

WE ASKED FOR YOUR OPINIONS AND NOW WE WILL ACT!

The Board of Directors made a conscious decision to evaluate the Penridge Chamber and search for areas where changes need to be made. In preparation for that study, we sent you an online survey, which many of you completed. We have spent time reviewing those results, and we are now planning how we can best implement your suggestions and address your concerns.

We have made plans to better communicate with you, in regards to our activities and events. At times we have done a poor job of informing you of the many areas in which we participate throughout the county and the state. Going forward, we plan to inform you on a more regular basis. We have created a page on Facebook for that purpose; become a fan today! We will communicate to you weekly our activities and, as always, you can check our website for our calendar of events. We are also working on making our website more user friendly and allowing our members to sign up for events



legislators in attendance, such as a breakfast or luncheon where they can report to you their progress. The next session will be Friday, May 21 at 7:30 a.m.; a flyer will be coming your way to announce this meeting.

The Board of Directors acknowledges how busy our members are and how valuable time is to you. We want to make sure the events we sponsor will be important to you; therefore, we are not looking to create new events but to enhance those we currently have and make them better. We also know that our participating as your advocate throughout Bucks County will help to make it easier for you to operate your business and make our Penridge region a better place to work and live.

This is meant to inform you of where your Chamber is headed and how we intend to make this a stronger organization to lend support to the Penridge region. We will continue to work diligently for you, and we ask that you will support us with your sponsorships and attendance. Feel free to call us at 215-257-5390 or e-mail us at pennridgecc@pennridge.com with any questions or suggestions you might have.



online. Also, there will be new opportunities to advertise and promote your business. This will take some time, and we will keep you posted as we progress.

One area where we are representing our members is with the legislators in our region. We have decided to hold three events each year with our

In This Issue . . .

Retreat 2010

*Trio Mixer
JT Bankers*

*Professional Support
Day 2010*

Fishing Derby

New Members

FYI

Board of Directors Retreat to Pearl S. Buck International Boardroom to Discuss Chamber Future

January 27, 2010



2010 Pennridge Chamber Board of Directors: (front) Jim Spindler, David Alderfer, Betty Graver, Rodney Altemose, James Steeley, (back) Keith Smith, Dave Caro, Dave Nyman, Dave Beck, Neil Fosbenner, Tom Skiffington, Janet Mintzer, Gail Eister, Chris Fickes (moderator), and Bill Delaney



Dave Alderfer, Neil Fosbenner, Janet Mintzer, and Tom Skiffington brainstormed ways to help the Chamber grow.



Board members Tom Skiffington, Jim Steeley, Rodney Altemose, Gail Eister, and Bill Delaney discussed how to improve Chamber visibility.



Dave Beck and Neil Fosbenner took a break during the session to get some much needed refreshments.



The following company has made an important investment in their business and community by joining the chamber. Please remember them for your business and personal needs. Also make a special effort to welcome them as they attend our functions.

Ivy Hill Foundation, Inc., Wendy Aughe, One Highpoint Drive, Perkasio, PA 18944, phone: 215-822-2515, Web Site: www.ivyhillequestrian.org. Ivy Hill is a non-profit organization servicing the areas in and around Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Ivy Hill offers therapeutic horseback riding, Hippotherapy sessions, and carriage driving to riders of all ages with disabilities. In addition, Ivy Hill offers specialty programs like summer camp, vaulting, services for at risk youth, and a variety of volunteer opportunities for individuals, students, families, organizations and corporations.

Thank you Chris Fickes for being the moderator in the past two Board of Directors retreats!





Marie Fritz, Pam Zitta, and Donna Bolton from BARMAR Travel hosted the event and provided brochures on cruises and other trips.



Steve Noll, TMA Bucks., met speaker Roxanne Steele, and also Bill Barnish from Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney.

TRIO MIXER
BARMAR TRAVEL, J.T. BANKERS,
AND CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE

February 18, 2010

Escape from the land of TOO!
TOO many emails. TOO many voice mails. TOO
much paperwork...



Leadership participant Pete Fischer, National Penn, won the door prize, a Carnival beach bag filled with cruise goodies.



Joanne Marko, Cheryl Ford, Denise Peruggia, and Natalie Morris all from J. Marko CPA Services, Inc. forgot about the tax season and enjoyed the hospitality of J.T. Bankers food and beverages.



