

## ONWARD AND UPWARD IN 2012

The MVRCC Board of Directors would like to express appreciation for the prompt response to Chamber membership renewal invoices that were sent out earlier this month. Many of you even opted for a voluntary add on. Remarkable. As we invite every business in the Mid Mon Valley to be a part of our organization as a NEW member, we know how very important continuing support from our existing membership is. As we have easily passed the 300 member mark in 2011, and our challenge for new members in 2012 continues, we never lose sight of our commitment to providing quality benefits.

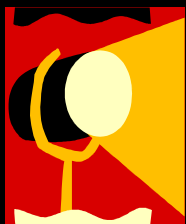
Thank you for helping us to grow – spread the word. In a time when the Mid Mon Valley stands at a threshold to economic greatness, a solid Chamber of Commerce is more important than ever!

~ Deb Keefer, Executive Director



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## January Member Spotlight MONVALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



Mon Valley EMS was honored by the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce as the January Member Spotlight. Pictured L to R: Robert Vetter, Chad Williams, Raenelle Poziviak and William Hess, Chief.



### Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

One Chamber Plaza  
Charleroi, PA 15022

724-483-3507 Fax: 724-489-1045

E-mail: [info@mvrchamber.org](mailto:info@mvrchamber.org)

website: [www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)

President: Armand Ferrara  
V. President: Atty. Rick Mudrick  
Secretary: David Galloni  
Treasurer: Milton Kubik  
Executive Board: Jerry Zahand, Sr.  
Executive Board: James Protin

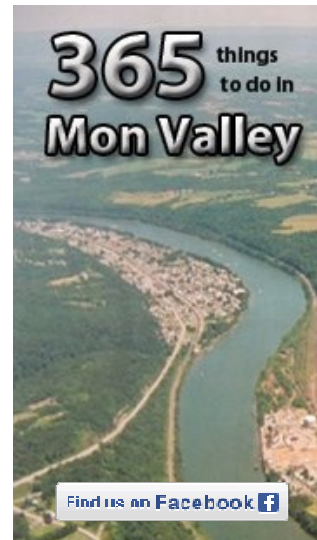
Chamber Staff:  
Executive Director: Debra Keefer  
Financial Assistant: Donna Angelo

We regret any errors or omissions  
in this newsletter

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

### Keller Williams Real Estate Professionals

Doug and Michelle Rollins  
460 Washington Road, Suite 2  
Washington, PA 15301  
724-222-5500  
www.monvalleyhomes.com  
Real Estate



Check out Michelle's Facebook Page  
"365 Things to Do in the Mon Valley"

### MEMBER REMINDER

*Payment of 2012 Dues makes your business eligible for the Chamber's Pot of Gold. Next Drawing to be held February 14 at the Chamber Luncheon at the Willow Room.*



Are you a business, individual or nonprofit  
that has not joined the Chamber  
of Commerce?

Call Deb Today at 724-483-3507!

*"Top 25 Largest Chambers  
in the Greater Pittsburgh Region"*



## January Member Spotlight **MONVALLEY EMS**



### DO YOU REALIZE WHAT EMS DOES.....A message from the Mon Valley EMS

Monessen Ambulance Service (dba) as **Mon Valley EMS** is a non-profit 501 C (4) organization that was founded in 1969 by a group of individuals that thought emergency services was very important for their community. Since then the service has grown and now provides 24-hour Paramedic service from 3 stations located in Monessen, Donora and Charleroi. Trained professionals provide emergency treatment to the residents of our designated service areas of: Monessen, Charleroi, Donora, N. Charleroi, Fallowfield Twp., Speers Boro, Twilight Boro, Dunlevy, Belle Vernon, N. Belle Vernon, Long Branch, Stockdale and Allenport. They operate 7 ambulances, 4 PUC licensed specialty coaches for wheel chair and stretcher bound people. The Strike Team which consists of 3 special rescue service units, one of them a military hummer and also Region 4 task force trailer and mass casualty trailer, which has been equipped in conjunction with the counties and Mon Valley Hospital.

