



# Area Chamber of Commerce

## MEMBER

## CONNECTION

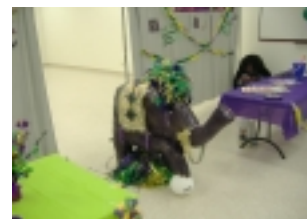
February  
2006

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Wabash, Indiana 46992  
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Kimberly Pinkerton, Editor

### Home and Business Expo 2006 - Mardi Gras!

It's coming this March 11 and 12!!! You won't want to miss this exciting opportunity to showcase your company's products/services to over 2500 visitors. This year's Home and Business Expo, corporately sponsored by **First Farmers Bank and Trust** is building on the festive Mardi Gras theme and will feature over 70 booths inside the beautiful **Honeywell Center**. Space is also available on the patio and street for autos, boats, tents, model homes and more. If your business wants to let the citizens of Wabash and surrounding counties know more about your products, call the Chamber to get your booth reserved today! Thanks to special event sponsor



**Wabash County Hospital**, the day will also feature cooking demonstrations by the Honeywell Center and Eugenia's Restaurant's own Gourmet Chef Harry Kilmer, and palm readings by a local fortune teller. Kids will enjoy the balloon activities. Thanks to Lisa Gage of **McKillip's Seed**, a silent auction will be held, as well. Come check out the exciting displays that will be available! Our thanks to media sponsor **Wabash Plain Dealer** for their assistance in making this event a true showcase for our local businesses.



#### Gold Members

Beacon Credit Union  
Pettit Printing, Inc.  
First Federal Savings Bank  
Richard Ford  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Miller's Merry Manor  
Frances Slocum Bank  
Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.  
First Farmers Bank & Trust  
Bulldog Battery  
Physician's Health Plan of Northern  
Indiana, Inc.

#### Member Benefits

Member-to-Member Discount Card  
Insurance Discounts - Health & Commercial  
FREE Small Business Counseling  
Networking  
Website & Physical Directory Listings  
Business Referrals  
Gift Certificate Program  
Business Information Links  
Government Affairs  
Seminars/Educational Opportunities  
.....and more!  
Take advantage of your membership investment!



**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 COMPLETED ADDITIONAL TRAINING? WE WANT TO KNOW. SHARE THESE THINGS WITH YOUR CHAMBER PARTNERS. THEY TOO ENJOY HEARING. CALL, FAX, E-MAIL, OR MAIL NOTES TO THE CHAMBER OFFICE.**

Congratulations to the **The Huber Agency** for the following production-based awards: All American Award for 2005 Overall Production, AFLIC Award for Life Insurance production, and the Centurion Award for commercial insurance production. Lynn and staff are to be commended for their professional achievements.

Welcome to **Brad Thurmond**, the new Dean of the **Wabash Ivy Tech Community College**. The Chamber wishes you all the best in your new position!

Worried about those privacy issues and what to do with all those excess paper trails? Call Kathy Bakehorn (563-8411) of **ARC of Wabash County, Inc.**, to find out how their shredding services can help your company. Also, don't forget that the ARC crew provides mailing services as well - so let them help with your next newsletter.

**Wabash Realty, Inc.** has moved! Please welcome them in their new location at 54 W. Market St., right next to the Tremont Parking Lot. Owner Christy Kisner and her staff will be happy to help you with all your real estate needs. Tel. 260-563-7246.

**Wabash City Police Department** is seeking the help of Wabash businesses in reaching community safety goals. Police Chief Charlie Smith has carefully selected diverse, contemporary, safety information materials provided by the National Child Safety Council (a 501(c)3 entity). The materials will address topics such as stranger danger, drug & gang awareness, identity theft, violence, and senior safety. To be able to make this program a success, your sponsorships are needed. Please call the Police Department at 563-1111 for more information on how you may be of assistance.