Roxanne Steele, Business Development Director for Carnival, did a presentation on "Fun for All, All for Fun" heavenly Cloud 9 Spa with pampering going on in 40,000 sq. ft. on two decks! She invited participants to join BARMAR's Group cruise in 2011 on Carnival's newest ship, the "Carnival Dream."



Professional Support Day 2010

“Dedicated to a Brighter Tomorrow”



The Penridge Chamber’s annual luncheon honoring professional support personnel is planned for Wednesday, April 21, at the Indian Valley Country Club in Telford. The day is a time to stop and pay tribute to those who are the glue that binds our businesses together to get the job done. Where would you be today without your staff? Professional support persons are the ones who do make a difference for your business. They are even more important in this tough economy. Their hard work and support are invaluable for the success of the business and a bright tomorrow. Many of our professional support staff deserve a big thank you for their dedication and a job well done.

This year’s luncheon is a great way to honor your staff, enjoy a wonderful meal, and have a good time. Taking time away from the “daily grind” to visit and network with each other is so important, but rarely done in our busy lives.

Nominations for the prestigious honor of Professional Support Person of the Year are still open. You have until March 29 to send in your choice, and the decision will be announced shortly thereafter. Be sure to reserve your spot, since this event usually draws over 200 participants. It is important to make your reservation early.

Your meal choices this year include: Chicken Francaise, Grilled Portobello Mediterranean Salad, or Roast Beef Croissant with a delicious dessert. The cost is \$22.50 per person, and lunch will be served at 12 noon. During the luncheon, many fabulous door prizes will be awarded to both bosses and staff. Everyone in attendance will receive a “goody-bag” filled with all kinds of give-away items. Another highlight is the awarding of the Grand Prize.

That special person, the Professional Support Person of the Year, will be lauded immediately following the meal. In addition, a proclamation from the Bucks County Commissioners declaring this a very special day in the Penridge community will be made.

The Chamber needs help from its members to make this a memorable day. Chamber members will have an opportunity to be recognized by making a financial contribution. Contributing members will be noted in the program and have their business name displayed prominently during the event. Businesses may also get involved in this day by donating door prizes or items for the Goody Bags that are distributed to every person in attendance. To include an item in each bag, a total of 200 items need to be provided; however, if that is not possible, the Chamber will accept whatever is donated and place it in the bags. Last year, we gave out over 50 door prizes. The lucky recipients were excited to be chosen to win one of the terrific prizes. Some suggestions include: a gift basket of any kind, a fruit basket, a floral arrangement, a gift certificate for a local restaurant, gift certificates for merchandise at local stores or gift shops, or something unique or handmade. The deadline for corporate sponsorships, door prizes, and give-away items is March 29 to allow time for recognition and printing. Deadline for dropping off items is April 9.

As we progress into the future, it is important that we recognize all the professional support staff, for without their dedication, where would we be? Each person is valuable—we honor all today! Take a minute to mark your calendar and send in your reservations for you and your staff to attend this year’s Professional Support Day luncheon, “Dedicated to a Brighter Tomorrow!”

Board of Directors and Staff - 2010

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Consultant

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James Spindler, Director

Univest Corporation of PA

James Steeley, Director

Betty Meier Steeley Funeral Home

Lisa Bogan

Assistant to the Executive Director

Brenda Price

Communications Editor



Fishing Derby

Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11, 2010

8:00 a.m. until Afternoon

Pond on west side of Branch Street
behind the Sellersville Firehouse

Registration on Friday, April 9

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at Sellersville Borough Hall

Open to students K –5th grade who attend West Rockhill and Sellersville Elementary and to members of the Penridge Chamber who have students K-5th grade.

Must be accompanied by an adult

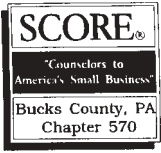
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Penridge Chamber of Commerce.

