

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

December 2005

President's Article

As you read this, next year is just a few short weeks away. I know; I shuddered also. These years are starting to go by so fast they surely must be shorter. Nonetheless, what a year it has been. Grant County has seen the start of many projects, notably the Dollar General and Wal-Mart Distribution Centers and our very own member, Central Indiana Ethanol, has broken ground. All of these projects are fantastic and a positive sign for the future of this area. It is up to you to keep this trend alive. In your travels, do not be bashful about where you live and the great things here. By no means be silent in response to those who may think otherwise. When you are out of the area eating at your favorite steakhouse, tell them how much you would like to see them here. With the world just a few clicks away on the internet, getting a note to these companies is often easy and you may get a reply. A good will ambassador at home and on the road is worth a mint and we are counting on you.

Mark Sullivan

New Members

- White Oaks Mobile Home Community
- Pampered Paws Pet Salon
- Community Children's Academy, Inc.
- Indiana Oxygen Company
- Grant County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Rescued Treasures

Welcome To A Group of Leaders In This Community!

Community Calendar

Sponsorship for the Community Calendar on www.gascity.com will become available January 1, 2006. The calendar is quickly becoming THE place to list special events. As the public becomes more and more aware to check the calendar for happenings, your sponsorship becomes more and more visible. Sponsor's advertisement is in full color at the top of the calendar with a link to sponsor's website (when available) for one year for \$300. This offer is limited to only ONE business per year and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. The calendar is referred to as "Business Name's" Community Calendar as long as they remain the sponsor. The Sponsor is also recognized on the Home Page.

Message from Our Members

DWD Technology Group, a Division of Dulin, Ward & DeWald, Inc. would like to congratulate Mary J. Hildinger for receiving her Certification for the new 4.1 version of MAS 90/200.



Business Highlight

White Oaks Mobile Home Community has approximately 305 lots for rent for mobile homes and RV's. Managed by Jim & Cindy Miller, White Oaks is conveniently located at 7145 S. Meridian in Marion. They offer clean, quiet, shaded lots, friendly neighbors, a mail center, library and recreation hall. White Oaks also has a Neighborhood Watch program. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 12 Noon and from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. (765-674-6166).

Mary Kay Cosmetics was welcomed recently as a new member in the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce this month. **Carol Rush**, Beauty Consultant, is excited about being a member. She may be reached daily at (765) 674-4683. Carol recently had an open house and displayed all the various Mary Kay products. What fun it was! If you are looking for a Mary Kay Consultant, call Carol and schedule an appointment. You may even decide to be a hostess and receive credit toward the merchandise of your choice.

Visiting Nurse & Hospice Home welcomes new staff. Reverend Todd Graham joined Visiting Nurse & Hospice Home as a chaplain. Graham has experience working in hospice, providing non-denominational spiritual support for hospice patients and their families. Nurses Faith Brenneman, RN, and Debra Certain, RN, have joined the agency as has certified nursing assistant Missi Williams. "I am excited about working with Todd, Faith, Debra and Missi. These professionals will fit right into our hospital team as we provide end-of-life care to patients in Marion and the surrounding counties." States Susan Knapp, RN, CHPN and patient care coordinator. Visiting Nurse & Hospice Home celebrates one year of service from the office located at 205 S. Washington St., Marion, IN. Hospice care is generally covered by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. As a not-for-profit agency, Visiting Nurse & Hospice Home has funds available (from grants and donations) to assist patients who have limited or no financial resources. For more information call (765) 668-0885 or toll free at (800) 396-7396 or via e-mail: vnurse@indy.rr.com.

