carolyn Scheibe at the Chamber office (285-9965)

New Members

City of McCausland
305 Salina St
PO Box 277
McCausland, IA
225-3600
www.cityofmccausland.com

McCausland is a small town nestled on the banks of the Wapsi River in northern Scott County. Established in 1882, McCausland is a vibrant community of 300 people, with many thriving businesses, a volunteer Fire Department, Post Office, and a Methodist Church.

McCausland is conveniently located on F33 and Z30, within short driving distance from all North Scott area towns and services.

Because Nice Matters
781 W. Walcott Rd.
Walcott, IA 52773
(563) 508-6881
Owner: Genise Smith

For people who love their pets, providing them with truly personal care when the owner has to be away, Genise Smith has solved that problem with her in-home pet sitting service, "**Because Nice Matters.**"

She follows a step-by-step process when a customer calls and will meet personally with each new client to find out what the animal's needs are and what the owner expects. Smith started her business four years ago. Smith says that by providing her experienced and knowledgeable service, she makes it convenient for people to leave their pets without worry, short-term and long term stays. Call her at 508-6881 for more information.



Business Briefs

Vehicle Tax Deduction

With 2010 models arriving in dealer showrooms, the Internal Revenue Service reminds taxpayers that purchasing a new car, light truck, motor home or motorcycle could qualify them for a special deduction for the state and local sales and excise taxes on their 2009 tax returns. Purchases made before Jan. 1, 2010, will qualify for this deduction under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

The deduction is limited to the sales and excise taxes and similar fees paid on up to \$49,500 of the purchase price of a new vehicle. The deduction is reduced for joint filers with modified adjusted gross incomes (MAGI) between \$250,000 and \$260,000 and other taxpayers with MAGI between \$125,000 and \$135,000. Taxpayers with higher incomes do not qualify.

Taxpayers who make qualifying new vehicle purchases this year can estimate the deduction with the help of Worksheet 10 in IRS [Publication 919](#), How Do I Adjust My Withholding? Lines 10a to 10k of the worksheet show how to take into account purchases above the \$49,500 limit, as well as the reduced deductions for taxpayers at higher income levels.

The special deduction is available regardless of whether taxpayers itemize deductions on their returns. Taxpayers who do not itemize will add this additional amount to the standard deduction on their 2009 tax return.

For those that have questions about the deduction for sales tax and other fees, these [questions and answers](#) might help. A video on the IRS Youtube.com channel and audio podcasts in English and Spanish are also available to help taxpayers take full advantage of the deduction.

Flu Shots

Want to get a flu shot or find out more information for your business or home about the upcoming season?

Go to the Genesis Health System website
<http://genesishealth.com/news>

Credit Card Scammers Covet 3-Digit Security Code

Credit card scams are nothing new, but here's a new twist on them. In this case, scammers already have your credit card information, but need the card's security code, the three-digit number located on the back of your credit card a vendor uses to ensure the card's actually in your possession.

Here's how the scam works. Someone calls you claiming to be from your credit card company's security and fraud department. The caller already has your credit card number by some form of identity theft. He or she may provide a badge number and tells you your card's been flagged for unusual purchasing activity.

The caller recites your address and asks you to verify it so a statement can be sent showing your account was credited. He or she also states a fraud investigation will be started, tells you to call the 800 number on the back of your card if you have questions and gives you a six-digit control number to refer to.

Finally, the scammer needs to verify the credit card is in your possession and hasn't been stolen and asks you to recite the three-digit security number on the back. Once read, the caller thanks you, asks if there's anything else he or she can do and hangs up. Sounds harmless, right?

Unfortunately, now the scammer has your verified address and credit card's security code.

The Better Business Bureau advises the best protection against schemes like this is to always verify the legitimacy of requests for personal information. While you may be asked to confirm your identity, your credit card company won't ask you to verify information it has on file, disclose security codes or prove the card is in your possession.

Iowa Student Internship Program Now Accepting Applications

The Iowa Department of Economic Development is currently accepting applications for the Student Internship Program. Employers can apply for funding to have interns during this current school year and for next summer. The ISIP provides grants to small and medium sized companies in advanced manufacturing, bioscience, and information technology to help support their internship programs with a goal of transitioning the interns to full-time employment in the state upon graduation. A company can apply for up to 3 interns per fiscal year

If your company is interested in participating in the Iowa Student Internship Program there is more information available at: http://iowalifechanging.com/business/ic/internship_program.aspx.



Eldridge-North Scott
Chamber of Commerce
220 West Davenport Street
Eldridge, IA 52748

Address Service Requested

We're on the web!
www.northscottchamber.com

Holiday Mixer

Thursday, December 10

Save the Date!!

5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Lancers Bar & Grille

Everyone is welcome— bring a guest!

Free Hors d'oeuvres

Sponsored By:

The Chiropractic Care Center, P.C.

Park View Neck and Back

Valley Bank

Join your Downtown Eldridge Chamber merchants
as we launch a new holiday tradition....

Recipe for a Hometown Holiday

Friday evening, December 18

5-7PM

Downtown Eldridge

Decorated storefronts * treats & recipes at
participating businesses* Santa* carolers*
marshmallow roast * carriage rides