

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

July 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.

Welcome New Members

Back Creek Kennels (Boarding/Grooming)

Charles Armes, Owner

6372 Fairmount Avenue, Jonesboro IN 46938

Ph. 765-677-0837 or E-mail: backcreekkennels@sbcglobal.net

Correction:

The Chamber welcomes Pratt Web Design, name of business spelled incorrectly in the last *Chamber Notes* newsletter. The business has a new physical address: 215 South Adams Street, Suite 200, Marion IN 46952. Post Office Box 1334 remains the same.

Important Dates

Visit www.gascity.com to link to the online Community Calendar sponsored by **IMI**

- 07/03/08 Board Executive Officers Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. – **Chamber Office** Conference Room
- 07/08/08 Small Business Mentoring Group @ 8:00 a.m. – **Chronicle-Tribune Office** Conference Room – Meetings by appointment only; call the Chamber Office ph. 674-7545.
- 07/10/08 Board of Directors Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. – **Chamber Office** Conference Room
- 07/16/08 Director's Luncheon @ 12 Noon – **Eastview Wesleyan Church** (*Guaranteed reservations required NLT July 11, 2008.* Call 674-7545 and leave message to make a reservation.)
SPEAKERS: Colonial Oaks Health Care & Rehabilitation, Grant County Heating & Plumbing
MENU: Chicken Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Toss Salad w/Crackers, Apple Flatty, Drink - \$6.00
GREETERS: Diplomats Nancy Bryant, Caleb Crandall, Darin Webb
- 07/22/08 Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

5th Annual Gas City Area Chamber Golf Outing
July 25, 2008
11:00 a.m. Registration & Lunch / 12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start
CLUB RUN @ Walnut Creek Golf Course – www.walnutcreekgolf.com
For additional information and registration form go to
<http://www.gascity.com/2008GolfRegistration.htm>

Summer Sounds in Gas City Park

July 2008 Concert Schedule

July 1	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

Meet the Chamber Executive Officers 2007-2009



JANET BLAKE, President

Co-Owner/President, Next Level Communication, Inc. VerizonWireless Authorized Retailer

Janet, originally from Atlantic City, New Jersey, has been here since 1999. Janet graduated from New Jersey College of Commerce and holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration. Janet's experience ranges from foodservice buyer for Kraft Foods, Sales Manager and General Manager for Applied Packaging Technology in New Jersey and Quality Assurance Manager for Carr Lowry Glass Co. in Baltimore, Maryland. Janet has traveled throughout the U.S. and Europe, she has an intense work ethic and strives to "be the best" at whatever she does. Janet is also a realtor, past member of the Marion Area Board of Realtors and Past President of the Kiwanis International in Gas City. Currently she is on the YWCA Board of Directors, Chronicle-Tribune Advisory Board and United Way of Grant County Board of

Directors. She is a member of ICE at Taylor University and serves as a Diplomat for the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce.

SCOTT NICHOLSON, President-Elect **Mutual Federal Bank Branch Manager**

Scott graduated from Mississinewa in 1988 and Indiana University in 1992. Scott has been married to Kathy (Brown) for over 10 years and they have a son Tyce and a daughter named Rani. In addition to his family, Scott loves Justice, their Black Lab dog and is actively involved in Ole Miss Youth Sports (formerly Mississinewa Youth Sports, Inc.).



MICHAEL POWELL, Vice-President **Superintendent, Mississinewa School Administration**

Mr. Powell has been a Grant County resident his entire life. Born in Marion, he graduated from Marion High School. He is married to wife Judy and they have a son, Cory, who is a 2007 Mississinewa graduate and now attends Huntington University and plays golf for the University. Powell received a BS in Math from Indiana State University and a MA in Secondary Education from Ball State. His teaching career began in the fall of 1971. He has served as Athletic Director, Baseball Coach and Basketball Coach. In 1984 he came to Mississinewa School as Assistant Principal, named Principal of Mississinewa High School in 1990 and Superintendent of the Mississinewa Community Schools in 2002. Powell has served on the Gas City Area Chamber Board of Directors for five years.



