

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

September 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.



Golf Cart Raffle

Tickets only \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00

4-passenger **Brand New 2007 E-Z-GO Sport 2+2 Gas Golf Cart** – Retail value \$6,000. The golf cart features a yellow body, tan seats, extended top, rear flip seat, trail wolf tires, rearview mirror, wheel covers, lift kit, and a 2 year factory warranty. **Hurry, time is running out to buy tickets!** The drawing will be held at noon on Sunday,

September 28 at the Ducktail Run Car Show. You do not need to be present to win; the winner will be called following the drawing. Tickets may be purchased at the chamber office, online or at many area businesses. Contact the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce for more information at 765.674.7545 or visit www.GasCity.com.

Important Dates

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

- 09/04/08 Board Executive Officers Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. – **Chamber Office** Conference Room
- 09/09/08 Small Business Mentoring Group @ 8:00 a.m. – **Chronicle-Tribune Office** Conference Room – Meetings by appointment only; call the Chamber Office ph. 674-7545.
- 09/11/08 Board of Directors Meeting @ 8:00 a.m. – **Chamber Office** Conference Room
- 09/17/08 Director's Luncheon @ 12 Noon – **Eastview Wesleyan Church** (*Guaranteed reservations required by September 12, 2008. Call 674-7545 to make a reservation.*)
SPEAKERS: Center Group and Project Leadership
MENU: Potato Bar, Creamy Slaw, Garlic Toast, Yummy Dessert, Drink – Cost: \$6.00
- 09/18/08 Small Business Mentoring Group Seminar – Topic: Marketing. Watch for details.
- 09/22/08 Newsletter Article Submission Deadline



Welcome to Gas City!
Electric Cars & Carts
 120 W Main St
 (765) 661-2625



Hometown Animal Hospital Open House

94 Schaefer Dr, Gas City

September 6, 12 – 4 pm

Activities include Pony Cart Rides, Obedience and Police Dog Demonstrations (2pm), Pet Photos. All Outdoor Activities are weather permitting. Enter to win door prizes which include an I-Pod, a HomeAgain Microchip, and a Grooming Package from Char's Doggy Day Spa. Prizes will be awarded for: Name the Hometown Hedgehog Contest (judged by Larry Leach, Mayor of Gas City), Pet Photography Contest (judged by Carl Saathoff of Portrayal Studios), and the Pet Costume Contest (judged by Judy King of Gas City). For more information call 674-Pets (7387). Come and enjoy all the fun and activities and purchase your Chamber Golf Cart Raffle tickets!

YMCA Grand Opening Celebration

Saturday, September 6

March/Parade: Gather at the old Y (418 W Third St) between 12-12:45 pm. Group will be marching to the new Y. Parade will start at 1:00 pm. Festivities at the new Y will follow which will include: Color Guard, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Building Dedication, Fire Truck Rides, Smile Seeker Clowns, Give-Aways, Tours, and MORE!

Twin City We Care Golf Scramble “Toys for Kids”

Saturday, September 6

Tee times are available on first paid basis. Tee times may be requested between 7:30 am to 11:00 am. This is a fund raiser for the needy families in the Gas City area. The money raised is used to buy toys and necessities for families at Christmas. We Care purchases toys with the money earned from the event. Parents are allowed to pick out 1 primary toy (approx. \$25), 1 secondary toy (approx. \$7.50), and several stocking stuffers (approx \$2.00). Each child also gets 3 pairs of underwear, 1 sweatshirt, 1 hat, 1 pair of gloves and 3 pairs of socks. Please help support the kids of our community by enjoying a round of golf with We Care!

Mar-Brook Campground Recognition of new owners

Tuesday, September 9, 11 am – 1 pm

6690 E 600 S, Gas City, 765.674.4383

www.marbrookcampground.com

Please join us in welcoming Mike and Ellen Slattery, new owners of Mar-Brook Campgrounds, at their open house. Hotdogs, chips and drinks will be served. Mar-brook Campground, where beauty meets family fun. Bring your children for a fun-filled time, or leave them at home for a relaxing get-away. Campground offers everything you could want in outdoor fun.

Smitty's Truck Wash, Inc. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

6050 E 500 S, Gas City

Wednesday, September 10

Please join us in welcoming this new business to our community. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11: 00 am and Open House 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Refreshments will be served.

Gas City Historical Society Rummage Sale

West School Gym

September 12 & 13, 8 am – 4 pm

Tables will be available for rent at \$10 each. Proceeds from the rummage will go toward an elevator for the museum. For more information call JoAnn Frame, 674-2906, Patty Chapman, 674-5377, or Lana Pattison, 661-5360.

