

The Business Connection

News – Events – Happenings

April

2011

Franklin Area
Chamber of Commerce



1259 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323

(814)432-5823

www.franklinareachamber.org

Lynn Cochran - *Executive Director*
Jodi Lewis - *Executive Assistant*
Tabatha Boley - *Office Assistant*
Leigh Protivnak - *Communication Specialist*

Open Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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2011 Man & Woman of the Year

Bill Wilson and Kaycee Reib honored at our Annual Dinner

The Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce held its 98th Annual Dinner on March 10 with over 200 members in attendance. The evening included the naming of the 2011 Man and Woman of the Year, Bill Wilson and Kaycee Reib. Bill was honored for his 35+ years of service to the Franklin community. Not only is he active in his church, but he serves on myriad advisory and volunteer boards, including the Franklin Area Chamber board where he is the acting V.P. of Legislative Affairs. Kaycee was raised in Franklin as part of a civic minded family (her father Charles Hough was the very first recipient of the Man of the Year award) and has logged countless volunteer hours sitting with the sick and transporting patients to medical appointments. She is very involved with her church and was instrumental in forming St. John's Episcopal Church Food Pantry, and she recently completed a study of Black History in Franklin. The Chamber is proud to honor such outstanding citizens each year. Our amazing volunteers are what make our community so special. *Winners are selected through anonymous nominations.



Kaycee Reib and Bill Wilson
*photo courtesy of Jerry Sowden

Membership Showcase



Chuck's Boot Shop

Venango Video



Welcome, New Members

The following new members have joined the Franklin Area Chamber in March. Please help us welcome them to the Chamber and remember to consider local shopping and member to member business!

Oil Region Realty, LLC

One of the newest businesses on Liberty Street in downtown Franklin, Oil Region Realty, offers real estate brokerage, appraisals and property management for homes throughout Venango County.

Contact: Bob Richards
 1256 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Franklin, PA
 Phone & Fax: (814) 437-2326
 Email: brichards@oilregionrealty.com
 www.oilregionrealty.com

Tastefully Simple

From main dishes to desserts, Tastefully Simple offers a wide variety of easy-to-prepare foods and gifts for every day and every occasion. Best of all, their products can be enjoyed right out of the box or prepared in just a few minutes.

Contact: Marjorie Gray
 1603 W. Third Street, Oil City, PA
 Phone: (814) 677-3161, (814) 671-8214
 Email: marjgray@comcast.net
 www.tastefullysimple.com/web/mgray

Thank You, Renewing Members

Anderson Furniture Co., 50 Years

Joy Mining Machinery, 49 Years
 Louis Kraft Company, 44 Years
 Daffin's Candies, 42 Years
 UPMC Northwest, 42 Years
 Jones Service & Party Magic,
 40 Years
 Gardner Optical, 37 Years
 Primo Distributors, Inc., 37 Years
 Gates & Burns Realty, Inc., 34 Years
 The Medicine Shoppe, 31 Years
 Phillips Flowers-Distinctive De-
 signs Florist, 26 Years
 Wilson Real Estate, 26 Years
 Kendzior Orthodontics, 26 Years
 Stonewall Rentals, 25 Years
 Titusville Fabricators, Inc., 25 Years
 Liberty Electronics, Inc., 25 Years
 Guth Barber Shop, 22 Years
 Shear Expressions, 22 Years
 PNC Bank, 21 Years
 Franklin Concrete Products,
 20 Years
 Scott E. Hutchinson, 19 Years
 Wiegel Brothers Marine, 17 Years
 J&V Visions Collision Center,
 16 Years

