

JEFFERSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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BULLETIN NO. 582

JANUARY 5, 2009

MEMBERSHIP MEETING – JANUARY 22, 2009

The monthly membership meeting of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2009, at 12:00 noon at **Charles Town Races & Slots** in the Epic Buffet. We urge all members to attend this luncheon when President Tiffany Hine will present donations in the name of your Chamber to the county's Fire Companies, our Partners in Education – Charles Town, Harpers Ferry, Shepherdstown and Wildwood Middle Schools – and other organizations in our County. These donations, made possible through your support as members along with the continuing success of our Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festivals, will help these organizations continue their fine work in our community.

Please contact your Chamber by January 16 to RSVP. Members and guests will enjoy the buffet for \$10.00 per person including tax and gratuity.

ARTS & CRAFTS JURYING

The January jurying for the 2009 Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festivals is scheduled for January 16-18 at **Independent Fire Company** located on Fairfax Boulevard in Ranson. On Friday, January 16 and Saturday, January 17, the hours are 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and on Sunday, January 18, 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 2009 festivals. Chamber members are cordially invited to stop by during the jurying.

EMAIL BLASTS

Your Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce now offers to its Chamber members a new service – “email blasts.” With over 440 members' email addresses in our system at this time, we will be able to notify Chamber members of noteworthy events and information. The following guidelines will need to be followed: This service will be available only to Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce members; members will need to supply information as a JPEG image which should be no larger than 600 pixels wide by 792 pixels high and sent to chambernews@jeffersoncountywvchamber.org (note new email address for this service); blasts for information on ribbon cuttings and ground breakings for members will be \$25 per blast; blasts for announcement of member's news and events will be \$50 per blast; and additional guidelines for the benefit of the member and business/organization will be added as necessary. In order for email blasts to be effective, it is important that email addresses are kept current! If you are not currently receiving email blasts, please let us know your email address so you may be added.

WELCOME TO JEFFERSON COUNTY

The second edition of the *Welcome to Jefferson County* booklet is now available for distribution. Members who advertised in the book may pick-up copies at your Chamber office. Please call your Chamber at (304) 725-2055 for more information.

LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON

Participants in the December module of History and Culture took a walking/bus tour of Jefferson County. Some sites included on their trip were Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Murphy Farm, Lander House, Storer College/Mather Training Center, Carriage Inn, and White House Farm. The January module on January 14 will focus on social structure and issues in Jefferson County.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Commercial Associates Real Estate

Del Grimes, Representative
767 E. Washington Street
Charles Town, WV 25414
(304) 725-0009
wvdelgrimes@aol.com
Real Estate

Rent-A-Center

Garland See, Representative
154 Patrick Henry Way
Charles Town, WV 25414
(304) 728-4400
www.rentacenter.com
Rental of Appliances, Furniture, etc.

Waste Management of WV, Inc.

Ray Mazzaferro, Representative
25 Bowling Lane
Martinsburg, WV 25401
(304) 264-9318
rmazzafe@wm.com
Trash Hauling Service

As of this date, we have 415 members who have paid their fair share investments for a total of \$52,644.00 for fiscal year 2008-2009.

MESSAGE FROM BIZTECH AND THE CVB

Beverly Bolger, Director of the **Jefferson County Telework Center** has notified us that many residents and visitors in our area may not be aware of the MARC Train schedule for the presidential inauguration. MARC will be providing train service and there are still tickets available for the Brunswick Line. Please check the following link for more information: <http://www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/inaugrationday/presidential-inauguration-day.cfm>. Paulette Sprinkle, Director of the **Jefferson County Convention and Visitors Bureau** is also keeping us informed of available hotel/bed and breakfast accommodations in the area for January 19-20. Please call the Chamber office at (304) 725-2055 if you have friends or family visiting during that time that may need lodging.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS

Locust Hill Golf Course and **Jefferson County Community Ministries** would like to thank everyone who participated in the Inaugural Turkey Shoot Golf Scramble held at **Locust Hill Golf Course** on November 22. The cold and windy conditions could not deter the nearly 40 competitors from making this charity event a huge success. **Locust Hill** is proud to announce that the 50 turkeys collected weighed in excess of 800 lbs. The proceeds from the 50/50 drawing and raffle raised \$185 and were also donated to **Jefferson County Community Ministries**. Wishing all of you a safe and happy holiday season from the staff at Locust Hill!

