

# GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

June 2008

**The Chamber Mission Statement:** To Promote, Nurture and Develop the Community and Character of the Gas City Area through cooperative efforts from Business, Industry and Education.

*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.*

## Excellence in Business/Service Award

*Sponsored by Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service*

**Jill Mast**, Natural Wellness

Award criteria is an individual, business, partnership, corporation or organization that has shown evidence of strong growth, demonstrated visions for their business or exemplified an attitude of service toward others. The nominee has demonstrated a willingness and history of going above and beyond the call of duty in their business or acts of service.

This award is well deserved as Jill has recently expanded her business, Natural Wellness. We wish Jill and the staff at Natural Wellness great success as they continue to service the citizens of Grant County.



## Community Leadership Award

*Sponsored by Salin Bank & Trust Company*

**Jim Richards**, City Sewage Department

Award criteria are an individual, business or a group of individuals that have consistently shown leadership in enhancing the image of this community. The nominee has demonstrated an ability and history of promoting a positive image for the Gas City/Jonesboro area.

Jim is in his third term as councilman of Ward 2 and has served as coach or on the board the 3-Way Recreation for more than 35 years. Jim loves Gas City and we are proud to have him represent the Chamber this year with this leadership award.



## The President's Choice Award

*Sponsored by Mutual Federal Saving Bank and Edward Jones*

**David Penticuff**, Chronicle-Tribune Editor

While involved in Project Leadership, David visited the Chamber Office and asked to serve as an intern on the Gas City Area Chamber Board of Directors. From the minute he stepped inside the Chamber doors, he let us know that he wanted to be involved and volunteered to assist in any way he could be helpful.

When the Chairman position became vacant for the Small Business Mentoring Group (SBMG) and David was asked to consider the appoint-



ment, he graciously accepted and went right to work reviewing the scope of the activity and recruited other committee members who together decided to expand the opportunities and provide workshops free to the membership and community. To date, under David's guidance, the SBMG has coordinated and sponsored monthly workshops.

In addition to his busy schedule as C-T Editor, David again willingly and graciously accepted an invitation to serve on the Board of Directors when a vacancy occurred. David is a true example of servant leadership and we are thankful for his involvement in our Chamber and looking forward to working with him for many years to come.

### Welcome New Members

#### **Pratt Webb Design**

227 N "E" St., Marion IN 46952

Phone (765) 573-4130 or E-mail: [www.prattwebdesign.com](http://www.prattwebdesign.com)

#### **LifeStream Services**

Donna Penticuff, Director of Marketing and Communications

Marion Office: 1924 West 4th St., Marion IN 46952

Phone (765) 759-1121, ext. 118 or E-mail: [dpenticuff@lifestreaminc.org](mailto:dpenticuff@lifestreaminc.org)

#### **Miller's Merry Manor**

505 N Bradner Ave., Marion IN 46952

Phone (765) 662-3981

#### **City of Jonesboro Mayor Jay Akers**

414 S Main St., Jonesboro IN 46938 | Phone (765) 674-4393

#### **YWCA**

Pamela Slechtey, Executive Director

417 S Branson St., Marion IN 46953 | Phone (765) 668-8995

#### **Taste of Texas**

Max Rhodes, Owner

I-69 Exit 59, Gas City IN 46933 | Phone (765) 998-7000



### Message from the President

*Remarks as heard at the 16th Annual Membership Meeting*

My vision (last year) for 2007-2008 was to see Gas City grow, and it has come to fruition; we now have a Veterinary Hospital, new training facility at Franklin Electric, Distribution Center, (of course my Verizonwireless Store), computer sales and service stores and more on the horizon.

My vision for 2008-2009 is, of course, to continue to grow as a city and to

continue to be a model for other cities.

May God continue to bless our city leaders with good health so they can forge forward and bring businesses into our area, creating jobs for our citizens and the citizens of Grant County.

My vision also is to work together as a team, to respect opinions and views of others. To be reliable and accountable for our own team participation, to work together on assigned tasks and challenges, accepting each member's thoughts.

As a team we will work together to stay in touch, keeping the communication lines open offering support and help to all members should they not be able to partake in a discussion.

As a team we will identify, create a plan of action utilizing everyone's knowledge, soliciting input from all. Being responsible and acknowledging each personal thought and efforts put in by each member and to be successful as a team and as individuals.