Seneca Lanes, 16 Years
 McCoy Equipment Sales, Inc.,
 16 Years
 Franklin Giant Eagle, 16 Years
 McCoy Equipment Sales, 16 Years
 Dr. Richard Eshelman, 15 Years
 Lepley's Garage & Bus Service,
 15 Years
 Jones Hardwood, Inc., 15 Years
 Kerry A. Irons, Builder, 13 Years
 Rocky Grove VFD, 11 Years
 T4 Rentals, LTD, 9 Years
 Venango County Treasurer,
 Deborah Sharpe, 9 Years
 Gahr's Hamloaf, 8 Years
 Culligan Water Conditioning,
 8 Years
 Cowboy Kettle Korn, 7 Years
 Sherry Shawgo Real Estate, 7 Years
 Curves, 7 Years
 Summer House Coffee Roasters,
 7 Years
 Open Flow Energy, 7 Years
 Holtz Riverview Massage, 6 Years
 Klapac Auto Body, 5 Years
 Witherup Fabrication & Erection,
 4 Years

French Creek Café, 4 Years
 Three Rivers Concessions, 4 Years
 Franklin Community Healthcare
 Associates, 4 Years
 DeChellis Concessions, 4 Years
 Industrial Truck & Crane, Inc.,
 4 Years
 Sanford Company, 4 Years
 Brown's Pure Maple Products,
 3 Years
 Edward J. Bergin, 3 Years
 Corner Cupboard & Deli, 3 Years
 Ross-Graham Investigations,
 3 Years
 Lona's Restaurant & Pub, 2 Years
 H&H Motorsports, 2 Years
 Walnut Grove Farms Alpaca,
 2 Years
 Contempo Tech Cleaning Service,
 2 Years
 JM Enterprise, LLC, 1 Year
 Kris Miller Construction, 1 Year
 Grace Solle, 1 Years
 Lombardo's Pita Place, 1 Year
 Premier Power Solutions, 1 Year

98th Annual Dinner Highlights

Gold Shovel Awards



This year we honored the following businesses and organizations with Gold Shovel Awards for opening or expanding businesses, expanding services or celebrating significant anniversaries.

Allegheny Valley Trails Association
Child Development Centers, Inc.

City of Franklin
Coppertones

Cranberry Mall
Dr. F. Daniel Paulo
Deer Creek Winery

DuBois Business College
Franklin Area School District
Franklin Bronze Plaques
Franklin Giant Eagle

Franklin Insurance & Notary, Inc.
Freedom Wireless

Galaxy Federal Credit Union
Gardinier Funeral Home
Gold N' Treasures

Hagan Business Machines of Meadville
Heffern Septic Tank Service

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
Huff Chapel, Inc.

Label Shopper
Lydia's Stitches

Northwest Savings Bank
Oil Region Alliance of

Business, Industry & Tourism
Pink Champagne Cupcakery
Puff and Snuff

Quality Inn & Conference Center
Salvation Army Dental Clinic
Sheetz, Inc.

Uncle Louie G's Italian Ices
VARHA

Venango Regional Airport
Venango Training & Development Center

Congratulations to our Gold Shovel winners and thank you for your continued investment in our community!

Guests enjoyed networking, a great meal, entertainment from Emcee Eddie St. Clair, and a chance to honor the Man and Woman of the Year and the Gold Shovel Award winners.



Many thanks to our Silent Auction sponsors and bidders!



Join us next year when we celebrate 99 years supporting the local business community!

On the Agenda...

VARHA Fundraiser

Venango Area Riding for the Handicapped Association will hold its annual treasure sale on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wagner Equine Center. The sale is held rain or shine in the indoor riding arena. Items for sale include excellent quality used office furniture, collectibles, gifts, antiques, clothes, household items, decorations, baked goods and much more. Food will be available as well. Donated items may be dropped off daily during business hours. For more information, please call (814) 437-7433.

PAWcasso Gala Event

The Third PAWcasso fine art and wine tasting gala will be held on Saturday, April 30, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Commons at Franklin. The event will directly benefit the **Venango County Humane Society** and the building of the new shelter on Route 322. The evening will include a fine art auction of artwork created by animals at the shelter with the help of volunteers; a Chinese auction with many baskets worth \$50-\$100 donated by local companies; musical entertainment; and wine tasting. Information on event sponsorship can be obtained by calling Becky Witherup at (814) 432-3124.



