



June 2025

# CHAMBER CHATTER

*The Official Newsletter of the  
Greene County Chamber of Commerce*

724-627-5926

[info@greenechamber.org](mailto:info@greenechamber.org)

[www.greenechamber.org](http://www.greenechamber.org)



Wednesday,  
**June 25th**

Sponsored by:



11:30-Networking  
Noon-Lunch and Program  
At Waynesburg University  
Criminal Justice & Forensic Investigation Center  
409 North Morris Street  
-On street parking available

Cost - \$25/member \$30/non-member

Presentation will be from Community Bank and  
WVU Medicine.

Register by Wednesday, June 20th by  
emailing guest name(s) to  
[info@greenechamber.org](mailto:info@greenechamber.org) or fill out the  
google form found on our calendar.

Lunch will be prepared by  
Aladdin Food Service.

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







## The Importance of Public Speaking

Join us and Jack Burt as we explore the art and impact of effective communication. This engaging session will cover essential techniques for overcoming the fear of public speaking, crafting compelling messages, and connecting with your audience. Whether you're a seasoned speaker or just starting your journey, this event will provide valuable insights and practical tips to enhance your speaking skills. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from an experienced professional in a relaxed and supportive environment.

Walk-ins are  
welcome!

Thursday,  
June 26th

RGB Coffee  
30 North Washington St.

**FREE EVENT!**

Noon – Lunch Provided



Boxed lunch will be provided.

Beverages can be purchased  
from RGB before or during  
the session.

## T-Shirt Tuesdays at the Chamber!

Highlighting our members, one t-shirt at a time!

This summer, every Tuesday, the chamber staff will be sporting T-shirts from various businesses. We are on the lookout for more T-shirts from our member businesses to showcase our support.

If you wish to participate, please reach out to us at [info@greenechamber.org](mailto:info@greenechamber.org). Watch our social media for pictures!

