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"Serving the Business Community Since 1921"

REGIONAL REPORTER

One Chamber Plaza, Charleroi, PA 15022 724-483-3507 members@mvrchamber.org Return Service Requested

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Mark Your Calendar For These Upcoming Events!*

Wednesday, January 1—Happy New Year! Chamber office closed.

Wednesday, January 21 — Chamber Board Meeting, Chamber Building, 8:00 AM.

Tuesday, January 27—Chamber BASH (Business After Scheduled Hours), Charleroi Elks Club, 5:00 PM—7:00 PM.

Tuesday, February 10—Chamber Luncheon, Details TBD.

Wednesday, February 18 — Chamber Board Meeting, Chamber Building, 8:00 AM.

Friday, February 20—SAVE THE DATE—2nd Annual Hoodie Hoo Day, Downtown Charleroi, 12:00 Noon. More information on page 7 of this newsletter.

Watch the mail, e-mail, FACEbook and website for information on all upcoming events—a full tentative calendar listing for 2015 is included in this newsletter!

www.mvrchamber.org

* Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

If inclement weather causes a 2 hour delay or cancellation in the Charleroi Area School District, please consider the Chamber morning meetings or events cancelled. You can get the information on WTAE Channel 4 TV beginning at 5:00 AM or on their website

www.thepittsburghchannel.com.

For Chamber luncheon meetings or afternoon events please call the Chamber office at 724-483-3507, or watch for notice on the Chamber Face book pages. Thank you!

MON VALLEY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Volume 14, Issue 111



Happy New Year

Mon Valley Regional Chamber Board of Directors and Staff

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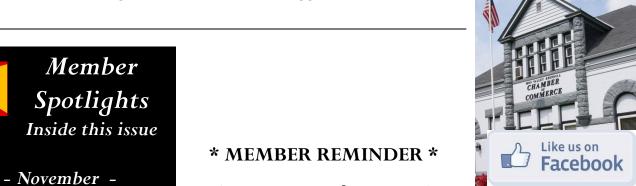
- December -

CHARLEROI

VOLUNTEER

FIRE DEPARTMENT

See stories and photos on page 5.



Please review **ALL** information on the member data sheet that is included with your 2015 dues renewal. Notify the Chamber office of any changes or corrections by February 27, 2015 to ensure accurate listing in the 2015-2016 Directory. Thank You!

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December, 2014

Inside this issue:

Chamber Christmas Party Photos

New Members

Chamber B.A.S.H.

Member Spotlights

Challenge Program Hoodie Hoo Day

Ribbon Cuttings

2015 Calendar of Events 2014 Year in Review

Mon Valley Regional **Chamber of Commerce**

One Chamber Plaza Charleroi, PA 15022

724-483-3507 Fax: 724-489-1045 E-mail: members@mvrchamber.org website: www.mvrchamber.ora

President: Armand Ferrara V. President: Attv. Rick Mudrick Secretary: David Galloni Treasurer: Milton Kubik **Executive Board: James Protin** Executive Board: Diann Donaldson

Chamber Staff: Executive Director: Debra Keefer

We regret any errors or omissions in this newsletter

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS*

AIG Financial Network

Kaitlin Turnley 800 Plaza Drive, Suite 300 Belle Vernon, PA 15012 724-379-1453 www.aig.com/financialnetwork

Financial Services

Bruno and Sons Diner and Catering

Matt Bruno 501 McKean Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 724-565-1217

www.brunoandsonscatering.com
Restaurant/Caterer

Edward M. Bryner, Charleroi Borough Council

809 Crest Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 Associate Member

Duke of Oil

Camera Bartolotta 1304 Country Club Road Monongahela, PA 15063 724-258-8885 Auto Services

First Commonwealth Bank

Jennifer Bibb 548 Rock Run Road Elizabeth, PA 15037 412-673-7086 www.fcbanking.com Bank

First Energy/West Penn Power

Diane Holder 365 Washington Road Washington, PA 15301 724-942-5210 www.firstenergycorp.com

Electric Utility

Commissioner Diana Irey-Vaughan, Washington County

100 West Beau Street, Suite 702
Washington, PA 15301
724-228-6721
www.co.washington.pa.us
Associate Member

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Donald I Mangel
201 W. Wheeling Street
Washington, PA 15301
724-223-4430
www.
Employment Services for the Disabled

Perveen Punjani, MD

Jessica Megala
323 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
724-489-9004
www.drperveenpunjani.com
Pediatrician

Re/Max Select Realty

Dionne Malush 130 Valley View Drive Belle Vernon, PA 15012 724-554-3514 www.DionneMalush.com Real Estate

Mark A. Smith

22 Andrews Lane Charleroi, PA 15022 Associate Member



These new members only reflect dues received as of December 17, 2014.