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

Candace is a supervisor with Dulin, Ward & DeWald, Inc. and has been with the firm since January 1999. Candace is a certified public accountant and graduated from Ball State University in 1990 and has nearly twenty years of experience in various areas of accounting including public, industry and non-profit. Candace is very involved in the community having served as President of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce and now fills the position of Treasurer. She is currently Treasurer of Ole Miss Youth Sports, Inc. Candace was also co-founder of Mississinewa Youth Sports, Inc and former Secretary of 3-Way Recreation. Candace has also served on various other boards including Marion Philharmonic Orchestra and the Marion Chapter of American Society of Women Accountants.



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

Mark, originally from Fairmount, is a graduate of Southern Wells High School. Post graduation he joined the military where he was a Communication Security Technician and Crash Recovery Specialist for the 9th Air Force and the United States Central Command. Mark is a Sales Representative and Manager for Irving Materials, Inc. and performs business and landscaping consultation. He is supported by his wife Brenda and a daughter, Brooke. Mark is an active member of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce, Marion-Grant County Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee, Grant County Economic Growth Council, Grant County Manufacturers Association, Indiana Mineral Aggregate Association Public Information Committee, H.O.G. of Marion and Muncie as well as a member of Indiana Region 3 ABATE.

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

I've learned that keeping a vegetable garden is worth a medicine cabinet full of pills. – Age 52

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you miss them terribly after they die. – Age 53

Director's Luncheon Recap

The monthly Director's Luncheon was held at Eastview Wesleyan Church on Wednesday, June 18 with 41 members guests in attendance. Janet Blake, Chamber President, presided making the following announcements:

- New Members joining in May and June were welcomed: Helvie & Sons, Inc., YWCA, City of Jonesboro, LifeStream Services, Pratt Web Design, Miller's Merry Manor, Taste of Texan, Back Creek Kennels and RAS Express.
- New Diplomat, Aleta Goins was introduced and welcomed.

Guest Speakers were as follows:

- Grant County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Karen Niverson, Executive Director presented a viewing of the recently published DVD entitled *Gas City: An Indiana Boom Town*. This production was a collaborative effort with Marion/Grant County CVB, Gas City Historical Society, Indiana Wesleyan University and IWU student Chelsey Ponce. Members were encouraged to show the mini-documentary at locally hosted meetings and conferences in an effort to raise awareness and to share our heritage. Copies of the DVD are free and available at the CVB or Gas City Area Chamber Office.
- Michelle Peterson, Via Credit Union (formerly Marion School Employees Credit Union) spoke about the recent name change. The MSECUCU members were invited to make suggestions, a committee was appointed and the decision was made to change the name to Via, which stands for pathway. The hope is that their new name will now better reflect their community membership charter.

- Jim Goodpaster, JG Consulting Group, Inc., related his personal successes and failures upon start-up of his company. He shared The 10 Facts Every Business Owner Must Know About Merchant Accounts and offered free analysis of current merchant services for Grant County area businesses. His motto is that if he cannot reduce your cost he will personally give you \$100.

Welcome New Diplomat

The DIPLOMATS welcome Aleta Goins, **Howe's Financial Services, Inc.**, as their newest member and give thanks for commendable service to Kelly Ailstock, **Renbarger Insurance & Financial Service, Inc.**, who resigned her services. For information concerning membership or services of the Diplomats, contact Anita M. Rice, Diplomat Coordinator, ph. 674-7545

Are You Aware

Among the many benefits to members, the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce located at 316 East Main Street in beautiful downtown Gas City, Indiana has a boardroom available for use by members. This room is beautifully appointed with seating capacity for 12 and may be scheduled by calling the Chamber Office, ph. 674-7545.

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.

Little Tot's Childcare By Emily Leist and Cody Young

"DON'T RUN," is something that you may hear at Little Tot's Childcare center, owned by Kimberly Young, located at 319 East South "E" Street Gas City, IN. Her main "business" is childcare.