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Contributing Editor: Betty Graver

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BUSINESS NEWS



SCORE will present a free seminar, "Introduction to Starting a Small Business," on Tuesday, April 13, at Bucks County Community College, Upper Bucks Campus, One Hillendale Road, Perkasie, from 6:20 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The speakers will present topics on building a plan for your business

and developing a financial plan. Reservations are suggested. Call 215-943-8850. For anyone starting or already running a small business, a course entitled *Starting and Growing a Small Business*, will be held at Bucks County Community College, Upper Bucks Campus, One Hillendale Road, Perkasie. Classes will include information on insurance and licensing needs, market research and sales techniques, cash flow analysis, how to obtain financing, and the importance and development of a Business Plan. The four classes will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on May 19, 26, June 2 and June 9. Cost is \$79. **SCORE** also provides a free, confidential, one-on-one, management advisory service for small business owners – call 215-257-5390 or e-mail score570@verizon.net for an appointment.

Bux-Mont Awards is pleased to announce its move into the historic Baum House at 225 N Main St., Sellersville. The move, completed in September, has enabled them to optimize manufacturing space to better meet customers' needs. The historic house dates back to the early 1800's and was renovated in the last year to include an addition built onto the back side of the house for additional manufacturing space and a new five space parking lot for easy access for picking up awards. Look for the new Bux-Mont Awards sign on Main St. and stop in to see the new showroom.



BUCK\$ BACK!, Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc.'s (BCOC) free tax preparation service for low and moderate-income families in Bucks County, features fast, electronic tax filing, split refunds, free childcare and refreshments. IRS trained and certified volunteer

tax preparers from the community will be available by appointment at the Bucks County Opportunity Council office on New Street in Quakertown. To be eligible, you must be a U.S. citizen with a valid social security card, live or work in Bucks County, plan to take the standard deduction and have income below \$49,000. For information or to schedule an appointment call (215) 345-8175 x 201 or 1-877-345-8175.

KUDOS

Independence Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Pennsylvania has designated **Doylestown Hospital** as a Blue Distinction Center for Knee and Hip Replacement. Blue Distinction Centers for Knee and Hip Replacement are part of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association's expansion of its Blue Distinction® designation. Doylestown Hospital offers comprehensive knee and hip replacement services, along with joint replacement performed on shoulders, elbows, wrists, fingers and ankles. Designation as Blue Distinction Centers means these facilities' overall experience and aggregate data met objective criteria established in collaboration with expert clinicians' and leading professional organizations' recommendations. Doylestown Hospital has also received two prestigious awards for its use of technology. Doylestown is among an elite group of 85 hospitals across the nation to be recognized with the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) EMR Stage

6 Award, which marks significant progress toward achieving a full EMR (Electronic Medical Record). They also received a Microsoft Health Users Group (MS-HUG) Innovation Award in the area of HIE (Health Information Exchange) and Interoperability for their work on the Doylestown Clinical Network. This network ties together the EMR systems of the hospital and community physicians.

More than 1,450 nonprofit groups in Pennsylvania received more than \$3.8 million from the **Verizon Foundation** in 2009, enabling recipient organizations to improve literacy skills, enhance educational opportunities for children, and assist domestic violence survivors. In addition, Verizon employees volunteered more than 53,000 hours to nonprofit groups throughout the Keystone State in 2009. The Verizon Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Verizon Communications, supports the advancement of literacy and K-12 education through its free educational Web site, Thinkfinity.org, and fosters awareness and prevention of domestic violence. In 2009, the Verizon Foundation awarded more than \$67.5 million in grants to nonprofit agencies in the U.S. and abroad. It also matched the charitable donations of Verizon employees and retirees, resulting in an additional \$26.1 million in combined contributions to nonprofits. For more information on the foundation, visit www.verizonfoundation.org.



TMA Bucks (Transportation Management Association) and the Bucks County Office of Highway Safety announced today that 13 area high schools are on board and participating in the 3rd Annual Bucks County High School Seatbelt Safety Challenge. Student groups at each participating high school view "Survival 101" (PennDOT's seatbelt awareness program that is conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police) and are actively promoting seatbelt use within the student body using posters, school-wide announcements, and other messages. The premier sponsor for this year's challenge is **Verizon**. **Univest**, Jacobs Engineering and Senator Tommy Tomlinson's office are also sponsoring the challenge. The school with the highest total increase in seatbelt use and the school with the greatest percentage increase in seatbelt use are both awarded with perpetual trophies and cash grants from TMA Bucks for safety-related use by the school.

Penn Foundation psychiatrist **Robin Pattin, M.D.** was recently recognized by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology for successfully passing the Initial Certification Examination in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. In becoming Board certified, Dr. Pattin completed rigorous training and achieved the gold standard in each of six core competencies: patient care, medical knowledge, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, systems-based and practice-based learning, and improvement to practice quality specialized medicine in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. For more information, visit www.PennFoundation.org.

