

March 2023

This issue brought to you by:

The Official Newsletter of the Greene County Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (724) 627-5926 Email: info@greenechamber.org www.greenechamber.org





Wednesday,

March 29th

Sponsored by:





11:30-Networking Noon-Lunch and Program At Dickey's Barbeque Pit 130 Greene Plaza Waynesburg, PA

Meet Bud Cook - new State Representative for the 50th District.

Cost - \$20/member \$25/non-member



Register by Wednesday, March 24th by emailing guest name(s) to info@greenechamber.org

Lunch will be prepared by Dickey's Barbeque Pit and will consist of a buffet with pulled pork, chicken breast, baked potato casserole, mac and cheese, and barbecue beans.

Reservations made must be paid for unless cancelled 48 hours in advance.

INSPIRE GREENE



IN TODAY'S WORLD, every county needs a group of community-oriented leaders that have the ability, motivation, and foresight to seize beneficial opportunities for our hometown and its residents. With Greene County's rich network of for-profit businesses and nonprofit organizations, there are many recreational, cultural, and civic leadership opportunities. *INSPIRE GREENE* — a Community Builder and Leadership Course — combines an understanding of board governance principals with active leadership experiences to bring like —minded individuals together for truly bold results.

The goal of **INSPIRE GREENE** is to:

- Educate Participants will cultivate their understanding of
- Greene County and become familiar with key people, organizations, and challenges within our area.
- Collaborate Class members will learn to appreciate and acknowledge the various perspectives and contexts of their fellow leaders and find common ground for strengthening Greene County.
- Serve Participants will develop an ethic of service that will take them beyond personal interests to tangibly engaging in volunteerism and community involvement.
- Exemplify Class members will model community-focused leadership, causing others to aspire to the same standards, while also establishing a network of relationships that will enrich both their personal and professional lives.

Classes are \$300 per person with scholarships available through a generous donation from EQT. INSPIRE GREENE is a 10-week program that begins on March 27. To learn more, visit www.greenecountyunitedway.org/inspiregreene

RIBBON CUTTINGS

Chamber of Commerce Hosts Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Dickey's Barbeque Pit

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce recently hosted an official ribbon cutting ceremony for a new business in Greene Plaza.

On Friday, February 24th, family, friends and local dignitaries gathered to share in the celebration as owners, Joe and Cindy Yorio, officially cut the ribbon on their new eatery located at 130 Greene Plaza in Waynesburg. The day actually marked the 6 month anniversary of the official opening.

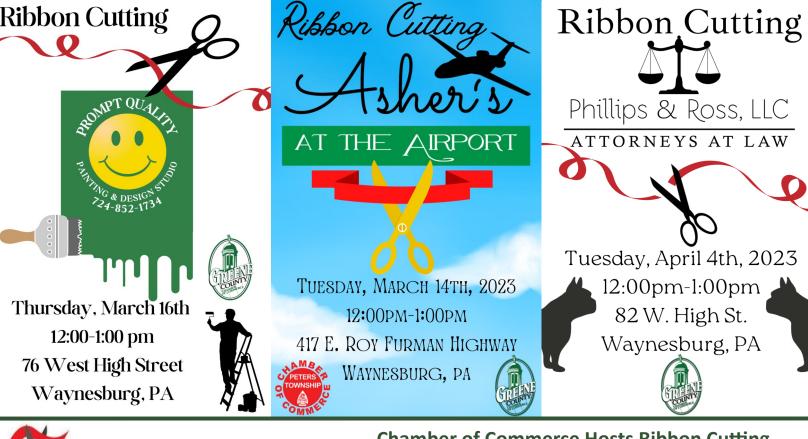
The event featured remarks from several speakers, Mike Belding, Chair of the Greene County Commissioners,

Commissioners Betsy Rohanna McClure and Blair
Zimmerman, Waynesburg Mayor Greg Leathers, and
Melody Longstreth, Director of the Greene County Chamber
of Commerce. Bridget Vilenica shared remarks on behalf of
Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful. Joe and Cindy Yorio
shared their journey which culminated in opening Dickey's
Barbeque Pit in Waynesburg. The menu features "Legit
Texas Barbecue" and catering is also available.

