



January/February 2006

Nappanee Area
Chamber of Commerce
(574) 773-7812

Nappaneechamber.com
nappaneecofc@kconline.com

**2006
Calendar
of Events**

Dates to Remember 

Right NOW!

**Make your Reservations
and**

Send in your nominations
for the Nappanee Area
Chamber of Commerce
Annual Dinner Awards!

**Educator of the Year
Citizen(s) of the Year
Business of the Year**

**Redevelopment
Commission**
Jan. 24

Third House Session
Heritage House
Jan. 28 - 8:30 am

**Hosting
Northern Indiana Coop
Meeting**
Feb 1st

**Chamber Retail
NEW DATE**
Friday, Feb. 3rd – 7:30 am

City Council
Feb. 6 – 7:00

Leadership Academy
Feb. 14 – 7:30 am

Valentines Lunch
Heritage House
Feb. 14

**Redevelopment
Commission**
Feb. 14

ANNUAL MEETING

The Nappanee Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its **Chamber Annual Dinner** Thursday, February 16, 2006 at Dal-Mar Banquet Hall. Social Hour and a Silent Auction* start at 6:00 PM. The meal will be served at 6:30. Presenter, Jack Schultz, author of "**Boomtown USA, 7 ½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns**", will tell us why some small towns succeed and others do not. Annual Chamber Awards will also be presented to the Nappanee **Educator, Citizen and Business of the Year**. *Nominations for each of these awards are being accepted at the Chamber office, (574)773-7812 or email nappaneecofc@kconline* The Nappanee **Craftsmanship Award** will be presented to an individual deemed successful in their career craft who has been very important to the Nappanee community. Reservations for a corporate table of 8 (\$275.00) or Individual Seats (\$35.00) are now being accepted. Call the Chamber Office at (574)773-7812, email: nappaneecofc@kconline or Fax: (574)773-4691 for reservations. Payment can be made at the Chamber Office (451 N. Main Street). Mastercard/Visa Accepted.

WHO IS JACK SCHULTZ?

Jack Schultz is the CEO of Agracel, Inc., an Industrial Development firm specializing in the agurban® market. Jack earned a Bachelors degree from Southern Methodist University and an MBA from Harvard. He sits on the board of directors for the 90th largest pension fund, a nationwide trucking company, a bank holding company and a heavy equipment dealer.



In his book, "**Boomtown USA, the 7 ½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns**"

Schultz reveals his Key strategies that allow a community to turn itself around, get residents involved, make a community "special", raise up strong leaders and encourage an entrepreneurial approach by sharing the changes he has witnessed in small towns across the country.

* Please consider contributing an item for the Chamber Silent Auction. The Chamber Office will be happy to pick up your items. Call Dianne Debelak at (574)773-2034 to indicate your support.



WHAT IS A THIRD HOUSE LEGISLATIVE SESSION???

A "Third House" Session is a meeting among Legislators and their constituents in their home community. The Senate and the House of Representatives are the "First and Second Houses" where discussions take place.

GOSHEN COLLEGE UPCOMING EVENTS AT SAUDER CONCERT HALL



March 10 - 7:30
The Blind Boys of
Alabama

March 31 – 7:30
Clarinetist Ricahrd
Stoltzman and pianist
Peter Stoltzman

Feb. 11 – 7:30
The Peter Rowan and
Tony Rice Quartet

For ticket information contact:
Goshen College
1700 S. Main St.
Goshen, IN 46526
574.535.7566
www.goshen.edu/events/performingarts
M-F 8 – 11:30 and 12:30 - 4:30

VALENTINE'S DAY BUSINESS LUNCH

Treat your staff to a **Valentine's Day Business Luncheon** on Tuesday, February 14, 2006 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM at **Heritage House**. All who attend this \$10.00 Buffet Lunch will receive a Valentine flower and be privileged to hear **Angela Miller M.D., Nappanee Family Medical Clinic**, present useful tips on "How to Balance Career and Family" This is the first in a series of monthly business luncheons being sponsored by **Heritage House** and the Nappanee Area Chamber March 3rd, **Mike Aemmer, Family Counselor** and host of WFRN's Aim Straight Friday's radio show will accompany your \$5.00 boxed lunch addressing "How to Combat Self-Talk". April 19th **Gene Bone, Director of Human Resources for Miller's Merry Manor** will present "How To Stay Out of Trouble with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission"



THIRD HOUSE SESSION

The Nappanee Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a **Third House Legislative Session** to be held at 8:30 am on **Saturday, January 28, 2006** at Heritage House (off Country Road 7) in Nappanee. Area Legislators, Jackie Walorski, Bill Friend and State Senator Marvin Reigsecker have been invited to discuss issues such as: Job Creation, Spring ISTEP, Property Tax Reform and Highway Funding. Refreshments will be provided.

