

# Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet June 2006 Newsletter

## Many Activities Planned for the 4th of July

Wamego is renowned throughout the state of Kansas and beyond for its spectacular celebration of our nation's Independence Day. It became even more famous last year after being featured on the PBS special "Sunflower Journeys".

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July falls on a Tuesday this year, but the celebration will begin the previous weekend when Ottaway Amusements transforms two city blocks into an amazing midway of carnival rides, games and refreshments. The carnival will be open each evening starting on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> with bracelet nights on June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 - 10 pm. The carnival will also be open before and after the parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

This year is the 135<sup>th</sup> year of one of the largest Independence Day parades in Kansas. Come early to secure a prime viewing spot along main street before the parade kicks

off at 6:00 p.m. Before the parade, satisfy your hunger at United Methodist Church Pork Sandwich Feed and the Pottawatomie County Republican Free Watermelon Feed.

After the parade is over, head over to the park with blankets and chairs for the largest hand-fired fireworks display in the Midwest, starting at 10:00 p.m. Last year over 10,000 shells were fired in just under 30 minutes and this year's show promises to be the biggest and most spectacular yet.

For more information about Wamego's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration or how you can participate, please contact Teresa Zerbe at the Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet 785-456-7849. You can also visit Wamego online at [www.visitWamego.com](http://www.visitWamego.com) for a complete list of events scheduled to celebrate our nation's independence.

June 2006  
Newsletter

### Board of Directors

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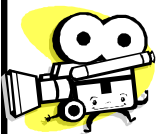
## Jacobson 2006 Citizen of the Year & 4th of July Parade Grand Marshall

Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet 2006 Citizen of the Year Byron Jacobson will be the Grand Marshall of the 135<sup>th</sup> annual Wamego Fourth of July parade.

Long-time Wamego businessman and community leader Byron Jacobson will lead participants down the parade route starting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4. The parade will run its traditional route, north to south, down Lincoln Avenue.

The Grand Marshall is traditionally responsible for weather, crowd control and free beer.

## Summer Movies at the Library



The Wamego Public Library in conjunction with the Wamego Chamber of Commerce Community Life committee and Three Rivers, Inc. will be sponsoring a summer movie series to compliment the summer reading program theme "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales". Movies will be shown on the following Saturdays: June 17, July 1, July 15, Aug. 5 and Aug. 19. The movies will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be shown at the Wamego Public Library. The library recently obtained a

Movie Public Performance Site License. The license stipulates that movies can only be shown in the library and no advertising can be done outside of the library. We will have posters in the library with that week's movie title or you can call the library at 456-9181 for the title. Children who have not attended Kindergarten and younger must have parental supervision. Due to space constraints, we will only be able to admit the first 100 people.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Clark, Director Wamego Public Library.

## Chamber Calendar

**July 4**

Parade at 6 p.m.  
Fireworks at 10 p.m.

**July 18**

General Membership Meeting

**July 22**

Flint Hills Freedom Run  
For details go to  
[www.flinthillsfreedomrun.com](http://www.flinthillsfreedomrun.com)

**August 18, 19 & 20**

Ridiculous Days

## Instructions for Parade Entrants

Here are a few reminders for parade entrants:

- ◆ The parade staging area, including the high school parking lot and Lincoln Ave. will open for entries at 4 pm on the 4th of July.
- ◆ Most entries, including Shriners, floats, motorcycles and miscellaneous entries should stage in the north-west high school parking lot by entering from Poplar Street on the west. If you are entering the float contest, tell the attendant at the barricade and you will be directed to the proper location for judging.
- ◆ Big trucks, classic cars, emergency vehicles and color guards will set up on Lincoln Ave.
- ◆ Walking groups will gather and wait on the lawn north of the high school.
- ◆ Bring your entry ID number with you to the parade. Post it prominently on the FRONT of your entry, to the right.
- ◆ Parade watchers love to see easily-visible signs, banners or uniforms identifying your group or sponsor.
- ◆ For safety, we ask you not THROW frisbies, cans of pop, candy or other items from the parade route. You may have someone walk the edge of the parade route and HAND OUT candy or other items. Consider throwing just a friendly smile and a wave to the crowd this year!
- ◆ Color guards, emergency vehicles and dignitaries will proceed first through the parade. Novelty Shrine entries will go next. For variety, antique and classic cars, tractors, big trucks and contest floats will be interspersed throughout the parade. As always, horses go last.
- ◆ The parade starts at 6 pm ... but you won't. Bring your bottled water and a deck of cards and be prepared to wait your turn. Dignitaries, walkers and float-riders should park and walk to their meeting spot or be dropped off somewhere removed from the busy parade staging area. *by Mike Malin*