Congratulations to all of these AMAZING Businesses!





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PRIMA DIVA BOUTIQUE Charleroi





OFF THE WALL ARTS
Charleroi





MEDISPA California

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RIBBON CUTTING MANIA!





THE DANCE LOFT Charleroi





OSPTA HOSPICE North Charleroi





BRUNO AND SONS Charleroi

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Tuesday January 27, 2015

> 5:00 PM—7:00 PM **CHARLEROI ELKS CLUB**

301 Fallowfield Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022

Do some winter networking in the Elks newly remodeled downstairs bar!

Cash Bar. POT of GOLD NOW WORTH \$250*!

Bring a potential member!

RSVP your attendance by calling 724-483-3507 OR by faxing this form to 724-489-1045 OR by sending an e-mail to members@mvrchamber.org

There is no charge for Chamber BASH attendees and their guest(s).

To RSVP:Phone: 724-483-3507Fax: 724-489-1045 E-mail: members@mvrchamber.org

Company Name: - *2015 Membership Dues must be paid in full to be eligible for Attendee(s) - Pot of Gold Drawing.

Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce—One Chamber Plaza -Charleroi, PA 15022

724-483-3507—members@mvrchamber.org—www.mvrchamber.org

Memfier

SCENES FROM THE CHAMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Chamber's Annual Christmas Party was held on Wednesday, December 3rd at **the Charleroi Elks Club**. Members enjoyed networking, refreshments and entertainment by DJ Jerry Jericho. Poinsettias (donated in part by **Lowe's Home Improvement)** and bottles of wine were among the door prizes given away.

THANK YOU to Davies Ford, Dierken's Pharmacy, James Protin, and World Kitchen for sponsoring the event.











November Member Spotlight SUSAN JO'S SALON



Susan Jo's Salon shines in the Chamber's Member
Spotlight. Owned by Susan Jo Johnson since 1995 it is located at
706 Fallowfield Avenue in Charleroi and is a popular and "fun" full
service hair salon. Every client is treated with extra individualized
attention, which has become their trademark in delivering beautiful
color and cuts over the years. Susan Jo is a community champion
and supports fundraising efforts and her fellow business owners in
Charleroi on a daily basis. The salon has been a member of the
Chamber since 2001. Please call Susan Jo's at 724-483-6550 for
your next salon "experience." Seen here is Susan Jo and her stylists,
(left to right) Nikki Sukel, Natalie Shrader, Marisa
Bongiorno, Liz Marshall with Susan Jo in front. This photo
was taken while participating in a recent Charleroi business crawl
"Ladies of the 80's."



December Member Spotlight CHARLEROI VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



Left to right is: Bob Whiten, Sr., Kerry McCorkle, Sr., Hayden Roberts, Bob Anderson, Glen Haukedahl, Steve Anderson, Andrew Akers, Doug Prentice, Jr., Bob Whiten, Jr., Ian Whiten, and Matt Prentice. Kneeling left to right: Charlie Yakich, Doug Prentice, Sr., and Kerry McCorkle, Jr. The Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to honor the **Charleroi Volunteer Fire Department, No. 33,** in the Member Spotlight. They serve tirelessly and fearlessly to protect the citizens and property of the Borough of Charleroi and to all Mid Mon Valley communities. Always present at community events, the CVFD recently participated in the **Mon Valley Hospital's Orange Ducoeur Breast Cancer Walk** held in downtown Charleroi.



