

Michael Sehlke Named Volunteer of the Quarter by Keytesville Chamber of Commerce  
By Janet Weaver

Thirty-four year old Michael Sehlke of Keytesville has been selected by the Keytesville Chamber of Commerce as the Volunteer of the Quarter. Michael is the son of Terry and Cecelia Sehlke and has lived most of his life in Keytesville. Michael has one brother, Darin, who will be the Athletic Director for the Oak Grove, MO School District this coming school year. Michael has been married to the former Dawn Guilford for four years and they have a nearly two year old daughter, Madelyn Marie. A new baby for Dawn and Michael is expected to arrive in July.

Michael is a 2001 graduate of Keytesville High School and a 2003 graduate of Linn Technical College in Linn, Missouri. It was there that he specialized in medium-heavy truck mechanics. Upon graduation from Linn Tech, Michael worked for seven years at Crown Power and Equipment in Salisbury working as a mechanic and as a service man.

After working for Crown Power and Equipment, Michael decided to join the family business of Sehlke Trucking Service in Keytesville, a multi-generational business started by his grandfather, the late Ezra Sehlke, which has been owned and operated for 70 years by the Sehlke family. Since living in, as well as being employed in, Keytesville, it was apparent to Michael that there were numerous opportunities for volunteering, and he has devoted much of his volunteer efforts toward the Keytesville Fire Department. He has now been with the Keytesville Fire Department for ten years, and he laughingly stated that quite a bit of his volunteering has been focused on grant writing to help the Keytesville Fire Department obtain funds for equipment that could further enhance the department's ability to provide good service to the area.

Some of the things he has been instrumental in obtaining for the Keytesville Fire Department through his grant writing efforts have been: grain bin rescue equipment which can help extricate someone trapped inside a grain bin—particularly vital since the county is an agricultural area, equipment that can detect hotspots in structure fires as well as locate victims that are not easily seen due to the equipment's imaging ability, and air lift bags which can help lift heavy equipment or even structures off victims trapped within or beneath.

Besides Michael's obvious loyalty to the Keytesville Fire Department, he is also currently a First Responder for CCAD, a member of the Keytesville Lions Club, and a member of the Dred and Lula Finnell Trust Fund Board.

Despite being devoted to his family, a hard-working businessman, and a very busy volunteer in numerous capacities, Michael enjoys fishing for catfish on the river in what spare time he has. The Keytesville Chamber of Commerce appreciates Michael Sehlke as the Chamber's selection for Volunteer of the Quarter-March 2017.