## Winners of Father's Day Poem Contest Announced

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year the Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet Community Life Committee has sponsored a contest for Father's Day poems written by the Wamego West Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Many cute and thoughtful poems were written. The winners for this year are; First Place-Brittany Price and her father Brent Price, Second Place-Brady Hemphill and his father Troy Hemphill, Third Place-Ali Rincon and her father James Rincon, Honorable Mention-Ashton Butler and his father Bruce Butler. Local businesses sponsor prizes for the winning fathers. The first place prize is a gift certificate to Ramblers Steakhouse courtesy of Ramblers owner Doug Long. The second place winner is awarded a gift certificate to Lichtenhan Ace Hardware courtesy of Lichtenhan's. Third place is awarded bowling passes courtesy of Lincoln Street Lanes and the Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet Community Life Committee. Honorable mention winner is awarded a John Deere outdoor thermometer courtesy of Kaw Valley Equipment John Deere. The Community Life committee would like to extend our thanks to all the entrants and to the generous prize sponsors. The poems are on display in several downtown Wamego businesses.

## 10 Things NOT to Do to Keep Harmony in the Workplace

1. **"The sky isn't really blue - it's actually cyan."** Do you always spout unnecessary information with a know-it-all attitude? Nobody likes a show off!

2. **Big Mouth** Are your phone conversations loud enough so everyone can hear? Dial down the volume. The same goes for general conversation.

3. **Chains of Love?** Are you never around because you're always out on a "smoking break?" In the restroom? Getting a cup of coffee?

4. **Workaholic Wannabe** Do you mosey in late, take extra long lunches, and don't really start to roll up your sleeve and dig into some serious work until about 2 p.m.? Do you make sure everyone sees you working past 5:00 p.m., as though you were really putting in extra time? You're not fooling anyone-you are just annoying

those who have already put in a full day before you even get warmed up.

5. **People Magazine Office Edition** You're very good at filing away information about everyone in the office-and sharing it. Learn to keep a secret.

6. **Devil's Advocate** Do you always take the other side of an argument or discussion "just because?" Nothing is more exhausting for your co-workers than knowing you are always ready to challenge them no matter what they say.

7. **Yadda-Yadda-Yadda** Do you barge into cube after cube forcing one-way conversations on your innocent coworkers? They aren't interested in your yakking! Get back to work!

8. **You gotta see the ba-a-aby!** This person is similar to #7, but incessantly gushes about his/her children-every

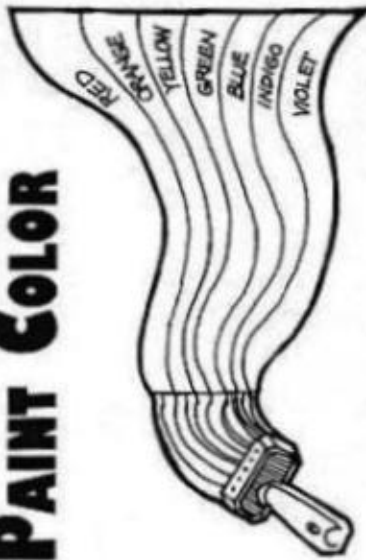
word they say, every step they take-with photos. Most people enjoy a little of this type of conversation; just make sure it isn't the only thing you talk about.

9. **Mr. or Ms. Un-Clean** Leaving your dirty coffee cups and lunch dishes in the sink, old food in the fridge, splatters in the microwave, and a mess on the break-room table annoys people. Clean up after yourself!

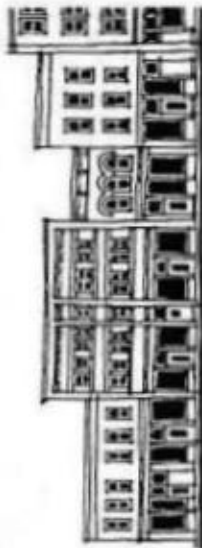
10. **Time Keeper** Are you a self-appointed time keeper of your co-workers? Most likely your co-workers have already talked with their supervisor about there ins and outs so leave it alone.

If you would like more information on the BEST program, contact Jo Brunner at [jbrunner@kansascommerce.com](mailto:jbrunner@kansascommerce.com).

# PAINT COLOR

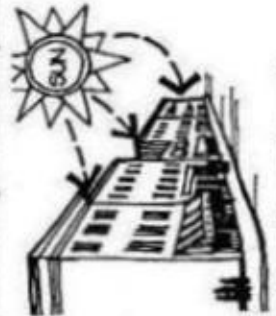


The color you paint your building, window trim, or door is, to some extent, a personal decision. It is an expression of yourself and your commercial establishment. However, there are other people and things to think about. The following procedures can help you decide what colors to use on your building.



