

AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BUSINESS CHRONICLE

Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce
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October 2002

McKillip Seeds Named 2002 Business of the Year

Steve Ford, Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce Board Chair, announces McKillip Seeds as the 2002 Business of the Year. "I am pleased to honor the McKillip family and business as the Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year. The McKillip enterprise is remarkable in at least two respects. First, they represent a family business that has thrived under multiple generations of both ownership and participation - a noteworthy achievement for any privately held concern. Secondly, with operations that include a seed business, hog production, and equipment sales, they manage an integrated business unique among area farming operations," stated Ford.

Dennis McKillip, partner, responded, "As a family, we truly feel honored to accept the award of Business of the Year. We are pleased to be representing a successful family agricultural business in the Wabash area."

McKillip Seeds was started in 1934 by Alvin McKillip who began raising seed corn in a 7-10 acre plot for the Indiana Farm Bureau. Although seed corn alone was the very start, McKillip Seeds currently raises, processes, and sells seed beans and seed wheat as well. The farm produces enough commercial corn and bales enough straw to provide feed and bedding to its three hog operations..

McKillips is very much a family operation. Alvin's four sons, Jim, Jack, Bob, and Ken, all became partners in the farm. All except Ken are retired. Today McKillip Seeds includes eight working partners, Ken, Mike, Dennis, Craig and Troy McKillip, Lennie and Ryan Stout, and Nathan Gage. The operation employs up to 100 people, depending on the season, offering summer job opportunities to local youth.

In 1995, Ken, Dennis, Mike and Craig McKillip and Lennie Stout acquired the John Deere dealership in Wabash. McKillip Equipment, formerly known as Wachester Equipment, is a full sales and service dealership including manager John Kammeyer and 12 employees. The store provides large and small tractors, combines, planters, sprayers, assorted field tools, lawnmowers, toys and various John Deere gift items.

McKillip Seeds is proud to announce their 68th year of service. Since 1935, they have maintained their common goal of helping farmers to make sound cropping decisions and providing superior quality products and service that is surpassed by none.



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.

WKUZ RADIO 95.9 FM would like to introduce Doug Zook to the Wabash community. Doug is their new, energetic Vice President coming to Wabash from the Anderson market. He promises that he would like to get to know every Wabash businessperson. Welcome Doug!

The odds are on your side to win \$10,000 in Wabash! A thousand times better than the lottery, **WABASH COUNTY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION'S** Annual Cash Raffle is underway. Only 2,000 tickets sold for chances to win \$10,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000. Only \$20 each or 6 for \$100. For information or tickets call 569-2435. Indiana license #97843.

Tom Polk of **TEEJAY ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS** has announced that some 2 years after **WABASH ELECTRIC SUPPLY'S** acquisition, both companies think it is time for their title to more accurately reflect the work they are doing for the industrial automation division. Therefore, their new name will be **WABASH ELECTRIC SUPPLY, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION**. Please change your directory listings.

For years, Wabash has been very successfully represented in National Corn Husking competitions. This year both the state and national competition will be held in Huntington, on Saturday, October 19, and Sunday, October 20. Support our local competitors and join several thousand witnessing this event. Questions --call Richard Hinton at 260-356-2255.

Congratulations to **MI PUEBLO MEXICAN RESTAURANT** on their expansion in Wabash Village Shopping Center. They have grown and added authentic Mariachi Music every other Thursday evening. Congratulations on your success. Join them Sunday- Thursday 11-10 and Friday and Saturday 11 to 10:30.

WABASH ALLOYS, LLC has announced that it has acquired Culp Aluminum Alloys in Steele, Alabama. This addition will help make Alloys the supplier of choice for the fast growing automotive sector in the Southeastern United States. They are the world's largest producer of recycled specification aluminum alloys and steel products made from scrap. Thanks Alloys!!!

VERNON MANOR CHILDREN'S HOME welcomes new administrator Jimmie Mae Hudson from a 9 year stay at Camelot Children's Home in Logansport. She has been a healthcare administrator for 26 years. Her first love is children. Originally from Alabama, she has spent most of her life in Indiana.

TREASURED DREAMS COTTAGE, Wabash Village Shopping Center has been named a Lange Center by The Lang Company. The only Lang Center in a 50 mile radius, Treasured Dreams has devoted 450 sq ft. to their selection of lang products. Lang products feature the work of local artist Ellen Stouffer. Owners Jeremy and Dawn Wayman have just celebrated their 1st anniversary in business. Open daily 9 to 6 and Saturday 9 to 5.

