

The Business Connection

News ~ Events ~ Happenings

November
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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Third Annual Holiday Wine Walk

Eleven regional wineries are signed on to participate

Join us for the Third Annual Downtown Franklin Holiday Wine Walk
Friday, November 18, 5 to 9 p.m.
\$15 donation per person ~ Passes go fast, so get yours early by stopping by the Franklin Area Chamber office or by calling (814)432-5823.

This year's pairings are:

Anderson Furniture ~ Wilhelm Winery
Phillips Flowers ~ Angeli Winery
Franklin Press~ Flickerwood Wine Cellars
Chuck's Boot Shop ~ Allegheny Wine Cellars
Liberty Galleria ~ Deer Creek Winery
Feldman Jewelers ~ Presque Isle Wine Cellars
Something Clever ~ Foxburg Wine Cellars
Victorian City Art & Frame ~ Courtyard Winery
DeBence Antique Music World ~ Volant Mill Winery
Pink Champagne Cupcakery ~ Starr Hill Winery
Classy Cat Consignment Boutique ~ Pine Creek Underground Winery
Before you head home, stop by Bossa Nova Café for live entertainment

*Hosted by the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
in cooperation with the Franklin Retail & Business Association*

Membership Showcase



Tastefully Simple

Feldman Jewelers



Welcome, New Members

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

Sue's Small Engine Repair

Sue's Small Engine Repair is a new business offering repair services for all outdoor power equipment. Make sure your equipment is in peak condition before the snow flies!

Contact: Sue Bergin
281 Wood Road, Franklin, PA 16323
P: (814)425-1051
Email: aqhaa1@hotmail.com

Penn North Financial Services

Penn North has been in the business of financial planning and investments for more than 30 years. Call Chip to set up an appointment and learn about your options.

Contact: Albert"Chip" Abramovic
501 Third Street, Franklin, PA 16323
P: (814)671-1497 F: (814)437-9844
Email: aabramovic@adviserlink.net

Wood Shack

A family-owned gift shop just a short drive from Franklin, Wood Shack offers woodworking, crafts, primitives, gun cabinets and custom-made wood items for all your gifting and décor needs.

Contact: John Yeager
2414 Patchel Run Road, Franklin, PA 16323
P: (814)374-4700
Email: wood-shack@hotmail.com

Tri-County Industries

One of the largest private waste-removal and recycling services in the area, Tri-County Industries provides services to both commercial and residential customers.

Contact: Lisa Alcorn
159 TCI Park Drive, Grove City, PA 16127
P: (724)748-4705
Email: lisaa@tricityind.com
Web: www.tricityind.com

Snyder's Blueberries

Snyder's sells blueberries and other produce plus homemade baked goods. They can be found when produce is in season at local farm markets or by stopping by the farm.

Contact: Renee Snyder
35315 Yochum Road, Centerville, PA 16404
P: (814)967-3559
Email: earlblondiesnyder@windstream.net

Dick Delaney Home Inspections

Put your mind at ease and make sure that home you're buying doesn't have any hidden defects, in Venango, Clarion, Crawford, Mercer, Forest, Armstrong, Butler, Brookville Counties.

Contact: Dick Delaney
275 Pioneer Road, Franklin, PA 16323
P: (814)432-7562
Email: ddhis@verizon.net
www.dickdelaneyhomeinspections.com

Chamber News



PNC Bank* Feldman Jewelers*



Business After Hours

Chamber Network Advantage

In October, our members gathered at PNC Bank's 13th street call center to kick off Applefest 2011. Then, we flooded Feldman Jewelers to congratulate owner Niki Cummings Volmrich on her 25th year in business! Each event drew more than 100 members and offered excellent food, door prizes and fun.

Don't miss out on one of your best Chamber benefits!
Call (814) 432-5823 to RSVP for our upcoming mixers.

November 9: **Holiday Kickoff Mixer** hosted by The Franklin Retail Association, The Quality Inn & Conference Center, and Dale Woodard Gent, 4:30-7 p.m. at the Quality Inn.