1. Be a good neighbor and look at your building in the context of the entire block or downtown. The color of your building can affect the overall character of Main Street.

2. Think about how the sun strikes your building. The amount of sunlight can change the hue of paint color. Hold a paint chip to your building on cloudy and sunny days. To be certain about your color choice, invest in a quart of paint and apply it. There is a great difference between a small color chip and an entire wall.



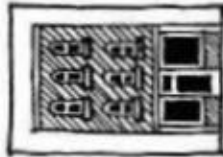
3. Decide whether you'd like to return your building to its original paint colors. If you are seeking historical accuracy, carefully scrape a small area to reveal different layers of paint.

Please note that over time, the original color

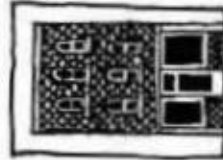


may have faded. To get a better idea of the true color, wet the original surface. The base color will appear more accurately when moist.

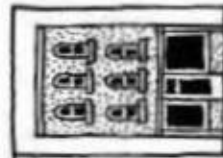
4. Color schemes for commercial buildings differ by region of the country. They also differ according to the period when the building was constructed. In addition to scraping a small area of the building to determine its historic color, consult the state historic preservation office for information on popular paint colors during the decade when your building was put up.



MID 1800'S  
SOFT, NEUTRAL-TINTS

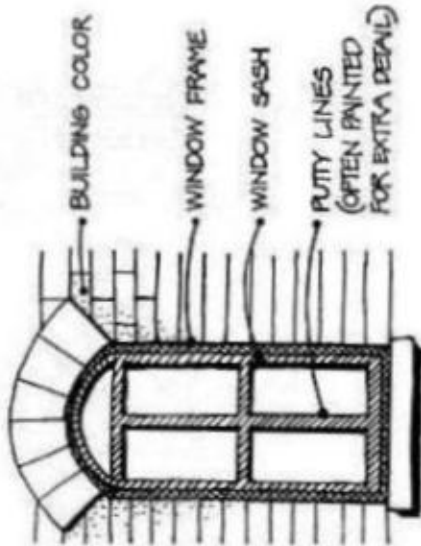


LATE 1800'S  
DARKER, RICHER SHADES



EARLY 1900'S  
LIGHTER, CALMER COLORS

6. Traditionally, building trim was painted as decoration, often in a contrasting shade lighter or darker than the primary building color. This paint treatment defined the trim, but it was not so overpowering that the trim colors dominated the building.



7. Today, aluminum frames have frequently replaced traditional wood doors and windows. The shine and metallic color of the aluminum do not complement historic buildings. Paint them a more neutral color or choose darker, anodized frames.



8. Paint color should be used to tie together all building elements, including the cornice, upper facade, windows, storefront, and doors. To do this, you must limit the number of colors you use; in most cases, choose no more than three and be sure to select complementary colors.

9. With these procedures in mind, express the identity of your business through paint color. It adds to the richness and variety of Main Street.

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We're On The Web  
[www.WamegoChamber.com](http://www.WamegoChamber.com)



## Welcome New Members

### May

The Military Family Network  
Manhattan Habitat for Humanity

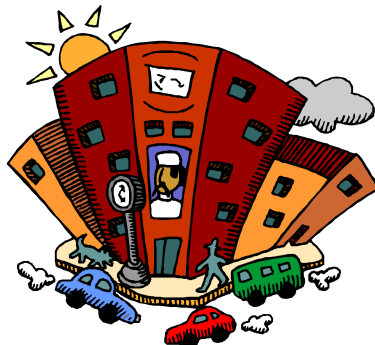
### June

Emerald City Market  
Century Business Systems  
Harvey Chrest Construction

## Downtown Wamego has never looked better!

In the past few years, downtown has undergone an amazing metamorphosis with the completion of the streetscape, the reconstruction of Lincoln Avenue, the renovation of the many storefronts, and the addition of the new businesses which attract not only local shoppers, but an increasing number of out-of-town visitors, as well.

Maintaining a unique downtown shopping ambience, however takes more than attractive storefronts and planters with pretty flowers, and we should continually ask ourselves how we can improve our overall image to our customers.



- ◆ Do we park "off Main Street" to free up parking spaces for our customers?
- ◆ Do we keep our sidewalks clear of leaves and debris?
  - ◆ When we see a piece of litter in the gutter, do we place it in trash receptacle or do we wait for the city crews to pick it up?
  - ◆ If our employees or customers are smokers, do we ask them to "take it out back" or do we allow them to take a "smoke break" in front of the store?

Remember, we're all in this together, and the little things can do wonders for improving the overall downtown shopping experience. *Courtesy of the Wamego Mainstreet Design Committee*