My vision for 2008-2009 is to see no going-out-of-business signs but rather grand openings, ribbon cuttings for new businesses, businesses celebrating anniversaries for continued and loyal service to the community and customer appreciation days. I could go on and on, but my main vision is to see people of all ages and cultures come together unified and empowered by sharing the belief that they hold the power to create and shape how they live and grow within their own communities.

† *Janet Blake*

### Important Dates

Visit [www.gascity.com](http://www.gascity.com) to link to the online Community Calendar sponsored by IMI

- 06/05/08 ..... Board Executive Officers Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. - **Chamber Office** Conference Room  
 06/10/08 ..... Small Business Mentoring Group @ 8:00 a.m. - **Chronicle-Tribune Office** Conference Room - Meetings by appointment only; call the Chamber Office ph. 674-7545.  
 06/12/08 ..... Board of Directors Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. - **Chamber Office** Conference Room  
 06/18/08 ..... Director's Luncheon @ 12 Noon - **Eastview Wesleyan Church** (Guaranteed reservations required NLT June 13, 2008. Call 674-7545 and leave message to make a reservation.)  
 SPEAKERS: Via Credit Union, Grant Co. CVB, JG Consulting Group, Inc.  
 MENU: Drink - \$6.00  
 GREETERS: Diplomats Karen Owen and Dennis Banks  
 06/22/08 ..... Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

### "Come Grow With Us"

The 16th annual Chamber membership dinner/meeting was held Tuesday evening, April 29 with 156 members, community leaders and area friends in attendance. Kelly Ailstock, Renbarger Insurance & Financial Services, Inc. planned the evening event. Janet Blake, 2007-2009 Chamber President reviewed the past year and expressed her vision for future growth in the chamber and community.

Elections to fill vacancies on the 2008-2009 Board of Directors were held. Congratulations!



Dennis Banks  
*STAR Financial*



Aleta Goins  
*Howe's Financial Services, Inc*



David Penticuff  
*Chronical-Tribune*

## Summer Sounds in Gas City Park 2008 Concert Schedule

- June 10 ..... Mississinewa Valley Community Band  
Free Ice Cream Social prior to the concert hosted by Needham-Storey-Wampner
- June 17 ..... Live Wire (Classic Rock)
- June 24 ..... Tuxedo Junction
- July 1 ..... Holiday - No Concert
- July 8 ..... Upward Praise (Country Gospel)
- July 15 ..... The Marlins
- July 22 ..... DaddyO's (50's & 60's)
- July 29 ..... Heartland Big Band

**All Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Gas City Park**  
Eugene "Beaner" Linn Bandshell  
Off Broadway Street  
Gas City, Indiana

### Watch Carefully

The tax-filing season has passed, the economic stimulus rebate season is upon us, and the phishers are changing their bait.

The lure this time is the \$600 rebate (\$1,200 per household) that the Internal Revenue Service will begin sending to taxpayers in May and a supposed opportunity to speed up the process.

E-mails purporting to be from the IRS are arriving in in-boxes with instructions to recipients that if they visit the linked Web site and provide bank account and routing numbers, their rebate can be deposited directly to the account more quickly. To add an element of urgency, the message includes a deadline, April 30, for providing information, but that is likely to change.

Needless to say, the message is a fraud (or a phraud). MPX Logic predicted earlier this year that rebates would be a phishing target, and reported the first appearances of the e-mails in a recent blog entry.

The IRS has long been a popular lure for phishers, who seek to tease financial information out of unsuspecting taxpayers. The e-mails come from phony addresses spoofing the "irs.gov" domain, and the messages often include logos or other graphic elements lifted from the IRS Web site. It has become enough of a problem that the agency has put up a Web page asking citizens to report phishing, e-mail scams and bogus IRS Web sites.

"The IRS does not initiate taxpayer communications through e-mail," the agency warns on the site. "In addition, the IRS does not request detailed personal information through e-mail or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank or other financial accounts."

The site also contains detailed instructions for forwarding suspect e-mails to the IRS at [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov) and offers examples of phishing e-mails, phony Web sites and resources from the Federal Trade Commission.

"If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is," the IRS advises. "Get your tax information at [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov), the only Web site sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service."