***Angeli Winery** will be participating in PAWcasso this year! The Titusville winery will feature its new variety: LOLA, a sweet white wine bursting with tropical flavors like banana and papaya. The wine was named after the Proper's family dog, who was rescued from a life of cruelty and given a loving home. All of the net profits from sales of Lola will be used to sponsor no-kill shelters and animal friendly legislation.

Rotary Rifle Raffle

The Franklin Rotary Club will hold its annual Rifle Raffle fundraiser at 4 p.m. on April 30 at the Franklin Elks Club. Tickets are \$15 for your chance to win 15 different guns. All proceeds will benefit Rotary's local and national charities. Tickets are available from any Rotarian or the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce office.

Member Events

FoxTales

Saturdays, *live music*, 9 p.m.
 April 2, *Fred Glatz*
 April 9, *Acoustic Duo*
 April 16, *Max Schang*
 April 23, *Uncharted Course*
 April 30, *Mike Lendyak*
www.foxtalespub.com

The Bricks of Franklin

Wednesdays, *Trivia Night*, 8 p.m.
 Fridays, *Live DJ & Karaoke*, 9:30 p.m.
 Saturdays, *Open Mic/ Open Jam*, 9:30 p.m.
www.thebricksfranklin.com

The Commons at Franklin

Wednesdays, *Ethnic Night*
 Thursdays, *AYCE crab legs*, \$25
www.thecommonsatfranklin.com

Bella Cucina

Tuesdays, *CHEERS! A percentage of meal proceeds will be donated to a local non-profit*
 Wednesdays, *Ladies Night*
 Thursdays, *International Night*
 Last Thursday of every month, *Dining Japanese style-Sushi, Sabimi & Sake*
www.bellacucinapa.com

Blue Canoe Brewery

Thursdays, *Carl Olsen Live*, 7 to 9 p.m.
 Fridays, *Ernie Barker Live*, 8 p.m.
www.thebluecanoebrewery.com

French Creek Tavern at the Quality Inn & Conference Center

Thursdays, *Karaoke*, 9 p.m.
 Fridays, *AYCE Beer Battered Fish*, 5 p.m.
 Saturday, *Prime Rib Night*, 5 p.m.

The Allegheny Grille

Fridays...*AYCE Buffet*, 4-9 p.m., \$12.95
 Sundays...*kids eat free!* 10 & Under
 M-F...*Early Bird Specials*, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
www.visitfoxburg.com

If you have an item you would like added to the calendar, email lynn@franklinareachamber.org.

On the Agenda...



May Garden Mart

The Franklin Gardeners Association will present the annual May Garden Mart On Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, May 8 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Fountain Park. More than 40 vendors will be offering the finest in plants for your home and garden, plus garden/yard decorations and handmade garden-related handicrafts. It's one-stop shopping for everything you need to make your garden uniquely yours!

HOLeY Jeans celebrates 15 Years

HOLeY Jeans, the children's youth chorus is celebrating its 15th anniversary! The group will perform a collection of "Flashbacks" including music through the decades as well as some of their favorites through the group's history on Sunday, April 3 at 3 p.m. at Barrow-Civic Theatre. Tickets are available through the Barrow box office.

Medical Music Review

The 8th Annual Medical Music Review will be held Saturday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Barrow-Civic Theatre. This event features talented local individuals in the healthcare field including Eddie St. Clair, Brad Kendzior, and Drs. McCandless, Fritz, Beals, Edwards. All proceeds from the show will be donated to the American Cancer Society.



Annie opens on April 29 at Barrow-Civic Theatre. Hear your favorite tunes like "Tomorrow" and "It's a Hard Knock Life" from the popular Broadway musical live! For tickets and show times, call (814) 437-3440 or visit www.barrowtheatre.com.

Lenten Specials

AmazIng Foods Catering Co. & Café is offering a special Lenten menu. Breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m., Lunch at 11 a.m. See you there!

Taste of Talent Competition



Got talent? Individual soloists age 16 and up are eligible to enter in the second annual Taste of Talent competition to be held in conjunction with the Taste of Franklin festival in August.

