

# Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

March

...the business connection...

2008



1259 Liberty Street

Franklin, PA 16323

(814)432-5823

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Lynn Cochran - Executive Director

Leigh Protivnak - Exec. Assistant

Angela Kenyon - Office Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## ***Mission Statement:***

Our mission is to provide leadership for the business community by providing economic, educational and legislative information and assistance which can be used by members to achieve profit, progress and prosperity.

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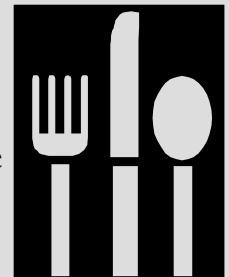
## Franklin Moving Forward



An exciting partnership between the Chamber and Franklin Industrial and Commercial Development Authority could lead to increased foot traffic and a new retail draw for Franklin's downtown. See **Page 6** for more!

## 95th Annual Dinner

Time is running out to RSVP for the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce's **95th Annual Dinner, March 13**. Come help us honor the 2007 **Gold Shovel** recipients and the **Man and Woman of the Year**. The deadline for reservations is **March 5**.



## Membership Showcase



# The Caring Place

## Franklin Rotary



Articles on Pages 6 and 7



## New Member Spotlight

*We are thrilled to have four more members join the Chamber in February. If you see any of our new members, please welcome them to the Franklin Area Chamber.*

### Welcome to the Chamber

#### Xtreme Audio & Accessories, Inc.

Xtreme Audio handles the sales and installation of all auto accessories, including remote starters, alarm systems, stereos, mobile, GPS, Bluetooth, and hands free devices, performance parts, window tinting and more. Call today to give your vehicle that extra special something.

Contact: John Amoroso  
146 N. 13th St.  
Franklin, PA 16323  
(814)432-3737 fax:(814)432-0037  
xtremeaudio1@verizon.net

#### The Galena Signal, Inc.

A new weekly community newspaper is scheduled to begin publication this spring. Owned by Penny Thompson and Jim Greenfield, the Galena Signal will be a place to find news, features and photos of people and events that matter to our local communities. Birth announcements, school and club happenings, columns, poetry and any other submissions from residents are welcome - Whatever interests you! There will also be affordable advertising opportunities.

Contact: Jim Greenfield  
1221 Liberty St. Franklin, PA 16323  
(814)437-1711 fax:(814)437-1717

#### Tri-County Pest Control

Something bugging you? Tri-County provides pest removal services for a number of insects and rodents, including ants, bees, spiders, and termites. The Oil City-based company is also equipped for wildlife removal and inspections.

Contact: Carrie Jacoby  
P.O. Box 154, Oil City, PA 16301  
(814)676-6760 fax:(814)676-9161  
tri-countypest@comcast.net  
www.tri-countypestcontrol.com

#### Valley Dairy Restaurant

Valley Dairy is a full service, family restaurant serving breakfast, lunch a dinner, conveniently located in Cranberry Plaza II. The restaurant features its own ice cream brand in its desserts - sundaes, sodas, milkshakes and more - as well as in retail take-home packages.

Contact: Kim Berry  
80 Regina Drive, Cranberry, PA 16319  
(814) 677-3518  
valleydairy4@adelphia.net  
www.valleydairy.net

### Member Need To Know

#### **Applefest 2008**

We look forward to working with you all on another fabulous festival this year! Vendor and sponsor applications will be arriving in the mail shortly. Feel free to call the Chamber with any questions of concerns, (814)432-5823.

#### **Annie's Prom Sensation Rescheduled**

Due to poor weather, Annie's Bridal Shop had to reschedule it's first-ever prom sensation to 1 to 4 p.m., March 2 at the Crawford Center in Emlenton. All are welcome to check out the latest in prom fashions.

#### **Update Correction**

Woods Computer Consulting has moved to 1408 Liberty Street, Franklin. You can still call Rob at **(814) 437-6927** or email  
rwoods@woods-consulting.com.

## Thank You, Renewing Members

We would like to thank the following businesses and associates who renewed their membership in January.  
Without our members, the community wouldn't be what it is today.

● Gardner Optical (35 Years)	● Sleepy Hollow Golf Club (19 Years)	● Cowboy Kettle Korn (5 Years)
● Overhead Door Co. of Franklin (29 Years)	● Eat 'n Park Restaurant (13 Years)	● Christian Life Academy (4 Years)
● Mary Kearns Peterson (24 Years)	● Lepley's Bus Service (13 Years)	● Freedom Wireless, Inc. (4 Years)
● Security Systems of PA, Inc. (23 Years)	● VAHRA (13 Years)	● T.W. Bean Welding and Fabrication (4 Years)
● Liberty Electronics (23 Years)	● Clintonville Sewer and Water Authority (12 Years)	● Prime Time Limousine (4 years)
● Stonewall Rentals (23 Years)	● Tri-City Speedway (12 Years)	● Douglas A. Baker (3 Years)
● Franklin Animal Clinic (23 Years)	● Rocky Grove VFD (9 Years)	● Klapec Auto Body, Inc. (3 Years)
● Guth Barber Shop (20 Years)	● Velocity.net (7 Years)	● Witherup Fabrication and Erection (2 Years)

\*Your company will be recognized for renewing your membership on your anniversary month.