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2015 PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

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1/21/2015 - Chamber Board Meeting
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1/27/2015 – Business After Scheduled Hours – Charleroi Elks Club downstairs – 5:00-7:00PM

2/10/2015 - Chamber Luncheon

2/17/2015 – AM Networking – Chamber Building

2/18/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

Friday, February 20, 2014 – Mon Valley Hoodie Hoo Day

Hoodie Hoo Shout at Noon – Festivities Begin at 11:00am - Downtown Charleroi

3/10/2015 – Chamber Luncheon

3/18/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

3/24/2015 – AM Networking

MARCH B.A.S.H. - TBD

4/14/2015 - Chamber Luncheon - Monongahela Valley Hospital

4/15/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

4/21/2015 – AM Networking

5/12/2015 – Chamber Luncheon

5/19/2015 – AM Networking

5/20/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

MAY B.A.S.H. - TBD

May - World Kitchen Pyrex 100th Anniversary – Launch of 100 Days of Pyrex

Thursday, June 4, 2014 – Melvin B. Bassi Golf Outing

Nemacolin Country Club

6/1/2015 – Publication of Annual Directory

6/16/2015 – AM Networking

6/17/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

August – Summer Networking Softball Game and Bash

8/18/2015 – AM Networking

Thursday, September 10, 2014 – Awards Event – MVH

9/15/2015 – AM Networking

9/16/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

10/13/2015 – Chamber Luncheon – MVH

10/20/2015 – AM Networking

10/21/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

October/November - Fall Membership Recruitment Event

11/10/2015 - Chamber Luncheon

11/17/2015 – AM Networking

11/18/2015 – Chamber Board Meeting

11/28/2015 – SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY®

12/2/2015 – Chamber Christmas Party

12/16/2015 - Chamber Board Meeting 12/18/2014

*ALL DATES SUBJECTTO CHANGE— Stay tuned to Chamber and local media for updates!

MON VALLEY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - DECEMBER, 2014

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2014 CHAMBER YEAR IN REVIEW

-Named in "25 Largest Chambers in Greater Pittsburgh Region" listing by the Pittsburgh Business Times for the 13th year in a row.

- -Recognized 12 Chamber Members in the monthly Member Spotlight.
- -Performed several ribbon cuttings and grand openings for area businesses.
- -Welcomed 38 new members.
- -Held the 2014 Awards Event at Monongahela Valley Hospital, hosting 100+ attendees and honoring DeLattre Corporation, Gene and Boots Candies, the Auxiliary of Mon Valley Health Resources, and Shining Star(s) the Whiten Family.
- -Held Annual Christmas Party at the Charleroi Elks Club December 3, 2014. Attended by 100+.
- -Partnered with the PaCareerLink in holding 2014 Mon Valley Job Fair.
- -Hosted several luncheons featuring quality programs, including: the Washington County Commissioners, PA DCED Secretary Alan Walker, Panel Discussions on the Economies of Marcellus Shale, Energy Savings and Rebates, and Social Media.
- -Held the 7th Annual Melvin B. Bassi Memorial Golf Tournament with proceeds funding a Leadership Washington County scholarship, and a \$1,800 donation to the Challenge Program. In addition, donations were made to many regional educational programs, including Junior Achievement, Newspapers in Education, and Chamber business development workshops.
- -Produced a 2014-2015 Member Directory and Resource Guide. 1,000 copies were distributed to Chamber members and placed in high traffic areas throughout the membership area.
- -Won the 3rd Annual Chamber Challenge Softball Game against Greater Rostraver Chamber in September, score 14-6.
- -Held 2nd Annual Mon Valley's Got Talent competition in Stockdale on August 9. Approximately 275 people were in attendance. Winner was Kristin Daugherty, Coldwell Banker.
- -Published 6 bi-monthly house member newsletters ("The Regional Reporter") for US mail in addition to 12 supplements to the Valley Independent and Mon Valley Messenger. Also weekly e-blasts, daily Facebook postings and monthly website updates.
- -Established new committees for Membership/Marketing and Budget/Finance. A Plaza Task Force was formed as a subcommittee of Budget/Finance and is made up of owners of Plaza building. Chamber continues to serve as administrator for Plaza common area issues and expenses.
- -Held 6th Annual "Easy Being Green" day in August in partnership with Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Included with electronics collections were collections for eyeglasses for the Charleroi Lions Club. The Chamber continues to provide 2 Paper Retriever bins for use by the business and residential community to recycle paper.
- -Supported "MVH/Lois Orange Ducoeur Breast Cancer Walk" by serving on the committee and being pro-active in marketing efforts for the "Valley Goes Pink."
- -Supported "Small Business Saturday" event held in conjunction with Downtown Charleroi's "Fa-La-La Friday" event. Also actively promoted downtown business crawls in all Mid Mon Valley communities.
- -Actively serving on advisory boards of Douglas Education, Westmoreland County Community College, Mon Valley Job Fair, Westmoreland County Parks and Recreation, SPC Planning, and Charleroi's Revive 2016.
- -Administered Charleroi Façade Improvement, Phase II grant program from the Local Share Account funding.
- -Administered the Community Park Trustees organization from the Chamber office. Mark Alterici was named Chairman.
- -Chamber launched new website designed by Stewart Creative that will enable Content Management from the Chamber Staff.
- -Purchased two new computers that replaced outdated operating systems and software.
- -In addition to the above, the Chamber organization continues to manage and maintain Chamber properties, including the Chamber office building and Chamber Plaza parking lot that is available for patrons and employees of the Charleroi business district at no charge.

