

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
from the
Mon Valley Regional
Chamber
Board of Directors
and Staff*



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Thank You!



Thank you, Mark Alterici
for your 22 years of service to
Charleroi Borough Council.



Member Spotlights *Inside this issue*

- November -
**NORTHWEST
SAVINGS BANK**

- December -
**ROTOLO DODGE-
CHRYSLER-JEEP-
RAM**

See stories and photos on page 3.



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.org

President: Armand Ferrara
V. President: Atty. Rick Mudrick
Secretary: David Galloni
Treasurer: Milton Kubik
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 MEMBERS*

Biagini Chiropractic

Dr. Marc Biagini, DC
333 Fallowfield Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
724-483-4909
Chiropractor

Crystalline Technology, LLC

Ron Mozer
11 Eastgate Avenue
PO Box 307
Monessen, PA 15062
724-653-6659
www.crystalline.us
*Telecommunications – Gas and Oil
Satellite Telemetry*

Gardner Denver Nash

Vince Trupiano
PO Box 130
Bentleyville, PA 15314
724-239-1500
www.GDNash.com
Manufacturer

R. Ted Harhai, PA State Representative

1200 Maronda Way, Ste. 401
Monessen, PA 15062
724-684-2939
Associate Member

Edward Mendola, CPA

Alyssa Mendola
100 Beacon Street
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
724-929-7520
Accountant

Mon Valley Ambit Energy Group

Jan Langland
724-777-7004
www.youenergy lady.joinambit.com
Mary Dury
www.marysavesyou.energy526.com
Dan Codeluppi
www.dansenergysaver.energy526.com
Electric Generation Supplier

Port Royal Village

Erika Rotolo
485 Patterson Lane
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
724-929-4224
www.umh.com
Housing

Ronald Taylor

414 Fallowfield Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
Associate Member

*These new members only reflect dues received as of December 11, 2013.

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
and more information*



Let us develop a comprehensive plan to protect your business, your family, and your bottom line. Our extensive portfolio includes:

- Individual and Group Health Insurance
- Medicare Products
- Dental and Vision Insurance
- HR Solutions
- Business Insurance with Dividend Potential
- Energy Savings Program
- Voluntary Benefits and Personal Insurance

Learn more about our NEW defined contribution benefits programs, featuring leading insurance companies and plans! Reduce costs, create budget certainty, and offer employees choice among multiple plans.

For more information, visit
www.chamberchoice.com
or call 1-800-377-3539.

ChamberChoice



November Member Spotlight NORTHWEST SAVINGS BANK



The November Member Spotlight shines on the Fredericktown Branch of **Northwest Savings Bank**.

Northwest Savings Bank is the place where people make the difference. "People" means the bank's staff and their customers and everyone in the community they share.

As full service financial institution, Northwest can—and wants to—serve all your personal and business banking and financial planning and investment needs. As the place where people make the difference, Angie Stay along with Natalie, Kelly, Donna, Judy, Bonnie, Jamie, Nanette, Jodi and Christy and Business Partners Lynn Young, Bob Wicker and Drew Ecklund will do it in a way that will make you understand the meaning of community banking and personal service.

Please, let us be your bank. Contact the office located at 520 Front Street in Fredericktown at 724-377-2233. Find more information at www.northwestsavingsbank.com

Seen here from the Fredericktown Branch is (left to right): Christy Melvin, Teller; Judy Morgan, Teller; Natalie Miller, Personal Banker; Angela Stay, Office Manager; Bonnie Hagyard, Teller and Chris Clasp, Vice President and NWSB Washington County Area Manager.



December Member Spotlight ROTOLO DODGE-CHRYSLER-JEEP-RAM



Rotolo's Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram has been highlighted in the Member Spotlight for December.

Rotolo's Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram is an established family owned dealership located in Charleroi, PA that maintains a well stocked supply of both new and preowned vehicles. Rotolo's is lead by Josie Pelzer, dealer principal and daughter of the late Leroy Rotolo, who founded the business in 1979. The sales representatives have the experience to find the perfect vehicle match for you, and the finance staff will provide competitive payment options. The entire buying experience will be straight forward with a "no hassle" approach. Stop and see them Monday through Saturday at 58 Route 88, North Charleroi or call them at 724-489-9571. Of course you can log on any time to www.rotolomotors.com and like them on their Facebook page!