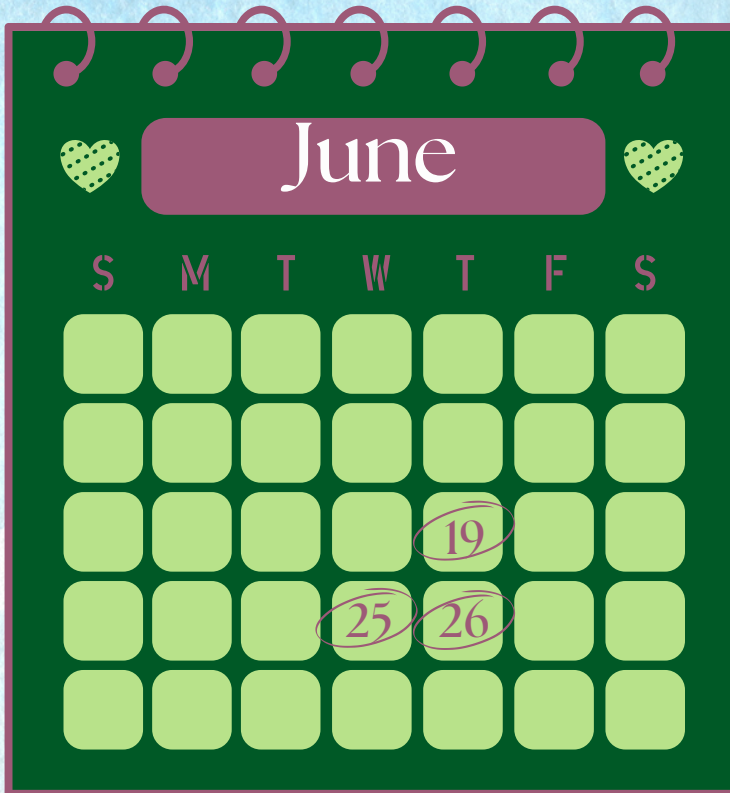


What's Smokin' BBQ



GC Chamber of Commerce

# Mark Your Calendars!



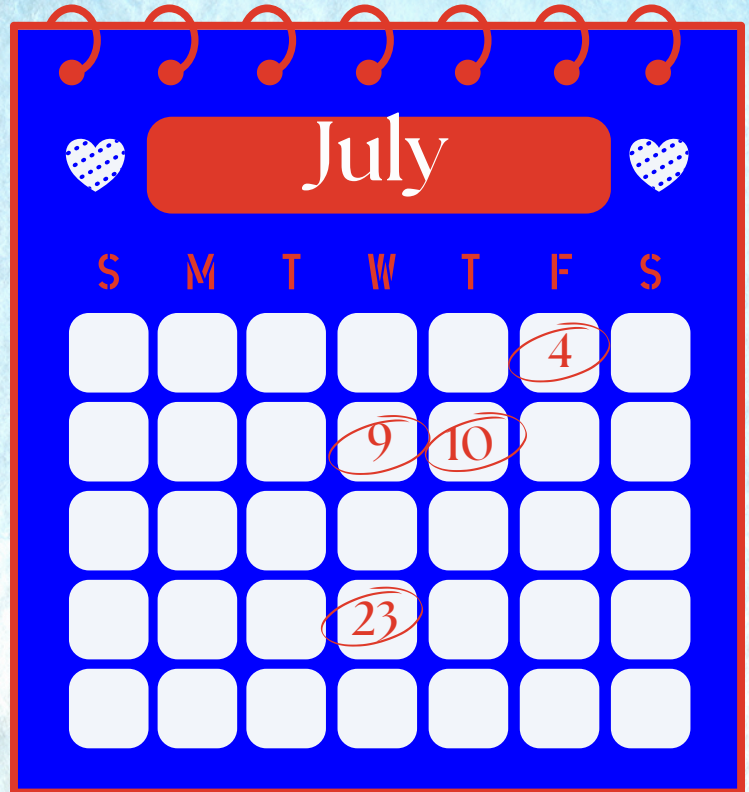
6/19 - Office Holiday Closure

6/25 - Business Connection Luncheon

6/26 - Lunch & Learn

More details to follow.

You can also check out and register through our Calendar of Events on our website [here](#).



7/4 - Office Holiday Closure

7/9 - Board of Directors Meeting

7/10 - Ribbon Cutting

7/23 - Business Connection Luncheon



## WINNER WINNER!

### Summer Gift Card Raffle Winner!

The winner of our Summer Gift Card and Shop Local Cash raffle has been notified and he is thrilled! Congratulations to Mark Fordyce! He held the winning ticket, #119, which was the evening 3-digit PA Lottery number. Thank you to everyone who donated, sold and purchased tickets.



# RIBBON CUTTING

# MSPSI

**MOUNTAIN STATES PRESSURE SERVICE, INC.**

**THURSDAY, JULY 10TH**

**NOON-1PM**

**141 JEFFERSON ROAD, WAYNESBURG**



## Waynesburg Lions Club

PRESENTS

# 2025 Sounds of Summer

## FREE Musical Concerts All Summer!

**Tuesdays 6:00-8:00pm At the Waynesburg Lions Club Park**

June 3 ..... Tyler Jeffries & Luke Schroyer *Sponsored by First Federal S & L*  
June 10 ..... The Classics Rock *Sponsored by Baily Insurance - Client Appreciation Day*  
June 17 ..... Swingin' Bopcats Big Band *Sponsored by Wayne & Connie Hart*  
June 24 ..... Rick K Road Trip *Sponsored by Fox Ford*  
July 1 ..... Helicopter Collective *Sponsored by Community Bank- Special Salute to Veterans*  
July 8 ..... C & T Acoustic *Sponsored by Waynesburg Rotary*  
July 22 ..... The Projects *Sponsored by Ross Tractor Sales*  
August 12 ..... Longshot *Sponsored by Mickey's Men's & Women's Fine Clothing and the Fashion Shoppe*  
August 19 ... Slim Pickins *Sponsored by Old Station Bar & Grill*  
August 26 ... Nuther Round *Sponsored by Hideaway Candle Bar and 3 S Self Storage*



**THE CONCESSION SPONSOR FOR THE SUMMER IS EQT**



## Annual Golf Outing

We held our Annual Golf Outing this year at Carmichael's Golf Course! A huge thank you to all of our sponsors for helping make this event a success! New Way Excavating, UPMC Greene, First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Greene County, Community Bank, Jeff & Kathy McClure, Edward Jones - Matt Baculik's Office, State Senator Camera Bartolotta, Hampton Inn Waynesburg, State Representative Bud Cook, Cypher & Cypher, Waynesburg Giant Eagle, Blueprints, Mountain State Waste, Waynesburg University, Waynesburg Animal Hospital, Laick Design, Wilson Accounting, DJ Forbes, R.G. Johnson, World Kinect. Another thank you to our current and past local royalty: Abby Ray - 2024 Miss Rain Day, Adysan Kern - 2024 Greene Co. Fair Queen, Claire Borovichka - Greene Co. Fair Little Princess, Eryka Hackney - Greene Co. Fair Queen, and Ashdyn Kern - Greene Co. Fair Junior Princess! Thank you for all of our volunteers for their help throughout the day!

We'll see you at new year's golf outing at Rohanna's Golf Course!





# No Childcare Teachers, No Work: PA Must Invest to Stop Economic Bleeding

Pennsylvania's childcare teachers are the workforce behind the workforce. When they are in the classroom, parents can go to work with confidence, knowing that their children are safe and learning. However, childcare teachers are leaving the profession making it difficult for parents to find the care that gets them to work every day. This historic teacher shortage is depleting childcare providers of qualified staff, forcing them to enroll fewer children or even close their doors. It's no secret that childcare is expensive, but affordability tells only half the story. The other half of this tale is about the lack of childcare availability. More than 25,000 Pennsylvania children don't have childcare because at least 3,000 childcare teaching jobs are unfilled – and that finding comes from a survey of only 17% of Pennsylvania's licensed childcare programs. Surely, the real-world numbers are much higher. Every community suffers the consequences. The lack of available childcare costs Pennsylvania's economy \$6.65 billion annually in lost wages, productivity, and revenue. When families can't find childcare, they can't go to work, and when they can't work, businesses can't produce the products and services that make money and create more jobs.

