

January 2, 2007

Dear Member:

Pursuant to Article IX of our Bylaws, notice is hereby given that proposed revisions to our Bylaws will be presented to the membership of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce at its regular membership meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2007 at 12:00 noon at The Anvil Restaurant in Harpers Ferry. The membership will be asked to approve the revisions to our current Bylaws as endorsed and recommended by your Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Most are minor changes in wording; more significant changes include:

1. permitting the President to appoint up to six Board members rather than three in our current Bylaws;
2. limiting a President to two consecutive elected terms; and
3. eliminating the Executive Director's vote at Board meetings, but allowing it at Committee meetings.

Copies of current and proposed revised Bylaws are available at the Chamber office at 29 Keyes Ferry Road, Suite 200, (BB&T building), Charles Town, West Virginia, or by contacting chamber@jeffersoncounty.com.

Please try to attend this important meeting.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Via
Executive Director

mmv

JEFFERSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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P. O. BOX 426
CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414
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BULLETIN NO: 558

JANUARY 2, 2007

MEMBERSHIP MEETING – JANUARY 25, 2007

The monthly membership meeting of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2007, at 12:00 noon at The Anvil Restaurant in Harpers Ferry.

Jane Peters, Executive Director, and Whitney Burch, Research Assistant, **Jefferson County Development Authority**, will enlighten us on the Eastern Panhandle Entrepreneurs Forum. The EPEF meetings, held on the first Thursday of each month, are organized by the Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan County Development Authorities along with key steering committee members. The EPEF helps businesses in our area thrive by connecting owners with State and County officials, investors, industry experts, and business service providers. Come and learn more about their mission.

The menu will be: Tossed house salad with balsamic vinaigrette dressing, spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, assorted dessert bars, and iced tea for \$10.00 per person. Please contact your Chamber by January 19 to RSVP. .

REVISIONS TO CHAMBER BY-LAWS – JANUARY 25, 2007

At the monthly membership meeting, several revisions to our current by-laws will be presented to and voted on by the members of our Chamber. These revisions have been approved by your Chamber Board of Directors and include several minor wording changes. Significant changes include (1) allowing the President to appoint up to six Board members rather than the current three; (2) limiting a President to two consecutive elected terms; and (3) eliminating the Executive Director's vote at Board meetings, but allowing it at Committee meetings. Copies of the current and revised Bylaws are available at the Chamber office at 29 Keyes Ferry Road, Suite 200, (**BB&T** building), Charles Town. To receive copies by email, please contact your chamber at chamber@jeffersoncounty.com. See enclosed official notification.

CHAMBER MONTHLY MEETINGS

Your Chamber is currently seeking proposals for monthly membership meetings and banquets to be held in 2007. Requirements for a **monthly meeting** include a facility with a private meeting area and the ability to serve a lunch to 50-90 people. Requirements for **banquets** include a facility to accommodate 225-250 people. If interested, please submit a bid with a per person cost for the meal, including beverage, tax, and gratuity and the type of meal (soup/sandwich, buffet, etc.) that would be served. Bids will be accepted through January 19, 2007. For more information, contact your Chamber office.

ARTS & CRAFTS JURYING

The January jurying for the 2007 Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festivals is scheduled for January 12-14 at **Independent Fire Company** located on Fairfax Boulevard in Ranson. On Friday, January 12 and Saturday, January 13, the hours are 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and on Sunday, January 14, the hours are 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Approximately 200 artists/craftspersons are scheduled to present their work for possible inclusion in the 2007 festivals. Chamber members are cordially invited to stop by during the jurying.

NEWSLETTER INSERTS

Your Chamber is pleased to enclose information from members in these monthly bulletins on a first-come, first-served basis. Due to the increasing number of members who request this service, please notify your Chamber 2-3 months in advance of your requested date. Enclosures should be standard size (8 ½"x11"), standard paper weight, and folded in Z form. No business cards! If you have reserved a space and then are unable to have the insert ready, please call your Chamber office. We keep a waiting list and can call someone to fill your slot.

LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON

Leadership Jefferson met on December 13 for the Economic Development module. Jane Peters, Director of the **Jefferson County Development Authority**, prepared the agenda for the day, and gave an overview and history of economic development in Jefferson County and West Virginia. We thank the **Bank of Charles Town** for providing the breakfast. The History and Culture module will be held on January 10.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

State Farm Insurance

Tammy Sirbaugh, Representative
217 Oak Lee Drive, Suite 2
Ranson, WV 25438
(304) 725-5433
Insurance/Financial Services
www.statefarm.com

Crossroads Church

Jay Watson, Representative
3737 Flowing Springs Road
Shenandoah Junction, WV 25442
(304) 728-7743
Church

Fellowship Bible Church

Pastor Van Marsceau, Representative
P. O. Box 893, 106 N. George Street
Charles Town, WV 25414
(304) 728-3700
Church
www.fellowshipwv.org

The Ledge House B&B

Carrie Ellen Gauthier, Representative
P. O. Box 681, 280 Henry Clay Street
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
(304) 582-2443
Bed and Breakfast
www.ledgehouse.com

As of this date, we have 472 members who have paid their fair share investments for a total of \$50,360.00 for fiscal year 2006-2007.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS

Hospice of the Panhandle will host a program of information and support for people who are coping with the death of a loved one. The Circle of Hope is a six-week series that includes lecture, discussion and sharing of topics related to grief and healing. Meetings will be offered in Jefferson County, with the location to be determined, for six weeks on Thursdays from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. beginning on January 11 and ending on February 15. In Berkeley County, the meetings will be held at the Hospice office from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. beginning on Wednesdays, January 10 and lasting until February 14. There is no cost to participate, but prior registration is required. The session is closed after the first class. For more information or to register, call Larry Crawley-Woods at (304) 267-1870 or (800) 345-6538.

Congratulations to **Guy's Buick Pontiac GMC** for being presented Readers Choice Awards from *The Journal*. They were selected as the Best Auto Dealer in the Tri-State Area for 2005 and selected as the #1 Best New Truck Dealer for 2006. **Guy's Buick Pontiac GMC** is located at 1316 N. Mildred Street in Ranson. They may be contacted at (304) 725-3448 or visit www.guysbuickpontiacgmctruck.com.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS (cont.)

Heart disease is the number one cause of death in America and is often the direct result of unhealthy lifestyle habits. Those who have heart disease, or are at-risk for developing it, can now learn how to reverse its effects and live healthier lives. **City Hospital**, Mountain State Blue Cross Blue Shield, West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield have partnered to offer residents of West Virginia to experience the Ornish Advantage. Beginning in 2007, the program will be offered Mondays from 6 – 8 pm, January 29 through March 5 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Dorothy A. McCormack Center. The Ornish Advantage Program is a comprehensive lifestyle modification program designed to assist participants in the prevention and/or management of heart disease and how to address key risk factors associated with its onset and progression. Through healthy lifestyle modification, the Ornish Program teaches participants how to improve their health and well-being to live longer and healthier. Attendees of the program will have the opportunity to experience the four components of the Ornish Program – nutrition, stress management, exercise and group support. Classes are taught by staff trained in the delivery of the Dr. Dean Ornish Program and include a registered dietitian, stress management specialist, group support facilitator and exercise physiologist. Participants receive handouts, the Everyday Cooking Cookbook, a stress management CD, strength training bands, home-based exercise and activities as well as pre and post testing of lipids, weight and blood pressure. Space is limited, participants are asked to register for the program by calling (304) 264-1000, ext. 1814 by January 19, 2007. Call now to reserve your spot today.

