

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

October 2007

Please route this newsletter to the other staff in your business to keep them up-to-date on services, functions and programs available to all employees of our member companies!

Have you had changes or improvements in your business? Have you received an award, reached a milestone or accomplished additional training? We want to know so we can share these things with your Chamber partners. Call, FAX, E-mail or send information to the Chamber office.

Welcome New Members

B & B BAIL BONDS LLC - Fred & Barb Bradford, Owners
Ph. 674-4211

Little Tot's Childcare - Kimberly Young, Owner
319 East South "E" Street, Gas City Ph. 677-1655

Interpreting Success Coaching - Linda Kline, Owner
Ph. 928-635-4569

ROCK'N CONCESSION - Cathy Losure, Owner
801 South Broadway, Gas City Ph. 674-1576

ROCK CONCESSIONS - Bill Rock, Owner
805 South Broadway, Gas City Ph. 674-5295

Cathy's Avon, Ind. - Cathy Becraft, CEO
Ph. 674-9442

Important Dates

Visit www.gascity.com to link to the online Community Calendar

- 10/04/07 Board Executive Officers Meeting @ 7:30 a.m. - Chamber Office Conference Room
- 10/09/07 Business Mentoring Group @ 8:00 a.m. - Chamber Office Conference Room - Call the Chamber Office 674-7545 for reservation.
- 10/11/07 Board of Directors Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. - Chamber Office Conference Room
- 10/17/07 Director's Luncheon @ 12 Noon - Eastview Wesleyan Church (Guaranteed reservations required NLT September 14, 2007 - Call 674-7545 and leave message to make reservation.)
- 10/22/07 Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

Kudos to Jay Berry on receiving the Energy Patriot Award.

So You Think You Know Everything?

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."

Director's Luncheon Meeting

Janet Blake, President presided over the luncheon served by **Eastview Wesleyan Church** where 77 members enjoyed Chicken enchiladas, tossed salad and dessert with drinks. The following new member was introduced and presented their membership plaque: Interpreting Success Coaching, Linda Kline; Energize was also present and presented with their plaque. Other new members announced included Karen Owen, B & B Bail Bonds, Little Tot's Childcare, Rock'N Concession and Rock Concessions.

First-time attendees introduced were Energize Representative, Tom Farris and Marlene Pulley; Neil and Jeannie Farr; and Ron Forsythe, Volunteer Coordinator/Chaplin.

Events announced were the KATMANDU Ribbon Cutting to be held September 29 and the Small Business Mentoring sponsored FREE workshop "What Your Credit Score Says About You!" by Jim Goodpaster to be held at China Buffet on September 25. Golf Car raffle tickets are still available for the September 30 drawing at the Ducktail Run. Tickets may be purchased via credit card on-line or by calling the Chamber Office.

The guest speakers were Tom Farris and Marlene Pulley of Energize ECI. Special thanks were extended to IMPA for the 2007 sponsorship of DECA student meals and Energize for the door prizes of 4 boxes of golf balls.

DO NOT FAX LAW effective January 1, 2007

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter reports that as of January 1, businesses and residents who receive unsolicited advertising faxes from someone they don't have a prior business relationship with will be able to report them to the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. The law makes the sending of an unsolicited fax a deceptive consumer act and allows the attorney general to pursue penalties of up to \$1,500 for each unwanted fax.

Consumers can access www.AttorneyGeneral.in.gov to file a complaint about an unsolicited fax. In order to submit the complaint, print and fill out the form and mail it to the Consumer Protection Division along with a copy of the unsolicited fax. Consumers may mail their complaint to:

Indiana Attorney General Office
Telephone Privacy Division
302 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis IN 46204

Consumers without Internet access can telephone 1-800-382-5516 and request a complaint form be mailed to them.

Business Spotlight

Mississinewa High School Partnership: April Dickey's high school Journalism students have partnered with the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce agreeing to contact area Chamber members and submit articles for publication in the Chamber Notes. Students, freshmen through senior grades, are using skills they are learning by making contact with area businesses, interviewing and writing "Business Spotlight" articles for publication. Following is a feature article submitted by Mississinewa High School:

Rescued Treasures by Arielle M. Lowe

Paula Gallaway is the manager of the thrift store, Rescued Treasures, which is located at 210 E. Main St. Gas City, Indiana, and she thinks the store has a special mission.

"Rescued Treasures' mission is to raise money for the homeless," said Gallaway. The store sells lightly used clothing, shoes, and other household items. Gallaway has worked at Rescued Treasures since it's opening on November 2nd of last year. "I've worked here since the opening, so about a year and four months," said Gallaway. Gallaway started working there to "further help out the community." Gallaway enjoys working at Rescued Treasures especially when it comes to getting to know the people. "Probably the best thing about working at Rescued Treasures is getting to know the people and being able to raise money for the homeless," Gallaway said.

The first thing that Gallaway thinks people notice about Rescued Treasures is that, "it just has a really good feeling."

Rescued Treasures is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Did You Know

Since January 1, 2007, businesses and residents who receive unsolicited advertising faxes from someone they don't have a previous business relationship with may report them to the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. Penalties of up to \$1500 for each unwanted fax may be imposed as they are considered a deceptive consumer act. You may access www.attorneygeneral.in.gov to file a complaint. Consumers without computer access can telephone 1.800.382.5516 and request a complaint form be mailed to them.

Attorney's Advice: No Charge

- ◆ When ordering checks have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your checkbook, they will not know how to sign your checks. Only your bank has your signature card to authenticate.
- ◆ Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put "PHOTO ID REQUIRED."
- ◆ When you are writing checks to pay your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check-processing channels will not have access to it.
- ◆ Put your work phone number on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box,

use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a PO Box, use your work address. Never have your SS# printed on your checks as it can be written in if necessary. However, if you have it printed, anyone can get it.

- ◆ Photocopy both sides of all credit cards and licenses and keep in a safe place. Also carry a photocopy of your passport when traveling either here or abroad. The reverse side of credit cards has the toll-free numbers to call if stolen. Keep numbers handy so you know whom to call.
- ◆ When you check out of a hotel that uses keycards for entry, do not turn the "keys" in! Take them with you and destroy them. Those little cards have all of the information you gave the hotel, including address and credit card numbers and expiration dates. Someone with a card reader, or employee of the hotel, can access all that information with no problem whatsoever.

Upon lost or stolen identification, do the following immediately.

- ◆ File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your personal identification was stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation.
- ◆ Call the three national credit-reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases.

Here are the numbers you always need to contact about your wallet and contents being stolen:

- 1) Equifax: 1-800-525-6285
- 2) Experian (formerly TRW): 1- 888-397-3742
- 3) TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289
- 4) Social Security Administration (fraud line):
1-800-269-0271

Board of Directors 2007-2008

Officers

Janet Blake, President
Next Level Communication

President Elect - Vacant

Scott Nicholson, Vice-President
Mutual Federal Savings Bank

Candace Eck, Secretary-Treas.
Dulin, Ward & DeWald, Inc.

Mark Sullivan, Ex-Officio
Irving Materials, Inc.

Members

M. Kelly Ailstock
Renbarger Insurance & Financial Services, Inc.

Dawn Brown
Community Foundation of Grant Co., IN, Inc.

Nancy Bryant
Gas City-Mill Twp. Library

Fran Cheney
Good Neighbor Pharmacy

Susan Miller
Unaffiliated

Michael Powell
Mississinewa School Admin

Denny Smith
2 B Personalized

Kelly Snyder
F. C. Tucker

Larry Terwillegar
Masonic Lodge #645

One Position - Vacant

Executive Director

Penny A. Garrett