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## Websites of Interest

Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce - [www.gascity.com](http://www.gascity.com)  
Grant County Growth Council - [www.grantcoindevelopment.com](http://www.grantcoindevelopment.com)  
Grant County Convention & Visitors Bureau - [www.showmegrantcounty.com](http://www.showmegrantcounty.com)  
Indiana State Chamber of Commerce - [www.indianachamber.org](http://www.indianachamber.org)  
Indiana Workforce Development - [www.hoosierdata.in.gov](http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov)  
Indiana Polling Places - [www.indianavoters.com](http://www.indianavoters.com)  
State of Indiana - [www.indiana.gov](http://www.indiana.gov)  
The Taxpayers Network - [www.taxpayersnetwork.org](http://www.taxpayersnetwork.org)  
United States Small Business Administration - [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)  
United States Department of Commerce - [www.commerce.gov](http://www.commerce.gov)

## Time Gets Better With Age (Words of wisdom from all ages!)

*I've learned that motel mattresses are better on the side away from the phone. -Age 50*

*I've learned that you can tell a lot about a man by the way he handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage and tangled Christmas tree lights. -Age 51*

## We Value Your Membership, Do You?

Recently you received a statement from the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce if you had an outstanding invoice. This was a reminder that dues are due

By-laws stipulate that members whose dues are more than 90 days in arrears may be dropped from membership, after due notice, by the Board of Directors. Due notice will be the following: A letter sent to the member after said member is 45 days in arrears. A personal contact by a director of the board will be made after 75 days have elapsed and then the member will be dropped after 90 days in arrears (Rev. 10/02).

## Chamber Spotlight on Business

*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 submitting articles for publication in the Chamber Notes. Students, freshmen through senior grades, are using skills they are learning by making contact with area businesses, making their request, interviewing and writing "Business Spotlight" articles for publication. Following is a feature article submitted by Mississinewa High School.*

## Harners, by Kregg Ancil

At about 9:00 a.m. a three-vehicle car accident was reported on I-69. Harners had to tow all three cars, and then fix them. This is a typical workday at Harners, which repairs and tows vehicles. The boss, Myron Harner, opened the business about 25 years ago and it is still running very strong. It is located on 210 N. Main St. in Jonesboro. Other employees there are C.B., Mark, Dave, Tim, Brad, Dixie, Kevin, Myron, and Mark. The people there are very polite and respectful and get the job not only done, but done the right way. They open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 5:00 p.m. They also have a noon to 1:00 p.m. break for lunch. Harners has been a local business that everyone really enjoys going to, and to get their car work done. This business has some really reasonable prices, and even offers a place where customers can go and get a drink or something to eat if desired.

**Kudos to...**

*2008 Volunteer Recognition Gratitude Basket Donors - "Volunteers Color Our World"*



2B Personalized  
 American Legion #95  
 Arby's Roast Beef  
 Barb's Bits & Bytes  
 Blockbuster  
 Celeste Draher  
 China Buffet  
 Chronicle-Tribune  
 Community Foundation of Grant County, Indiana, Inc.  
 Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Gas City Pizza King  
 Gas City-Mill Township Library  
 Indiana Business College  
 Indiana Members Credit Union  
 Ink Spot  
 Irving Materials, Inc.  
 Jackie's Family Restaurant  
 Kelly Ailstock  
 Lance's New Market  
 Marion School Employees Credit Union  
 Mississinewa Schools  
 Mutual Federal Savings Bank  
 Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service  
 Next Level Communications, Inc.  
 Owen's Hardware  
 Renbarger Insurance  
 Penny Garrett  
 Primitive Inn  
 Salin Bank  
 STAR Financial Bank  
 State Farm Insurance  
 Wal-Mart DC

**Primitive Inn Voted Favorite Shop**

The Primitive Inn located at 125 W Main St in Gas City was recently voted Favorite Shop by The Country Register. The Country Register is available across the USA & Canada. Readers are invited to write in about their favorite shops. "I love the home-like atmosphere and the hand-made dolls," one reader commented about the Primitive Inn.

The Primitive Inn opened November 2006 and has been a member of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce since October 2006. Hours are Monday through Friday from 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. For more information call The Primitive Inn at 674-2466.