December 14: **First National Bank, Fezell's Shop 'n Save**, 5-7 p.m.

Thank You, Renewing Members

Jones Service & Party Magic, 40 years
Overhead Door Co. of Franklin, 31 years
Thomas R. Wilks, DMD, 27 years
Hagan Business Machines of Meadville, 27 years
Victorian City Art & Frame, 18 years
A. Crivelli Buick GMC, 17 years
J&V Visions Collision Center, 17 years
Seneca Medical Center, LLC, 17 years
Wilson, Thompson & Cisek, 16 years
Franklin Fine Arts Council, 16 years
Hepler General Contracting, 16 years
TNT Deli, 16 years
Lowry Auto Body, Inc., 15 years
The Caring Place, 14 years
Franklin Community Development Dept., 14 years

Spanky's Tobacco World, 13 years
Franklin Gardeners Association, 12 years
Bella Cucina, 10 years
Super 8 Motel, 10 years
AFLAC, 10 years
Timothy Hartle Funeral Home, 9 years
Blair, LLC, 9 years
Donna B. Fletcher, 8 years
Starn Marketing Group, 8 years
Second Foundation Consulting, 7 years
Montgomery Apiaries, 7 years
Barber's Orchard, 5 years
AmaZing Foods Catering Co. & Café, 5 years
HOLeY Jeans, 4 years
Lake Tool, Inc., 4 years
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, 4 years
J. Collins, Inc., 3 years
Amy Judson Burak, 3 years
The Commons at Franklin, 3 years
Soni Houser, 3 years
The Allegheny Grille, 3 years
Erie Homes for Children & Adults, 2 years
Allegheny Tool & Supply, 2 years
Coppertones, LLC, 2 years
Franklin Moving Forward, Inc., 2 years
Heart 2 Heart Parent Support Network, 2 years

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.

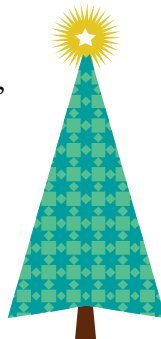
ChamberChoice

On the Agenda...

Light-Up Night

Franklin's most beautiful night is scheduled for Saturday, November 19. The evening's festivities will include:

Parade of Trees, Barrow-Civic Theatre, all day
 Visits from Santa Claus, Times TBA
 David Church in Concert, Barrow-Civic, 1 p.m.
 Electric Lights Parade, 6 p.m.
 Ground Fireworks Display, following the parade
Hosted by the City of Franklin, www.franklinpa.gov



* The Chamber will once again be decorating a Christmas tree for the Barrow's Parade of Trees. This year we will adorn our tree with our members' business cards. If you would like your card to be included, please drop one off or mail it to the Chamber office at 1259 Liberty Street, Franklin PA 16323.

Member Events

FoxTales
 Saturdays, *live music*, 9 p.m.
 November 5, *Ray Lanich*
 November 12, *2B40*
 November 19, *Jack Campbell*
 November 26, *Eli Lenk*
www.foxtalespub.com

The Bricks of Franklin
 Mondays, *Kids eat free*, 5 p.m.
 Wednesdays, *Trivia Night*, 8 p.m.
 Fridays, *Karaoke*, 9:30 p.m.
 Saturdays, *Live DJ*, 9:30 p.m.
www.thebricksfranklin.com

The Commons at Franklin
 Mondays, *.35 wings*
 Tuesday, *Family Buffet*
 Sunday, *Brunch Buffet*
www.thecommonsatfranklin.com

Bella Cucina
 Wednesdays, *Ladies Night*
 Thursdays, *International Night*
www.bellacucinapa.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
 Wednesdays, *2 for \$40 evenings*
 M-F...*Early Bird Specials*, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
www.visitfoxburg.com

Deer Creek Winery
 2nd Tuesday of each month, *Grape Bunch Club* - discounts door prizes & samples at all locations!
www.deercreekwine.com

Full schedule online at franklinareachamber.org

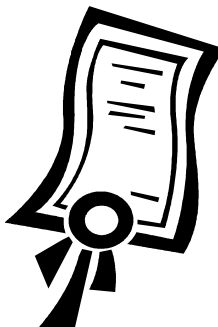
Keep an eye out for a special Thanksgiving dinners/events email during November. Any member that would like to have an event added to the calendar, please email your event details to lynn@franklinareachamber.org.