Customers in Jefferson County have a new choice available when it comes to renting or buying brand-name furniture, appliances, electronics and computers. **Rent-A-Center** is celebrating the opening of its newest store in Charles Town at 154 Patrick Henry Way featuring approximately 4,400 square feet of high-quality merchandise. Customers will find **Rent-A-Center's** local staff ready to help them get the right item along with the right payment plan to fit their budget. "From bedroom sets to washers and dryers, we're going to help people find what they need and a payment option that works for them" said Garland See, store manager. "Our goal is to help every customer who walks through our door meet a home furnishings need." To show its appreciation for being welcomed to the Charles Town area, **Rent-A-Center** contributed a total of \$2,000 to two organizations at its ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, December 16. A \$1,000 grant was made to the Old Charles Town Library to purchase books, DVDs and audio books to help people enhance their personal finance knowledge and skills. Additionally, a \$1,000 donation was provided to Meals on Wheels of Jefferson County. For a limited time, visitors to the store can register to win a Sony LCD HDTV. The drawing date will be January 31, 2009. The store will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays. All **Rent-A-Center** stores are closed on Sundays.

As a special part of National Home Care Month, **Panhandle Home Health, Inc.** (PHHI) recently hosted a Donor Recognition Reception and Open House at their new facility. Fifty donors, organization staff, and board members witnessed the unveiling of the Donor Wall, which features an oil painting of the new facility by Chris Nelson, Painter and Sculptor with Lime-Lite Studio. Lisa Bivens RN, Administrator for PHHI recognized donors and personally thanked them for their support over the years. "This year was the first time we have ever asked for financial support from the community and we were thrilled with the response," Bivens stated. "All donations are greatly appreciated and help us continue providing high quality care to our patients. We are truly grateful for this caring community." The following day, PHHI hosted an Open House to raise public awareness about the agency and their services. **Panhandle Home Health, Inc.**, a non-profit agency and a **United Way of the Eastern Panhandle** agency, provides premium in-home health services to residents of Jefferson, Berkeley, and Morgan Counties. Their staff of licensed and credentialed professionals includes registered nurses, physical

therapists, medical social workers, and home health aides. For information about **Panhandle Home Health**, call (304) 263-5680 or visit www.PanhandleHomeHealth.org.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS (cont.)

The National Home Care Month celebration would not be complete without recognizing the home care team's dedicated staff and volunteers. **Panhandle Home Health, Inc.** (PHHI) recently held their annual meeting to recognize staff for a year of exceptional service to the organization and to the patients and families that they serve. Craig Potter, CPA, Director of Finance, was recognized for ten years of service to the agency and Donna McDonald, RN was named the 2008 Employee of the Year.

Curves, the worldwide largest franchisor of fitness clubs, recently announced that the **Charles Town Curves** club has earned the prestigious Shining Star club designation. This recognition is given to clubs that meet rigorous standards in their business practices, service quality, and adherence to the Curves methods. Clubs applying for Shining Star status must complete a lengthy checklist of items in a number of different categories and then submit it to their area director. Shining Star Club status is given only after all documentation is reviewed and approved by corporate. "Becoming a Shining Star wasn't easy," said Lyn Schindel, **Charles Town Curves** franchise owner, "but the process helped us to identify areas where we could improve and also highlighted areas where we were already excelling. We are proud to be a Curves Shining Star club and share that recognition with our Charles Town members." For more information on **Curves of Charles Town**, please contact Lyn Schindel at (304) 725-3482.

Curves of Charles Town is rolling out the red carpet to members of the award-winning Healthways SilverSneakers Fitness Program, the nationwide leading exercise program designed for older adults. Started on January 1, 2009, SilverSneakers members are eligible to join **Curves of Charles Town** at no cost. "We are so pleased to welcome local SilverSneakers members to **Curves of Charles Town**," said club owner Lyn Schindel. "As you age, your risks for debilitating disease increase and being overweight or obese significantly adds to that risk. At **Curves of Charles Town**, we have programs that help women of all ages do the three most significant things they can do to decrease their risks – manage their weight, exercise regularly and eat healthy." Stop into the **Charles Town Curves** to see how SilverSneakers members can benefit from the Curves 30-minute exercise program.

Each day a member completes a workout, **Curves of Charles Town** views it as a milestone, but it's not every day that a member can celebrate their 1,000th workout! Terry Dwiggin, a **Curves of Charles Town** member, was recently recognized for her completion of 1,000 workouts. She is the first person in Charles Town to reach the 1,000 workout mark. Terry commutes to Montgomery County for her job and works out 5 times per week at the **Charles Town Curves**. She has lost a total of over 42 inches and pounds during her membership at Curves. Terry believes exercise has been the key to her feeling great and improving her stamina, which helps her get through the day. Curves' exercise program consists of thirty minutes of exercise three times a week, during which participants work all major muscle groups and receive a great cardio workout.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 19 Office Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 22 Monthly Membership Meeting – **Charles Town Races & Slots,**
Epic Buffet – 12:00 noon