Competitions will take place in Bandstand Park at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, June 29 through July 27. Finals will be held August 6 & 7. Registration is due April. The winner will receive \$1,000.

Visit www.franklinpa.gov for information and registration packets.

Happy Easter!

Wishing all of our members and your families a wonderful holiday!

Be sure to subscribe to our weekly email blast for Easter events. Email jodi@franklinareachamber.org to be added to the list.

Membership Showcase

Chuck's Boot Shop

For some people, customer service is in their blood. Bradley Myers, owner of Chuck's Boot Shop on Liberty Street in downtown Franklin considers himself one of those people.

His father, the late Charles Myers, bought the former Brown's Boot Shop 25 years ago and brought his then 13-year-old son on board right away working any job at the store from sales to cleaning.

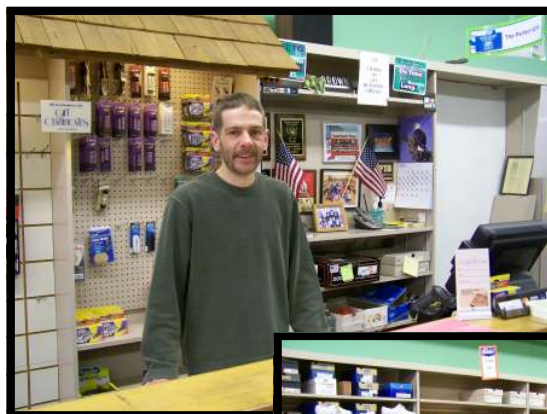
Over the years, Bradley became well versed in all aspects of running a shoe store—particularly in how to provide good customer service.

“You can't tell what the customer wants just by what they buy,” said Brad. “You have to get to know them and deal personally with them to learn that.”

Bradley left the shoe business for about 12 years before returning three years ago to help his ailing father. Although he did not expect to take over the family business so soon, Brad said he always knew he would be right where he is now eventually.

Now he is working as quickly as he can checking off items on his five-year goal list.

Chuck's carries a lot of work boots and popular sellers like the Hush Puppies brand, but he has been inundated with requests for fashionable women's shoes. He has been



Bradley Myers
behind the counter;
Inside the boot shop >

attending shoe shows looking for the right styles for his store.

When looking for new brands, he always considers whether the shoes were made in the US or abroad. This was a major factor in his decision to discontinue carrying the Nike brand. He intends to pick up New Balance sneakers to replace the Nikes—NB makes 25% of its product in the US and has pledged to increase that number to 50% by 2014.

Interior renovations are also on the to-do list, including painting and laying new flooring on the ground level. There is also a two-bedroom apartment on the second story that he intends to remodel and rent over the next year.

A rewards card system just started this month similar to other retail

rewards programs. His formula is simple—buy 12 pairs of shoes, get the 13th for free—and points never expire.

Other high-tech upgrades include a mobile point of sale system for the Chuck's Boot Shop mobile sales truck and updates to

the web site that will allow customers to go online to check for size and style availability before making the trip to the store.



Chuck's mo-

bile trailer remains the lifeblood of the business offering quality work boots to local manufacturing companies—delivering them right to their door. Bradley said he offers discounts for companies that schedule the truck to make sales calls, and passes the same 10% along to anyone who has a job regardless where they work.

Check with Chuck's often for all the latest inventory and service upgrades and remember to support your fellow Chamber members by shopping locally!

Chuck's Boot Shop
1253 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323
P & F: (814) 432-5361
cpmshoes@yahoo.com

Membership Showcase

Venango Video

For over three decades, Venango Video has been making local residents' dreams come true. Whether it's a cooking show, news program or even a horror movie theater act, General Manager Jonathan Wenner is ready to walk you through the process to bring your vision to reality and have it aired on television.

Not long ago, the station was struggling to make ends meet. Unsure of the future of the organization, the Board of Directors began to look into partnerships with other local organizations. The opportunity to merge with the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism came up and the board agreed to seize it. The merger should be complete in the very near future, and will secure the future of Venango Video under the Alliance's umbrella.