Univest Corporation demonstrated its ongoing support to the communities it serves by continuing to provide financial support totaling approximately \$300,000 to 63 non-profit organizations during the fourth quarter of 2009. Univest's financial support focused on non-profit organizations serving individuals and families throughout Bucks, Chester, Montgomery and Lehigh counties in areas of arts, culture, education, youth athletics and senior citizen programs. In addition to Univest's financial support, Univest employees took part in the American Bankers Association's nationwide financial education program, *Get Smart About Credit Day*. In 2009, Univest National Bank and Trust Co. supported a total of 311 local non-profits by contributing a total of \$805,425.

COMING EVENTS

The Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority announces that the **Sellersville Museum** will be open Saturday and Sunday, April 10 and 11 with a "Scouting Anniversary" exhibit. The Museum will be open from 12:00 Noon until 4:00 p.m. each day. As always, admission is free. The Sellersville Museum is wheelchair accessible and has a chairlift to assist visitors to the second floor. The Museum is located next to the Sellersville Borough Office at 120 East Church Street. Call (215) 257-5253 for more information.



The **2010 Penridge High School Spring Musical** will be held on Thursday, March 25, Friday, March 26, and Saturday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m., and a Saturday matinee at 3 p.m. The show will be *Hello, Dolly*. Tickets for reserved seats are \$8. Tickets can be ordered via e-mail at tickets@starsofbuckscounty.com.

The 3rd Annual **TMA Bucks Golf Outing** benefiting the TMA Bucks Scholarship Fund will take place Friday, April 30 at Bensalem Township Country Club (2000 Brown Avenue, Bensalem). The outing will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a shotgun start and best ball scramble. The price per golfer is \$150 (or \$600 for a foursome) and that includes continental breakfast, barbecue lunch and use of beverage cart throughout the course. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please call 215-244-9082 to register for the event or for more details.



Social Science Department of **Bucks County Community College** in Newtown is sponsoring a number of Spring bus trips. From Philadelphia, to Harrisburg, to New York City, be sure to check dates and trip times at www.bucks.edu/~socsci/sshp.html. The Social Sciences Club is a student organization chartered by the BCCC Student Government. The Educational Enrichment Programming Department of Student Life would like to invite you to also attend a variety of free, informative and entertaining programs offered on the BCCC campus. Please check out <http://bit.ly/BucksEnrichmentSpring10> or contact Natalie Kaye, 215-968-8015 or kayen@bucks.edu for additional information.

The bitter-cold temperatures and gusty winds of winter are still with us and as a result, many women may suffer from dry skin, stiffness, or stress. To help women feel better and get ready for spring, **Grand View Hospital** is hosting a special women's night featuring mini-spa services from local businesses. The event, *Taking Care of You: An Evening of Pampering & Wellness for Women* will be held on Friday, April 16 from 6:30 – 9:30 pm at the Grand View Outpatient Center in Sellersville. Guests will also learn about how to help keep skin healthy and young-looking during a lecture by board-certified dermatologist, Daniel Shrager, MD, a member of Grand View's medical staff. Each guest may choose one of the following mini-spa sessions, which are held throughout the evening. In addition to a mini-spa session, guests may also choose from a variety of women's health seminars led by physicians. To accommodate the schedules of busy women, seminars will begin at 6:30, 7:30, or 8:30 pm, with appetizers beginning at 6 pm. The cost is \$20 per person for the evening. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Grand View Information Line at 215-453-4300 or visit www.gvh.org.



A Personal Pearl Exhibit at the Pearl S. Buck House will be on display from April 13 through November 12. Take a closer look at Pearl S. Buck's private life by taking a peek at her wardrobe, accessories, and other personal