Pampered Paws Pet Salon is owned by Cynthia Ann Goble. Pampered Paws is located at 400 Third Avenue in Jonesboro and she may be reached at 674-5463. Cynthia offers pet grooming (bathing, styling and pampering your pet). She moved to the area from Auburn (IN) approximately eight months ago. Cynthia says, "I am doing my dream job." She loves animals and enjoys working with them very much. Her favorite community event is the Ducktail Run and she enjoys vacationing close to home on day trips. Cynthia also enjoys sewing, reading and feeding the animals in the Gas City Park Petting Zoo. When asked whom Cynthia admires most, she stated she admires her husband. The one thing she would like to do but has not done yet, is travel to Australia. Cynthia is looking to gain more happy customers to make her dream job a great success. She has three years experience in grooming and is a certified pet groomer. Cynthia can be reached at (765) 674-5463. "I am looking forward to pampering *your* pets soon."

Director's Luncheon

Chamber members braved the first cold spell to join us for the November luncheon. Chicken enchiladas, Spanish rice and pumpkin pie were on the menu. Fifty-seven were in attendance. **White Oaks Mobile Home Community** was presented their membership plaque. **Dave Huffman** was presented a framed picture of the Ribbon Cutting of the Gas City Apartments from the Diplomat Coordinator, Anita M. Rice. **Tracy Mandel, Twin City Healthcare**, was the primary speaker and announced the opening of a new residential unit - this unit is for people that do not necessarily qualify for nursing home care. The new medical director at Twin City Healthcare is Dr. B. D. Patel. Tracy praised Twin City Healthcare's staff and said that the facility had received a very good score on their annual survey conducted by the Indiana Department of Health. Tracy invited attendees to stop by Twin City Healthcare for a tour. **Aaron DeWeese** and **Larry Henn** spoke on the importance of the Work Ethics Certification program

and the need for the business community to validate the program. Discipline, attendance, punctuality, grade average, and community service are a few of the criteria monitored. Although Grant County is the first to adopt this program, it will be going statewide.

Tell Us What You Think

Did you enjoy the Showcase? Did it meet your particular needs? Do you have suggestions? Celeste Draher, Chamber Volunteer, may be contacting you in the near future as she will be doing a random Showcase Survey in anticipation of finding out what you did and did not like this year. We appreciate your input and know you will enjoy meeting Celeste; someone with a great deal of Chamber experience that hails from the State of Washington. Welcome Celeste to the community and give her suggestions for the next Home & Business Showcase.

Do You Know?...

...That the Bridges of Health is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5-8 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling (765) 662-7289 at 5 p.m. The Bridges is a primary care volunteer health organization serving the uninsured residents of Marion and Grant County in need of medical, dental and vision care. It is located at 901 S. Branson Street inside the St. Martin Community Center. Services are provided by volunteer healthcare professionals. Dr. Gupte serves as the medical center and Dr. Hunter is the assistant medical director. If you would like to learn more about volunteering at Bridges to Health, please call (765) 662-7289.

...That the United Way supplements 16 programs right here in our county? United way serves as a catalyst for progressive solutions to community problems. Interested in donating to causes that help those in Grant County? Contact 765.662.9811 or e-mail unitedway@nxco.com. \$4.00 per week will provide a person one hot meal per day for three months at St. Martin or \$6.00 per week will provide visual and hearing testing for 50 people at Services for the Visually and Hearing Impaired. These are just two examples of how your donation reaches out to many in need. The deadline for donations is December 9th...you have just enough time and it will make a difference in so many lives.

From The Desk of Penny Garrett

Central Indiana Ethanol broke ground on Friday, November 4, 2005. I'm glad I was there. What a proud day it was for Jay Berry and the City of Marion. I shook hands with Senator Dillon and State Representative P. Eric Turner and many, many others. There were other state representatives on hand as Marion began an operation that will provide fuel from the Midwest - NOT the Mideast. Ethanol is a bio-based fuel made from corn and other renewable sources right here in the USA. Our Mayor, Mayor H. Leach, and the Marion Mayor were there to wish Jay Berry well and many, many other community leaders too. There were brochures outlining a better future through bio-diesel, T-shirts labeled "Fuel for the Future," and to top it off, it was an absolutely beautiful day. If you were unable to attend the ground breaking and you want to know more about this cleaner burning alternative fuel, visit www.biodiesel.org.

Showcase Booth Participant Omitted Last Issue: **Super 8 Motel**... sorry Darlene.