The relationship will be mutually beneficial for the two organizations. In addition to saving a worthwhile non-profit, the Alliance will gain visibility through its original programming on the air, such as original documentaries and videos on local history.

Jonathan said this promises to be a year of rebuilding and big changes for Venango Video.

Venango Video has been serving the county since 1975 and most of the equipment is nearly that old. One of the first priorities in the upcoming year will be to raise funds for new equipment that will move

Venango Video into the digital age, making their operation much more flexible. They are planning two television auctions as fundraisers. The Franklin Area TV Auction will be July 8th, 9th and 10th on channel 6 via the Time Warner Cable System and the Oil City Area TV Auction will be held September 16th, 17th and 18th via channel 20 on the Comcast Cable System.

In addition to equipment upgrades, Jonathan said some web upgrades are on the horizon. The schedule of programming will be available soon on the Alliance website so anyone will be able to view their full lineup of programming. Even later down the road, Jonathan said they are looking into streaming videos online—this will come in handy especially for those interested in some cable shows, who have DirecTV or Dish Network.

Like most non-profits, Venango Video is in need of volunteers (some jobs are as simple as popping in a DVD at the right time) and sponsors to keep it going. Jonathan is hopeful that the introduction of new programming could help ignite interest in viewers that will in turn get attention from local companies interested in advertising on the net



Jonathan Wenner,
General Manager of
Venango Video

work or even sponsoring some programs.

Anyone with an idea for a program or who is interested in volunteering is encouraged to call Jonathan to set up an appointment. He will run you through the steps of production including filming, editing, lighting and camerawork. Most people, he said, don't realize how much work is involved in creating a television program. One half-hour segment can take up to 6 hours to create.

Keep watching for updates on Venango Video's new programs and services, and keep checking for quality local programming. If you would like to get involved, contact Jonathan to set up an appointment.

Venango Video
217 Elm Street
Oil City, PA 16301
P: (814) 677-3152 F: (814) 677-5206
jwenner@oilregion.org
www.oilregion.org



Member News

Local Edward Jones Associates Accept Limited Partnership Offers

Six local Edward Jones associates in Titusville, Oil City, Franklin, Seneca, and Clarion have accepted offers to become a limited partner in Jones Financial Companies, the holding company for the St. Louis-based financial services firm.

Edward Jones currently employs more than 30,000 associates in all 50 states and through its affiliate in Canada. Under the current partnership offering 16,000 associates received initial limited partnership offerings.

The Edward Jones associates who accepted the limited partnership include Christopher S. Rakow at 1240 Liberty Street and Merralee A. Obenrader at 1335 Liberty Street both in Franklin.

The local associates are very pleased with the limited partnership offer and look forward to continuing to build the Edward

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Merralee Obenrader, Christopher Rakow

Jones brand in the area.

Merralee Obenrader of the Franklin branch says, "It's a real achievement to be offered the limited partnership, which allows us to own more of our firm's business."

Regional Edward Jones leader Christopher Rakow of the additional Franklin branch says, "We

have four firm branches in Venango County alone, as well as two offices in Clarion and one in Titusville. That's because the community has really embraced us. And we want to continue to support the community by being successful here and giving back."

The Jones Financial Cos. was created in 1987 to enable the firm to expand into new business areas while allowing it to remain a partnership. The Jones Financial Cos. owns Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P., which operates under the trade name Edward Jones, EDJ Leasing Co., the Edward Jones Trust Co., and its international financial services subsidiary, Edward Jones Canada.

For more information on Edward Jones or to locate an advisor in your community visit www.edwardjones.com.

Deer Creek Winery expands again with new Butler outlet

March 9th was the opening day for the 4th outlet of Deer Creek Winery in the Clearview Mall in Butler, right outside Bon-Ton! They have again duplicated the fine rustic atmosphere of a small country winery offering friendly staff, great gift shop, and wonderful wine. Their goal is to provide a cheery spot in the local economy that creates jobs as well as offering a cheerful place for people to get some great wine to share with friends and family. They will also be offering wine by the glass to be enjoyed while taking a break from shopping or "people watching" through the glass front of the table area into the mall hallway. They are open during regular mall hours.