Following the speakers, those in attendance witnessed the official ribbon cutting. Guests were then treated to Dickey's barbecue and numerous side dishes. The Greene County Chamber of Commerce is honored to participate in welcoming new businesses to our area.

For more information on Dickey's Barbeque Pit in Waynesburg, their menu and hours, please visit dickeys.com or call 724-627-0535.





RIBBON CUTTINGS

Chamber of Commerce Hosts Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for New Waynesburg Business, Farley's Hotel Cafe



The Greene County Chamber of Commerce recently hosted an official ribbon cutting ceremony for a new business in downtown Waynesburg.

On Friday, February 17 th, family, friends and local dignitaries gathered to share in the celebration as owner, Farley Toothman, officially cut the ribbon on his new eatery located at 55 South Morgan Street in Waynesburg, PA.

Farley's Hotel Café is a destination located in an historic building and features old-fashioned soda fountain items, unique coffees and a full ice cream shop. Additional menu items are on the way! The interior is as much of an attraction as the tasty treats. The space, one of Waynesburg's old hotels, is filled with memorabilia and historic items from floor to ceiling. The goal of the business is to bring the

community together "one cup or cone at a time."

The event featured remarks from several speakers, including: State Representative Bud Cook, Mike Belding, Betsy Rohanna McClure and Blair Zimmerman, Greene County Commissioners, Mayor Greg Leathers, Jay Hammers, Greene County Chamber of Commerce Board member, and Melody Longstreth, Director of the Greene County Chamber of Commerce. Owner Farley Toothman shared the history of the building and his new business with the audience.

Following the speakers, those in attendance moved to the front of the business for the official ribbon cutting. Guests were then treated to light refreshments from Farley's Hotel Café menu. The Greene County Chamber of Commerce is honored to participate in welcoming new businesses to our area.

For more information on Farley's Hotel Café, its menu items and hours, email farleyshotelcafe@gmail.com or please call (724) 747-3575. Farley's Hotel Café is also on Facebook.

Chamber of Commerce Hosts Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for 50th District House Representative, Bud Cook



On Friday, March 3rd, family, friends, staff and local dignitaries gathered to share in the celebration at 1640 East High Street, Waynesburg. Rep. Cook serves Pennsylvania's 50th Legislative District. While his Waynesburg office will be his main location with office hours Monday through Friday, he also maintains a presence in Brownsville (California, Center in the Woods, with office hours Monday and Friday) and has an office in Harrisburg.

Greene County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors President Casey Durdines welcomed the crowd and introduced the speakers. The event featured remarks from Greene County Commissioners Mike Belding and Betsy Rohanna McClure, Bridget Vilenica, representing Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful, and Township Supervisors Corbly Orndorff (Franklin Township) and Jeff Sholtis (Morgan Township). Rep. Cook followed the speakers with his

plans for Greene County in the coming months.

Following the speakers, those in attendance gathered for the official ribbon cutting. Guests were then treated to light refreshments afterwards. The Greene County Chamber of Commerce is honored to participate in welcoming new offices as well as new businesses to our area.

For more information on Rep. Cook and Pennsylvania's 50th Legislative District, contact his Waynesburg District Office, 1640 E. High St., at (724) 929-2660.



Various students from the Greene County Career and Technology Center competed in Skills USA district(local) competitions in December. Skills USA is a student organization who are training to become America's most highly skilled and motivated workers. The students that competed are some of the best and brightest we have to offer. Our first place winners are to move onto state competitions located in Hershey, PA in April. The first place winners from the district competitions are Madison Ellis, Scott Blair, Eleanor Turner, Nick Snyder, Keira Schaum, Elizabeth Henderson, Dillan Fisher, and Lydia Price. Students are looking for sponsorship to help pay for the cost of state competition expenses.

If you are interested in sponsoring Skills USA please contact 724-627-3106.





