

CHAMBER CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Waynesburg Area Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (724) 627-5926 • Fax: (724) 627-8017

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1999

Career Center

4 West High Street (the old Community Bank Building)

12:00 Noon to 1 p.m.

SPEAKER: SITE TOUR OF THE NEW CAREER CENTER

Lunch: Items will be available for purchase from South Side Deli

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Ms. Bernice Fox

Community Action Southwest

22 West High Street

852-2893

Ms. Theresa M. Knight

Knight Insurance & Notary Service

P.O. Box 267

Jefferson, PA 15344

883-2774

Educational Fund Scholarship

The Chambers Educational Fund is once again searching for a worthy recipient for the 1999 Scholarship of \$1,500. Students must be a 1999 graduating senior from a Greene County School and be accepted to a 4 year academic or 2 year trade school. Students must write an essay and provide evidence of a 3.0 grade point average to be eligible. Entry forms can be obtained from all county High School offices or by calling the Chamber office at 627-5926. Deadline for entries is June 7th. The winner will be selected by a panel of judges and announced on June 18th.

The Fashion Shop is Open



Congratulations to our member – The Fashion Shop – on their newly remodeling store. It is beautiful!! If you haven't stopped by to see the new store, you have missed a great addition to downtown.

SBA CELEBRATES NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK IN MAY

This year marks the 36th annual celebration of National Small Business Week, which will be held during the week of May 23-29, 1999 throughout our Nation. This year's theme is "Small Business . . . A History of Success, A Millennium of Opportunity."

This year, the Western Pennsylvania District Office and its resource partners will commemorate the vital role small businesses play in maintaining and strengthening the economy, during a special awards luncheon at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh on May 28th.

For information concerning Small Business Week events or tickets to the luncheon, please contact Ray Becki or Carrie Herron of the SBA at (412) 395-6560, extensions 104 or 103 respectively.

Miss Rain Day 1997 to Compete for Miss Pennsylvania Title

Autumn Marisa, the daughter of Rudy and Jackie Marisa of Waynesburg, will be competing for the title of Miss Pennsylvania. She will be competing for the title the week of May 31, in Bethlehem, PA. The preliminary competition will be held on June 3, 4 and the finals on June 5th. She will be competing in four areas of competition: Personal Interview, Swimwear, Talent and Evening Gown.

At the local, state and national Miss America competitions, nearly \$32 million in awards was available in 1997. The Miss America competitions exist for the purpose of providing personal and professional opportunities for young American women and promoting their voice in culture, politics and the community.

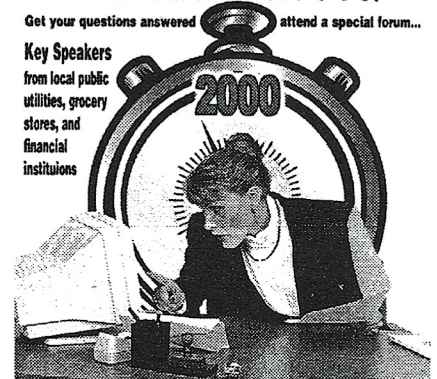
Autumn will be a sophomore at Penn State University, Main Campus in the fall. She was also recently selected to be on the Penn State Dance Team. Autumn is no stranger to pageants. She was the 1997 Miss Rain Day and Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Queen.

THE Y2K RACE

How will it affect YOU?

Get your questions answered attend a special forum...

Key Speakers from local public utilities, grocery stores, and financial institutions



Thursday, May 27 • 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.
Waynesburg College Stover Center

A public service sponsored by:



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE WAYNESBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

April 28, 1999
Golden Corral

Members Present; Katy Shultz-Hospice Care, Richard Scott - Scott Enterprises, Suzanne Huffman - C.D.C., Lolli Rendina-T.C.I Media, Susan Stoy -Representative Bill Dewese, Sheila Barger - National City, Chad Moore- First Federal, Ruth Enci - Area Agency on Aging, Merle Williams and Ray Chaney - Alltel, Gloria Richter - Pizza Hut, Kathleen Gregg- School to work, Robyn Riggs-Cellular One, Connie Clark and Jim Porter-Kyowa America, Colleen Nelson - Guest, Mary Parkinson - Honorary Member, Farley Toothman -Greene County Commissioner, Raylynn Lund - G.C.I.D., Jeanine Henry and Ross Seifert - S.B.A., Jackie Kingora - County of Greene, Jack McCracken - Honorary Member, Mary Pruss- Peacock Keller, Eric Boris - C.D.C. and John Owen - United Way.

Mary Pruss called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Introductions were made around the room. On a motion by Gloria Richter, seconded by Ruth Enci, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. On a motion by Robyn Riggs, seconded by Kay Laskody, the report was approved as written. Mary Pruss noted that the membership dues continue to come in with only a few still outstanding.

Old Business: Mary Pruss encouraged members to participate in the committees of the Chamber. They are all important to our work in the community and are also a lot of fun. She also reported that the Executive Committee had been asked to provide input for the new Visitor's Guides by the County Commissioners. A letter of recommendation was sent. The bid for the new guide will be awarded at tomorrow's Commissioners meeting and the new guides should be ready by the first week of June. Mary Pruss announced that earlier this month, the Chamber donated five large wallpaper books full of news clippings from the 1950's to 1970's to the Greene County Historical Society. The museum plans to use them in a display and maintain them in the library for all to enjoy. The books had been forgotten in storage until the early 1990's when they were rediscovered. The new office area does not have space to make them accessible so that they may be enjoyed. The news clippings not only cover Chamber events but all events in the County. Our Secretary, Robyn Riggs, is

shown in one clipping at the age of five when she was chosen as Christmas Queen. Mary Pruss and Melody Longstreth recently attended a regional meeting for Chambers of Commerce Service Corporation our benefits provider. The programs offered currently were reviewed. The long distance service has been cancelled due to poor service through the carrier. The health insurance is also under review by C.C.S.C. to ensure that our benefits remain competitive. Melody was able to meet other local Chamber staff, to develop a network to share ideas and concerns. National City Bank has donated the use of two parking spaces in their over flow lot to be used by the Chamber Staff. A thank you was issued to them for their support of the Chamber.