MON VALLEY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – DECEMBER, 2014



Pictured here are 2013/14 underclassmen winners of The Challenge Program, Inc. awards at Monessen High School. Seated from left are Emmalee Smith, junior academic excellence; Miya Young, junior academic improvement; Shelby Minardi, sophomore STEM Award; and Samantha Koschalk, sophomore academic improvement. Standing from left are Mary Dreliszak representing The Challenge Program, Inc.; Josh Kucmeroski, junior attendance; Zach Picciarelli, junior STEM award; Alec Tesznar, sophomore academic excellence; Cameron Dyell, sophomore attendance; and Dylan Olivio, sophomore community service. Missing from photo is Mikayla Speck, junior community service.

The Challenge Program Awards Monessen Underclassmen

Monessen, Pa. -- The Challenge Program, Inc. distributed financial awards to the underclassmen at Monessen High School for excelling in the areas of Attendance, Academic Improvement, Academic Excellence, STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and Community Service. The program partners with businesses to motivate high school students to excel and introduce them to career opportunities in their own communities. *The Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce* was the sponsor of the program at the school for the 2013/14 school year.

For information about 2015/2016 sponsorship of The Challenge Program, Inc. at Monessen High School, contact Mary Dreliszak, director of program development and public relations, at 724-984-0860.

Since its inception in 2003, The Challenge Program, Inc. has been introduced to more than 465,000 high school students in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio and West Virginia. For more information on the program, visit our website: www.tcpinc.org.



Fallowfield Township Fire Department Celebrates 50 Years

The Fallowfield Township Volunteer Fire Company celebrated their 50th year anniversary on October 18th, 2014. Brad Logan, Fire company president; and Olga Woodward, Honorary member are seen here at the Anniversary event held at the Double Tree in Canonsburg. Photo submitted by Wayne Ray of Snapshot 47.

There is STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Our region is only as strong as the businesses that support it.

Join the largest business organization in the Mid Mon Valley!



Call Deb Keefer today at 724-483-3507 for dues quote





2nd Annual Hoodie Hoo Day Friday, February 20, 2015

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Festivities begin at 11:00 AM
Hoodie Hoo Shout at Exactly NOON
Magic City Square, Charleroi

Northern Hemisphere Hoodie Hoo Day will take place on Friday, February 20, 2015. This will be the 2nd Hoodie Hoo Day sponsored by the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce. This Valley wide event will be held at Magic City Square in Charleroi, and is designed to help chase winter away by dressing in brightly colored clothing and shouting "Hoodie Hoo" three times to the sky at exactly the stroke of noon. Activities begin at 11:00AM, and merchants and restaurants will be offering Hoodie Hoo discounts and specials. Noise making, live music, food and nonsense are also on the schedule of events for the day. Best employer group and best individual costumes will win traveling trophies and prizes! New for this year is two air dancers named "Hoodie and Hoo", a mini parade and more.!!!!!

New This Year: Sponsorships! Put Your Business Name
On This One-of-A Kind Mid Mon Valley Event!
\$200—Signage, Recognition at Event, Pre Hoodie Media
Coverage. Call 724-483-3507 for details!



FIND US ON FACEBOOK/CHARLEROIHOODIEHOODAY