Valley Health and Safety specializes in large companies and professional organization groups. Courses can be taught at your location or at the Donner Avenue location. Instructor classes in CPR, First Aid and AED are also available as needed. To register for a class or for information on already scheduled class call the training coordinator, **Lily Farquhar at 724.684.9536.**

Yearly Subscriptions generate a small fraction of revenue. Our subscription rates are Family \$65.00, Individual \$50.00, Senior Citizen Couple \$55.00 and Senior Citizen Individual \$40.00 after 10 years it was a must that we raise the rates. Questions? Please contact Lily at 724-684-9536.

## MEMBER BENEFITS

- ◆ ChamberChoice® Group Health & Energy Programs
- ◆ Monthly Networking Opportunities
- ◆ Professional Website & Facebook®
- ◆ Member Recognition Programs
- ◆ Leadership Washington County Scholarships
- ◆ Advertising Opportunities and Referrals
- ◆ Free Member to Member Discount Program
- ◆ Certificates of Origin Documentation for Exporters
- ◆ Free Meeting Space
- ◆ Free Notary Service (no title work)
- ◆ Monthly Tabloid/Newsletter "Regional Reporter"
- ◆ Educational Workshops by Nationally Known Speakers
- ◆ Named in "25 Largest Chambers in the Greater Pittsburgh Region" 9 Years Running!
- ◆ TEAM Charleroi Business & Community Alliance
- ◆ Full time staff to serve you . . . .
- ◆ Member: PA Chamber of Business & Industry  
U. S. Chamber of Commerce  
Pennsylvania Downtown Center

### MONVALLEY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

One Chamber Plaza, Charleroi, PA 15022 Phone: 724-483-3507 Fax 724-489-1045

Business Name\_\_\_\_\_

Category\_\_\_\_\_

Business Mailing Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact\_\_\_\_\_

Billing Contact\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_FAX\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL\_\_\_\_\_ (not to be published)

WEBSITE\_\_\_\_\_

\*Number of Employees: Full\_\_\_\_\_ Part\_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues:\_\_\_\_\_

(Call for quote if uncertain about investment level)

#### METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Check ☐ Bill Me ☐ Credit Card

**If paying by credit card please fill out the following:**

VISA\_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard\_\_\_\_\_ Discover\_\_\_\_\_

Name as Listed on Card\_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address with ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Associate Member:**

\$72.00 Individuals & Elected Officials

\$96.00 Non Profit Organization

#### **Banking and Financial Institutions:**

Call for quote

**Grocery Stores:** - \$350.00

#### **Industries and National Retailers:**

\*Base Rate Minimum: \$250.00

**Services:** \*Base Rate - \$187.00

**News Media:** - \*Base Rate \$400.00

**Retailers:** \*Base Rate - \$187.00

**Owner/Operator Shops:** \$132.00

**Utilities:** - \$450.00

\*All base rates include up to 5 employees.

\$1.25/employee/year will be added for 6 employees or more

Please mail or fax to the Chamber Office - Thank You for Becoming a Member!

## CHAMBER NEWS

### U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS “STATE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS” AT FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

The February luncheon will feature Ben Taylor, Great Lakes Regional Office for Congressional and Public Affairs of the United States Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 from 11:45AM to 1:00 PM at the Willow Room in Rostraver Township. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary and is the world's largest business federation representing 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.



Ben Taylor

The Charleroi Board of Trade organized in 1902 is one of the charter members of the national chamber. The Board of Trade eventually evolved into the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, and has maintained its membership with the US Chamber for all 100 years. It is one of the original 200 founding members, including the Reading and Philadelphia Chambers of Commerce.

“The Chamber is so pleased to be bringing a representative from the United States Chamber of Commerce to our region. We urge all businesses and community leaders to attend this luncheon to hear Ben speak about the State of American Business, what's going on (or isn't but should be) and the upcoming elections,” said Deb Keefer, Chamber Director. “This fits with our mission to present quality programs at our events and we want everyone to take advantage of this opportunity.” Because of the importance of the program, the Chamber is inviting all local businesses to attend, regardless of Chamber membership.

