

JEFFERSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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BULLETIN NO. 553

AUGUST 1, 2006

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU/CHAMBER ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual picnic for the Jefferson County Farm Bureau and your Chamber will be held tomorrow, August 2 at Summit Point Raceway. This event will take the place of the monthly membership meeting.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Carl M. Freeman Retail

Sherrie L. Little, Representative
18330 Village Center Drive, 2nd Floor
Olney, MD 20832
(240) 779-8000
Shopping Center (Potomac Marketplace)

EZ Mart

Martha Wareing, Representative
P. O. Box 518
Martinsburg, WV 25402
(304) 725-1900
Gas Station/Convenience Store

The Rector Companies LLC

Noah Mehrkam, Representative
P. O. Box 25523
Washington, DC 20027
(703) 368-8111
Real Estate Development

Mary S. Duke

Ranson Elementary School
600 N. Preston School
Ranson, WV 25438
(304) 725-7310
Teacher of the Year

Your Community Phone Book

Catherine DeCoucini, Representative
143 Aikens Center, Suite 2
Martinsburg, WV 25401
(304) 262-4265
Advertising

As of this date we have 307 members who have paid their fair share investments for a total of \$32,292.00 for fiscal year 2006-2007. If you have not paid your fair share investment for 2006-2007, won't you take a few minutes to do so? Remember, the success of your Chamber depends on the active involvement of its members.

LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON

Plans for the first year of your Chamber's newest program are moving along quickly as the first class begins in September. Letters have been sent to those applicants who were accepted into the program, and we encourage those who weren't accepted to reapply next year. There were so many qualified candidates, but only 25 could be accepted into Leadership Jefferson. We have included this program on our website, and hope to add updates as the program proceeds. Visit www.jeffersoncounty.com to keep yourself up to date on what is happening throughout the year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Plans are underway for the 31st Annual Fall Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festival on September 22-24, 2006. Your Chamber will have a booth at the September Festival for members who wish to display their brochures. If you would like to display your brochures, please bring 100 brochures to your Chamber office by Friday, September 15. If you would like to volunteer a couple of hours of your time to help in the Chamber booth, please call your Chamber office at (304) 725-2055.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS

The **Jefferson County Fair Association** announces that this year's fair will be held on August 20-26 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds on Leetown Road. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 6-15 and free for children under 6. Some of the highlights for the week are: Sunday – Miss Jefferson County Fair Contest, Monday – Family Carnival Night and Local School Band Performances, Tuesday – Figure "8" Demolition Derby, Wednesday – The "Tommy Cash Show", Thursday – Bull Riding, Friday – 4-H and FFA Livestock Show and Tractor and Truck Pull, and Saturday – Tractor and Truck Pull. For more information, visit www.jeffersoncountyfairwv.org.

The **Community and Technical College of Shepherd** has seen significant progress over the years and they are about to embark on another exciting change, a new name effective July 1, 2006. **Blue Ridge Community and Technical College** is an independent educational institution, accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. **Blue Ridge Community and Technical College** will continue the same tradition of offering an affordable, high quality education. They offer more than 40 associate degree and certification courses, including business, criminal justice, information technology and nursing. Classes are flexible, with your choice of day, evening and online courses. In addition, **Blue Ridge Community and Technical College** offers Workforce Development services to businesses in the region, which includes customized skills-based training and performance improvement. **Blue Ridge Community and Technical College** is conveniently located at 400 W. Stephen Street in Martinsburg. For more information about courses, call (304) 260-4380 or visit their new website at www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu.

Mike Lutz, a direct marketing operations expert with three decades of experience in senior management positions at Hanover Direct, Spiegel, and JC Penney, has been named Chief Executive Officer of the **AB&C Group**, one of the nation's leading providers of outsourced direct response processing, call center and fulfillment services. Lutz's appointment comes at a pivotal time in **AB&C's** history as the company transitions to new ownership by BlueSky Brands, Inc. and prepares for rapid growth. BlueSky Brands is investing \$6 million to expand the company's facilities and upgrade its systems. "My immediate focus will be the integration of new systems and facilities and changes in our organizational structure," Lutz explained. "We will be moving our national fulfillment center to a new facility later this year and operating a second **AB&C** facility in New England. Lutz's long-term goals are to reduce **AB&C's** costs through centralized operations and improved methods and build on **AB&C's** reputation for excellence. For more information about the **AB&C Group**, call Steve Gregg at (888) 222-1972 or visit the company's web site at www.abcgroupp.com.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| August 11-13 | Annual African American Cultural & Heritage Festival |
| August 20-26 | Annual Jefferson County Fair |
| September 8-10, 15-17 | <i>Picnic</i> – Old Opera House , Charles Town |
| September 17 | Oktoberfest – Bavarian Inn , Shepherdstown |
| September 22-24 | Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festival |