

JEFFERSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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PLEASE NOTE THE NEW WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESSES.

BULLETIN NO. 581

DECEMBER 1, 2008

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

This year has gone by so fast that it's been difficult to find time to sit back and relax. We hope that you will make time this holiday season to do just that and to realize how lucky we are to live in such a great community as Jefferson County. We hope you will patronize the local stores to do your shopping, and donate to local organizations if you so wish. We have already done some of the work for you so you can shop within the county. Enclosed you will find a flyer announcing special offers from Chamber members. Just let them know you are also a Chamber member. We need to do all we can to support our county. We wish you all the best this holiday season.

As has been the custom, there will not be a monthly membership meeting in December. Our next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2009.

CHAMBER MONTHLY MEETINGS

Your Chamber is currently taking bids for its monthly membership meetings and banquets to be held in 2009. Requirements for a monthly meeting include a facility with a private meeting area and the ability 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 December 19, 2008. For more information, contact you Chamber office.

LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON

The third module of Leadership Jefferson – Agriculture – was held on November 12. Participants took a tour of local farms and visited the Appalachian Fruit Research Station. The next module will be History & Culture, and will be held on December 10. Class members will tour the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and visit the Mather Training Center on the Storer College campus.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Brookfield Corporate Apts.

Linda Edwards, Representative

548 Brookfield Drive

Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 722-3509

www.brookfieldcorporateapt.com

Long & Short Term Rentals

National City Mortgage

Travella Cook, Representative

114 N. Charles Street

Charles Town, WV 25414

(304) 728-4895

www.ncmc.com/travellacook

Mortgage Company

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Dennis Frye, Representative

P. O. Box 65

Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(304) 535-6224

www.nps.gov/hafe

National Park

As of this date we have 411 members who have paid their fair share investments for a total of \$52,140.00 for fiscal year 2008-2009. This will be the last bulletin mailed to those who are not current with their fair share investments. As of January 1, 2009, delinquent members will be removed from membership.

HIGH SCHOOL-BUSINESS SYMPOSIUMS

The 27th Annual High School-Business Symposium held on November 6 at Washington High School and on November 13 at Jefferson High School was deemed successful by its participants. Many thanks to our moderators **Charles B. Howard, Attorney-at-Law** and J. Frank Fargo, **Fargo Insurance & Financial Services** and the following business leaders: Bobby Brightup, **Charles Town Races & Slots**; Jan Callen, **United Way of the Eastern Panhandle**; Simon Chen, **The UPS Store**; Bill Chesley, **Bank of Charles Town**; **Dr. Henry Christie**, Chiropractor; Roberta Chromey, **Welcome Books LLC**; Elisia Davis, **Charles Town Races & Slots**; Chuck Ellison, **Frontier**; Paul Espinosa, **Frontier**; Katherine Funkhouser, **Katherine F. Funkhouser CPA**; Jeanie Hamilton, **Valley Farm Credit**; Tiffany Hine, **Briel PC Attorneys**; Aaron Howell, **Bank of Charles Town**; Jayne Jackson, **Jefferson Security Bank**; Kathy Kester, **BB&T**; Cindy Littleton, **Frontier**; Dr. Frank McCluskey, **American Public University**; Matthew Knott, **River Riders**; Noah Mehrkam, **The Arcland Group**; Toni Milbourne, **Jefferson Publishing Company**; Lorrie Miller, **BB&T**; Tammy Miller, **Bank of Charles Town**; Chris Ott, **Dalb, Inc.**; Jane Peters, **Jefferson County Development Authority**; Bill Reichardt, **Summit Point Automotive Research Center**; Tammy Sirbaugh, **State Farm Insurance**; Clint Sullivan, **Advantage Appraisal**; and Christine Todd, **Regional Contracting Assistance Center**. We also thank the staff and faculties from **Washington** and **Jefferson High Schools** for their cooperation, help, and support, especially, Susan Wall, Superintendent of **Jefferson County Schools**, Judy Marcus, Principal of **Washington High School**, and Howard Guth, Principal of **Jefferson High School**. Last but not least, we appreciate the support of the 113 students who participated. Thanks to all!

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS

Laura Bromley, **Lullaby Lu**, announces that Christmas in Shepherdstown on December 5 – 7 will be better than ever this year. The event filled weekend to celebrate the holiday season will include live music and dancing at various venues, Santa's arrival and Christmas tree lighting, roasted chestnuts, a live nativity scene, the open Little House, special events just for children and more. See www.christmasinshepherdstown.com for more information.

Charles Town author **Bob O'Connor** has received his third national award for the historical novels he has published. O'Connor has been notified that his audio book "The Virginian Who Might Have Saved Lincoln" was named a finalist in the 2008 Best Book Awards in the category "Audio-Fiction Unabridged" by USA Book News. The audio book is a five CD set with the running time of 6:01 and is the unabridged version of the book with the same name. The book is the story of Ward Hill Lamon who was born in Summit Point and lived in Bunker Hill. Lamon was President Lincoln's personal bodyguard. The same audio book was honored earlier this year as the first runner-up in the 2008 National Indie Excellence Awards in the category "Audio-Fiction". O'Connor's first book "The Perfect Steel Trap Harpers Ferry 1859" also was named a finalist in the 2006 Best Book Awards. For additional information on **Bob O'Connor** or his books please visit his website at www.boboconnorbooks.com. The audio book can be purchased at the author's website or at www.amazon.com.