The Chamber's Pot of Gold is an accumulating jackpot that will be won by a member who is present if their name is drawn at the event. Attendees can make reservations at a cost of \$15.00/person and may register by calling the Mon Valley Regional Chamber office at 724-483-3507. *See insert for details.* The Chamber accepts VISA, Mastercard and Discover.

*About the Speaker. . .*

*Ben Taylor is the Executive Director of the U.S. Chamber's Great Lakes Regional Office. To achieve the U.S. Chamber's public policy goals, Ben cultivates and maintains legislative, political and grassroots resources throughout Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania.*

*Ben leads the U.S. Chamber's efforts to strengthen its relationships with Members of Congress through member businesses, associations, and local and state chambers of commerce across the region.*

*Before joining the U.S. Chamber in 2008, Ben previously served as a Legislative Assistant in Congressman David Hobson's (OH-7) Washington, D.C. office. He has also served in various positions in Ohio state government.*

*Ben graduated magna cum laude from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. He currently resides in Chicago.*

### OFFICE SPACES FOR RENT

A 2<sup>nd</sup> floor office suite is available in the historic Chamber of Commerce building located at One Chamber Plaza, in the heart of the business district of Charleroi. The space is approximately 600 square feet and would be perfect for a small business or non-profit agency. There is a shared restroom and conference area and all utilities are included. Adjacent free parking. Call 724-483-3507 for more details.



Also available: 209 Fifth Street  
2,268 Sq. Ft. Completely rebuilt 9 years ago. Restrooms & Entrance are handicap accessible. Perfect for small business or non-profit agency. Ready to move in. Call 724-483-3507 for details!





## MARCELLUS SHALE SMALL BUSINESS IMPACTS & EXPECTATIONS

**Wednesday, January 25, 2012**

**8:15 AM—10:00 AM**

Charleroi Borough Building  
Fallowfield Avenue & Fourth Street

An event sponsored by the **Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Borough of Charleroi and Greater Rostraver Chamber of Commerce** will be presented by the Small Business Administration on Wednesday, January 25th, 2012 from 8:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m. at the Charleroi Borough Building at Fallowfield Ave. and 4th Street, Charleroi.

A 30 minute panel discussion will be held including representatives who will give a brief overview of what resources are available to assist you.

Organizations to be represented include:

-Small Business Development Centers - SBA Lenders, Washington County Council on Economic Development, Diversity Business Resource Center, eMagnify Women's Business Center, Government Agency Coordination Office, PTAC (Pennsylvania 33 Technical Assistance Center) – government procurement assistance.

The next 30 minute segment will explain how your business or community can prepare to take advantage of this opportunity. SBA District Director Carl Knoblock will review the Williamsport, PA story and share his knowledge of Marcellus topic as it relates to business growth and development.

The remaining time left in the session will be an open discussion. Coffee, juice and pastries will be provided by the sponsoring organizations.

"We are very grateful to Regina Abel of the Small Business Administration and Donn Henderson of the Borough of Charleroi for initiating this very important workshop," said Deb Keefer, MVRCC Director. "It is vitally important for everyone to be aware of the impact and opportunity that this new industry is bringing to our region."

**RESERVATIONS NEEDED-SPACE IS LIMITED -**  
Email [donn@charleroiборо.org](mailto:donn@charleroiборо.org) or call 724-483-6011

## WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MARCH 13 LUNCHEON

The Washington County Commissioners will be featured at the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce luncheon to be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at the **Charleroi Elks Club** from 11:45am to 1:00pm.

Commissioners **Diana Irey, Larry Maggi**, and newly elected **Harlan Shober** will be updating attendees on the state of the County and projects slated for 2012 and beyond. A panel discussion facilitated by **Washington County Chamber President Jeff Kotula** is planned.

Attendees can make reservations at a cost of \$15.00/person and may register by calling the Mon Valley Regional Chamber office at 724-483-3507. The Chamber accepts VISA, Mastercard and Discover.