Hope for the Holidays

Visiting Nurses Association of Venango County will sponsor its annual "Hope for the Holidays" program from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, November 12, at Victory Heights UB Church for area young people who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. The program is intended to help participants experience the Christmas season while learning to grow beyond the loss of their loved one. Grief workshops, holiday crafts and a full holiday meal will be part of the event. The registration fee is \$5. Financial help is available. Certified bereavement counselors Jane Byham and Valerie Motter will lead the program. Susan Evans, Hospice Chaplain for VNA, will be assisting to lead the program this year as well. Applications for the session should be submitted no later than Friday, November 4. Families can register or learn more by calling VNA at (814)432-6555.

Educational Opportunities

- GED Classes - IU5 will be providing the Franklin community with free GED classes. Daytime classes will be available at the Franklin Public Library every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Evening classes are being held at Franklin High School every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6-9 p.m. Certified instructors teach both classes. For more information, call (814) 734-5610 x 5224.



Member to Member News

Do You Need a Flexible Work Schedule? Blair, LLC may have the job for you! Orchard Brands - Blair is now accepting applications for Seasonal and Part-Time Telephone Sales Agents at their Franklin Service Center.



They are looking for motivated individuals to take inbound calls and guide customers through the ordering process as well as make additional sales offers. These positions earn \$8.51/hour plus sales incentives. Full time opportunities exist with proven productivity. Upward mobility to Customer Service Agent (earning \$10.28/hour) also within reach of those who meet performance expectations.

Tell them what hours you are available to work and how many hours you'd like per week and they will create a schedule that fits your needs! (between 16-20 hours, 20-25 hours, or 25-30 hours per week. Seasonal-up to 40 hours) Stop by to learn more about these opportunities!

They are accepting applications Sunday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

534 Allegheny Blvd. Franklin. You may also apply at CareerLink
Questions? Call Anna @ 437-4703. Background Check and Drug screening required.

SendOutCards for the Holidays

The hectic Holiday season is upon us. Let SendOutCards create a personalized greeting card for your business or family. With just the click of a button, you can choose your custom card, add a photo, write your message and click send. We print, stuff, stamp and mail the physical cards for you. You can send any number of cards to recipients all at once with **the click of the "Send" button, with the card arriving** in their mailboxes a few days later. Need to remember clients or family members with a gift? You can have one delivered with the card. Take the stress out of the holiday season and cross this off of your to-do list. Make an appointment with Pat Winger to show you how easy this is: (814)758-4765, www.sendoutcards.com/patwinger.

Hit The Bricks for Breakfast!

The Bricks of Franklin will be serving breakfast seven days a week starting November 1, from 7 to 11 am. You can even call your order in ahead of time and take it to go. The extensive menu includes **eight specialty omelets with names like "The Godfather" and "The San Francisco"**, and a **build your own section**. Other specialties include a secret recipe French Toast and a Cajun Pork Chop and Eggs plate that is unmatched. Plate licking will be accepted as appropriate behavior. A kids menu and a variety of à la carte items will also be available including oatmeal with fruit and nuts, fresh fruit, biscuits and gravy, and breakfast burritos. The Bricks is looking forward to making your day start out even better! www.thebricksfranklin.com

Bossa Nova Café & Roastery is Open for Business

Bossa Nova Café & Roastery is now open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday at 1236 Liberty Street in downtown Franklin. New owners Mike and Gabby Frederick have remodeled the café with a Brazilian theme. They offer freshly roasted coffee and baked goods daily. A great place for gatherings. Follow Bossa Nova Café on Facebook for their latest news.