Seen here is Josie Pelzer, Dealer Principal and Matt Six, General Sales Manager.

SCENES FROM THE CHAMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

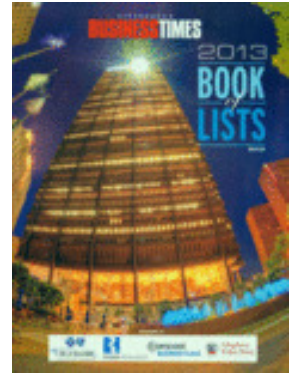
The Chamber's Annual Christmas Party was held on Wednesday, December 4th at **Anthony's on the Mon.** Members enjoyed networking, refreshments and entertainment by DJ Jerry Jericho. Poinsettias were donated in part by **Lowe's Home Improvement** as door prizes.

Thank you to our event sponsors: **Bassi, Vreeland & Associates, PC, Chester Engineers, Monongahela Valley Hospital, PA Free Enterprise Week and Valley Tire Company.**



2013 YEAR IN REVIEW

- Named in “25 Largest Chambers in Greater Pittsburgh Region” listing by the Pittsburgh Business Times for the 12th year in a row.
- Recognized 12 Chamber Members in the monthly Member Spotlight.
- Performed several ribbon cuttings for new area businesses and Grand Openings.
- Welcomed 16 new members during the 1st Quarter Membership Blitz and Wrap Up event at Salatino’s River House Café in March and 32 additional members throughout the year.
- Held the 2013 Awards Event at Monongahela Valley Hospital, hosting 100+ attendees and honoring World Kitchen, LLC, Shamrock Chemical/McGinley Maintenance, Community Action Southwest and William “Bill” Lee.
- Held Annual Christmas Party at Anthony’s on the Mon – December 4, 2013.
- Partnered with Washington County Chamber of Commerce for the “First Swing” Breakfast Networking Event in April at the Nemacolin Country Club.
- Hosted several luncheons featuring quality programs, including: Washington County District Attorney Gene Vittone, PA Department of Revenue Secretary Dan Meuser, Panel Discussion on the Affordable Care Act, Economies of Marcellus Shale and Its Supply Chain and the Social Media Revolution.
- Held the 6th Annual Melvin B. Bassi Memorial Golf Tournament with proceeds funding two Leadership scholarships, and a \$3,500 donation to the Challenge Program. In addition donations were made to many regional educational programs, including Junior Achievement, Newspapers in Education, the Academic League, and Chamber business development workshops.
- Produced a 2013-2014 Member Directory and Resource Guide. 1,000 copies were distributed to Chamber members and placed in high traffic areas throughout the membership area.
- Held 8th Annual Beach Bash at Allenport Marina in July.
- Won the 2nd Annual Chamber Challenge Softball Game against Greater Rostraver Chamber in July, 22-14.
- Published 10 in house member newsletters (“The Regional Reporter”) in addition to 12 supplements to the Valley Independent and Mon Valley Messenger.
- Held 5th Annual “Easy Being Green” day in August in partnership with Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Included with electronics collections were collections of used clothing for Goodwill, books for JK Tener Library, and 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. The Chamber office continues to recycle materials and operate in the most environmentally friendly manner.
- Supported TEAM Charleroi Business and Greater Charleroi CDC. Actively assisted in the economic restructuring of the downtown Charleroi Business District and community events.
- Supported “MVH/Lois Orange Ducoeur Breast Cancer Walk” by transitioning organization to Monongahela Valley Hospital.
- Supported “Small Business Saturday” event held in conjunction with Downtown Charleroi’s “Fa-La-La Friday” event.
- Administered Local Share Account grants totaling \$22,000.00 in façade improvements in the central Charleroi business district.
- Conveyed 2.25 acre parcel of Chamber Plaza property to 100 Chamber Plaza Inc. in September for light manufacturing business, Quality Pasta Company.
- In addition to the above, the Chamber organization continues to manage and maintain Chamber properties, including the Chamber Plaza parking lot that is available for patrons and employees of the Charleroi business district at no charge.





Welcome New Business to Charleroi
BIAGINI CHIROPRACTIC and WAGNER'S BITS & PIECES



A ribbon cutting was held on November 21st for **Biagini Chiropractic**. Pictured here (l to r): Attorney Richard Mudrick, MVRCC Vice President; Dr. Marc Biagini, Owner; John Mollenauer, Charleroi Mayor-elect and Donn Henderson, Charleroi Borough Manager. The office is located at 333 Fallowfield Avenue in Charleroi and can be reached at 724-483-4909.