**The Honeywell Center's** March lineup includes: Little Bit O' Branson, Mar. 4; The Ten Tenors, Mar. 12; REO Speedwagon, Mar. 17; Vicki Lawrence & Mama: A Two-Woman Show, Mar. 18; An Evening with Ben Vereen on Mar. 25; and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Mar. 28. Also, don't forget the Veggietales Rockin' Tour Live coming May 7. Remember to enjoy Chef Harry's exquisite dining experiences at Eugenia's Restaurant, as well. Visit [www.honeywellcenter.org](http://www.honeywellcenter.org) for ticket and other detailed information.

Our former Chamber President, Galen Bremmer, is currently serving the Madison (Indiana) Chamber of Commerce. He welcomes hearing from Wabash County friends at the following information: Galen L. Bremmer, Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, 975 Industrial Drive, Madison, IN 47250. He can also be reached by phone at 812-265-3135, ext. 225; fax 812-265-5544; or email [gbremmer@madisonchamber.org](mailto:gbremmer@madisonchamber.org).

Mike Ruse, owner of **Mike's Service Station**, located at 6 West Hill Street, Wabash, is now providing a pick-up service for anyone within 5 miles of Wabash. This convenient service is available to individuals at home or at the office that are in need of routine maintenance or automotive service for their vehicle. Call Mike's Service Station at 563-2370 to set up an appointment and they will do the rest! Thank you Mike and staff!

## February's Featured Business: Bass and Bucks



Have you every wanted to try your hand at archery, fishing or hunting, and wasn't sure where to go? If you've never checked out Bass and Bucks, you've been missing a real Wabash County treat. Home to an outdoor sports-lover's dream, and host to a multitude of outdoor shoots, family-owned Bass and Bucks, located at 4890 W. Millcreek Pike, offers year-round events and products. Nestled among rolling timber that borders the Wabash river, their facility is equipped for complete guided hunts, including lodging and hot meals. Cold weather won't hinder archery enthusiasts from engaging in their favorite sport, either. Taking advantage of one of the area's largest indoor ranges, archers can shoot spots at 20 yards or 3D animal targets out to 50 yards. Bass and Bucks also boasts a 40 target, outdoor 3D range and a 700 yard rifle range. Owners Glenn and Sheila Butcher, along with daughter Tabitha and son Josh, welcome hunting and fishing enthusiasts to check out their full line of archery, guns and ammo, muzzleloaders, hunting and fishing gear, as well as a full complement of accessories. The family is pleased to assist both new and seasoned outdoor enthusiasts, priding themselves on their friendly and knowledgeable customer service. Whether you need help with form, technique or gun sighting, or want your children to enjoy the outdoors with you, the staff is ready to serve your needs. The facility is currently open Wednesday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday 1 - 5 p.m., with retail service seven days a week during peak hunting season. For more information, telephone 260-569-1853, or visit [www.bassandbucks.com](http://www.bassandbucks.com). The Chamber thanks Bass and Bucks for their huge draw of sporting enthusiasts from all over the country to Wabash County, and wish them continued success. Brochures are available at your Chamber office.



### 2006 Event Schedule

#### January - March

Indoor Archery

#### April - September

3D Archery

#### October - December

7/day retail

#### January 15

NFAA District 2

#### February 11

USBA Indoors

#### March 4

IBO Hooseir Indorr 3D

Challenge 3<sup>rd</sup> Leg

#### March 11

Quail's Unlimited Banquet

#### April 8-9

3D Trophy Shoot

#### May 5-7

Millcreek Traditional Shoot

#### May 27-29

IBO State Championship

#### June 3-4

USBA Buckle Series

#### July 1-2

Indiana Big 3D 4<sup>th</sup> Leg

#### August 12

Friends of NRA Day

#### August 26-27

Rinehart R-100

#### September 2-3

USBA National

#### September 23-24

Hunter's Challenge



## Small Business Development Center Chamber Hours and Upcoming Seminar Schedule

Your Chamber is proud to host the local Small Business Development Center on the first Tuesday and third Thursday of each month. Whether you have questions on business start-up or are a seasoned business with questions on expansion, cash flow options or other needs, the SBDC offers trained counselors to assist you in developing sound business operating options, and best of all—these services are offered at no cost to you and your employees. Just call the Chamber to schedule your appointment.

