



Building Successful Communities

May 2015

Upcoming Events & Programs:

May 21, Business After Hours, The Supply Closet. Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce invites you to a Business After Hours hosted by The Supply Closet to be held at 301 Main Street, New Martinsville, WV. Stop in at 4 PM to join in the fun and games, Business After Hours at 5:30 PM and drawings at 7 PM. Free admission. RSVP to 304-455-3825 or email: chamber@wetzelcountychamber.com.

June 9, 2015 at 11:30 AM - Ribbon Cutting at Doolin Security Savings Bank. Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce invites you to a ribbon cutting at Doolin Security Savings Bank located at 610 N. State Rt. 2, New Martinsville WV. A new electronic sign is being installed. Join us and bring your business cards for networking.

June 18, 2015 at 5:30 PM - Business After Hours – Wetzel County CVB. More information soon.
More Business After Hours events are scheduled for each month please watch the website and email notices for more information.

New Event! A Show of Hands event is being planned. This type of event allows individuals, businesses, or organizations to submit an application regarding a community project or idea to a committee. The committee will narrow the field down then contact those folks to have them present their project at a public gathering scheduled for August 18. Those in attendance get to vote for their favorite. More information will be coming soon!

Pictures of events can be found at:

www.wetzelcountychamber.com/about_the_chamber_morning_after.html

Life in the County and surrounding areas:

The Awards Dinner was a huge success! A lot of folks turned out to support all of the nominees of the eight categories: Business, Business Owner, Educator, Employee, Citizen/volunteer, Civic Organization, Professional, and Youth Leadership. The winners are: Business, Bruce Bowling Lanes; Business Owner, Brian Rogers; Educator, Kim Sobataka; Employee, Debbie Mason; Citizen/Volunteer, Betsy Westfall; Civic Organization, Open Door Ministries; Professional, Jamie Long; and Youth Leadership, Megan Pierce. Other awards: the Top Chef, Shooters Saloon & Catering and Chamber Board Member of the Year, Sandy Hunt. THANK YOU to our sponsors: EQT, Axiall, Grisell Funeral Homes, Wetzel County CVB, Williams, New Martinsville Church of God, Progressive Bank, New Martinsville Records Challenge & Regatta, WVNCC, J. C. Mensore Distributing, Air Evac LifeTeam, Riggerbach Tile & Carpet, S & S Diamonds & Fine Jewelry, and Wesbanco. THANK YOU to all the volunteers that helped put this event together and make it such a memorable event for the nominees, their co-workers, family, and friends. Table decorations were beautiful

and were provided by: Wetzel Co. Solid Waste Authority, Wetzel County EMS, The Tin Ceiling, Wetzel Valley Agencies, Deb's Gang of Hope, Bayer Heritage Federal Credit Union, CAM Safety, Statoil, Peoples Bank, Community Resources, Inc., Colonial life, Doolin Security Savings Bank, Flower Basket and Gift Shop, Park Car Wash & Laundromat, Grisell Funeral Home, River Valley Cabinet Works, WVNCC, Mountain Maids, New Martinsville Lions Club, and Prodigy Wellness Center. People's Choice winners for table decorations were: 1st Wetzel Valley Agencies, 2nd New Martinsville Lions Club, 3rd Bayer Heritage Federal Credit Union. Congratulations to all the winners!



DID YOU GET RAMPED UP? The Shortline Ramp Fest held on April 18 was a great event! Hopefully you joined us at the Robert C. Byrd Center in Pine Grove. The weather was beautiful, lots of friendly folks and great food! There was live bluegrass music on stage all day. Ramp logo contest winner was Logan Byard of Valley High School. Cookoff winners were: Business: Shooters Saloon & Catering; Individual: Rick Coen. The 5 K run/ walk was a success. There were 30 participants, not bad for the first year! The winners of the 5K run were: 1st Jerry Evatt, 2nd Kasey Streets, 3rd Levuan West. *(pictured at right)*



Ramp eating contest winner: Freddy Munday. 33 ramps in one minute!



Winners of 5K walkers were: 1st Kaitlyn Underwood, 2nd Meghan Brown, 3rd Carson Yoho.

THANK YOU to our sponsors: Wetzel County CVB, Dominion Gas, Shooters Saloon & Catering, American Legion Riders Chapter 28, The Hair Loft Beauty Salon, Jacksonburg Pitstop, Riggerbach Tile & Carpet, Bayer Heritage Federal Credit Union, Park Car Wash & Laundromat, Kennebec Ridge Farm, WesBanco, Rick Barr, Quota Club, Gump's Septic & Portable Restrooms, Norris Pharmacy, Lumberjack Station, The Short Line Station, Mason's Depot & Filling Station, Town of Pine Grove, Palmer Funeral Home, and Shortline Home Improvement. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the committee, crafters, vendors, food vendors and all those that attended and made this event a success! Hope to see you next year!!

