

## Oil and Gas Topic of Chamber Lunch

The Lewis County Chamber of Commerce sponsored a luncheon at the Hickory House Restaurant last Thursday that featured discussion of the oil and gas industry.

Guest speaker for the luncheon, which was well attended, was Attorney Kyle Nuttall of Buckhannon, who has worked with the industry even before becoming a lawyer. Nuttall spoke about the ups and downs of the oil and gas industry, relaying information about why the industry has taken a nosedive of late.

Included among the reasons for the decline in the natural gas area is lack of ways to transport the gas to needed markets both in the United States and abroad. One reason for this is the lack of pipelines to carry the gas. "We have plenty of natural gas, but no where to put it," he said.

Another reason he cited for the downturn in the industry is overproduction and international industry decisions. "In the past, when the price of oil declined, the major producers like the Saudis would cut production to help increase prices. They haven't done that now," he said. In addition, production of oil in the U.S. has increased greatly.

Nuttall said the industry would rebound, but there is a concern among producers that when it does they may not be able to find the needed skilled workers as many have left to other jobs with the current downturn in the industry.

Nuttall said that the industry is an up and down one, and that part of the fault lies with producers who fail to look ahead to the future. "Americans don't look ahead, nor do oil and gas producers," he said.

Also speaking at the luncheon was David Townsend, who invited all to visit his new business Mountain Roots Marketplace in Weston. Townsend spoke of what his busi-



**Attorney Kyle Nuttall was guest speaker at the Lewis County Chamber luncheon held last Thursday at the Hickory House Restaurant. Nuttall spoke about the oil and gas industry.**

ness had to offer and his hopes for the future with the store.

Mountain Roots Marketplace is dedicated to West Virginia producers of vegetables, fruits, meats, eggs, crafts and artisan works. It is a business that will sell products for local people. Anyone needing an outlet to sell their goods can set up in one of the rented spaces available in the store and the Townsend's will sell the product for them.

Mountain Roots also has spaces available for people to set up in the flea market area of the store. People wishing to set up in the flea market section can pay for a spot in the store by the day, week or month. Food items, baked goods and eggs are also available to be sold on consignment. Mountain Roots charges no commissions and requires no contracts.

Mountain Roots Marketplace is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., and on Sunday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and is located on West Second Street in Weston, across from TALA.