

The Business Connection

January

2009

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce



1259 Liberty Street

Franklin, PA 16323

814-432-5823

814-437-2453 (Fax)

www.franklin-pa.org

Email: chamber@franklin-pa.org

Lynn Cochran - Executive Director

Leigh Protivnak - Exec. Assistant

Michelle Reck - Office Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

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

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New Web site launching

The Chamber staff has been working all year on a new design for the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce web site and the Applefest® site. Franklinapplefest.com was completed in September and Franklinareachamber.org (a new URL too!) will launch this month. The new site offers many interactive features that will allow



you, the members, more opportunity to become involved in how your business is presented to the world through our Chamber site. In addition, members will be able to post events to the Chamber calendar and update your contact information online. Keep an eye out for it this month.

Membership Showcase



Pioneer Electric Supply Co., Inc.

Child Development Centers, Inc.



Welcome New Members

The following new members joined the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce in December.

Please join us in welcoming them to the community.

Ally's Art

Located in Oil City's historic Transit Building, Alice Walkowski creates and sells fine silver jewelry from metal clay. All pieces are handmade one-of-a-kinds. Ally's also offers classes on creating your own metal clay jewelry.

Transit Bldg, 206 Seneca St., Oil City, PA

Phone: (814)720-0270

Email: allysart@mac.com

Web: www.allysart@etsy.com

Emily Altomare Graphic Design & Creative Communications

Emily Altomare, based in Titusville, specializes in graphic design for print and web; logos, brochures, billboards, catalogs and more. She also provides writing and editing services.

333 W. Mt. Vernon St. Titusville, PA 16354

Phone: (814)707-3247

Email: emily@emilyaltomare.com

Web: www.emilyaltomare.com

CJB Heating & Air Conditioning/ Mr. Handyman 101

. Chris Baxter specializes in the sale and installation of high-efficiency heating and air conditioning systems, and is available for any home repair projects.

1246 Liberty St., Franklin, PA

Phone: (814)671-8193

Email: cbaxter@franklinpress.net

Congratulations!

- Rusty Whitmore of RCR Automotive Services won a free Chamber membership at the Chamber's end of the year drawing.
- The winners for the Franklin Retail & Business Association Christmas Cash drawing are: Jackie Miller, Cochran; Diana Fesenmeyer, Seneca; Elizabeth Breene, Franklin; Paul McCall, Grove City; Gail Frankenburg, Franklin; John Oliver, Franklin.

Member Briefs

Fatheads Available

Looking for the perfect accessory for your Super Bowl party or a special gift for the sports fan who has everything? Sherwin-Williams on Allegheny Boulevard in Franklin now carries Fatheads, in addition to its full line of paints and painting supplies. These oversized wall decals immortalize your favorite sports teams, players and moments.

Dr. Spadaro Reappointed

The American College of Surgeons has reappointed Donna Spadaro, M.D., to a three-year term as cancer liaison physician at UPMC Northwest. As the commission's primary contact person at UPMC, Dr. Spadaro is responsible for leading improvements to existing cancer care programs and encouraging development of new programs.

Farm Show Scheduled

Shawn Alcorn of Bella Cucina will vie for the title of Best Chef of PA at the state farm show January 15 in Harrisburg. Shawn won the western regional title for the second year in a row during a competition at Applefest®. Visit agriculture.state.pa.us and click on "culinary connections" for information on the competition and the PA Preferred program.

Introducing Our New Member to Member Discount Program

The Chamber has created a new Program through which members can offer and receive discounts from fellow chamber members beginning on January 1, 2009. We are delighted to have a number of businesses come forward to take part in the program already, and encourage any business owners interested in becoming part of the program to get involved.

Here is a list of participants so far:

- **Franklin Bronze Plaques**, 191 Howard St. Suite 306, Franklin, PA 16323. (814)346-7205. 15% discount on cast solid bronze plaques. The only exception would be National Register Plaques, which are already sold at a discount.
- **Sherwin-Williams Co.** 446 Allegheny Blvd. Franklin, PA 16323. (814)432-2216. 15% off list price (excludes special offers and spray equipment). They will also input customer information into their database to keep track of their products & colors for up to six years. As an added bonus, customers can request a coupon book for additional discounts on future purchases. Sherwin-Williams has also extended its discount to all employees of chamber businesses—not just the card carrying members.
- **Seneca Lanes**, 2771 St. Rt. 257, Seneca, PA 16346. (814)676-4618. 5% off merchandise in the Striking Effects Pro Shop. The discount can be used on the purchase of any ball, bag or shoes, but cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts.
- **Sugar Sisters Baked Goods**, 1888 Rocky Grove Ave., Franklin, PA 16323. (814)673-3191. 10% off all special orders that can be delivered, or can be picked up at the Corner Cupboard Bulk Food & Deli at 12th & Buffalo Streets in Franklin.
- **Culligan Water Conditioning**, 425 Seneca St. Oil City, PA 16301. (814)676-5696. The first three months of any rental service at no charge with a minimum 12-month contract, OR 15% off a purchase of any unit. *Rentals are subject to credit approval.
- **Hagan Business Machines of Meadville, Inc.** 77 Mead Avenue, Meadville, PA 16335. (814)724-4601. 10% off all color copying and printing services.
- **Country Pedalers, Inc.**, U.S. Route 322 East, Franklin, PA 16323. (814)432-8055. 10% off all bicycle accessories; 6% off bicycles.
- **The Lamberton House Bed & Breakfast**, 1331 Otter St., Franklin, PA 16323. (814)432-7908. 15% off room rate for a minimum two-night stay.