effects during this annual exhibit of the National Historic Landmark Home. Tours are given Tuesday-Saturday 11:00, 1:00 and 2:00 pm; Sunday 1:00 and 2:00 pm. Cost is \$7 per adult and \$6 per senior. An **Art Exhibit and Sale featuring Bucks & Montgomery County Artists** will take place from April 13 to April 30 at Pearl S. Buck International, featuring the artwork of Bucks and Montgomery County artists Aurelia Callwood, Richard A. Godshall, and Susan Klinger. Artwork will be available for viewing and sale between 10:00 and 4:00 daily. **Taste of the World** will be held on Friday, May 21 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. An evening of wine and food tasting held annually on the award-winning grounds of Pearl S. Buck International, Taste of the World has quickly become a premier event in Bucks County. Sophisticated palates will enjoy gourmet international hors d'oeuvres, entrees, and desserts from local restaurants, caterers, wineries, and breweries. Adding a touch of competition to the evening, both live and silent auctions will be featured. Tours of the Pearl S. Buck House will also be provided. Cost is \$100 per person. For more information please visit www.pearlsbuck.org.



Bucks County Community College Invites You to "See How We've Grown" Events

The Upper Bucks Campus of Bucks County Community College invites you to the following "*See How We've Grown*" events to celebrate the expansion of the Upper Bucks campus.

On April 13, a free seminar for women will be held on "*How to Start and Operate Your Own Small Business*" from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. in Room 121. Ready to start a new business or revitalize your present one? Let successful small business men and women guide you through the process of creating a business plan, determining your legal, insurance and licensing needs, obtaining financing, and marketing and sales techniques.

On April 22 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 121 celebrate *Earth Day . . . Living Earth*. Living Earth is an examination of our connectedness through evolution, an exploration of what it means to be a part of a greater whole. It opens up worlds, through hands-on interactions, demonstrations and shared experiences. From 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. a lecture will be given on finding fossils, interpreting the find, and putting it into scientific context.

On April 28 join with fellow chamber members for *Open for Business* and network with business and community leaders from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Student Commons. Enjoy a tour of the new facility while snacking on hors d'oeuvres.

On April 29, the **Artmobile** brings its current traveling exhibition *transFORMation: Art Made from Recycled and Reused Materials* to the Upper Bucks Campus. Visitors can see America's cast-off trash transformed into art in this hands-on, interactive exhibit.

May 5 is **College Exploration Night** from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. *College Exploration Night* is an exciting opportunity for area high school students and their families and friends to learn much more about the College. Academic department representatives will be on hand to answer questions about the majors they offer, the careers the programs of study prepare students for, and to talk about the transferability of courses. Check out their brand new, state-of-the-art building, talk with leaders in higher education, and get a head start on career and study options. For more information on any of the above happenings, call 215-258-7700 or go to <http://www.bucks.edu/about/campuses/ubc/>.

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Roger Collins, *Executive Director of the Bucks County Opportunity Council* presented an overview of Human Services in Bucks County in the morning session.



**Leadership Bucks . . .
 Upper County
 January 12, 2010
 Health & Human Services
 held at Grand View Hospital**



Beth Styer, *Executive Director, Child, Home and Community*, Sally Fabian, *Executive Director, Bucks County Health Improvement Partnership*, Dave Alderfer, *Director of Development, Grand View Hospital*, and Brian Duke, *MHA MBE[Director, Bucks County Area Agency on Aging*



Class participants listened to a panel presentation on Health Care in Bucks County.



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Return Service Requested

Progress Through Community Service



- March 25 PACC, Bucks County Community College UCC 7:30 p.m.
- April 6 Board of Directors Meeting, Chamber 7:30 a.m.
- April 9 Fishing Derby Registration Sellersville Borough Hall 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- April 10 Fishing Derby, Sellersville Fire House 8:00 a.m.
- April 11 Fishing Derby, Sellersville Fire House 8:00 a.m.
- April 13 Leadership Bucks . . . Upper County Session, Pearl S. Buck International 8:00 a.m.
- April 21 Professional Support Day Luncheon, Indian Valley Country Club 12 noon
- April 28 Open for Business Business After Hours, Bucks County Community College UBC 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- May 4 Board of Directors Meeting, Chamber 7:30 a.m.
- May 12 Joint Business After Hours, First Savings Bank Corporate Office 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Coming Events

Quote of the Month

"Each day is given to us as a new season of spring. The thoughts, deeds, dreams and efforts of today will provide tomorrow's harvest."

Jim Rohn

SCORE Counselor available every Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am or 11:00 am at the Chamber office. Check out their web site at <http://www.score.org> seven days a week.

Remember your ABC's: **ALWAYS BUY CHAMBER**

Please patronize the businesses who advertise in our newsletter.