Prenatal Classes will be offered at **OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE** on Monday evenings October 21, 28 and November 4 and 11. Will address special concerns, needs, and issues of prenatal parents. Call Sarah Hilker at 260-563-5153 for more information.

DAUGHTRY TO HEAD CHAMBER

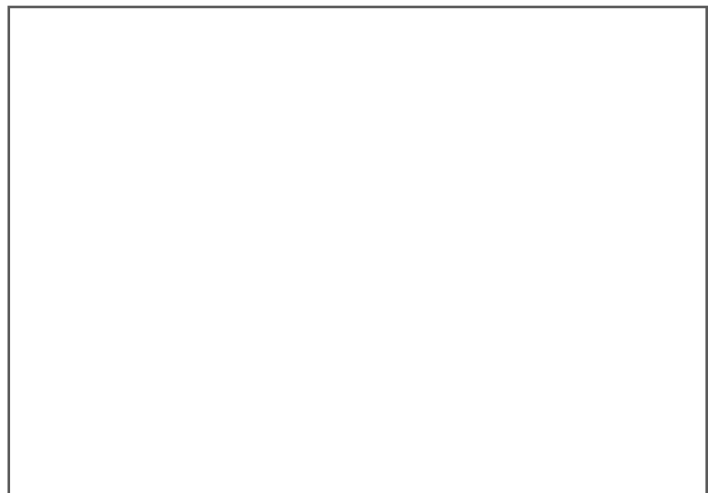
The Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors elected new officers for the 2003 year ahead at their September Board meeting held during the Annual Board Retreat. Skip Daughtry, Beauchamp & McSpadden Insurance Agency, was elected to Chair the Chamber Board during the coming year. He stepped up from his Vice Chair office held during this year. Daughtry will replace Steve Ford, Ford Meter Box, who will move to Past Chair. Lynn Yohe, Yohe Real Estate, was elected by the Board to fill the Chair-Elect position. Dave Rutledge, Wells Fargo Bank, will begin his progression in the chairs as Vice Chair. Rick Gray, Martin Yale Inc., will replace Bill Foulk, Cinergy, who served 12 years as Chamber Treasurer. They, along with President Galen Bremmer, compose the management team of the Chamber.

In other business, Mike Bechtol, Bechtol Grocery, Steve Beck, Ford Meter Box Inc., Kerri Mattern, Wabash County Hospital, and Linda Karlin, MarkHon Inc., were elected to three-year Board Director terms by the membership of the Chamber. Bechtol returns to this position after serving in several capacities in the late 80's. Beck, Mattern, and Karlin are serving their first term as an elected Director. Incoming Board Chair Skip Daughtry also appointed two one-year term Directors. They are Steve Eikenberry, retired Wabash High School Principal, and Brian Howenstine, Wabash True Value and Just Ask Rental. Howenstine returns to Chamber Director after a brief rest from serving a series of terms through the chairs.

All terms will begin with the transition of Boards and officers at the Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner November 7, 2002. These directors will join current Directors: Joel Stein, Tiede, Metz, Downs, Lynn, & Schlitt, Larry Hoover, Quality Electric, Dee Byerly, Beth Miller, Our Children, Our Future, Greg Pettit, Pettit Printing, Paul Heidbreder, Wabash Plain Dealer, and Brad Perrot, Wabash County YMCA. Retiring from the Board are Roger Cromer, First Federal Savings Bank, Jerry Banks, Cinergy, Bill Foulke, Cinergy, and Dick Rider. Special recognitions will be made at the dinner.

NEW FACE IN CHAMBER OFFICE

Please welcome Holly Sutton to the Chamber Office staff as a part-time administrative assistant. In August, Kim Pinkerton reduced her hours to part time mornings so that she could spend more time developing her own business. Holly comes to the Chamber from Health and Safety Director for the Wabash County American Red Cross. She remains working for the organization on a part-time basis. She has also had work experience at Allstate Insurance and Domino's Pizza. Kim will be focusing her time spent on financial duties, web site manager, publications editor, and secretary to the Board. Holly will be working with our directories, membership software maintenance, mailing list manager, office support for committees, and membership support. She will be working afternoons. Welcome Holly!