Membership Showcase

Tastefully Simple

At Tastefully Simple, they want you to enjoy your events just as much as your guests enjoy the food. Their slogan, “the food you love, the time you deserve,” says it all. They offer a wide selection of convenient, easy-to-prepare foods designed to help people spend less time in the kitchen and more time enjoying the rest of their lives.

Marjorie Gray has been a Tastefully Simple consultant since January 2003. She started consulting as a second job to earn money for remodeling projects in her older home. Eight years later, her home has been remodeled, but she could not imagine her life without it.

The Tastefully Simple catalogue includes beverages, breads, soups, sides, condiments, sauces, spreads, desserts, drink mixes, spices, salsas, oils and dressings, with seasonal items that change twice a year. They also offer gift ideas, recipe books and special occasion assortments. Many products are ready to eat right out of the box, while others require

only an ingredient or two. Their products are available through independent Tastefully Simple consultants primarily at home taste-testing parties nationwide. Consultants provide serving suggestions, recipes and entertaining tips. Parties can be thrown for a few close friends or a larger group, day or evening. “The parties are great because everyone enjoys eating and trying new things!” Marj said.

The holiday season is just around the corner and Tastefully Simple has the solution to make your entertaining a breeze. Tastefully Simple can also help with your gift-giving needs for hard-to-buy-for family members and coworkers on your holiday shopping list.

Contact Marj today with any questions about hosting a party, becoming a consultant, or placing an order, or browse the website and order directly at www.tastefullysimple.com/web/marjgray.



Tastefully Simple
 1603 W. Third Street
 Oil City, PA 16301
 P: (814) 677-3161 or (814) 671-8214
 Email: marjgray@comcast.net
 Web: tastefullysimple.com/web/mgray

Carbis Walker Associates Named to National Committees

Two Carbis Walker team members, James A. Pitzer, CPA and James B. Slater, CPA have been appointed to serve on national committees for The Associated General Contractors of America. It is in AGC's committees that new ideas are developed and legislative policies are formulated. The Committees also provide an excellent forum for discussion of the key construction industry issues. Pitzer, a Carbis Walker partner and the firm's Coordinator of Construction and Real Estate Services has been appointed to the Risk/Surety Committee and the Tax and Fiscal Affairs Committee. Slater, a senior manager with the firm's Construction and Real Estate Services Team, has been appointed to the Risk/Surety Committee. Carbis Walker LLP was founded over sixty years ago and is a member of the Carbis Walker Group. The Firm has five offices throughout western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio, and specializes in the areas of Construction & Real Estate, Health Care, Manufacturing & Distribution, and Automotive Dealer Services. For more information, visit www.carbis.com.

Membership Showcase

Feldman Jewelers

In October, Niki Cummings Volmrich celebrated 25 years of running Feldman Jewelers. Although she never pictured herself selling jewelry for a living, a quarter century later she has become synonymous throughout the Franklin Area with all things shiny.

The oldest retail business in Venango County, Feldmans has changed hands only a few times since it was opened by Mr. B.J. Feldman in 1871, and has always been a small, family-owned business. Niki's parents, Nick and Helen Cummings, purchased the business in 1986 and entrusted the management of the company to Niki from day one. Just out of college with some part-time jobs at local jewelry stores under her belt, it was truly trial by fire, she said. "My dad literally handed me a checkbook and said here's what you have." She had to learn quickly, but Niki is the first to admit she never could have done it alone. Her father taught her many valuable lessons about running a business within your means. One of her favorite memories is from the first year she was in business. She desperately wanted to replace the carpeting inside the store, but her father told her she should not buy it if she couldn't afford to write the check. That day she figured out exactly how much the carpet would cost and started saving. A year later, when she approached her father about getting new carpet for the

store, she was proud to say the cash was in hand to pay for it.



▲ Inside Feldman Jewelers ◀ Owners
Doug and Niki Volmrich

Her next teacher was fine jewelry manager, Jennifer Huff, who has been working at Feldmans for 30-plus years and showed Niki the ropes when she first started. She also attributes much of the store's success to her husband and co-owner Doug Volmrich, whose knowledge of the jewelry market is indispensable to the business. Niki said her staff has become like family over the years and they have been through a lot of ups and downs together. "I am so blessed to have such a good team," she said.