The main winery is in Shippensburg, PA where Denny



and Rhonda Brooks are living their dream on their land on Soap Fat Road. A strange name for a road, but a great place for a little country winery featuring their signature *Deer Creek Raspberry*, a semi-sweet dessert wine made with the fruit from the adjacent raspberry

farm they planted a few years ago. The wine list has grown to include 14 different traditional and fruit wines. The first expansion began in February, 2010, by opening an outlet kiosk at the Clarion Mall. Last summer a storefront outlet was opened at the Cranberry Mall and now this new outlet at the Clearview Mall.

For more information, visit www.DeerCreekWine.com

Announcements

Candidate's Forum Breakfast

Meet the candidates for Venango County Commissioner
Hosted by Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
and Venango Area Chamber of Commerce

Friday, April 8, 2011

7:30-9 a.m.

The Commons at Franklin, 1340 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA

Have questions? Hear the answers from the candidates.

\$13.50 per person. To register, please call (814) 432-5823.

Business After Hours

~Chamber Network Advantage

Thank you to **The Commons at Franklin** for hosting our March Business After Hours! Our members had the opportunity to network with members of the Venango Area and Titusville Area Chambers of Commerce and enjoyed great food and entertainment.

Don't miss our upcoming mixers:

April 28, 5-7 p.m. **Classy Catering**, Oil City, PA

May 19, 5-7 p.m. **Erie Homes for Children & Adults, Inc.**, Franklin, PA

May 25, 5-7 p.m. **Venango Technology Center**, Oil City, PA

Call (814) 432-5823 to RSVP today!

Microloan Funds Available

The SBA Microloan program has an additional \$200,000 available for loans to entrepreneurs or existing businesses with small projects. The program lends up to \$20,000 for machinery and equipment and working capital at a 6% rate for up to five years. For more information, please contact Daryl Coyne at Northwest Commission at (814) 677-4800 x 112.

Essay Contest Applications Ready

Essay applications for ninth graders in the Franklin and Valley Grove school districts are available at the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce office, the YMCA in Franklin, Franklin Public Library, Coopers-town Public Library, and Franklin and Rocky Grove High Schools. The contest is open to students who are home schooled, attend private, public, or charter schools. First place will receive \$150; second place will receive \$100; two third place winners will receive \$50 each. An awards ceremony will be held at DeBence Antique Music World on May 18th. For further information, please contact Tammy Bell at 374-4398.

Member News

Hagan Business Machines named one of top 100 office product dealers

Hagan Business Machines of Meadville, Inc. has received national recognition by PROs Elite Group as one of the top 100 office product dealers in the United States based on a series of criteria designed to measure customer service procedures and outcomes, as well as overall customer satisfaction. PROs Elite Group is the top industry benchmarking organization for office products and solutions. Hagan Business Machines was selected by PROs Elite Group, the co-authors of the Office Product Industry's benchmarking model, because of their demonstrated service excellence. In order to qualify,

Hagan underwent a year-long in-depth assessment of its service department, various training programs for service management and customer relation skills in order to meet the ambitious benchmarking requirements.

"We've always been an organization based on commitment to our customers, and we have made a significant investment in service and training," said Jay Verno, President, Hagan Business Machines of Meadville, Inc. "We are extremely honored to receive this prestigious designation. The PROs Elite 100 Certification helps reaffirm to our customers that Hagan Business

Machines remains truly committed to delivering the top-quality service and support they have come to expect and demand."

Hagan Business Machines of Meadville, Inc., locally owned and operated since 1992, specializes in helping businesses optimize their office productivity and efficiency through improved workflow and technology. Hagan Business Machines is driven by three core ideals—Client Service, Technical Excellence and Innovation.

For more information about Hagan Business Machines of Meadville, Inc., visit www.hagan1.com.