## “The Current State of Affairs”



### Legislative Breakfast

Sponsored by Joy Mining Machinery

U.S. Congressman John Peterson,

State Senator Mary Jo White

and State Representative Scott Hutchinson

Join us for an update on legislative and economic activity in PA

Friday, April 18, 7:30 a.m. at the Franklin Elks Club

Breakfast/Registration, \$9 per person

\*Reservations must be made to the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce  
by Monday, April 7, by calling 432-5823.

## Business News

# Why joining the Chamber of Commerce makes sense

More than 500 businesses and individuals throughout the region have already chosen to become a part of the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce. Of course, joining the Chamber is a great way to show your support for the community and dedication to excellence, but it can also help get you in touch with fellow business people, give your business exposure, and keep you updated on community events and legislative issues that affect your business.

- As a Chamber member, there are many advantages available to you over non-member business. The Chamber office receives thousands of calls each year from visitors and residents searching for plumbers, attorneys, tennis shoes, and just about any other service imaginable. The Chamber staff refers those callers exclusively to Chamber member businesses and encourages member-to-member business.
- Member business listings are posted on the Chamber Web

site and in our membership directory. Both listings include alternate phone numbers, Web, street and email addresses and fax numbers in addition to business phone numbers.

- Another great benefit is the networking opportunities provided through our Business After Hours program. Attending the After Hours mixers is a Chamber Network Advantage that can lead to ideas, insights, friendships and important business contacts. Hosting mixers is a great way to showcase your business too.
- Getting the word out about your products and services is easy with direct marketing to members and feature articles in the Membership Showcase section of our newsletter "The Business Connection."
- The Chamber also provides educational training seminars in conjunction with the City of Franklin and other economic

development agencies to help provide information about business trends and practices, and legislation that could change the way you do business.

- As a Chamber member, your voice is combined with hundreds of other local businesses' to create one voice that can accomplish what none of us can do individually.

These are just a few of the ways the Chamber can help you grow your business and become more involved in the community. The Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce has an exciting Plan of Work slated for 2008 that includes the establishment of a retail incubator at 1255 Liberty St., next to the Chamber office, re-vamping our Web site to provide more services to the business community, and increasing benefits to members, while maintaining the high level of services offered.

Give us a call to see how you can make the most of your Chamber membership

## What Happened At The Business After Hours

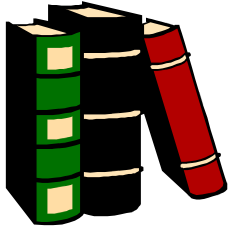
Our first mixer of the year was a great success at **Annie's Bridal Shop**. Close to 100 guests enjoyed drinks and appetizers and door prizes, and browsed Annie's collection of formal wear at the full-service bridal, alterations and costume boutique at 1269 Liberty Street in Franklin. After Hours mixers are a great opportunity to meet your fellow business leaders and to showcase your business. Call the Chamber at (814)432-5823 to schedule an After Hours at your business.



Annie's Bridal Shop

## On the Agenda

### Grant Resource Center Kickoff



A Seminar is scheduled for Friday, April 4, to introduce participants to the new **Rural Northwest Pennsylvania Grant Resource Center** at the **Franklin Public Library**. The center will be a resource for government and non-profit organizations to research and write grants that will help them successfully compete for foundation grants. At the kickoff event, library director Debbie Oaks and project organizer Edward J. Bergin will discuss how the grant center will benefit our region by bringing more money into our communities. David Holmes, Regional Training Coordinator, The Foundation Center of Cleveland, Ohio, will present an overview of the Foundation Center and tips on using the Foundation Directory Online Professional Databases that will soon be available at the library. The library will also establish a collection of winning grant proposals, periodicals, print materials and databases on the subject of grant writing. In addition to Venango County's 175 non-profits, 98 churches and 31 municipalities, those from Forest, Clarion, Crawford and Mercer Counties are invited to the kickoff. ■ The seminar will run from **9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** (check-in is at 8:30) at the **Barrow-Civic Theatre** and is **free** to participants. Reservations can be made by calling (814)432-5823.