Many of you may not have known that the volunteers that helped make the 5 K possible this year have been participating in their own special competition.

Article provided by Mr. Leslie Lively of Short Line School:

The Short Line School 4th grade participated in the NEED Project this year. The National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project helps kids learn about energy via hands on activities. The 4th graders at Short Line School started the year learning about the 10 energy sources. As the year progressed they started putting that knowledge to work by teaching others. The main objective of NEED is "Kids Teaching Kids" so our Engineer Energy Kids decided to start coming up with ideas that would allow us to teach other students and eventually adults as well.

Some of the things that we did this year were WANTED posters with energy facts, letters to energy companies, facts on our school sign and we even made messages that were put on our all call message system for everyone in our community to hear. Students had the opportunity to write energy PSA's for the three local radio stations where over 120,000 listeners can hear them daily. Local restaurants were presented with booklets about energy to place on their tables for guests to read and learn about energy as well.

Our big project of the year was to present an Energy Carnival to our school and community. The students were divided into groups and had to complete research on an energy source. They then had to write their own lesson plan about that source so that they could teach others. Each group completed their plans and had to have them approved prior to teaching the other groups. They then had to make up a game to go along with the lesson. The groups then practiced in front of their peers prior to our energy carnival and were given a grade.

The next step was to present it to our school. On March 23rd, the Engineer Energy Kids presented their energy lessons and games to the school. Later that night they opened the carnival to the community and had a great showing of people.

They then completed a 15 slide power point presentation that was entered into the NEED Youth Awards Competition on April 15th. They are entered into the Elementary Level division and will compete at the state level. The winner of the state level will then go onto the national level competition. They are awaiting the results of the competition.

Each state winner will have the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to be presented their award at the NEED Youth Awards in June. You can visit www.need.org to learn more about energy and energy conservation. There are many energy saving tips on the site as well.

Member Spotlight

Newest Chamber member is Your Second Hand Stores located at intersection of Route 18 and Route 180. Whether you want a day of shopping or need to rent storage units or uhauls this is the location to visit. Jim and Beverly Underwood own and operate Your Second Hand Store. Mailing address: 185 Temple Circle, Sistersville, WV 26175. Phone: 304-758-4001.

Other new members include: Bon Bon's Café owned and operated by Bonnie Cinar. Bon Bon's Café is located at 242 S. Wells Street, Sistersville, WV 26175. She offers not only great food and sweets but also has rooms for rent upstairs. Phone: 304-652-4344.

Kings Corner owned and operated by Jim and Mary King is located at 717 Main Street, Sistersville, WV 26175. This store is a must to visit in beautiful downtown Sistersville. They carry furniture, mattresses, King's Blingz glass jewelry, and much more. Phone: 304-652-4030.

Open Door Ministries located at 400 Main Street, New Martinsville, WV. This ministry is a non profit organization that now feeds over 700 people every Tuesday between 1 PM and 5 PM. Mailing Address: PO BOX 125, New Martinsville, WV 26155.

Delegate David Pethtel is a new individual member. The Chamber would like to welcome all new members!

Hope to see everyone at the upcoming events and activities throughout the year!

If you visit www.wetzelcountychamber.com you will see our featured member is Wayside Furniture. Our featured member gets chosen randomly and placed on the Member Directory pages as “Featured Member” for at least a month. If you would like to be the next send in a picture of the front of your business or if you do not have a store front send in a logo. Thank you in advance.

Active in Community

You want to be more active in your community? Check into membership with the Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce. Did you know you can be a member if you are an individual, business, civic organization, oil and gas industry, etc. Become a member and become involved in the events and activities that are creating talk around town and help stimulate the economy by bringing fresh ideas and programs to the area. Call 304-455-3825 to request more information.

Looking for a way to support your local businesses, read about the Chamber Community Cash Program: Local businesses are getting involved in a new program the Chamber is offering: Chamber Community Cash. This program is designed to help stimulate local shopping with area businesses. Anyone can purchase a Chamber Community Cash certificate at the Chamber office for \$25. Participating businesses will be listed on the back of certificate. Certificate can be used same as cash at any of the participating business locations. Businesses will submit the certificates to chamber for reimbursement less 5%. The Chamber will retain 5% which will be used toward the Pay It Forward Grant Opportunity.