*Discounts are only redeemable by Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce members. Membership cards must be presented to receive discounts. They are not open to all employees of member businesses, unless specified by the company offering the discounts.



CJB

Heating Plumbing & Air Conditioning
(814) 671-8193

Thank You Renewing Members

We would like to thank the following businesses and associates who have renewed their Chamber membership. Without our members, the community wouldn't be what it is today. Thank you again! We appreciate all that you do.

Franklin Service & Supply, Inc. (49 Years)	Computer Showcase, CSONline, The Learning Center (26 Years)	Edward Jones Investments (18 Years)
Butler Wick (48 Years)	Voyten Electric (25 Years)	Franklin Livery Service (17 Years)
Anderson's Greenhouse (48 Years)	UPMC Northwest Foundation (25 Years)	Seivers Concessions (16 Years)
Franklin Elks Club (47 Years)	Visiting Nurses Association of Venango County (25 years)	KQW Radio (15 Years)
Pepsi Bottling Group (47 Years)	Venango Museum of Art, Science & Industry (24 Years)	Reck Construction, Inc. (15 Years)
Wasson, Egan & Burwell (47 Years)	American Red Cross (23 Years)	Matric Limited (15 Years)
Dale Woodard Law Firm (46 Years)	Franklin Area School District (23 Years)	All Seasons Temporaries (14 Years)
Klapec Trucking Co. (43 Years)	Arlington Hotel (22 Years)	Fisher & Father (13 Years)
Franklin Animal Clinic, Inc. (40 Years)	I.A. Construction Corp. (21 Years)	Venango County Fair, Inc. (11 Years)
Advanced Imaging Associates (39 Years)	Beith Associates Real Estate (21 Years)	Atlantic Ave. United Brethren Church in Christ (10 Years)
Franklin Surgical Group P.C. (38 Years)	Quality Inn & Conference Center (21 Years)	Super 8 Motel (10 Years)
Callaghan's Pharmacy (37 Years)	Franklin Industrial & Commercial Development Authority (21 Years)	City of Franklin (5 Years)
Huff Chapel, Inc. (34 Years)	Fezell's Shop 'n Save (20 Years)	Denton Lake (4 Years)
Oak Hill Apartments (33 Years)	Pioneer Electric Supply Co., Inc. (19 Years)	T.W. Bean Welding & Fabrication (4 Years)
Gent, Gent & Snyder Attorneys at Law (33 Years)		Altunamats, Inc. (4 Years)
Wm. R. Karns Heating, Plumbing & AC (29 Years)		FrenchCreek Carvings (2 Years)
Franklin YMCA (27 Years)		

*Your business will be recognized after your anniversary month.

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www.butlerwick.com

Bob Ondrasik
Financial Advisor

Vicki O'Neil
Financial Advisor

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2009 Board of Directors

2009 Officers

Chairman - Mary Nicklin, The Lamberton House

Immediate Past Chairman - Rob Woods, Woods Computer Consulting

Chairman-Elect - Dawn Caiarelli, Beith Associates

Secretary - Tammera O'Polka, O'Polka & Co., Inc.

Treasurer - Sandy Saunders, Franklin-Oil Region Credit Union

V.P. Member Services - Tammera O'Polka, O'Polka & Co., Inc.

V.P. Legislative Affairs - William D. Wilson, Wilson, Thompson & Cisek

V.P. Applefest - James Williams, Jr., Butler, Wick & Co., Inc.

V.P. Building & Grounds - Robert L. Miller, Huff Chapel, Inc.