### Quarterly Breakfast Forum

**Friday, March 28, 7:30 a.m.**  
**Wanango Country Club**  
**10 Rules of Online Marketing**

Speakers - **Cindy Nellis**, Business Outreach Consultant for the Clarion Small Business Development Center, **Don LeGoullon**, Senior e-Business Consultant for the Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program for PennTAP. The Quarterly breakfasts are sponsored by the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, Venango Area Chamber of Commerce, Titusville Chamber of Commerce and Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry and Tourism and feature experts to address different topics that the sponsor organizations know are important to all of their members.  
**\$12 per person. Call (814)432-5823 to reserve your seat.**

### Upcoming Mixers:

■ Wednesday, March 5, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at **The Bricks Franklin**, 135 N. 13th St.

### Foxtales Entertainment

Saturdays 9 p.m. - Midnight  
 March 1st - Joe and Justin Duo  
 March 8th - Doug Phillips  
 March 15 - The Marty O'Connor  
 March 22nd - Uncharted Course  
 March 29th - Rob and Suzi

### City of Franklin - Downtown Education Series

Attention downtown businesses: Want to learn how to build better customer relationships?

Gary Svetz of Svetz Consulting, will present:

#### Making an Effective Customer Sales Connection

Friday, March 7, 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the Barrow-Civic Little Theatre

● Sponsored by the City of Franklin - Cost is \$10 per person - Call Ronnie Beith at (814)437-1619 or email [rbeith@cityoffranklin.org](mailto:rbeith@cityoffranklin.org) for more information. ● Breakfast sponsored by the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce



## Franklin Rotary Club

A key component of any successful community is the service organizations that volunteer countless hours. Franklin is fortunate to have so many caring organizations to provide essential community services, such as the Franklin Rotary Club that completed one major project in 2007 and helped kick start another.

Traditionally, the Franklin Rotary has raised money throughout the year and used it to provide grants to fund several small projects. The club refocused in 2007 though, deciding to complete larger initiatives like the renovation of the Barrow-Civic Little Theatre. The group volunteered to repaint and carpet the little theatre, giving it a brand new look. The project was finished so quickly and met with such success that the group decided to help out with painting and cleaning the third story ballroom at DeBence Antique Music World. A grant for supplies was secured from the Rotary District and the DeBence Board cooperated in the project, but the real value of the Rotary aid was in the manual labor provided by members that helped ignite more excitement for the project. As further dedication to the DeBence project, Rotary committed to raise \$7,000 for a contractor to refurbish the ballroom ceiling - a project that extends beyond any Rotary member's expertise.



The Santa luncheons held at the Franklin Elks Lodge are a favorite Rotary program each year.

Aside from large renovation projects, Rotary hosts two Santa Luncheons each Christmas for students in Head Start classes. The students receive gift bags filled with clothing and toys delivered by Santa himself. Rotary members also ring bells for the Salvation Army and contribute to the Franklin Civic Operetta, Barrow-Civic Theatre, Franklin Little League, Franklin Public Library, Venango County Humane Society, Literacy Council, VARHA, United Way, Community Services of Venango County, the Franklin

Fine Arts Council, and the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce. The club is interested in finding more civic-minded individuals interested in contributing toward such important community projects. The club also hosts weekly meetings that are a great networking opportunity for the various membership. Each meeting features a speaker on topics as varied as alpaca farming to local economic development initiatives.



Rotary carries out three fundraisers per year - an Applefest apple butter sale, walking tours, and a gun raffle - and all proceeds stay in the local community. The gun raffle will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. April 26th at the Elks club. Tickets are available from any Rotarian or by calling Diane McCall at 437-2072.

## Chamber in the News — Franklin Moving Forward

The Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce has entered into a partnership with the Franklin Industrial and Commercial Development Authority to create a retail incubator at 1255 Liberty Street - the former Outlet Max store. Franklin Moving Forward is being carried out in full cooperation with the City of Franklin and the Franklin Retail and Business Association. The plan is to house multiple retail tenants inside the first floor of the building that will create a draw for visitors and shoppers to Franklin's downtown. The Masons organization leases the upper floors, but the 5,000 square foot first floor and the basement have been empty since 2006.

FICDA purchased the building to get it back into the hands of someone who would make it a vibrant part of the downtown again. A project steering committee, comprised of members of all involved organizations, has some ideas in mind for what the incubator could look like, but the project is in the preliminary planning phase. One of the primary goals of the incubator is to boost downtown economic development. The incubator could help existing businesses expand their inventory or move from home to a more visible location. The low-cost and the shared staff and utilities could also make a new business more feasible for

someone interested in starting fresh. Also, if the incubator is a success, the already established downtown merchants could benefit from an increase in foot traffic. Subcommittees have been formed out of the steering committee to determine project funding avenues and to establish a set of criteria for vendors interested in setting up inside the incubator. All of the criteria and other pertinent information will be gathered into packets to present potential tenants, once the designs are more final. Anyone interested in incubator space can contact the Chamber to be added to a list to receive the information.