## GOLF COMMITTEE LUNCH MEETING

There is never a better time to talk about golf than when the snow is flying. If you would like to be a part of the 2012

**Melvin B. Bassi**

**Memorial Golf**

**Tournament** plan to be at the first meeting set for Monday, January 23, 2012 at 12:00 noon at the Chamber building.

The tentative date set for the outing is June 7. Pizza

and beverages will be available. If pizza is not desired, attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch.

Please let Deb or Donna know if you wish to serve on the committee by calling 724-483-3507 or [info@mvrchamber.org](mailto:info@mvrchamber.org).

**Committee Members to date: Milt Kubik, Chairman, Josie Pelzer, Jeff Mendola, and Denise Mornak.**



Member to Member Discount Offer

**Prima Diva Boutique**

515 McKean Avenue, Charleroi ~ 724-565-5586

**Take \$10.00 off a purchase of \$50.00 or more!**


**Offer excludes linen rentals.**

See all the Member to Member Discounts at  
[www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)

## MEMBER NEWS

### SILVER SNEAKERS AT MON VALLEY YMCA

The Mon Valley YMCA will be hosting an Open House on Tuesday, January 31 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for all SilverSneakers® eligible members. The SilverSneakers® Fitness Program is the nation's leading exercise program designed exclusively for older adults. The program offers physical activity, health education, and social events for Medicare' eligible and Group Retiree members, usually those age 65 or older, but, in some cases, those of any age deemed disabled and receiving Medicare. Members receive a fitness center membership at no cost and access to our signature SilverSneakers' and Mon Valley YMCA balanced body exercise classes. Tours and raffles will be available. For more information, please call 724-483-8077 or stop in to see if you qualify today!



Employee Benefits solutions,  
products and  
services.

**For more information,  
contact us today!**

1-800-377-3539  
www.chamberchoice.com  
chamberchoice@jrgadvisors.net

**Map of  
Charleroi,  
Donora,  
Belle Vernon,  
Monongahela,  
Monessen &  
Rostraver  
Township,  
Pennsylvania**

*Happy to help you  
find your way around!*

**MON VALLEY REGIONAL  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

One Chamber Plaza  
Charleroi, Pennsylvania 15022  
724-483-3507

[www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)

Find us on Facebook

"25 Largest Chambers in the Pittsburgh Region"



The Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce has been serving the business community in the Mid Mon Valley since 1921. It is the largest (300 members) business organization in the region, and its full time staff delivers high quality networking and educational opportunities to its members. The Chamber office is open Monday-Friday, conveniently located in downtown Charleroi.

**The MVRCC is proud to sponsor the  
2012 Mid Mon Valley Map now available at the  
Chamber office. Members receive a free copy,  
additional copies are only \$1.00/each.**

### CULTIVATE A MENTAL ATTITUDE THAT WILL BRING YOU PEACE & HAPPINESS

- \* Fill your mind with thoughts of peace, courage, health and hope.
- \* Never try to get even with your enemies.
- \* Expect ingratitude.
- \* Count your blessings—not your troubles
- \* Do not imitate others.
- \* Try to profit from your losses.
- \* Create happiness for others.

~ From Dale Carnegie's Golden Book

## Attention Chamber Members: GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT!

### SPONSOR THE REGIONAL REPORTER

**\$65 Insert Sponsor - (\$45 Non Profit Rate)**

You provide 400 inserts

(8-1/2" x 11" flyers printed on a 20 lb. stock are preferred.)

**CALL 724-483-3507 TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE!**

### E-MAIL BLASTS

1 Free Blast/Member/Year—Additional \$25 each

(Limit 3/Member/Year)

Find us on Facebook

Post your news on the Chamber FACEBOOK page!

### EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Something for everyone's budget! See all of the opportunities at [www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER/TABLOID

Submit your news (anniversaries, achievements, etc.) to  
**[info@mvrchamber.org](mailto:info@mvrchamber.org)**

Deadline for Editorial/Advertising for February Tabloid:  
Wednesday, February 1. Tabloid—Publication date:  
Thursday, February 9, 2012.