Mary Pruss introduced quest speaker Suzanne Huffman from Communications Development Corporation. C.D.C. is a graphic design and consulting service, web page design service and they offer cable advertising through T.C.I. Suzanne introduced Lolli Rendina, a representative of T.C.I. Media Services. She reviewed some of the local advertisements that we may have seen on television recently. T.C.I. is able to provide affordable cable advertising to local customers in the Pittsburgh region. 82% of those homes in that market, of which Greene County is a part of, has cable service. 92% of sales comes from customers within a five miles radius of the business. Cable advertising is attractive to small businesses because they can purchase cable service directed at their specific market area to target their specific customer group. Many studies have been done of households so that businesses may tailor their campaign to best serve their market share. Currently 3,800 households in Waynesburg are served by this system.

Jack McCracken, the caretaker of the Chamber's Welcome to Waynesburg Sign, has announced his retirement from that position. Jackie Kingora acknowledged that the County of Greene will maintain the sign. Jack was thanked for his years of service on that project. On a motion by Richard Scott, seconded by Kathleen Gregg, the meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody R. Longstreth
Chamber Coordinator



- May 28-31 Greene Co. Charity Horse Show
for more info: Horseman's Assoc.
(724) 627-9124
- May 28-31 Street Fair
Crucible Vol. Fire Dept. Crucible
starts Friday evening, fmi: (724) 592-5359
- May 29 Swimming Pool Opens
Ryerson State Park
- June 5 Fish for Free - Ryerson State Park
- June 5 .. Golf Tournament Mt. Morris VFD
Rohanna's, Waynesburg
for more info: (724) 627-6423
- June 12 Golf Tournament Social Service
League - Rohanna's Waynesburg
for more info: (724) 627-6423
- June 12-13 Pioneer Festival
West Greene School
for more info: Todd (724) 499-5237
- June 16 Miss Riverfest Pageant
Rices Landing
for more info: (724) 592-6032
- June 18-20 "Brodak's Fly-In"
Convention - Carmichaels
for more info: (724) 966-5975
- June 19 ATV Races
Greene Co. Fairgrounds
- June 19 Fishing Derby
Ryerson State Park
- June 19-20 "Field Days"
Near Kirby
for more info: Fred Kiger (724) 435-7489
- June 20 Antiques Fair
Greene County Fairgrounds

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MISS RAIN DAY SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

The Miss Rain Day Scholarship Pageant committee has been meeting twice a month for some time to plan one of the Chamber's largest annual events. Contestants will take part in two months of activities prior to the pageant which is scheduled for Sunday, July 25th at the Waynesburg Central High School Auditorium. Any members who would like to take part in this committee is welcome and encouraged to contact the office to be added to the list.

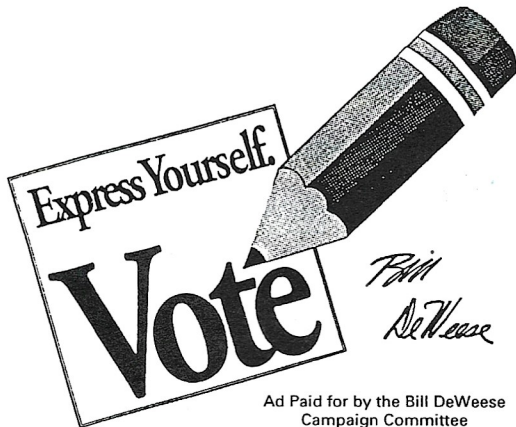
Welfare to Work

Only a business owner can decide if the Welfare to Work initiative will be beneficial to their company. Like any new investment, finding and hiring employees to meet the needs of a business is critical. A small business has many tax advantages in hiring an individual off of welfare:

Tax Credits and Other Incentives:

- Federal and state tax credits and business incentives are available for businesses that hire individuals from public assistance. The federal government offers up to \$8,500 in tax incentives.
- There are two federal tax credits:
 1. Welfare to Work Tax Credit
 2. Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

If you are a business owner and want more information about the Welfare to Work program, please contact the district office at (412) 395-6560 or visit the SBA Welfare to Work website at www.sbagov/w2w.



Ad Paid for by the Bill DeWeese Campaign Committee



Carmichaels: 966-5041
Waynesburg: 852-1715
Greene Plaza: 627-3134
Greensboro: 943-3581
Pioneer: 499-5136
Washington: 225-5300
McMurray: 941-9030
Claysville: 663-7723

The Personal Service Bank

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67 West Church Street
Fairchance, PA 15436
724/564-7447

Giant Eagle
Route 51 Fayette Plaza
Uniontown, PA 15401
724/438-8586

Jefferson
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Jefferson, PA 15344
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Waynesburg
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ALLTEL Helps Your Community Stay In Touch

ALLTEL takes pride in community involvement, from the telecommunications services we offer, to our community volunteer efforts.

As community volunteers for school programs, we introduce the younger generation to the wonders of the phone. At local events we educate the public on what lies beyond those phone lines.

But our efforts don't stop there. We continuously update our equipment to keep in step with growth and development in your community.

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savings and loan association

of **GREENE COUNTY**



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WAYNESBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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