Waynesburg University Department of Fine Arts to feature new artist

Waynesburg University's Department of Fine Arts will feature artist Maggie Schermerhorn's work from March 13 to April 16 in the Benedum Fine Arts Gallery. The opening reception for the exhibit will be Monday, March 13, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Schermerhorn is currently based in Texas, and graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2016. Her art focuses on water painting and creating texture through different kinds of paper. Though this will be her first time exhibiting at the University, she was already familiar with Emily Wiedner, instructor of fine arts. The exhibit will feature art primarily on landscapes. According to Schermerhorn's artist statement about the work, the art is, "a meditation on the Texas landscape."

"I think visitors will appreciate the amount of detail and labor that Maggie puts into these landscapes," Wiedner said. "They feature 2D and 3D elements that allow the landscapes to come to life." "My art is about hope and growth, from the past and the present of my surroundings," Schermerhorn's artist statement said. "In my work, I want to capture moments of hope and peace through layered memories of what is good and the surroundings that make up those memories through these marks of color, shapes and lines."





Thursday, 1 April 13th 1

Career Link - 200 Greene Plaza
Cost - \$15/member \$20/non-member

Employee Ownership and Its Benefits

Presented by Kevin McPhillips, Executive Director and CEO of Pennsylvania Center for Employee Ownership and Emalie Martzall, Marketing and Community Outreach Coordinator at Pennsylvania Center for Employee Ownership. At the event, attendees will learn what employee ownership is, the different kinds of employee ownership and which one may be applicable to them, as well as the benefits of employee ownership for both owners and employees alike.

Register by Thursday, April 6th by emailing guest name(s) to info@greenechamber.org

Reservations made must be paid for unless cancelled 48 hours in advance.

11:30-Networking Noon- Lunch & Program

Deluxe Boxed Lunches
will be provided by
Dickey's Barbeque and
will consist of a pulled
pork sandwich, mac &
cheese, a chocolate
chunk cookie, and
chips.



Phillips and Ross, LLC Ribbon Cutting - Tuesday, April 4th
Lunch & Learn - "PaCEO" - Thursday, April 13th—CareerLink
Admin Luncheon— Wednesday, April 26th—First Baptist Church
Shoe Sensation Ribbon Cutting - Friday, April 28th
Lunch & Learn - "New Hire Reporting" - Thursday, May 11th—CareerLink
Business Connection Luncheon - Wednesday, May 24th—Dickey's Barbeque Pit
Annual Golf Outing—Friday, June 2nd - Greene County Country Club



Pennsylvania New Hire Reporting Program In-Person Workshop
May 11th, 2023 from 11:30am to 1:00pm
PA CareerLink® Greene County
200 Greene Plaza, Waynesburg, PA 15370
Presented by: Dennis Marsh | Statistician Supervisor 1
Department of Labor & Industry | Center for Workforce Information & Analysis

HRCI CREDIT APPROVED



New hire reports result in more money for dependent children through non-custodial parent wage garnishment



If you paid wages to an individual, the individual must be reported



New hire reports help stop and recover erroneous payments in unemployment and worker's compensation programs



Payroll service providers may submit reports on your behalf



Submit your new hire report as soon as an individual begins work





Beaver County • Greene County • Washington County

Boxed lunches from Dickey's Bar-B-Que will contain a Pulled Pork Sandwich, Mac & Cheese, Chips, and a Cookie

Compliments of Washington County Council on Economic Development





Please email us at info@greenechamber.org to register for this event.

Great Gathering IX

Please join us for the 'Great Gathering IX' the ninth annual MEGA MIXER hosted by 30 chambers of commerce, business associations, and energy organizations at the Hilton Garden Inn Southpointe.

Take part in one of the most diverse gatherings of business leaders and executives in the region.

- Network with hundreds of business owners, corporate-level executives, entrepreneurs, & other professionals from all over western Pennsylvania.
- Executive VIP Reception with local and regional government officials 5-6pm. Open bar. Must register in advance while registration is open.
- Enjoy light fare and hors d'oeuvres
- Exhibitor tables from great local companies
- Chance auction, door prizes, and cash bar
- Business professional attire please
- Free & ample parking available

With over 30 organizations participating, this will be a fantastic networking opportunity for all levels of leadership in business. The event fills up quickly. Don't miss an opportunity to attend the largest event in the region.