NAPPANEE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The **January Leadership Academy** session consisted of a presentation by Superintendent of Wa-Nee Schools, **Joe Sabo**. He indicated that the Wa-Nee Community School system spans 200 square miles and Wa-Nee buses travel 2400 miles a day. The 2005 student enrollment is 3303 with 361 teachers. **Linda Yoder**, Executive Director of the Nappanee Library, gave an overview of the library indicating its establishment in 1921. The first library building was built in 1937 and renovated in 1984 and 2001. They are staffed with 7 fulltime and 15 part-time employees. In 2005 - 237 Volunteers donated 3250 hours of service. Following these presentations, the students traveled to the **Goshen College Music Center** for the cultural part of the class. Completed in 2002, the 68,000 square-foot music center is one of the most acoustically impressive venues in the nation. In addition to the 1,000 seat Sauder Concert Hall and 300 seat Rieth Recital Hall, the Music Center houses the Abner Hershberger Art Gallery, 120 faculty offices, 19 student practice rooms, five classrooms, two ensemble rehearsal spaces and 40 pianos, including numerous Steinway grands.

February Leadership Academy: February 14, 2006 7:30 – 2 PM

Leadership Skills w/ Kevin Deary

Location: Nappanee Public Library

- How to Keep Yourself Organized
- Ethics in Community Leadership
- Managing Personal Debt – Planning for Tomorrow
- Balancing Home, Work and Community



DID YOU KNOW?

Raising a child thru age 17 in a middle-class household costs approximately \$184,000.00

LIGHT THE FIRE

Corporate Sponsors:



Christopher Burke
Engineering



The LandPlan Group



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY STUDENTS CHOOSE PROJECTS

Part of the **Leadership Academy** training consists of selecting and hopefully implementing, a community project. The following project groups have been established in the 2005-2006 Academy year.

Group 1: Create a Plan for a Community Service Day

Dereck Barker
Stephanie Howard
Keith Knepp
Lee Minnich

Group 2: Create a Plan to Promote Local Retail Stores

Kami Bunch
Dale Davis
Carol Ludwick
Lisa Walenceus

Group 3: Create a Frisbee Golf Course

Peg Dudzinski
Penny Hershberger
Marcus Johnson
Matt Koble
Sue Moneyheffer

“Light The Fire” Workshop

Make Your Small Town a BOOMTOWN!

Jack Schultz, author of **BOOMTOWN USA** will present the “**Seven Keys to Big Success in Small Towns**” at an all-day workshop hosted by the Nappanee Area Chamber of Commerce **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006** at **Heritage House** Senior Living Complex. Your registration fee of \$65.00 (\$35.00 Nappanee Chamber Members) will provide you coffee/soft drinks, rolls and lunch while **Jack Schultz** enlightens you with this Seven Keys to Making Small Towns BOOM! **Seven Expert Panelists** will share hands-on experiences with **Key Successes** implemented in their own communities. Make your reservations by calling, faxing or emailing the Chamber.

CHAMBER RETAIL COMMITTEE

Mark your calendar!! The Chamber Retail Committee meets on a new day in 2006! The **First Friday of every month** at 7:30 am. The location is the same: the Chamber Meeting Room. The next meeting is **Friday, February 3rd**. Refreshments will be provided by Sherri Weaver from the **Goshen News**. The Retail Committee voted to place Nappanee Retail Brochures in two travel plazas on the I 80-90 toll road. Over 100 million vehicles travel the toll road each year. The Apple Festival is featured in a brochure that has been in the travel plazas for years. Remember, the chamber office maintains many brochures you may want to obtain such as the: Amish Country Travel Planner, Golf & Travel Guide, an Indiana Map, Toll Road Travel Directory, Indiana Outdoor Recreation Guide and the Indiana 2006 Travel Guide.

EVAN ROBERTS TAKES OFFICE

Congratulations to **Evan Roberts, Elkhart Superior Court 1 Judge**, who took his oath of office December 31st. Chamber Member Roberts, local Nappanee lawyer, has served as part-time deputy prosecuting attorney in Elkhart County and as judge advocate in the Marine Corps Reserves.



**EMBRACE
MEMBER EVENTS:**

**Goshen College Annual
Business Luncheon**

Thursday, Feb 23
12 – 1:30 pm

Fort Wayne Mayor Graham
Richard will be the featured
speaker.

Reservations Required:
574-535-7564 by Feb. 10th.

**Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors**

Brad Baum

John Mast Construction

Tom Bradway

Curtis TV

Dianne Debelak

HomeSpun Country Inn

Gary Fraelich

Nappanee Ford

Sonya Harman

Elkhart County Convention &
Visitors Bureau

Shane Henry

Fabwel Owens Corning

John Leavitt

Salem Insurance

Gavin Miller

Lake City Bank

Gary Shuder

Newmar Corp

Criss Walter

Holmes & Walter Attorneys

N.I.F.T.Y.