## Letters to the Editor...

Dear Fellow Chamber Members:

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude for the Excellence in Business Award. The award was such a surprise that I was caught off guard and at a loss for words and fear that I didn't express my thanks as well as I should have.

Gas City was not my birthplace but it is my hometown of choice. I love Gas City and appreciate the way it has supported my business and me. My plans for this corner (344 E. Main St.) are ongoing. Perhaps you heard that I was going to expand to Marion. I have decided not to follow through with those plans but to commit all my time and resources to the business here in Gas City.

Because it is where my family and I live as well as where my business is, I am very interested in improving our city. I appreciate the hard work that fellow Chamber members do toward that goal.

Again, thanks for the recognition. Sincerely,

*Jill Mast  
Natural Wellness Massage Therapy*

Hi Everyone!!

We had a wonderful time Friday (5/2) night!! Just wanted to share a few pictures and a big Thank You to everyone who participated, raised funds, donated, and talked to your friends and family about the Walk of Hope! Enjoy the attachment!

With sincere appreciation and on behalf of all our BESS clients and Breast Cancer Survivors,

*Heather White  
Outreach Coordinator, Cancer Services of Grant County  
305 S. Norton Ave., Marion, IN 46952  
(765) 664-6815*



**More Letters to the Editor...**

Gas City Moose Lodge 1778  
817 E. Main St., Gas City, IN 46933  
6th Annual Open Charity Car Show  
July 12, 2008

Registration: 9a.m.-12noon; Awards: 3p.m. Judged Show Top 50 Plus Best of Show, Best Paint, Best Engine, Best Interior, Governors Choice - All proceeds go to charity - Food available: 7a.m.-10a.m. and 10a.m.-2p.m. - One Large 50/50 Raffle, Games, Fun for all, DJ K-C's Rock-n-Roll Oldies - For more information call Gary Dalton (765) 674-0616 or Lodge (765) 674-7011 - Pre-registration \$8, Day-of-show \$10 - Dash plaques and goody bags to first 100 cars registered.

Dear Members:

The SBDC along with the Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman and OCRA (office of Community and Rural Affairs) are hosting the 2nd Annual Women in Business Conference. The conference will be held on Tuesday, July 8th at the new Marion Ivy Tech in Grant County.

This conference is intended for all East Central Indiana women, there are only 4 of these to be held in the state.

I am working on putting together "Goody" bags to hand out to the participants. If your business would like the opportunity to place something in these, please let me know. We are anticipating approximately 200 bags need to be made.

*Vickie Bevans, Projects Coordinator  
East Central Indiana SBDC  
122 E. Main St., PO Box 1912, Muncie, IN 47308-1912  
Phone 765-282-9950 or Fax 765-254-1450  
vbevans@ivytech.edu*

LifeStream  
 Life. On your terms.  
 You Are Cordially Invited to Attend Our  
**ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
 Honoring Those Who Make A Difference In The  
 Lives Of Seniors And People With Disabilities  
 And In Appreciation For Our Volunteers  
 Wednesday, June 18, 2008  
 Cornerstone Center for the Arts  
 520 E. Main St., Muncie  
 Registration at 11:30 a.m.  
 Program and Lunch at Noon  
 Speaker: Dr. David Gobble  
 Fisher Institute for Wellness  
 And Gerontology  
 Living Healthy... Today and Tomorrow  
 Cost: \$25  
 No Cost for Volunteers  
 (Angel Worx, Board Members or Advisory Councils)  
 Please RSVP to LifeStream Services, (800-589-1121)

***Remember to shop local in the year 2008!***

**Board of Directors  
 2007-2008**

**Officers**

Janet Blake, President  
*Next Level Communication, Inc.*

Scott Nicholson, President Elect  
*Mutual Federal Savings Bank*

Michael Powell, Vice-President  
*Mississinewa School Admin*

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

Mark Sullivan, Ex-Officio  
*Irving Materials, Inc.*

**Members**

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

Dennis Banks  
*Star Financial*

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

Nancy Bryant  
*Gas City-Mill Twp. Library*

Aleta Goins  
*Howe's Financial Services, Inc.*

Scott Murphy  
*Wal-Mart Distribution*

David Penticuff  
*Chronicle-Tribune*

Denny Smith  
*2 B Personalized*

Larry Terwillegar  
*Masonic Lodge #645*

**Executive Director**

Penny A. Garrett