Young didn't think she was going to be a childcare provider when she was younger. She said, "I thought I would be a hair beautician. I worked in a day care when I was in high school and I liked it but I never dreamed it would be a rewarding and wonderful job."

Young said she started this business because, "I was at home with my new born child, and I had a friend who wanted me to take care of their child. Then another to take care of too. So I started out small but as people approached me to watch there children I decided to get licensed and get my degree in early childhood development."

"This year I have three 4-year olds that go to Westview Elementary for Preschool. I still do worksheets and teach the basics like the alphabet, numbers and colors with children who are 3 and up. Younger children have the opportunity to express personal interest like coloring or playing with blocks," said Young.

Young, who has been in business for six years, has four employees working for her, two full time and two part-time. Her daycare opens with children arriving as early as 5:30 a.m. and closing at 5:30 p.m.

Young loves to teach and learn with the children. She loves the way the children react towards each other. They mimic what they see in their older peers and parents.

"Children truly are what their environment is. All children learn, I feel like if more attention is focused on the Early Childhood years, there would be less violence in our schools and eventually everywhere," said Young.

"EVERYONE feels over stressed or over worked at some point, both children and adults. At times it's difficult to control a child who's throwing a fit, or not following rules. It's also difficult to continue giving care when you are not feeling well, you have to put the children's needs and interest above your own needs and care. However, I would have to say the hardest thing in my job is dealing with parents when discussing their child's negative behavior or a problem. Some seem to react offended at you, in hopes of the problem not being brought up again. Parents should want to be a team with Childcare Providers in providing discipline and care. That's not always the case," Young said.

You have to get things together every morning for the kids that might come in early like Young has to do.

"I get out the pillow and blankets for the children arriving the earliest. I also have to have planned for there to be enough food and milk for the children. Some of the kids need to get dressed, have their hair fixed and teeth brushed before school. Morning times during the school year is one of the busiest times," said Young.

Young has 16 children enrolled. Two of which are drop-ins. Eight that are there before and after school. The rest of the children, the six, are there all day.

At work you always have some sort of problem. This might be something that you least like about your job.

"Having to deal with non-paying parents. I also dislike it when people call me a babysitter. I sit on no babies or children, I care for them, teach them and love them," said Young.

"To work with children is very rewarding. To know that you can make a difference in a life that will last until death is a serious responsibility, one that should be used with sincere understanding and tolerance. With the positive influence of role models, children learn how to properly interact with peers, and successfully handle difficult situations," said Young in conclusion.

Quote of the month...

"We have such a wide range of people here (at the Gas City Eugene "Beaner" Linn Memorial Park Band shell). It's great family entertainment."
--Mark Storey
Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce Corporate Arts Series Project Chairman



OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, July 17, 2008 ~ 2:30—6:30 p.m.

****Bring this card to the Open House to enter a drawing for the door prize.**

Coming to Colonial Oaks:
August 14 & 15
 AARP Driver Safety Program

For more information:
Call: 765-674-2261

Located south on Harmon Street
4714 S. Colonial Oaks Dr. Marion

Come join us for a tour and fellowship at Colonial Oaks Retirement Community:

- 2:30 p.m. Best Years Singers in Concert (Rotunda)
- Complimentary hot dogs, chips, pretzels, popcorn, and cold beverages (Rotunda)
- Musical talent featuring retirement residents (Rotunda and Atrium)

Websites of Interest

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

Remember to shop local in the year 2008!

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**Board of Directors
2008-2009****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, Sec'y-Treas

Dulin, Ward & DeWald, Inc.

Mark Sullivan, Ex-Officio

Irving Materials, Inc.

MEMBERS:**VACANT POSITION**

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 Center

David Penticuff

Chronicle-Tribune

Denny Smith

ZB Personalized

Larry Terwillegar

Masonic Lodge #645

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Penny A. Garrett