### AFFORDABLE ADS ARE A PHONE CALL AWAY!

Advertise in the **Mon Valley Messenger**—Contact Judi Robbins, Ad Manager at 412-708-7328 or  
[robbins.judi@gmail.com](mailto:robbins.judi@gmail.com)

Advertise in the monthly Chamber Supplement to the **Valley Independent**—Contact your Ad Rep or Karen Strickland at 724-684-2609.

## MEMBER NEWS



Photo by Wayne Ray

Neil D Bassi, President and CEO of **Charleroi Federal Savings Bank** presented a donation check to the **John K Tener Library** in Charleroi . Accepting the check on behalf of the library is Librarian Toni Zbyl. Quoting Mr. Bassi: "This donation was made from Charleroi Federal Savings Bank to the library to assure the library doors remain open and the library continues to be the pillar to the community that it is".

**Save money on your electricity bill!**

**For more information, contact ChamberChoice at 1-866-699-9968.**

**ChamberChoice** **OnDemand**  
ENERGY SOLUTIONS

## DOUGLAS EDUCATION PRESENTS "THE SECOND CHANCE"

Douglas Education Center invites everyone to attend a community screening of *The Second Chance*! *The Second Chance* is a drama created by students from The Factory Digital Filmmaking Program at Douglas Education Center. *The Second Chance* features Monessen, Charleroi, and Donora like you've never seen before! It's definitely a great community piece. The screening is free and open to the public. It is on Tuesday, January 17. Because seating is limited, the screening times have been extended to include 4:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested in attending should RSVP to Kate Kellar at [kkellar@dec.edu](mailto:kkellar@dec.edu) or (724) 653-2221.

Check out the trailer at <http://youtu.be/cviacpcn-Mk>

## THE SECOND CHANCE

A Drama Created By Students From

The Factory Digital Filmmaking Program at Douglas Education Center

*Featuring Monessen, Charleroi and Donora like you've never seen before!*



Screening Information:

**FREE And Open To Public**

Tuesday, January 17

4:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

**The Factory Theater**

531 Schoonmaker Avenue

Monessen, PA 15062

Seating is Limited.

**Please RSVP to Kate Kellar at [kkellar@dec.edu](mailto:kkellar@dec.edu) or (724) 653-2221**





"Serving the Business Community Since 1921"

**REGIONAL REPORTER**

One Chamber Plaza

Charleroi, PA 15022

724-483-3507

info@mvrchamber.org

*Return Service Requested*

Find us on Facebook 



PRSTD STD  
U.S.  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
Monessen, PA  
Permit  
No. 17

## Mark Your Calendar For These Upcoming Events!

**Wednesday, January 11** – Chamber "BASH," Salatino's RiverHouse Café, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM

**Wednesday, January 18** – Chamber Board Meeting, SPHS Board Room, 8:00 AM

**Wednesday, January 25** – Marcellus Shale; Small Business Impacts & Expectations, presented by the Small Business Administration, Charleroi Borough Building, 8:15 AM -10:00 AM

**Tuesday, February 14** – Chamber Luncheon, Ben Taylor, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, The Willow Room, 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

**Wednesday, February 15** – Chamber Board Meeting, SPHS Conference Room B, 8:00 AM

**Tuesday, March 13** – Chamber Luncheon, Panel Discussion w/ Washington County Commissioners, Charleroi Elks Club, 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

**Wednesday, March 21** – Chamber Board Meeting, SPHS Board Room, 8:00 AM

### **Winter Weather Cancellation Policy**

If inclement weather causes a 2 hour delay or cancellation in the Charleroi Area School District, please consider the Chamber and/or TEAM Charleroi 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](http://www.thepittsburghchannel.com).

For Chamber and/or TEAM Charleroi luncheon meetings or afternoon events please call the Chamber office at 724-483-3507.

*Watch the mail, e-mail, FACEbook and website for more information on all upcoming events!*

[www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)