Wagner's Bits & Pieces is now open in Charleroi. Pictured above at the November 27th ribbon cutting is (l to r): Deb Keefer, MVRCC director; Daneen Troup, TEAM Charleroi & Prima Diva Boutique; J.R. Wagner, husband of the owner; Deni Wagner, daughter; Mark Alterici, Borough Council President; Karen Wagner, owner; Charlee Wagner, daughter and John Mollenauer, Charleroi Mayor-elect. The shop is located at 527 McKean Avenue and specializes in unique crafts (many locally made) and gift ideas. Visit Bits and Pieces Facebook page or call Karen at 724-565-5749 for store hours and vendor information.

SCENES FROM FA-LA-LA FRIDAY AND SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY IN CHARLEROI



The MVRCC helped promote Small Business Saturday sales events on November 30th and encouraged holiday shoppers to "Think Big and Shop Small" not only during the holidays but throughout the year.

MEMBER NEWS

CHARLEROI FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UNDERWAY

The Charleroi Design Committee, operating in conjunction with the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, has been busy administering the Charleroi Façade Improvement Project II to assist business and property owners in Charleroi's central business district by matching their dollars spent in updating and enhancing their building façades.

Funding for the program was secured through the Washington County Local Share Account earlier this year.

This will represent the second award of funding for the MVRCC. The first awards were issued in 2011 where the chamber distributed \$46,000 for 2011 and 2012, representing approximately \$120,000 in property improvements within the community.

The current award is for \$60,000 and half of that has been committed to projects for the current year. Participants who have completed or have had their projects approved include the **Charleroi Volunteer Fire Department, Salatino's River House Café, Attorney Richard Mudrick, Armando's Pizza, Zelenski's Bridal and Gown, Southwestern PA Human Services and Ron and Cindy Taylor**. The property owners must submit an application to the Committee for approval, complete their project, and pay their contractors in full before there are reimbursed a 1:1 match for their investment, or 50% of the project cost, up to \$5,000.

"We consider this program a "win win," said Deb Keefer, Chamber director. "The grants that the property owners receive give them the incentive to keep up the appearance of their building. It adds to ambiance of the historic downtown streetscape. Landlords increase the value of their property. Business owners are provided with a more attractive storefront and local contractors do the work."

The Chamber follows the Main Street module for downtown façade grant guidelines. The Chairman of the Design Committee is John Mollenauer, Charleroi Mayor-elect, Debbie Buck, Charleroi Council and owner of Audrey's Draperies, Michele Mackay, Charleroi Code Enforcement Officer, Jim Williams, Mon Valley Office, Tony Valkanas, community volunteer, Architect Bob Buscanics, Gary Riley, Mon Valley Signs, and Bob Rossi, musician.

Guidelines and applications are available at the Chamber office for pick up or e-mail. Please call 724-483-3507 or e-mail debbiek@mvrchamber.org.



Armando's Pizza was one of the participating businesses in the Charleroi Façade Improvement Program receiving \$4,842.50. Seen here at the check presentation is (l to r): Justin Forlini, owner Armando's Pizza; Debbie Buck and John Mollenauer, Charleroi Design Committee members.

*** MEMBER REMINDER ***

Please review **ALL** information on the enclosed data sheet and notify the Chamber office of any changes or corrections by February 28, 2014 to ensure accurate listing in the 2014-2015 Directory.

Attention Chamber Members: GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT!

Submit your news (anniversaries, achievements, etc.) to
members@mvrchamber.org



"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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Permit No. 17
MONESSEN, PA

Mark Your Calendar For These Upcoming Events!*

Wednesday, December 25—*Merry Christmas!* Chamber office closed.

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

Wednesday, January 15 — Chamber Board Meeting, Chamber Building, 8:00 AM.

Tuesday, January 28—Chamber BASH (Business After Scheduled Hours), Salatino's River House Café, 5:00 PM—7:00 PM.

Tuesday, February 14—Chamber Luncheon, TBD.

Wednesday, February 19 — Chamber Board Meeting, Chamber Building, 8:00 AM.

Thursday, February 20—SAVE THE DATE—1st Annual Hoodie Hoo Day, Downtown Charleroi, 12:00 Noon. *More information coming soon!*

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

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!*