Holiday Inn wins Torch Bearer Award

The Holiday Inn Express located in Cranberry PA received the IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) 2010 Torchbearer Award, the company's most prestigious award. IHG is the world's largest hotel group by number of rooms.

Holiday Inn Express is one of only 25 properties within the Americas chosen from the IHG system of more than 4,400 hotels for achieving the highest levels of excellence in all aspects of operation -- from quality to customer satisfaction. A 2010 Torchbearer trophy, the company's symbol of excellence, will be on permanent display at the hotel.

"It is my pleasure to name the Holiday Inn Express located in Cranberry PA as one of the finest hotels in our industry," said Jim Abrahamson, President, the Americas, IHG. "This hotel embodies the spirit, product and service that continue to make our properties known and admired throughout the world, working toward the goal of creating Great Hotels Guests Love."

More than 7,000 franchise owners, operators and company officials attended the 2010 IHG Americas Investors & Leadership Conference.

Quality Inn wins Platinum Award

The Quality Inn & Conference Center Hotel in Franklin has won the prestigious 2011 Platinum Hospitality Award from Choice Hotels International. The hotel was recently announced as a recipient of a prestigious 2011 Platinum Hospitality Award from world lodging leader Choice Hotels International, Inc., franchisor of the Quality Inn brand.

"The Quality Inn hotel's commitment to excellence and outstanding guest service has earned it this well-deserved recognition as one of the best hotels among the Quality Inn brand," said Steve Joyce, president and chief executive officer for Choice Hotels. As a top performing property among the company's more than 5,800 U.S. franchised hotels, the Quality Inn is among the top three percent of properties within the Quality Inn brand. The hotel has demonstrated an exceptional focus on satisfaction and dedication to providing superior service. For more information or to make your reservation for the Quality Inn, call the Choice Hotels toll-free reservation line at 800.4CHOICE or visit choicehotels.com.

Educational Opportunities

The Witherup House Bed & Breakfast

- Facebook For Business Seminar at The Witherup House with trainer Heather Mohnkern. Level I: Monday, April 18, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Level II: Tuesday, May 24, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$30, add \$10 for laptop rental. For more information, call (814) 437-7203.

Restoration Herbs

- Herbs for the Heart, April 9, 2 to 4 p.m. Focus on ways to use safe and gentle herbal methods to help maintain a healthy heart. \$30 per person, \$50 for couples
- Thinking Vegetarian, April 20, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Consider the fallacies and misinformation, learn the facts, and discuss pros and cons of a vegetarian diet. Vegetarian snacks and herbal teas included. \$30
- Lasagna Gardening, April 23, 2 to 4 p.m. Grow your own vegetables and herbs. Hands-on workshop. \$25.

To register, call (814) 374-4119 or email Basil@restorationherbs.com

The Commons at Franklin

- Marketing on a Shoestring, April 12, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kathryn Lima of FARO Enterprises will discuss the steps necessary to build your business' visibility in the marketplace. Lunch included. To register, contact the Clarion SBDC toll free at 1-877-292-1843.

The Learning Center Classes

- Senior Savvy, April 1, April 15
- Word 2010—Level I, April 5, April 7
- Excel 2010—Level I, April 12, April 14
- Video Marketing on a Budget, April 15, April 29
- PowerPoint 2010 Complete, April 19, April 21
- Publisher 2010 Comprehensive, April 26, April 28

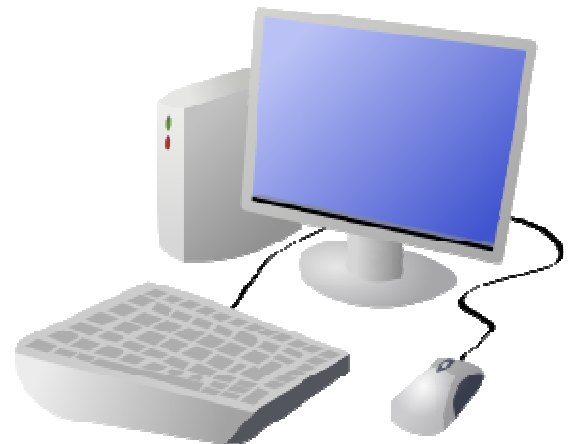
Clarion University Small Business Development Center