The Primitive Inn Open House

Saturday, September 20, 10 am – 4 pm

125 W Main St, Gas City, 765.674.2466

Please join Leilani Gouchenouer, owner of The Primitive Inn, during her open house. Earlier this year The Primitive Inn was 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.

Ducktail Run Rod & Custom Show

9/27/2008 - 9/28/2008

Beaner Linn Park, Gas City

Cars from over 40 states and Canada travel to participate in this show. Swap meets, crafts, and live entertainment all weekend. Muffler rapping, flame-throwing contests. All makes and models on display. For more information: Car Show Info, 765-662-2343 or Vendor Info, 765-934-2102 or visit www.ducktailrun.com.

Quotes... *"Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today."* – **James Dean**

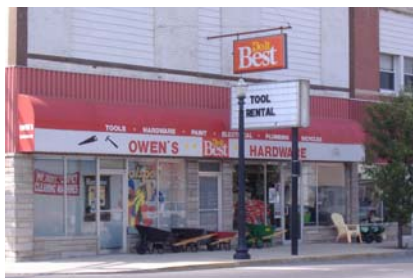
"As long as you're going to be thinking, THINK BIG." – **Donald Trump**

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.

Owen's Hardware, by Julia Shannon



Owen's hardware is Gas City, Indiana local hardware, now owned by Dave Owen. Before Dave owned the store, it was his father's. The business had definitely grown over the years.

Owen had reasons after college why he chose to work at his father's store.

"I graduated from college and I wanted a job I can work with people and a job I can work with my hands," said Owen.

Owen enjoys going into work and seeing what it has in store for him. "The fact that everyday is different," said Owen, is his favorite part of the day. Of course, like most jobs, there are some things that he does not enjoy about the day at work and for Owen that would be the "book work" he has to do. Owen everyday has a full day of work that he has to do. Each day he usually does about the same tasks to get ready for the day and what it has to offer.

"I usually get here two hours early," said Owen "then before the store opens I do bookwork, prepare orders, then I open the store and help customers,"

Owen, of course, has a staff at his store that is helping his business out. Some of them have even been working there for a while.

Owen says he has six workers on staff at his store.

When starting a job there are usually things you must learn at the beginning. Owen himself had to learn things when starting on the job.

"Learning the self discipline to put in the time and being patient, allowing enough time to build the business," said Owen.

Owen's Hardware has been in the family for 47 years, but it has not always been Owen's Hardware, and has gone through different looks.

Owen said, "When we started, it was a Western Auto Store (auto parts, toys, and sporting goods) and today we sell strictly hardware."

The community has definitely had an affect on the hardware and has helped Owen's Hardware out.

"The people of this community had been very loyal to this family and the business for 47 years and the community support makes it enjoyable to go to work everyday," said Owen.

Letters to the Editor...

2008 Gas City Gospel Concerts in the Park

brought to you by Mayor Larry Leach and the Gas City Park Board

September 2	"CROSSWALK"
September 9	"THE JUBILEES"
September 16	"ONE WAY HEAVEN BOUND"
September 23	"PSALMS 33:3"

Eugene "Beaner" Linn Bandshell

Gas City Park, South Broadway St, Gas City, IN

All concerts at 7:30 p.m. - RAIN OR SHINE

In case of bad weather, concerts will be held at New Hope Baptist Church – 800 East South "C" Street

Donations will be asked for at the concert to help cover the group's expenses.

Thompson-Ray House



LEAD Inc, in partnership with the city of Gas City and local visionaries, is working to preserve a Grant County Historical Home and develop a Leadership Training Center. A private fundraiser and public showing of the historic Thompson-Ray House, 407 E. Main St, was held in August. Event organizers, including LEAD Inc. and the Gas City Historical Society, used the events to show off the house's unique architecture, notable history and plans for what the groups hope will be a public meeting space and house programs that develop leaders through education, service and community.

The house is going through a series of grants with the hopes of eventually fixing up and restoring the building, according to Amy Hollaway, executive director of LEAD Inc. The first grant was a planning grant to determine the feasibility of the project the groups envisioned. Now, those working on the house are applying for a grant of the state's Office of Community and Rural Affairs to perform restorations to the house. "Part of the OCRA grant is the community matching pledges," Hollaway said, which is why events have been held. Friday's private wine-tasting fundraiser probably raised about \$8,000, Hollaway estimated. About \$100,000 in corporate sponsorships was raised for the house but hope to come up with about \$250,000 to ensure the building's future.

