



NEWSLETTER – September 30, 2010

MEETING REMINDER

The general meeting of the Chamber is held on the first Tuesday of the month. **The next meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, October 5th** at the Route 6 Diner. If you haven't attended a Chamber meeting in a while, join us for dinner or a snack so we can get reacquainted.

NEW DATABASE OF GRANT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

A database of federal, state, regional and local grant programs available for community-type projects in the Pennsylvania Wilds region is now available on the PA Wilds Resource Center web site.

The new database is designed to be a resource for communities or groups that may not have the funds to hire a full-time person to research and apply for grants for tourism-related community projects such as trails, festivals, signage and the like. Sam MacDonald, the new community outreach specialist for the PA Wilds, compiled the grant database. Included are grant writing tips and information on technical assistance workshops for those new to the grant process.

To access the database, go to www.pawildsresources.org. Click on "Community Assistance" and then on "Funding." For-profit businesses are not eligible for most grants in the database. The Resource Center has a separate database of programs for businesses. To find that that database, click on "Business Assistance" and then on "Programs Database."

ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE

The Borough has received state regulatory approval to raise electric rates, which will show up on November bills. The overall increase amounts to 16.1 percent, which will raise an additional \$239,000.

Water/Sewer Authority has raised water rates to \$38 for the first 5000 gallons and \$5.70 per 1000 after 5000. The new rates will show up on December bills.

MANSION DISTRICT TOUR OF HOMES POSTS ANOTHER SUCCESS

On Saturday, October 2nd, the Smethport Garden Club sponsored its bi-annual Tour of Homes. Seven historical homes on Main Street, The Country Porch Café, and St. Luke's Episcopal Church attracted almost 200 visitors to Smethport. Some came from as far away as Toronto, Buffalo, Jamestown, and State College to enjoy the autumn foliage and some Victorian history. A woman from Toronto remarked that some of the homes looked like "Hollywood movie sets".

ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR WINTER EVENTS

The Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau is reminding members and partners that the deadline for submitting winter (Dec-Jan-Feb) event information for the Where & When Magazine and other publications is Wednesday, October 6.

Remember to include:

- Name of Event
- Description
- Location:
- Town
- Phone number
- Website.

This is FREE publicity for your event – all you need to do is send Linda Devlin your info: devlin@visitANF.com

MULTI-CHAMBER EVENT AT FLICKERWOOD

The Smethport Area Chamber of Commerce, Warren County Chamber of Business and Industry, the Kane Chamber of Commerce, and the Bradford Area Chamber of Commerce held a joint "Business After Hours" event at Flickerwood Wine Cellars last week.

With over 70 people attending, the wine tasting event was a great venue for networking. The Chambers are considering making this an annual event.

Special thanks to Judy Wright at Northwest Savings Bank, Ross and Jovanna Porter of Mansion District Inn Suites, Smethport Garden Club, and Patch Products for contributing items to the gift basket that was raffled off during the festivities.

LEADERSHIP MCKEAN STARTS NEW SESSION

This Friday, October 8, begins the 2010-2011 Leadership McKean Class. Among the 19 program participants are two Smethport residents: Christy Andrulonis of Colonial Radio Group and Melanie Clabaugh of the Kane Area Development Center.

Aimed at educating and guiding emerging leaders from throughout McKean County, this non-profit program is a cooperative effort of the Bradford Area Chamber of Commerce, Kane Chamber of Commerce and the University of Pittsburgh Bradford.

The program is patterned after other successful programs across the nation. Graduates will be informed and involved leaders who will develop a comprehensive awareness of local issues.

The 12-member steering committee of Leadership McKean includes three Smethport residents: Jeff Andrulonis of *Colonial Radio Group*, Nathan Muller of *Ascent Solutions Group*, and Lee Sizemore of *The Guidance Center*.

SCORE WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

SCORE provides small business mentoring and workshops each year to more than 375,000 new and growing small businesses. More than 12,400 business experts volunteer as mentors in 364 chapters serving local communities with entrepreneur. They also offer free online workshops on all aspects of starting and growing your business. Check out SCORE's current [workshop topics](#).

CAREER VIDEOS NOW AVAILABLE

The Smethport Chamber is offering free DVDs to local residents interested in pursuing careers in Oil & Gas, Forestry, and Healthcare. If you or someone you know is interested in obtaining one of these DVDs to learn more about job requirements in these fields, please contact Nathan Muller at njmuller@comcast.net.

MEMBERSHIP 2010-2011

As of September 30th, the following individuals, businesses and other organizations have joined the Chamber or renewed their membership for 2010-2011:

- ADP Rental
- Ascent Solutions
- Barbara Ness
- Barbara K. Bowman
- Bill Lake Real Estate
- Buchanan Brothers Pharmacy, Inc.
- Chef Specialties – Backus Company
- Colonial Radio Group
- Connie's Route 6 Diner
- Corner Bar & Tap Room
- Costa's Ace Hardware
- Costa's Supermarket

Country Porch Cafe
Edward Jones - Keith Delacour, FA
Enchanted Mountain Advertising
Forecon Inc.
Hamlin Bank & Trust Company
Hamlin Memorial Library
Hancock Forest Management
H&S Pet Animal Hospital
Helen Cole
Heritage Suites (Bradford)
James B. Kane, Jr. DMD
James K. Angell, Attorney at Law
James P. Miller, Attorney at Law
Kwik Fill
Lakeview Senior Care and Living Center
Lightwaves Laser Engraving
Mansion District Inn, LLC
McKean County Legion Riders
McKean County Historical Society
Northwest Savings Bank
O'Day Acquisition Consulting
Olson & Tenglund, Inc.
Phillis Barnhart
Senior Center
St. Elizabeth of Hungary R.C. Church
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Smethport Area School District
Smethport Country Club
Smethport Drive-In
Smethport Fire Department
Smethport Gulf & Tire
Smethport Rotary
Thomas E. Ball Financial Services
United Refining Company of Pennsylvania (Warren)
Wayne and Mary Lee Pearson
Woods Baker & Ross

* **NOTE:** If you do not see your name / organization on this list, please drop a note to:
njmuller@comcast.net.

CHAMBER WEBSITE: www.smethportchamber.com

FREE ADVERTISING: If your business is located in the Borough, Smethport Web will host an advertising banner at no charge. Send advertising copy, images, and contact information to advertising@smethportpa.org. Don't miss this opportunity to use the power of the Internet to enhance your business. All the design work will even be done for you!

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE: In case you need to refer to a past newsletter, the Chamber website keeps an archive at: www.smethportchamber.com/chamber_newsletter.htm.