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THE GREAT GATHERING IX

Wed, March 15th 2023 | 6 - 9pm | Hilton Garden Inn - Southpointe

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Life's Work FORD Lynch Law Puby

Click 'Register Now' for info, costs, & RSVP

Be sure to click on the circle beside Greene County Chamber when registering! Greene County Chamber Members (NOT guests or visitors) \$55.00 after Tuesday, March 14, 2023

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS







Prompt Quality Painting & Design Studio

Timothy Frye - President 76 West High Street Waynesburg, PA 15370 724-852-1734

http://www.promptqualitypainting.compqp1@comcast.net

Phillips & Ross, LLC

Jessica Phillips - Partner 82 West High Street Waynesburg, PA 15370 724-255-0404

PhillipsRossLaw@gmail.com

Brady's Roadhouse

Shannon Rutan - Bookkeeper 555 W High Street Waynesburg, PA 15370 724-998-0618

bradysroadhouse@gmail.com

98 Percent of Websites Worldwide Are Not Accessible & Why Website Accessibility Matters in 2023!

Inaccessible web content means that people with disabilities are denied equal access to information. An inaccessible website can exclude people just as much as steps at an entrance to a physical location. Ensuring web accessibility for people with disabilities is a priority for the Department of Justice. In recent years, a multitude of services have moved online and people rely on websites like never before for all aspects of daily living. For example, accessing voting information, finding up-to-date health and safety resources, making appointments for health or business purposes, or even ordering a pizza for dinner. We have come accustomed to doing more and more online.



People with disabilities navigate the web in a variety of ways. People who are blind may use screen readers,

which are devices that speak the text that appears on a screen. People who are deaf or hard of hearing may use captioning. And people whose disabilities affect their ability to grasp and use a mouse may use voice recognition software to control their computers and other devices with verbal commands.

The ways that websites are designed and set up can create unnecessary barriers that make it difficult or impossible for people with disabilities to use websites, just as physical barriers like steps can prevent some people with disabilities from entering a building. But these barriers can be prevented or removed so that websites are accessible to people with disabilities.

Examples of Website Accessibility Barriers

- **Poor color contrast.** People with limited vision or color blindness cannot read text if there is not enough contrast between the text and background (for example, light gray text on a light-colored background).
- Use of color alone to give information. People who are color-blind may not have access to information when that information is conveyed using only color cues because they cannot distinguish certain colors from others. Also, screen readers do not tell the user the color of text on a screen, so a person who is blind would not be able to know that color is meant to convey certain information (for example, using red text alone to show which fields are required on a form).
- Lack of text alternatives ("alt text") on images. People who are blind will not be able to understand the content and purpose of images, such as pictures, illustrations, and charts, when no text alternative is provided. Text alternatives convey the purpose of an image, including pictures, illustrations, charts, etc.
- **No captions on videos.** People with hearing disabilities may not be able to understand information communicated in a video if the video does not have captions.
- Inaccessible online forms. People with disabilities may not be able to fill out, understand, and accurately submit forms without things like:
- Labels that screen readers can convey to their users (such as text that reads "credit card number" where that number should be entered);
- Clear instructions; and
- Error indicators (such as alerts telling the user a form field is missing or incorrect).

Mouse-only navigation (lack of keyboard navigation). People with disabilities who cannot use a mouse or trackpad will not be able to access web content if they cannot navigate a website using a keyboard.

When the ADA Requires Web Content to be Accessible

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to state and local governments (Title II) and businesses that are open to the public (Title III). According to ADA Title III, every business website has to be accessible to people with disabilities, or it will be at risk of being sued and facing unnecessary legal expenses. Since 2019, we have worked with many local businesses who have faced lawsuits by not being compliant. These suits have targeted businesses in our area and have ranged in cost from \$10,000 to \$75,000 for non-compliance violations. Industries we have seen being targeted have been pharmacies, attorneys, schools, housing authorities, insurance companies, mortgage and financial advisors.