V.P. Retail & Small Business - Niki Cummings-Volmrich, Feldman Jewelers

V.P. Community Development - Richard Beith, Beith Associates

V.P. Personnel - Libby Stover, IPEG

2007 – 2009 Directors – Term ends 12/31/2009

Dr. Daniel Paulo, Franklin Animal Clinic

Mary Nicklin, The Lamberton House

Robert Woods, Woods Computer Consulting

Sandy Saunders, Franklin-Oil Region Credit Union

John McConnell, Barrow-Civic Theatre

Tammera O'Polka, O'Polka & Co., Inc.

Dawn Caiarelli, Beith Associates

2008 – 2010 Directors – Term Ends 12/31/2010

Libby Stover, IPEG

Steve Hanna, National City Bank

Ava Alcorn, Bella Cucina

Jeremy Phillips, Liberty Electronics, Inc.

Cindie Linnon, Franklin Bronze Plaques

Rick Hulsizer, First United National Bank

Larry Sehman, Sehman's Tire Service

2009 – 2011 Directors – Term Ends 12/31/2011

Michelle Baker, The Caring Place

Joe Fink, Barr's-Staup Insurance

Sue Smith, Northwest Commission

Chris Rakow, Edward Jones Investments

Shelly Hartle, First National Bank of PA

Vernie Hilliard, Phillips Flowers

Beth Mays, Northwest Savings Bank

Don't forget! The newsletter insert deadline is the third Monday of every month. If you would like to take advantage of this direct marketing opportunity, simply drop off 575 copies of your flier to our office by the deadline for the next month's mailing. Any questions, call the Chamber at (814)432-5823.

What happened at the After Hours ...

Two Business After Hours events took place in December to get our members into the holiday spirit. The first was a four-chamber joint mixer at Cross Creek Resort attended by members from the Franklin, Meadville, Titusville and Venango Area Chambers. Many of our members provided terrific door prizes to help showcase our membership to the surrounding chamber members. The second mixer was our annual Christmas party, hosted by First National

Bank and Fezell's Shop 'n Save. Well over 200 of our members came to do some valuable networking while everyone was in the Christmas spirit.



Member Entertainment

FoxTales

Saturdays from 9 p.m.-Midnight.

January 3 - Marty O'Connor

January 10 - Uncharted Course

January 17 - Joe Jablonski Duo

January 24 - Mike & Lauren

January 31 - Mike Gorczycki

DJ Trivia every Thursday

www.foxtalespub.com

The Bricks of Franklin

Wednesdays, Open Mic Night

Fridays, 9 p.m.-Midnight, Live DJ

Saturdays, 7:30-Midnight, Karaoke

www.thebricksfranklin.com

Membership Showcase

Pioneer Electric Supply Co., Inc.

Pioneer Electric Supply Co., Inc., a full-line electrical distributor in Franklin, has been the area's leading source of electrical equipment and supplies for more than 35 years. Pioneer provides customer service and quality products to the industrial, commercial and residential electrical markets. The company is in the midst of an expansion that will increase its capabilities even more.

The 75-by-75-foot expansion, which is being constructed by Whalen Contracting of Franklin, will increase the size of the building by seventy-five percent. The new area will provide Pioneer with additional warehouse space and enable Pioneer to expand its services to include an electrical panel assembly shop. The new shop will consist of industrial/commercial panelboards and customized control assemblies for some of Pioneer's customers, and could significantly cut down on delivery time to those customers. The new addition is expected to be complete in early February.

This will mark the second time Pioneer has expanded since it opened in 1973. Originally located next door to its current spot at 405 Allegheny Boulevard, Pioneer constructed a new facility in 1987 for its increasing business.

Pioneer carries a complete line of electrical supplies for all sectors of the electrical industry as well as power and hand tools. Whether you are in need of products for your home repair or looking to supply a major commercial project, Pioneer has it all; conduit and wire, generators, surge protection devices, all

Over the years, Pioneer has steadily increased its customer base by going the extra mile to make sure every customer has an ideal fit for his or her needs. Pioneer attributes its continued success to the product knowledge of their sales personnel combined with their conscientious effort to provide quality customer service.

Vice President Jeff Potter said "We've been very fortunate having quality employees that understand the value of customer service. People depend on us for solutions to their needs and providing them with quality products."

With their helpful staff and expanding inventory, Pioneer Electric is the place to go for electric supplies in Venango

County. In addition to dropping in to the store on Allegheny Boulevard, customers can email questions to Pioneer staff at sales@pioneerelec.com.



types of lamps and fuses, electric heating equipment and more. Pioneer deals strictly as a wholesale supplier, and does not provide installation services. The majority of Pioneer's customer base is made up of industrial/commercial accounts and electrical contractors with the remaining to the residential market. Pioneer covers an approximate forty mile radius of Franklin with some accounts extending to Erie, Indiana and Pittsburgh. Deliveries are run to most areas on a regular basis.