ANNUAL DINNER TO BE NOVEMBER 7

Wow! The invitations are just being printed, and already there is a degree of excitement in the air in anticipation of the 2002, 61st Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. As you saw on the front page, we are extremely excited to have McKillip Seeds Inc. as our 2002 Business of the Year. Board Chair Steve Ford has been working with McKillip representatives since early spring. There was still some snow on the ground when Steve and Galen made the first trip out to the operation. What a learning experience it has been for us - that will all be shared with you at the dinner. Thanks to the McKillip family, we have also just announced our keynote speaker for the event. Gene Keady, Head Basketball Coach at Purdue University, will be joining us in the celebration that evening. Plans for the evening are shaping up to be one of the most memorable events this year. Please get your reservations in early so that we can have an idea of seating. Who will be honored as 2002 Distinguished Citizen????? You will want to be there.

LDWC TO OFFER CLASS

The Seering Committee for Leadership Development Wabash County has announced the next class session for the popular course. Sponsored by the Wabash Area and North Manchester Chambers of Commerce along with the Wabash County Economic Development Corporation, Leadership Development Wabash County is designed to meet the evolving needs of business and industry. The course is designed for those who may be new to Wabash County positions of leadership or have been targeted by their employer for future leadership roles. About half of the class time will be dealing with local issues and acquaintance material. The other half will be an in-depth study of leadership skills with practical application. The committee is very pleased to announce that the class will be instructed by professors from The Manchester College Small Business Institute. The class will be 8 AM to Noon, on Tuesdays, for 7 weeks starting January 28, 2003. Outside exercises and reading will be required along with a class project at the end. Tuition will be \$225 with full or part scholarships possible. Registration deadline is December 13. Call the Chamber office for a brochure or to register 260-563-1168.

CAMELOT IN WABASH

Have you seen the KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR? He has been standing around Wabash in preparation for his bringing his home to ours October 11 - 13. We will take a stroll back in time to the legends of King Arthur (Gary Dale) and Lady Gwen (Lisa Ford) in the mystical village of Camelot. Ford Theater Stage will be the place to actually see Lancelot (Michael Eaton) and even Merlin (Jim McCann). You won't want to miss it - tickets are now on sale at the Honeywell Box Office, Adults \$10, Students \$5. It promises to be everything you would expect from the Wabash Area Community Theater. This show will carry a budget of over \$50,000. Costuming promises to take your breath away along with the voices, orchestra and acting you have come to expect.

PARADISE SPRING CABINS TO BE SPOOKED

The Paradise Spring Board is once again sponsoring a Halloween activity on the old treaty grounds. This year it will take on a little different look than the former Haunted Riverwalk. Activity will move up to the new Riverwalk expansion area around the cabins and take on a little less "scary" approach. A family activity will be held Friday, October 25 through Sunday October 27 from 6 to 9 PM featuring a haunted maze, storytelling, haunted tram rides, Halloween cabins, a bonfire and refreshments. Sponsor for the event is the Wabash City Parks Department. Individual groups may sponsor activities in a particular cabin as there are a few left. Contact Todd Titus at 563-4171. Come one-come all!

HOSPITAL LOOKS FOR HEALTHCARE HERO

The Public Relations Committee of the Wabash County Hospital Foundation is looking for nominations for the 2002 Healthcare Hero of the Year Award. Deadline is October 14. Call 569-2254 for a nomination form. The award will be presented at the GALA on November 15. Any healthcare professional or volunteer who works in Wabash County may qualify for the award. Donation of time, resources, and/or leadership contributing toward an improved quality of life for people in the county will be considered. Previous year's Heros were Wylene Signs LPN, Wabash Family Care, and Dr. Jeffrey Miller, General Surgeon.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(please add to your Buyer's Guide)

TOTAL WORKS SALON. - 797 S. Wabash Street, Wabash, Indiana 46992. Contact Owner Bev Radabaugh at telephone 260-563-0700. Bev and her staff specialize in all forms of family hair care, along with nail decoration, toning and tanning. Hours are Monday- Friday 8AM to 7PM and Saturdays 9 AM to 1 PM.

*******WELCOME NEW GOLD LEVEL MEMBER*******

BICKFORD COTTAGE OF WABASH - 3037 W. Division Road, Wabash, Indiana, 46992 Contact David Croucher, Director at telephone 260-569-2000 URL www.Eby.com Bickford Cottage is an assisted living community providing residential apartment living. They are staffed with certified caregivers, medical assistants, personal care specialists, and excellent meal service personnel. Dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for each individual resident, independence and dignity is maximum priority.