Ways to help

Donate your time: Research the history of the Thompson-Ray House, and participate in ongoing activities to educate the community about the Thompson-Ray House and the history of Gas City.

Make a financial pledge: LEAD Inc requires financial commitments from area donors to ensure the Community Focus Fund grant can be secured. Pledges can come in the form of one-time donations or written pledges to give once the grant is secured. *Send pledges and donations to Thompson-Ray House Preservation Society, PO Box 225, Gas City, IN 46933.*

Write letters of support: A key component of the grant application is written letters of support from local community members, especially residents of Gas City, Indiana. Address letters to: Office of Community and Rural Affairs, One North Capitol, Ste 600, Indianapolis, IN 46504 and mail to *Thompson-Ray House Preservation Society, PO Box 225, Gas City, IN 46933.* Suggestions for what to include in your letter: your name, age, address and how long you have lived in Gas City; any memories you have of the Thompson-Ray House; why it is important to you and the community for the Thompson-Ray House to be restored to its former condition; any reasons you can think of to support funding for the historic preservation.

For additional information visit www.leadinc.us or call Amy at (765) 251-3546.

Kiwanis All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry

The Kiwanis Club of Gas City will sponsor an All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry on Friday September 12, 2008 in the Mississinewa High School cafeteria from 4:00 to 7:00pm prior to the Oak Hill vs. Mississinewa varsity football game.

Please contact a member of the Gas City Kiwanis Club for ticket information. For additional information, contact Dave Huffman at 765-677-9943.

Indiana Business College Receives State Chamber Recognition

PRESS RELEASE

780 N Miller Avenue, Marion, IN 46952-2338

Phone: 765-662-7497, Email: richard.herman@ibcschools.edu

Web: <http://www.ibcschools.edu>

Indiana Business College has been voted 18th in the state of Indiana for best places to work in large companies of over 250 employees.

Indiana Business College has been recognized by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce as one of the best places to work in Indiana. Sixty-six companies were awarded this honor in two areas, small to mid-

sized companies (25-249 employees) and large companies (250 or more employees), with IBC rating at 18th in the state in the large company category. Winners of this prestigious honor are selected upon review of employee surveys and employer reports.

Marion's Indiana Business College is a postsecondary, proprietary accredited college. Since its inception in 1902 as the first IBC campus in the state, the goal of this college has been to provide skills and training that benefit industries and employers in our area. Currently, Marion' campus offers certificate and degree programs in Medical, Business, and Criminal Justice areas.

Indiana Business College prides itself on its family-oriented atmosphere. Their principles include faith and family, health, and your job. It is the belief of this college that these personal attributes, added to your job, make for a happier, more well-rounded and balanced professional. In addition, the company works hard to include its employees in strategic planning and initiatives so voices are heard and ideas are acted upon throughout the corporation.



Indiana Business College Recognized for Contributions to Local Community

The Marion Campus of Indiana Business College has been recognized by its corporate office and President for its contributions in community service to local community organizations.

At its 17th annual statewide awards day this past Friday in Indianapolis, Indiana Business College recognized the Marion campus for their dedication and service to the local community. Over \$7,332 was raised for local community organizations with over 1980 hours dedicated to serving local needs.

The Marion campus would like to thank those in the community, as well as faculty and students who donated time and money to help with year's successful campaign. Your assistance brought a little light to the following community recipients: Grant County Cancer Services, Local IBC Community Families Christmas Project, MDA Children's Camp, Salvation Army, Veteran's of Grant County, and United Way of Grant County.

Marion's Indiana Business College is a postsecondary, proprietary accredited college. Since its inception in 1902 as the first IBC campus in the state, the goal of this college has been to provide skills and training that benefit industries and employers in our area. Currently, Marion' campus offers certificate and degree programs in Medical, Business, and Criminal Justice.

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

I learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance. –Age 62

I learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands.

You need to be able to throw something back. – Age 64

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

Business.gov

For most companies, gadgets have been around for awhile, but www.business.gov is one of the first government programs to utilize them as a true service tool for start-up and small businesses.

This new toolkit allows small business owners to:

- Search for information, forms, and contacts from federal, state and local governments
- Find topics of current interest to the nation's small business community
- Get a listing of licenses and permits that apply to your business
- Watch videos featuring expert advice from successful entrepreneurs and small business owners

Check it out for yourself at, <http://www.business.gov/about/gadget.html>.

Remember to shop local in the year 2008!

CHAMBER NOTES

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Wal-Mart Distribution Center
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