What We Offer:

We can help protect your business by installing a small bit of code on your existing website. This code will use AI technology to make sure your website has the following:

- ADA, WCAG 2.1 Level AA & Section 508 compliance for your website.
- An accessibility statement and certification of performance.
- Provide ongoing maintenance involving a re-scan of your website every 24 hours. If there is a new ADA requirement your site will be in full compliance in hours.

A one year plan starts at \$460.00 a year or if you prefer to pay monthly \$45 a month

Not only does this protect your brand but it also mitigates the legal risk of expensive lawsuits and extends your business reach. We can protect your business and provide a piece of mind for those who may visit your site.

If you wish to read more about these guidelines or find out how a pizza started the ADA accessibility click the links below.

https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-issues-web-accessibility-guidance-under-americans-disabilities-act https://www.boia.org/blog/the-robles-v.-dominos-settlement-and-why-it-matters



GREENE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications from graduating seniors for the Annual Chamber of Commerce Scholarship they will award this May in the amount of \$1,500. In addition, the winner will receive a laptop compliments of PCsquared in Waynesburg. The scholarship program is open to any Greene County resident who will be a graduating high school senior in 2023.

The Chamber urges all high school seniors who have been accepted to a College or Technical School as an incoming freshman this Fall and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better while in high school to apply for this scholarship.

Applicants will be required to write an essay and furnish a listing of their school activities and local community involvement. Applications are available from the Chamber website at www.greenechamber.org

Completed applications must be submitted by Thursday, April 13th. The winner will be announced in early May and the Scholarship Award presented at the Chamber's monthly General Membership Luncheon in May at Waynesburg University.

For more information, please contact the chamber at 724-627-5926 or email to melody@greenechamber.org



Are you looking to finance an equipment purchase for your business?

During this free webinar led by our Manager of Commercial Lending, Steve Meredith, we will discuss essential documents needed, as well as other considerations to take into account when financing a machinery or equipment purchase.



Please, join us for this <u>free</u> webinar: Tuesday April 11, 2023 at 1 p.m.

RSVP to Linda Duffy at Lduffy@spcregion.org by April 4, 2023

Paths to PennDOT Workshop

March 22, 2023 in Uniontown

ALL ROADS LEAD TO PENNDOT: CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH PROJECTS



The Workshop will connect you to PennDOT

Economic inclusion for all Americans is one of the most critical issues of our time. Small, minority, women-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) form the heart of our communities, offer local employment, and contribute to the well-being of PA's economy. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) understands the vital role that DBEs play in our national economy. PennDOT is ready and here to assist your business in securing future contracting opportunities with us. We invite highway construction industry DBE firms, primes, and contractors to a free one-day workshop on March 22nd themed "Paths to PennDOT".

The Paths to PennDOT Workshop will connect you with influential leaders in the highway construction industry.

Experts will be on hand to provide information relating to business opportunities, prequalification, Mentor Protégé Program, DBE Program participation and more.

The Paths to PennDOT Workshop will be held at the Ramada by Wyndham, Uniontown at 700 W. Main Street. Registration starts at 7:30 AM.

Please register ahead of time to reserve your seat at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UniontownMar22

Pre-registration closes March 17, 2023.

Individuals requiring language assistance or accommodations to participate in the workshop should contact the Bureau of Equal Opportunity at (717) 787-5891, at least seven (7) days before the event.



Ramada by Wyndham 700 W Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401



THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL BE COVERED:

- DBE Certification Application
- Contractor Compliance Review Process
- On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program: Training the Next Generation of Journeyperson[s]
- DBE DB OJT Supportive Services (Prime/Sub Matching)
- Prequalification Process
- Commercially Useful Function (CUF)
- · Panel Discussion (DBE Topics)
- Good Faith Effort (GFE)
- Marketing Your Business
- Mentor Protégé
- Removing Barriers

FIVE GROUP BENEFITS EMPLOYEES WILL LOOK FOR IN 2023

Most small businesses are at a competitive disadvantage when trying to hire and retain employees compared to their larger firm counterparts. The smaller firms are typically more limited in their budgetary capabilities and unable to provide a high level of comprehensive benefit package. To attract their necessary workers, the focus for owners of small companies should be directed toward benefits that are most valued by the workforce they are looking to attract. Here are a few of the benefits most employees are looking for in 2023:



Healthcare... with heightened health concerns stemming from the pandemic and quests for enhanced personal well-being, a comprehensive portfolio of healthcare benefits has been and remains one of the most sought-after benefits.