This is a great opportunity for all of our local businesses; these certificates can be given as gifts and can be used at any participating business. Certificate must be used in its entirety at one location. Businesses do not have to be a Chamber Member to participate (but if interested in membership please call the Chamber office).

Our goal is to have these gift certificates available by July 1st! If you would like to be considered one of the participating businesses, call the Chamber office at 304- 455-3825 or email Sharon at chamber@wetzelcountychamber.com. Thank you for your consideration of this program. Citizens working together for better communities!

Want to know what the Pay It Forward Grant Opportunity is all about?

The Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce wanted to “Pay It Forward” with a new program! The Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce Pay It Forward Program was designed to support projects that benefit Wetzel, Tyler, and Monroe Counties. This program contributes in a small way to the betterment of local communities and is one way the Chamber can thank all of its supporters.

It was open to projects in all organizations in Wetzel, Tyler, and Monroe counties that would positively impact a community. The 2014 grant award amount was \$500. Santa Boot Drive for Tyler County was chosen as the winning project. This project was submitted by Community Resources, Inc. Tyler County. The applications were considered in a “blind” selection through committee. No names or project applicant information was provided to committee until after a selection was made.

The Chambers mission is: “The Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce exists to create value for communities by increasing understanding, appreciation and promotion of the assets and opportunities in

Wetzel County and surrounding areas.”

Steppin' Out

The Chamber Ambassadors have been traveling to Sistersville and Middlebourne the last couple of months. The Ambassadors visit existing, potential, and new members. The visits give members an opportunity to talk with peers and chamber staff about any issue, concern, accomplishment or upcoming event. It also helps educate the ambassadors on the services offered by our members. The ambassadors take one afternoon a month to visit the surrounding areas. The month of June will find us in the Shortline area of Wetzel County. If you are interested in becoming an ambassador or if you are a member and would like the ambassadors to schedule a visit, please call 304-455-3825.

Doing Business Today

Tip: Sometimes as consumers, as well as business owners, we have questions concerning pricing in our area. If you do have questions or concerns, consider contacting the following people.

WV Attorney General

CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
812 Quarrier Street, 1st Floor
Charleston, WV 26301-2617

Public Service Commission

CONSUMER ADVOCATE DIVISION
Union Bldg., 7th Floor 723 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25301-2703



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Meetings

Economic Growth Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Chamber Conference Room. Any member or non-member interested in participating on this committee may do so.

Membership / Community Committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 8:30 AM in the Chamber Conference Room. Any member or non-member interested in participating on this committee may do so.

Events & Special Programs Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 8:00 AM in the Chamber Conference Room. Any member or non-member interested in participating on this committee may do so.

Executive Committee meets the first Wednesday and the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 AM in the Chamber Conference Room. Any member or non-member who wishes to address the Committee must be placed on the agenda ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets the last Wednesday of each month at 8:00 AM at West Virginia Northern Community College in Room 110. This meeting is open to the public. Any member or non-member who wishes to address the Board must be placed on the agenda ten (10) days prior to the meeting. **May 27 Chamber Board meeting will be held at the Pine Grove Volunteer Fire Department at 8 AM.**

Oil and Gas News

IMPORTANT Note:

This information is for educational purposes only. No part of this information is to be considered legal advice. Please consult with your attorney before signing any legal document.

Where trade and/or company names appear, no discrimination is intended, and no endorsement by Wetzel County Chamber of Commerce is implied.

Check out: Shale Play. www.shaleplayohiovalley.com This publication contains some interesting regional news.

Ohio Valley Connector Project Update: *(information provided by letter)*

Equitrans, LP a wholly owned subsidiary of EQT Midstream Partners, LP have filed an amendment with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission FERC to modify the originally filed route. As part of the amended application, Equitrans has eliminated an approximate 14 mile loop of a portion of its mainline system (the H-313 pipeline) which had originally been included as part of the project designed to run south to west from Marion County to Wetzel County, WV. Both compressor stations remain in the proposed project with a combined horsepower of 36,000. Equitrans proposes to commence construction of the facilities in the middle of 2015 with service commencing by June 2016. If you wish to view a copy of the application Equitrans filed with the FERC, Equitrans has placed a copy of its application at the following locations:

Marion County: Mannington Public Library, 109 Clarksburg St., Mannington WV 26582

Marshall County: Moundsville – Marshall County Public Library, 700 5th St., Moundsville, WV 26041

Wetzel County: Pine Grove Library, P O Box 416, Main Street, Pine Grove, WV 26419

Monroe County: Monroe County Public Library, 96 Home Avenue, Woodsfield, OH 43793