Pioneer Electric Supply Co., Inc.

Location: 405 Allegheny Blvd., Franklin

Phone: (814)437-1342

Fax: (814)432-7818

Email: jpotter@pioneerelec.com

Web: www.pioneerelec.com

Membership Showcase

Child Development Centers, Inc.

If you work and have children in Venango County, odds are Child Development Centers, Inc. has a hand in your life. With hundreds of local children in its care every day, CDC, Inc. is the biggest childcare agency in Venango County. But what is now a thriving operation began very humbly. Child Development Centers was founded in 1969 by a group of citizens who wanted to help single mothers be able to go to work. The organization always had caring and enthusiastic supporters, but did not have the resources to keep the center going. In 1997 it was on the verge of filing for bankruptcy. At that time, Rina Nerlich, a former accountant for Quaker State, took over as director of the agency and CDC, Inc. has been growing full-throttle ever since.

"I can still remember the day we got our first grant," Rina recalled. Now rarely a week goes by without an announcement that the center has earned another accreditation, award, or grant, or expanded. It has a two centers in Franklin, and one in Oil City, Cranberry and Meadville. A major expansion was recently completed at the Cranberry center and CDC, Inc. is eyeing two \$750,000 grants for similar expansions to the Oil City and Meadville centers.

Child Development Centers, Inc.

Location: 614 - 11th St. Franklin

Phone: (814)437-7288

Fax: (814)437-5926

Email: rnerlich@cdcenters.org

Web: www.cdcenters.org

Everyone involved with CDC's programs can tell you that it is not just a day care. The atmosphere is structured and always focused on education. There are age-appropriate stations in each classroom that help students develop in the areas of math, literacy, art, science, dramatic play and computers. Education at an early age is more important than ever, Rina said, because more is expected from children entering Kindergarten and parents who work are not always at home to give that necessary instruction. Aside from the childcare and preschool services, CDC, Inc. offers an Outer Limits program for 8-12-year-olds to help them build life skills, a PA Pre-K Counts program, classes for parents, and a school-aged center for children up to age 16 to have a safe place to go after school.

The Franklin center was the first in the county to receive the highest rating from the Keystone Stars program, and since then, all CDC, Inc. centers have achieved the same ranking. In addition to Four Stars from Keystone Stars. They are also all accredited by the NAEYC, an accomplishment earned by only 8% of childcare facilities in the country.

The board of CDC, Inc. consists of 13 directors who are passionate about education and the safety and future of the children of Venango



County. They are educators, parents, grand parents, nurses, doctors, and local business people. In addition to the board and staff, there are several grant agencies and foundations that are key partners in CDC, Inc.'s success. They are the Samuel Justus and Jessie Peters trusts locally and the R.K. Mellon and Grable Foundations in Pittsburgh. It's because of the high quality of education and care that the center provides that they are able to receive so much support. The grant support is essential because as a Parent Choice System, the CDC, Inc. receives no government subsidies. One way the Department of Community and Economic Development does help, is through the tax credit program that allows businesses to redirect state tax dollars to fund preschool scholarships. The program provides a 100% tax credit for up to \$10,000. The money goes toward scholarships to give children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend pre-K education. Call the center at (814)437-7288 for more information.

Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
1259 Liberty Street
Franklin, Pennsylvania 16323

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Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce

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*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

January

- ◆ **January 1...Happy New Year!** The Chamber office will be closed Thursday, January 1 and Friday, January 2.
- ◆ **January 18...**Piccolo, flute, saxophone & clarinet program, DeBence Antique Music World, presented at 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ **January 22...**Business After Hours Mixer, Lifelong Learning Programs, formerly the Literacy Council of Venango County, 5-7 p.m., joint mixer with Venango Area Chamber.
- ◆ **January 23...**The Venango County Historical Society will celebrate National Pie Day with pie sales. Call (814)437-2275 to order.

February

- ◆ **Feb. 5...**Business After Hours Mixer, Phillips Flowers-Distinctive Design Florist, 5-7 p.m.
- ◆ **Feb. 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14...** Forever Plaid, Season Opening Show, Barrow-Civic Theatre
- ◆ **Feb. 7...**Franklin On Ice, Ice Sculpture carving events all day long.
- ◆ **Feb. 14...**Happy Valentines Day!

Mark your calendars

Invitations will be sent out soon for the Franklin Area Chamber's
96th Annual Dinner
scheduled for
Thursday, March 12, 2009
at the
Quality Inn & Conference Center.

A nomination form for the **Man and Woman of the Year** is included with this month's inserts. Please submit all nominations by Friday, February 11. More nomination forms will be available at the Chamber office.