Nappanee Improving Facades for Today and for Years to Come!

The Business Improvement District (BID) Board met on January 10th and agreed to implement the NIFTY program. Nine thousand dollars has been set aside for downtown building owners who qualify for the program. Building Owners can receive 50% of the cost used to improve building facades up to \$3000.00. The following guidelines will be implemented:

- Maintain, preserve or restore historic architectural integrity of building and downtown district
- Use materials and historic colors that match the building and districts identity
- Preserve or restore decorative details
- Take cue from other neighboring buildings
- Maintain continuity with characteristics of the retail storefronts in the downtown area
- Maintain or improve interest and appeal at eye level
- Maintain or expand visual access to building entrances
- Maintain and improve historic integrity of signage

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Thompson described areas of departmental focus in his 2006 State of the City Address. Gale Gerber, Water and Waste Water Treatment. His challenge will be to implement a long term control plan of combined sewers – a mandate by IDEM. Wayne Scheumann, Park and Street Departments. His challenge will be the Downtown Enhancement Project set to begin in 2006. Don Lehman, Planning, Code Enforcement and Zoning. Focus on developing a new downtown signage ordinance. Larry Andrews, Community and Economic Development and the Redevelopment Commission will continue to work on the Downtown Improvement Project. Mayor Thompson will continue to focus on the construction of a new fire station south of the railroad tracks, the development of a neighborhood park in the southeast neighborhood, a pedestrian path from North Main to CR 3, and the development of an Industrial Park on the southeast corner of Nappanee.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Wendell Wiebe-Powell, ASSETS Elkhart County, discussed his program with the Redevelopment Commission Tuesday, January 10th. ASSETS offers skills training and moral support to the budding entrepreneurs. The Redevelopment Commission would like to encourage any individual in the Nappanee area interested in starting a business to attend the 12-week/23 session training taught by volunteer businesspeople and other professionals. The training series is offered three times per year. It is hoped that ASSET trained Entrepreneurs open their new businesses in Nappanee! Some of the organizations in partnership with ASSETS are: SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives), La Casa of Goshen, Lexington Business Center, SBDC (Small Business Development Center), and MEDA (Mennonite Economic Development Associates. For information call Larry Andrews at 574-773-7812. Classes run from January 19 – April 6, Tue & Thur from 6:30 – 8:20 in Elkhart at the Lexington Business Center.



Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors:

Advisors:

Sonya Harman
Elkhart County CVB

Dianne Debelak
HomeSpun Country Inn

Liz Mullett
Liz's Furniture Shoppe

Ambassadors:

Kami Bunch
1st Source Bank

Angela Moerchen
Amish Acres

Larry Perks
Nappanee Window

Tammy Denlinger
Heritage House

Lamar Pippenger
McCormick Motors

Stephanie Howard
Chiphone

Mike Sheetz
Edward Jones Investments

Betsy Condict
Everlastings

Ruth Yoder
Curves of Nappanee

Missy Fisher
Mary Kay Cosmetics

Tim Pletcher
Primerica Financial Svc

Jeff Krusenklau
Lake City Bank

BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

Nominations have been accepted for the 4th quarter Nappanee Area Chamber of Commerce **Beautification Award** and the winner will be announcement soon. The 4th quarter qualifications were NEW BUSINESSES ONLY.

In 2005 **Traditions Sports Diner** received the 1st quarter award for INTERIOR. **E. Newcomer Jewelers**, 2nd quarter for WINDOW DRESSING and/or LANDSCAPING and **Thompson, Lengacher & Yoder Funeral Home** for IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING BUILDING.



KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR 2006 NOMINTIONS!!!

2005 Beautification Award Winners!



Traditions Sports Diner
INTERIOR



E. Newcomer Jewelers
WINDOW DRESSING AND/OR LANDSCAPING



Thompson, Lengacher,
Yoder Funeral Home
IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING BUILDING

WAGE SURVEY

Nappanee Area Chamber of Commerce, Elkhart County Chamber Coalition and the Economic Development Corp of Elkhart County joined forces to produce a wage survey of 81 Elkhart County Manufacturers and Health Care businesses. The survey gives average wages for 73 positions from Administrative Assistants to CEO's to Welders. The survey also gives an indication of what benefits are given to each position; ex: Life/ADD, Dental, Drug Plan, Vision, 401K, etc. The average wage and salary increase was 4.44% for 2005. Several Nappanee Chamber Members participated in the survey. Chamber Members who did not participate may purchase the booklet for \$75.00 and Non-Chamber Members \$150.00. If you would like a copy contact your Nappanee Chamber.