CoxHollida LLP, a regional accounting firm founded in 1963, announces its merger with Shepherdstown firm **T.W. Price, A.C.** The newly merged entity of **CoxHollidaPrice LLP** is lead by four partners, including Fred Hollida, Tony Price, Chuck Young and Dave Southerly. “We are excited about the merger, and the opportunity to welcome new professionals into the partner role at **CoxHollidaPrice**,” said Managing Partner, Fred Hollida. “We are positioning ourselves for future growth in not only the traditional accounting services area, but also for expansion in business and financial planning services, as well.” Hollida, who joined the firm in 1976, is a Certified Financial Planner and CPA/PFS (Personal Financial Specialist) who specializes in business, estate and financial planning, individual and business taxation, and business succession planning. Fred’s professional memberships include American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the WV Society of CPAs and its Eastern Panhandle Chapter. He’s involved in the community with Rotary of Martinsburg, Martinsburg/Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce, Tuscarora Ruritan Club, and **Shenandoah Area Council Boy Scouts of America**. Price, a licensed CPA in both Virginia and West Virginia, brings to the firm over 10 years of experience, most of which was spent in large international accounting firms. He specializes in tax and business consulting, predominantly in the following areas: Federal and state income taxation, International taxation, Merger and acquisition advice and structuring, Tax due diligence, Accounting methods and periods, and Financial accounting for income taxes. Price is a member of AICPA, WV Society of CPAs, VA Society of CPAs, Berkeley & Jefferson County Chambers, a Board member of the **United Way**, a member of **Shepherdstown Rotary** and a board member of Jefferson County Historic Society. Young, a **Shepherd College** graduate, has also completed the Dale Carnegie program. He joined the firm in 1986 and maintains professional memberships with the AICPA, West Virginia Society of CPAs, and Eastern Panhandle Chapter of West Virginia Society of CPAs. He is also a Director At Large for the West Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants. Southerly, Firm Administrator and Chief Operating Officer, has over 30 years experience in the management field. Dave received his bachelor's degree from **Shepherd University** and a master's degree from Frostburg State University. Dave serves as an officer at Calvary United Methodist Church. The firm was founded in 1963 and is the largest public accounting firm situated in Eastern West Virginia employing over twenty professionals and support staff. **CoxHollidaPrice LLP** specializes in financial planning, audits, tax planning and preparation and business consulting.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS (cont.)

The **Small Business Development Center (SBDC) of Blue Ridge CTC** is offering the following classes: “OSHA Powered Industrial Trucks (Forklifts) Train-The-Trainer Course” from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16 at **Harpers Ferry Job Corps Center**, 146 Buffalo Drive, Harpers Ferry. This workshop will prepare the participant to provide the required certification training to his employer’s forklift operators. The participant must present current Powered Industrial Truck Certification on the day of training and pass post-test to receive certificate of completion. Pre-registration is required and there is a \$50 fee. The deadline to register is January 12. “Developing a Business Plan” is a four-part series offered on January 26, February 2, 9 and 16 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. You will learn how to create a marketing, organizational and financial plan tailored specifically for your business. This workshop will include hands on computer time to work on your business plan. Pre-registration is required and there is an \$80 fee. A discounted fee of \$60 will be offered to those who have attended a previous “Piecing Together a Successful Business” workshop. Deadline to register is January 23. To register for any of these classes, call the **SBDC** at (304) 260-4385 or download the Workshop Enrollment Form from www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu/sbdcweb.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| January 5 | Bloodmobile – Bolivar Community Center – 9 a.m.-2 p.m. |
| January 8 | Bloodmobile – Lions Center, Ranson – 2 p.m.-7 p.m. |
| January 12-14 | Arts & Crafts Festival Jurying – Independent Fire Company , Ranson |
| January 13 | Bloodmobile – Church of Jesus Christ of LDS – 9 a.m.-2 p.m. |
| January 15 | Office Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| January 17 | Bloodmobile – NCTC Gym, Shepherdstown – 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. |
| January 25 | Monthly Membership Meeting |
| January 31 | Bloodmobile – Storer Ballroom, Shepherd University – 10 a.m.-4 p.m. |