What's going on? It's a matter of pay. There is no county in Pennsylvania where childcare teachers can make a livable wage. They earn an average of \$15.15 an hour, when they could easily earn \$20 an hour or more in retail or fast food – and those are fields that don't require credentials just to get started. Those other, higher-paying fields also require less responsibility and fewer specialized skills, because caring for children demands trust and intensive knowledge of early childhood development. In this environment, even the most committed childcare teachers are leaving the field, making the difficult decision to find better-paying jobs so they can support their own families.

Fortunately, Pennsylvania lawmakers hold a solution in their hands. Last year, they cooperated in bipartisan fashion to enhance tax credits for families and employers, easing the financial sting of care that can cost \$14,000 a year for infants and toddlers – almost as much as public college tuition.

It's time to leverage that investment and address the other half of the story. For the 2025-26 state budget, Gov. Shapiro has proposed a critical \$55 million investment for a Child Care Teacher Recruitment and Retention Initiative. This lifeline would stabilize the childcare workforce by providing about \$1,000 per educator to Pennsylvania's subsidized childcare providers. It's not a complete fix, but it's an important start and, perhaps more importantly, an acknowledgement that we can't allow this situation to fester. In fact, Pennsylvanians overwhelmingly agree, in bipartisan fashion, with 83% of voters supporting state funding to recruit and retain childcare teachers. This is probably because they have experienced the challenges of finding childcare or have watched their own families and friends struggle.

More than 70 Chambers of Commerce statewide also back this common-sense initiative. In public letters to lawmakers, we note that childcare bottlenecks are preventing us from filling open positions. Without people, we can't generate the profits that we invest back in jobs and our communities. Nationwide, 18 states of all political stripes have invested in replenishing the childcare teacher workforce. Without action, Pennsylvania risks falling behind in the race for economic competitiveness. Pennsylvania lawmakers step up whenever they can support the intertwined interests of families and businesses, and we call on them now to back this initiative. A \$55 million investment in childcare teacher recruitment and retention would be a bipartisan, sensible down payment on a more economically vibrant Pennsylvania, where families hold down good jobs and employers find good people.



Melody Longstreth, Executive Director  
Greene County Chamber of Commerce  
5137 Mt. Morris Rd. Ste 103 Waynesburg, PA 15370  
724-627-5926



Robert S. Carl, Jr., President & CEO  
Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce  
Union Station 1 Progress Circle Suite 201 Pottsville, PA 17901  
570-622-1942





# PENN NATIONAL INSURANCE

## **Dividend Announced for the Business Insurance Program**

*\*Program has distributed over \$13 million in dividends over 13 years\**

Penn National Insurance has declared a 3% dividend for the Business Insurance program. Members who obtained their insurance coverage with Penn National during the 2023/2024 program year and have remained active chamber members and policyholders until the end of the program year will receive a dividend check in June.

Since its inception in 2011, the program has grown to over \$28 million in written premiums and has returned an impressive \$13.6 million in dividends to its members.

A primary focus of the program is on loss prevention and managing claim costs. Through loss control services, Penn National Insurance and local, independent insurance agents encourage member businesses to implement safety practices that significantly reduce or eliminate workplace injuries. This program is exclusively available through local, independent agents, who offer chamber members a variety of coverage options and pricing for property and casualty insurance.

### **Program Features**

#### **All-Lines Dividend (Excluding Umbrella and Bonds)**

Dividend payments are based on the total premium of the group program and the claims experience associated with qualifying lines. As the program grows, the opportunity for dividends also rises.

Enhanced coverage options for auto, business owners, property, workers' compensation, and general liability—providing you with extra protection at no extra cost.

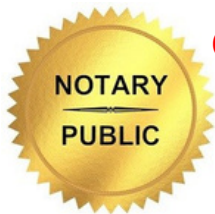
Information and services aimed at minimizing losses can lead to increased dividend potential as a significant benefit.

Outstanding, local claim and customer support service

Baily Insurance Agency is our local agency that can help you get in on this opportunity.

[PennNationalInsurance.com](https://PennNationalInsurance.com)





## 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](mailto:melody@greenechamber.org) or call 724-998-2386 to schedule an appointment.

## Place Your Ad Here!

Contact  
[mandi@greenechamber.org](mailto:mandi@greenechamber.org)  
 for more information!



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**we're open!**

### OFFICE HOURS

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





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

## R S V P TODAY!

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

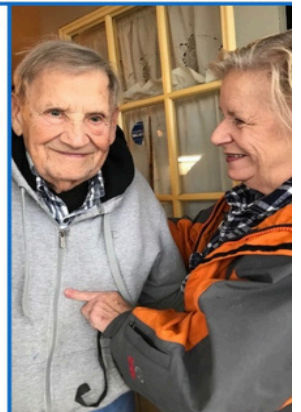


### Benefits of Volunteering:

- Supplemental Accident Insurance
- Mileage Reimbursements
- Opportunity to Meet New People
- Make a Difference in your Community

### 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



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## Need help finding a Doctor?

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

or search our Physician Finder at [whs.org](http://whs.org)

**UPMC | GREENE**