They're nerve-racking and stressful, taunting with their sugar gum drops...yes, the holidays are upon us. This time of year wreaks havoc on our healthy eating and regular exercise ambitions; however, **Curves of Charles Town/Ranson** is inviting its members and area residents to participate in the Nothing to Lose holiday challenge. Just as the name implies, the promotion, which began November 17th encourages members not to gain any weight by sticking with their good exercise habits and being conscious of what they eat during the holiday season. Research shows that while most people don't gain as much weight during the holidays as they think they do, the average is 1-2 pounds, holiday weight gain is responsible for most of the typical weight gain that adults pile on over the years. The strategy at **Curves** is not necessarily to try to lose over the holiday, just to try not to gain. "We know how tough the season can be when it comes to exercising and meeting your fitness goals, but we want to help local women persevere," said Lyn Schindel, owner of **Curves of Charles Town/Ranson**, located at 305 S. West Street. "Instead of becoming frustrated trying to lose weight when it's impossible to do so, it makes sense to set a more achievable goal not to gain. After all, what woman isn't thrilled to make it through the holidays without putting on a pound? Working out and eating right has the double benefit of helping eliminate some of the holiday stress." According to Schindel, the promotion is also designed to provide the opportunity for members to work out with friends and family and challenge them by recording and tracking their weight loss for five weeks, making them eligible for prizes. For more information on the challenge and **Curves of Charles Town/Ranson**, please contact any Curves staff member at (304) 725-3482.

NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS (cont.)

Girl Scouts ages 5-17 years will begin taking pre-orders for Girl Scout cookies from December 15 through January 23. The annual cookie sale teaches girls how to set goals, develop action plans to meet those goals, and work together as a team and cultivate a sense of business ethics. Girls develop self-confidence and learn money management skills as well. Support the Girl Scouts and pre-order cookies starting December 15th! Contact **Girl Scouts of Shawnee Council** at (304) 263-8833 to locate a Girl Scout Troop nearby.

WVUH-East went tobacco-free on November 20. After that time, no tobacco use of any kind will be permitted — inside or outside — on any of the WVUH-East properties. This initiative will include the elimination of designated areas outside City Hospital and **Jefferson Memorial Hospital** where employees, patients and visitors are currently permitted to use tobacco products. “As a healthcare organization, we are committed to the health and safety of our employees and patients. We believe that we have a responsibility to take a leadership role on this major health issue, and establishing our WVUH-East campuses as tobacco-free firmly supports that belief,” stated Judy Hockman, RN, vice president of patient care services at **Jefferson Memorial Hospital**. On average, 11 West Virginians die each day from smoking, and tobacco is the cause of more than one of every five deaths in the state and is the root cause of many illnesses and lost productivity. The U.S. Surgeon General has confirmed that exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke is a serious health hazard and that there is no risk-free level of exposure. Tobacco use in and around hospitals poses health and safety risks for patients, employees and visitors. **Jefferson Memorial Hospital** and City Hospital join all West Virginia University Hospitals-East campuses in going tobacco free.

Roger Eitelman, president and CEO of West Virginia University Hospitals–East, announced his retirement to the Board of Directors, effective December 31, 2008. Eitelman has served as head of WVUH-East, which includes City Hospital in Martinsburg and **Jefferson Memorial Hospital** in Ranson, since July 2005. With over 34 years of healthcare leadership experience, Eitelman has held various positions in hospital administration primarily in the Norfolk-Newport News area of Virginia. “It has been my pleasure to shepherd the Eastern Panhandle’s healthcare system through its early stages and to see how far it has come today,” Eitelman said. “Roger’s personal and professional skills moved WVUH–East forward,” said Bruce McClymonds, president and CEO of WVU Hospitals in Morgantown. “We’re grateful for his service and wish him well in retirement.” WVUH–East is a regional not-for profit healthcare system serving the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. WVUH-East’s parent company, West Virginia University Hospitals in Morgantown, is a member of the West Virginia United Health System, the state’s largest healthcare network.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 5-7	<i>Christmas Belles – Old Opera House</i> , Charles Town
Dec. 7-9	Old Tyme Christmas – Harpers Ferry
Dec. 6	Christmas Parade – Shepherdstown – 11 a.m.
Dec. 6	Christmas Parade – Charles Town – 2 p.m.
Dec. 11-14	<i>Christmas Belles – Old Opera House</i> , Charles Town
Dec. 14	Parade of Horses – Charles Town
Dec. 24-25	Happy Holidays! – Office Closed
Jan. 1, 2009	Happy New Year! – Office Closed