For a small fee, the SBDC will be offering an Ebay Seminar on April 12 at the Kokomo office, a Funding Options for Small Business Workshop on April 5, at the Wabash Chamber office from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and a Pre-Business Workshop on Mar 16, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., also at the Wabash Chamber office. A Step by Step Guide to Writing a Business Plan will also be offered at the Kokomo office on March 29, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. For local seminars/workshops call Chamber office at 260-563-1168. For Kokomo sessions, call the SBDC at 1-765-454-7922 or visit their website at [www.isbdc.org](http://www.isbdc.org).

# WABASH AREA CHAMBER COMMITTEE NEWS

## Government Affairs

After a very successful State of the City Address by Mayor Vanlandingham in January, the Government Affairs Committee quickly began preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> House Session. This gathering, held last Saturday, brought our local state legislators Senator Gary "Doc" Dillon, Senator Thomas Weatherwax and Rep. Bill Ruppel; along with Congressman Burton's Special Assistant, Alicia Hazelwood, to Wabash. We hope you were a part of this update on current legislative issues for our area. The committee hopes to host a candidate forum before the upcoming elections. We will keep you posted as this event develops.

## Agricultural Committee

Watch for information on the upcoming Ag Day, March 24. Ag Chair Darin Hadley is working with the committee on this joint project between North Manchester and the Wabash Chambers. The event will include well-known speakers, a tour of a local agricultural facility and breakfast. We are also grateful to Matt Prine and Monica Knap of Congressman Burton's office for holding an informal agricultural forum luncheon, sponsored by the Chamber and Wells Fargo. We appreciate the input of those businesses who attended.

**From the Purdue Extension Office:** Adult Farmer Classes Upcoming (held at Southwood High School at 7:00 p.m.) **February 27** - Farm Bill – What Can We Expect? **March 6** - Pursuing New Opportunities in Agriculture. **March 13** – North Central Coop Fertilizer and Chemicals - What's New. Also, the Crop Production Clinic / PARP (Private Applicator Recertification Program) will be held on Monday, February 27, at the Somerset Community Bldg., from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Contact the extension office at 260-563.-0661, ext. 245, for more information.

## Public Relations

The Public Relations Committee is very active with the Business Before Hours and the Chamber's new logo design. The new logo will reflect our vision for the future and its launch will coincide with the Chamber's move to its new location.

## Seminar Committee

This committee will be meeting in the near future to work on a professional development seminar to be held on March 28. Watch for upcoming details. The next Lunch & Learn Seminar is March 9, from noon to one at Beacon Credit Union Admin. Bldg., on Wabash St. **Topic:** How to Prepare Presentations to your Staff, Peers, or Boss, presented by Ivy Tech Community College. Sponsor is The Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.

## Education Projects

Honor Student Luncheon Committee is preparing for its Sixth Annual Honor Student Luncheon, which hosts students from all the county high schools. This event will be held on April 13, and is aimed at reducing the Indiana Brain Drain. Letters will be mailed on February 28, inviting business sponsors to attend the luncheon and network with the students, as well as cover the cost of student lunches.



## From TAP (Purdue Technical Assistance Program)

A newly recruited crop of interns from Purdue University's Technical Assistance Program is waiting to be connected with Indiana employers looking for summer assistance. For more information, visit [http://www.tap.purdue.edu/HTML/intern/employ\\_info.html](http://www.tap.purdue.edu/HTML/intern/employ_info.html).

## From the Indiana Manufacturers Association

The Indiana Manufacturers Association and INSAFE will be conducting a dozen OSHA certification training programs in 2006, and participants will be eligible for scholarships. To register, visit their website at [www.imaweb.com](http://www.imaweb.com) or call Kelly Spector at 800-462-7762.

### **10-Hour Certification Courses in Fort Wayne:**

Mar 1-2 or Sept. 6-7 – Ft. Wayne Location TBA

10-Hour Certification Courses in Indianapolis:

At the IMA Conference Center on the following dates: Mar. 21-22, May 3-4, June 7-8, July 12-13, Aug. 9-10, Sept. 6-7, Nov 1-2, or Dec. 6-7.