Welcome back long time supporter:

WABASH COUNTY REMC - 1101 Manchester Avenue, P O Box 508, Wabash, Indiana, 46992. Contact CEO Rob Pearson, telephone 569-2146, or fax 563-1523. e-mail - Mail@WabashREMC.com Rural Wabash electric utility and long distance telephone service provider for Wabash County. Hours Monday-Friday 7:30 to 4:30.

McCALLEN & GROSSNICKLE LAW OFFICE, P.C. - 40 West Hill Street, P O Box 921, Wabash, Indiana 46992. Contact Robert R. McCallen III, Owner, telephone 260-563-2184, or fax 260-563-5266. E-mail mac_law@mcclaw.net Partner, Andrew E. Grossnickle. General Practice of Law. Monday-Friday 8AM to 5 PM.

*******CORRECTION*******

New Member businesses **White Knuckle Cycle and Stitches by Corky** articles in the September newsletter had some inaccuracies. **WHITE KNUCKLE CYCLE** is owned by Jeff Helm and Mike Hall. Their phone number is 569-1883. **STITCHES BY CORKY** owner is Cora Hall with her phone number 569-7912. Editor also regrets references to Stitches by Cora. Please correct any log entries you may have made.



Chamber Board members gather in support while Mayor Arvin Copeland cuts the ribbon for new business owners of White Knuckle Cycle and Stitches by Corky.

Brad Bozarth, Plant Mgr. of Martin Yale Industries, Inc., addresses a group of Wabash City and County Economic Development officials during a tour of the facility - the 2nd stop in a series sponsored by WEDCOR.

BOARD MEMBERS - 2002

Board Chair: Steve Ford Ford Meter Box Chair Elect: Skip Daughtry Beauchamp & McSpadden Vice Chair: Treasurer: Bill Foulke Cinergy/PSI Past Chair: Jerry Banks Cinergy/psi President: Galen L. Bremmer Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce	Dave Rutledge Wells Fargo Bank Larry Hoover Quality Electric Lynn Yohe Yohe Realty Steve Beck Ford Meter Box Dick Rider Wabash Marketplace Dee Byerly Retired - North Central Coop Michael Bechtol Bechtol Grocery Company	Beth Miller Kategories & Our Children, Our Future, Inc. Brad Perrott YMCA Roger Cromer First Federal Savings Bank Greg Pettit Pettit Printing, Inc. Paul Heidbreder Wabash Plain Dealer Joel Stein Tiede, Metz, Downs, Lynn, Schlitt
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The **HONEYWELL CENTER** has announced October activities:

October 6 - 2 -5 p.m. 50th Anniversary Celebration--FREE ice cream sundaes, self-guided tours, crafts, and lots more fun!

October 11, 12, & 13 - Camelot. Tickets \$10 adult; \$5 youth.

October 18 - Shanghai Ballet performs Coppelia. WVMA Tickets priced at \$25.

Clark Gallery - Hoosier Salon - Indiana Artists

BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS

Date: **October 9, 2002** **7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.**

Business Sponsors - Auto Extravaganza

Denney Motor Sales
Dorais Chevrolet
Maggart Pontiac Cadillac
Thomas Ford Lincoln Mercury
Wabash Valley Chrysler
U-Save Auto

The next BBH (after October) is December 11, 2002

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DELAYED

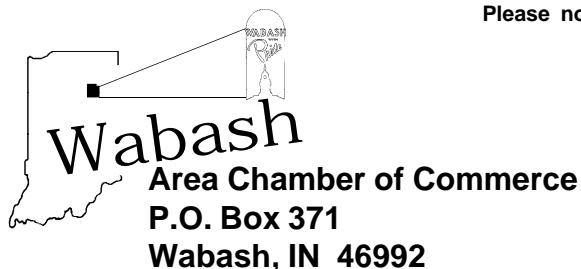
The November edition of this newsletter will be delayed until after the Annual Dinner, November 7th, so that news from the event may be added--including the 2002 Distinguished Citizen. The December edition will be a holiday issue. Articles for November should still be submitted by November 1. Insert deadline will not be until November 11.

GOLD MEMBER SALUTE

Please join the Board in welcoming the newest Gold Level member **Bickford Cottage of Wabash**. Director David Croucher has been active in the Wabash Business community since his first appearance in Wabash. Watch for their Grand Opening later in October, and Welcome to Wabash!

Bickford joins those businesses who carry Gold Level Membership status in the Wabash area Chamber of Commerce. They are: First Federal Savings Bank, Cinergy/psi, Indiana Lawrence Bank, Pettit Printing, Wells Fargo Bank, Clarkland Properties, Yohe Realty, Inc. and Richard Ford.

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