Feldmans has enjoyed the reputation of offering fine quality jewelry for nearly a century and a half. They sell modern and estate pieces with an ever-changing inventory from diamond brokers worldwide and focus on customer service and quality. Feldmans is much more than a jewelry store. They are a local showcase for a unique collection of giftware and home décor items.

Feldmans has expanded into two

other businesses under Niki's direction. Something Clever, a women's clothing and accessories boutique opened in 2003. The baby gifts were so popular there that a third shop, Something Baby, was added this year at Liberty Galleria.

"I love Franklin, and Doug has become an integral part of the community and has fallen in love with it as well." That love is unmistakable when considering how involved Niki and Doug are in local organizations, community projects, and charities, and the care they show to their customers.

Congratulations to Niki and Doug on all their success at Feldman Jewelers and for being one of the unique small businesses that make our community so special! Here's to another 25 years!

Feldman Jewelers
1260 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323
P: (814) 432-5925 F: (814)437-7467
Email: feldmans@choiceonemail.com
www.feldmanjeweler.com

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
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Franklin, PA 16323
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**Franklin Area
Chamber of Commerce**

Serving our members since 1913

30th Annual Applefest®! October 5-7, 2012

*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

NOVEMBER

- ◆ Nov 1...The Bricks gift card sale begins, buy \$50 worth and receive a \$5 card free! Great stocking stuffers!
- ◆ Nov 1-13...Military Exhibit at Venango Museum
- ◆ Nov 4...Last day for Majic Find-It Friday, 12:15 p.m. at Bella Cucina. You could win a \$50 Franklin Retail Association gift certificate!
- ◆ Nov 4 & 5...Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs, Barrow-Civic Theatre
- ◆ Nov 5...Cribbage Tournament, Franklin Public Library
- ◆ Nov 6...Roast Beef Dinner at Venango Catholic High School, Chinese auction & Bake sale, 11:30-2
- ◆ Nov 9...BAH Mixer, 4:30-7 p.m. Quality Inn & Conference Center, hosted by the Franklin Retail & Business Association, Quality Inn and Dale Woodard Gent
- ◆ Nov 12...Full Moon Hike at Two Mile Run, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Nov 12...Something Clever holiday fashion event at AmaZing Foods Catering, noon to 2 p.m.
- ◆ Nov 12...ORA Fundraiser, dinner, reserve raffle, only 200 tickets will be sold. (814)677-3152.
- ◆ Nov 13...Maurice's sale—15% off for Chamber members, noon to 5 p.m.
- ◆ Nov 18...Third Annual Holiday Wine Walk
- ◆ Nov 19...Snowflake Fun Run and Book Relay, sponsored by West Park Rehab, 4:45 p.m.
- ◆ Nov 19 & 20...David Church at Barrow-Civic Theatre

◆ Nov 19...Light-Up Night, downtown Franklin

- ◆ Nov 20...Christmas music event at DeBence Antique Music World, 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ Nov 20...Venango Museum Concert featuring Bill Huber, 3 p.m.
- ◆ Nov 24...Happy Thanksgiving!
The Chamber office will be closed Thursday and Friday.
- ◆ Nov 28...Ladies Day at Feldman Jewelers and Something Clever



DECEMBER

- ◆ Dec 2, 3, 9, 10, 11...A Christmas Story at Barrow-Civic Theatre.
- ◆ Dec 3...Sweet Treats at the Oil City YWCA 11-1
- ◆ Dec 14...BAH Mixer, First National Bank, Sponsored by First National & Fezell's Shop 'n Save, 5-7 p.m.
- ◆ Dec 11...HOLeY Jeans at Venango Museum
- ◆ Dec 16...Cluricaun at The Commons at Franklin
- ◆ Dec 17 & 18...Handel's Messiah, Barrow Theatre
- ◆ Dec 25...Merry Christmas!!!