### **20-Hour Certification Courses in Indianapolis at the IMA Conference Center:**

Apr. 4-6 or Oct. 3-5

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### Need an Intern?

If you missed out on applying for an intern from Manchester College this year, check out a new resource for connecting students, employers and universities: IndianaINTERNnet at [www.indianaintern.net](http://www.indianaintern.net). You will be asked to register as either a student, business or educational institution and then you will have access to this great resource.



## From the Indiana Chamber

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Employment Law Seminar will be held on March 28, at the Radisson Hotel City Centre, Indianapolis. The Seminar will be presented by Baker & Daniels, LLP, and is approved for 5.75 recertification credit hours toward PHR, SPHR, and GPHR recertification through the Human Resource Certification Institute. Cost is \$299 for Indiana Chamber members and \$399 for nonmembers. To register contact [seminars@indianachamber.com](mailto:seminars@indianachamber.com).

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## Global Business

The International Center of Indianapolis will host an Employer Forum on Wednesday, March 1, at the Dow AgroSciences, LLC global headquarters in Indianapolis. Focusing on the rapidly growing areas of India, Japan, Peoples Republic of China, South Korea and Taiwan, the Working with the World seminar will explore how Indiana Companies can attract a diverse workforce, engage and retain multicultural employees and effectively compete in an increasingly global business environment. Tickets are \$150/person and \$135 for each additional persons. Indiana Chamber members qualify for a special discounted rate of \$99. For more info go to [www.icenterindy.org/content.asp?PageID=141](http://www.icenterindy.org/content.asp?PageID=141) or call 317-955-5150.

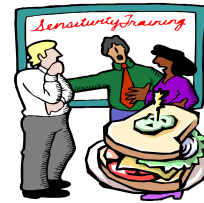


**BOARD MEMBERS**

**2005 -2006**

Douglas Lehman, Chair  
Douglas C. Lehman, PC  
Ron Kerby, Chair Elect  
Frances Slocum Bank  
Andy Eads, Vice Chair  
The Plain Dealer  
Chris Webb, Treasurer  
Alfe Heat Treating, Inc.  
David Rutledge, Past Chair  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Beth Miller, Resource Dev.  
The Huber Agency  
Kimberly Pinkerton, President  
Wabash Area Chamber of  
Commerce

Robert Pearson  
Wabash County REMC  
Tina Byerly  
Beacon Credit Union  
Howard Halderman  
Halderman Farm Management  
John Andersen  
Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.  
Jim Reynolds  
Reynolds Oil  
Larry Hoover  
Quality Electric  
Kathy Jones  
First Farmers Bank & Trust  
Trisha Metzger  
First Federal Savings Bank  
Celia Briggs  
Wabash City Schools  
Greg Metz  
Metz Title



**LUNCH & LEARN SERIES**

**March 9, 2006 - How To Prepare Presentations To Your Staff, Peers or Boss**

**Presented by:** Tom Moorman, Ivy Tech Community College  
**Sponsor:** The Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.

Register for a session by calling the Chamber at 260-563-1168 or e-mailing [lindsey@wabashchamber.org](mailto:lindsey@wabashchamber.org). Cost is \$10 per session for Chamber members or \$20 for non-members.

Interested in a

# Gold Membership?

Any Wabash Area Chamber Member can elevate their membership status to Gold Level by investing an additional \$5 00 above their regular membership investment. In addition to having their company acknowledged at Chamber events and in publications, Gold Level Members receive \$100 in Chamber Bucks and receive a free large rotating banner ad on the Chamber website.

*2 Professional Seminars by  
Constant Training*

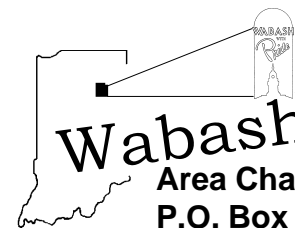
## Customer Service Excellence

**March 28, 2006**  
**Session I - 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.**  
**Session II - 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Location TBA**



**Watch for more details!**

Please notify us of any changes on address label



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**Wabash, IN 46992**