- First Step: Clarion Venango Forest, April 2
- Entrepreneur Training Series: Entrepreneurs Club North, April 12
- QuickBooks 2010 Level II, April 12, April 14

Clarion University-Venango Campus

- Senior Savvy, April 1, April 15
- Microsoft Word Level III, April 11
- Video Marketing on a Budget, April 15, April 29

*For more information or to register, visit www.trainingpa.com



Oil Region Job Fair

April 6, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cranberry Mall

Area employers, schools and support agencies will be on hand with info to help in any job search.

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce

We offer solutions to meet your employee benefits needs through ChamberChoice!

For more information,
contact ChamberChoice at
1-800-377-3539.

ChamberChoice

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
1259 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323
Return Service Requested

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Franklin, PA

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce

Your business tag line here.

29th Annual Applefest! October 7-9, 2011

*The enclosed inserts are provided
as a service to our members for
information purposes only and should not
be considered an endorsement of the
Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
or the Board of Directors.*

**Make a commitment this year:
Buy from a Chamber Member!!!
Member to Member Business**

Calendar of Events

April

- ◆ **April 1...**Night at the Races to benefit St. Patrick School at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 7 p.m.
- ◆ **April 2...**2011 Bowl for Kids Sake at Seneca Lanes.
- ◆ **April 3...**HOLeY Jeans presents "Flashbacks" at the Barrow-Civic Theater, 3 p.m. celebrating music through the decades and hits from our 15 years.
- ◆ **April 6...**Job Fair at Cranberry Mall, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For info call PA CareerLink at (814) 678-5090.
- ◆ **April 8...**The Fads at Barrow-Civic Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ **April 8 & 9...**Oil Region Ballet will perform at The Academy Theatre in Meadville. Call (814)337-8000 for details.
- ◆ **April 12...**Women of Wine & Wellness at Deer Creek Winery, 5-7 p.m.
- ◆ **April 16...**Community Shred Day at Galaxy Federal Credit Union, 9 a.m. to noon.
- ◆ **April 16...**Easter Bunny Breakfast at The Commons at Franklin, 10 a.m.
- ◆ **April 16...**Peter Cottontail Express, OC&T Railroad call (814) 676-1733 for tickets.
- ◆ **April 16...**Annual Medical Music Review at Barrow-Civic Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ **April 17...**The Bill Huber Jr. Trio will perform at DeBence Antique Music World, 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ **April 17...**Paul Roberts concert on the Mighty Wurlitzer organ at Venango Museum, 3 p.m.
- ◆ **April 21...**Architect Daniel Weiland at the Historic Franklin Preservation Association meeting,
- ◆ **April 17...**The Bill Huber Jr. Trio will perform at DeBence Antique Music World, 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ **April 17...**Paul Roberts concert on the Mighty Wurlitzer organ at Venango Museum, 3 p.m.
- ◆ **April 21...**Architect Daniel Weiland at the Historic Franklin Preservation Association meeting,
- ◆ **April 24...HAPPY EASTER!**
- ◆ **April 28...BAH Mixer, 5-7 p.m., Classy Catering**
- ◆ **April 29...**Annie opens at Barrow-Civic Theatre, Call (814) 437-3440 for tickets and details.
- ◆ **April 30...**Rotary Rifle Raffle at the Franklin Elks Club, 4 p.m. tickets available at the Chamber office.
- ◆ **April 30...**PAWcasso fine art and wine tasting gala, 6-9 p.m. The Commons at Franklin.
- ◆ **April 30...**VARHA Treasure Sale, For more information, please call (814) 437-7433.
- ◆ **April 30...**Reviving the Spirit of Lincoln dinner for the Venango County Republican Committee, for details, call (814) 676-2131
- ◆ **April 30...**A benefit gathering for the Jane & Jerry Cochran Family hosted by the Venango County Men's Softball Association. For details, call (814)432-4912