Remote Work...the ability to work from home which became commonplace during the pandemic appears to have staying power. It remains to be seen whether the trend continues to grow or subsides to a lesser extent but for now this is something most employees are seeking.

Flexible Work Schedule... the ability to balance work responsibilities with personal obligations and the care of children and elderly parents has made a flexible work schedule a valued benefit in the post-pandemic world.

Paid Family Leave...Citing the positive benefits on physical health, mental well-being and stability for the entire family, workers are increasingly looking for companies that provide women with maternity leave and men with paternity leave.

Paid Time Off...employees continue to seek additional time off from work to reduce stress and recharge to maintain health and wellbeing. This actually has the potential to benefit employers in addition to the employee as the relaxation and clear mind attained through time off often leads to a higher level of employee morale and increased productivity.

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce offers its members access to My Benefit Advisor as a solution for employee benefits, including voluntary offerings. For more information about My Benefit Advisor, visit our website at greene.mybenefitadvisor.com or contact Mike Galardini at (800) 377-3539.



Are you looking to grow your business?

Learn how to qualify and apply for small business financing through the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission. This free webinar is led by our Manager of Commercial Lending, Steve Meredith.



Please, join us for this <u>free</u> webinar: Tuesday March 14, 2023 at 1:00 pm

NOTARY **PUBLIC**

FDIC

Curbside or In-Office Notary!

Notary service is available by appointment. Notary work (excluding title transfers) is free

to chamber members as part of your membership benefits.

Email melody@greenechamber.org or call 724-998-2386 to schedule an appointment.

Place Your Ad Here!

Contact melody@greenechamber.org for more information!



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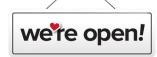
Carmichaels Office 101 West George Street

Mt. Morris Office 101 Locust Avenue Ext.

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www.ffgc.bank





OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday from 10am-4pm Friday by Appointment



Want To Volunteer But Don't Know How To Get Started?

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) of Greene County offers meaningful and rewarding volunteer opportunities for adults ages 55 & over.





Benefits of Volunteering:

- Supplemental Accident insurance Mileage Reimbursements Opportunity to Meet New People Make a Difference in your Comm

RSVP volunteers may serve as:

- Financial Literacy Course Instructor Food Bank/Pantries Home Delivered Meals Drivers Store to Door Grocery Delivery Telephone Reassurance VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Tax Preparer



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GOOD HEALTH IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS



Custom Employee Wellness Programs designed to fit your business!



Health **Screenings**

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· Cozy DreamWell Bedding

• 32" HD Televisions w/HD Programming · Free Deluxe Continental Breakfast Buffet

• Rooms w/Microwave & Mini-Fridge • PLUS, Earn Wyndham Rewards Points!

For more information, contact Kayla Brumley, Member Services Director, at kcoss@eqtreccenter.org

Now is the time for clear energy advice.







We take care of your energy, so you don't have to waste yours.









ENHANCING LIVES EXCELLING IN TECHNOLOGY

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Jennifer Salvitti Davis, M.D. Sean F. Pieramici, M.D. 236 Elm Drive, Suite 103 Waynesburg, PA 15370



300 Comfort Lane Waynesburg, PA 15370

Phone: 724.627.0310 | Fax: 724.627.5102

www.microtelinn.com Lorinda Trovato, General Manager lorinda.t@millenniumhospitality.com



Call the Physician Referral Line at: (724) 250-4310

or search our Physician Finder at whs.org

WASHINGTON HEALTH SYSTEM