## The Caring Place

The Caring Place's name says it all. Administrators at the nursing home have a faith-based mission statement that focuses on hope and healing and looks at the total picture when getting patients back to their normal lives. They believe every person, no matter what age, has something he or she can contribute to society and they all deserve respect and dignity. Referral Manager Lisa Moritz said she resents the notion that nursing homes are the last stop in people's lives. Lisa's job is to make sure the entire person, not just their diagnosis, is seen, heard and cared for. And many of those admitted into the facility can return to their homes, or relocate to the assisted living wing of The Caring Place where residents require only minimal help with things like medications and meals.



The chapel and the art gallery are just a few places where residents can relax and enjoy themselves.



The Caring Place, owned by Grove Manor Corporation, affiliated with the Allegheny Chapter Church of God, opened on 13th Street in Franklin in 1995. Facility administrator Michelle Baker said most nursing homes are located in more remote, peaceful areas, but the Caring Place was built just outside of Franklin's downtown for a reason. It's residents are still very much a part of the community, attending

hand for residents, family members and staff, and many more amenities to make residents feel comfortable and safe.

The Caring Place uses a combination of good old fashioned caring with professional staff and high tech equipment to provide an individualized continuum of treatment that involves families, friends and communities in the care of those who, for whatever reason, can't care for themselves.

festivals and dining at local restaurants. There is also a sense of community inside the facility, as residents are encouraged to leave their rooms to mingle, rather than stay in their rooms. The staff takes great care to make the lobby warm and inviting, and the facility pets have a definite calming effect on everyone they encounter. The dog, cats, aquariums and birds are just some of the tools used to help residents relax and feel at home.

Others are the bell choir, bingo, and various daily activities scheduled in the chapel. There is an art gallery set up with original paintings by a former Caring Place resident, a chaplain on

## The Women's Network



### The Women's Network

Presents

### Women's Self Defense Classes



The Women's Network will be holding self defense classes designed specifically for women. Classes are scheduled for March 12th, 19th, and 26th from 5:30 to 6:30 at FICDA's ETC Complex on Howard Street. Main entrance.

\$10 per class

**Instructor - Tai Kwon Do Grand Master Don Porta**

This class will be focused on self-defense for women (women only). You may attend one or all three classes. Comfortable clothing recommended. Class size is limited. Please call the Chamber at (814)432-5823 to register for the class of your choice.

The Women's Network is brought to you by the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce.  
Classes are open to Chamber members as well as non-members.

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce  
1250 Liberty Street  
Franklin, Pennsylvania 16323

[www.franklin-pa.org](http://www.franklin-pa.org)

*Members supporting Members*

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**26th Annual  
Applefest® 2008  
October 3rd-5th**

*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

### MARCH

- March 1...**Dancing for Life, sponsored by the Red Cross, will begin at 8 p.m. at the Barrow-Civic Theatre.
- March 7...**Duquesne University's dancing Tamboritzans will perform at the Barrow-Civic Theatre at 8 p.m.
- March 8...**Grande Romanza, Barrow-Civic Theatre, 8 p.m.
- March 13...**95th Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner. Quality Inn & Conference Center. Cash bar 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30.
- March 14...**E.G. Knight, Barrow Little Theatre, 8 p.m.
- March 15...**Franklin Kiwanix/City of Franklin Easter Egg Hunt, Fountain Park, 11 a.m.; Rain date—March 22
- March 15...**Ronnie McDowell, 8 p.m., Barrow-Civic
- March 16...**Nancy Simpson will put on a short concert on her violin at DeBence Antique Music World at 1:30 p.m.
- March 17...**Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- March 17...**Jay and Shelley Davis, Foxtales, 9 p.m. to midnight.
- March 23...**Happy Easter!
- March 28...**Ischabaha, 7:30 p.m., Pitt-Titusville's Henne Auditorium.

### APRIL

- April 3-5...**Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None" 8 p.m., Barrow-Civic Theatre, presented by the Franklin Civic Operetta Association.
- April 13...**HOLeY Jeans in concert, 3 p.m., Barrow-Civic Theatre
- April 18...**Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Franklin Elks Club
- April 19...**Frank Feroz Band, 8 p.m. Barrow-Civic Theatre
- April 20...**Player pianos at DeBence Antique Music World, 1:30 p.m.
- April 27...**Venango Chamber Orchestra, 3 p.m., Barrow-Civic Theatre

