

Message from the Chairman, Greg Massey

It has been a pleasure and a challenge serving as Chairman of the Putnam County Chamber this past year. It has been inspiring for me to see the dedication and talent we have while working with the Staff and Board of Directors. There is no question we have faced many obstacles this year with the downturn of the economy. We have lost members and revenue with this economic turmoil but have kept focus on our charge.

I am similar to many of you with regards of worrying if I can do an adequate job serving the chamber while taking on my day to day tasks. I have been very fortunate to lean on the staff, Executive Committee, and the entire Board of Directors to straighten my path when I get off course. Our past Chairman, J. R. Marshall, has been very helpful guiding me and I am grateful to J. R. I encourage each of you to take on leadership roles when asked and I am sure you will grow just as I have.

We are thankful for the support our membership has given this past year. Without you and your support from membership dues, annual dinner, golf tournament, membership directory and all the other activities we could not be successful in any of these endeavors. I encourage you to continue this support into 2010 and we will gain momentum in our economic recovery of this great county. Putnam County is worth the support of all of us.

There will be challenges again in 2010 but we will overcome these challenges and grow stronger because of them. Please join me in giving our full support to Mandy Curry as our new Chairperson of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce. Mandy brings her knowledge and enthusiasm into this role and we will benefit from her leadership. I hope you will continue the support of the Chamber in every way you can. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve you as your Chairman and I thank you for your support!

Looking Back and Looking Forward

Marty Chapman, President

It is with great respect that I look back on 2009, but also with great anticipation that I look forward to 2010 for Putnam County Chamber of Commerce.

Looking back:

- Despite economic adversity, the Chamber welcomed 46 businesses into its membership.
- The Chamber celebrated 20 years of offering Leadership Putnam County.
- The E-billboard service began in April. This member benefit allows for increased member-to-member marketing of products and services.
- The Business of the Month program was established in June. This program provides additional promotional opportunities for Chamber members.
- More than half of the participants in November's Chamber Business Expo were new to the event and provided fresh energy and enthusiasm.

Looking forward:

- Every month available in 2010 to host a Business After Hours event has been booked, and we even have a waiting list!
- Plans are nearly complete to fully launch the newly designed Chamber website. This will allow for greater interaction by both Chamber members and

the general public, offer marketing opportunities and create greater efficiencies for Chamber staff.

- Putnam Chamber NOW (Network of Women) is committed to an ambitious “Wellness Series” schedule presenting greater networking opportunities for women employed by Chamber member businesses.

The theme for our Annual Dinner on January 29th is “Proud Past . . . Promising Future”. Help us help you shape this future. Along with your support, we need your input - what type of programs, events and services are important to your business? Thank you for your past, present and future support together can make a difference.

Welcome New Members!

A. F. C. Electric

Ed Penix, Owner

155 Green Acres, Hurricane, WV 25526

Phone: 304.389.9708; Fax: 304.757.5654

Email: afcelectric@yahoo.com

McKinley Carter Wealth Services

Lisa Mitchell, Development Coordinator

2000 Deitrick Boulevard, Charleston, WV 25311

Phone: 304.346.3700; 866.306.2400; Fax: 304.346.0597

Email: lmitchell@mc-ws.com; Website: www.mc-ws.com

WomenCare, Inc.

Birth Center

Martha Carter, CEO

3911 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, WV 25526

Phone: 304.757.6999; Fax: 304.757.3252

Email: Marthacarter@familycarewv.org; Website: www.familycarewv.org.

Thank you to our Renewing Members for your continued support of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce! Your investment proves your willingness to support and build a better business climate to live, work and play in Putnam County!

Member News!

Thank you to **AEP John Amos, Greg Massey, Plant Manager**, for hosting a very successful Business After Hours in **December!** The members were entertained with Christmas carols by the Poca Valley High School Show Choir, wonderful food and many nice door prizes were given away that evening, those winners were Grace Randolph, Dave Bunger, Helen Shinn, Becky Welch, Chuck Pitzer, Mary Ellen Kirkpatrick, Samantha Delp, and Brian Wood.

Congratulations to **Mike Herron, Advantage Valley**; winner of the **Chase** sponsored drawing that was valued at **\$1200!**

At the beginning of the year, **Chase** sponsored the monthly drawing for \$100 with one member's name drawn each month at the Business After Hours. If the member is not present, the cash rolls over to the next month. Our practice in December is to draw names until the prize is claimed by a member in attendance. The following nine names were drawn prior to **Mike Herron's** name being selected:

David Lincolnogger, Hurricane Equipment
LaKisha Page, Mountain State University
Bob Walker, Concrete Solutions & Design
Dave Hunley, Laser Charge of WV
Robin Roach, Health Data Solutions
Larry Hackworth, Dunbar Printing & Graphics, LLC
Ronda Moore, EnviroProbe Integrated Solutions, Inc.
Joe Cox, Sherwin Williams Company
Jim Weiler III, ReMax Real Estate Unlimited

Donnie L. Adkins II has joined **Dinsmore & Shohl LLP** as an associate in the Litigation Department and a member of the Environmental and Natural Resources Practice Groups. He will practice in the firm's Charleston office.

Nathan Christopher Ward, a Huntington native, is the most recent associate to join **Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC**. Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC, is a multi-practice, full service regional law firm based in Huntington, West Virginia.

Netranom Communications (Hurricane, WV) recently purchased Office Solutions, located in Prestige Park in Hurricane, WV. Office Solutions provides similar network management services to its customers in Putnam and Kanawha counties, but they will now have the full slate of services offered by Netranom, to include Structured Cabling, Telephone Systems (both Voice Over IP and PBX) and Security Camera Systems. Netranom plans to keep the office in Prestige Park as is so the customers can continue to experience the same high level of service and convenience they are accustomed to. For more information, please call Scott Edwards, President, at 304-562-4700.

Steptoe & Johnson has been ranked among the 100 largest firms in three different practice areas according to Law360. The practice areas and numeric rankings include: Employment (89), Energy (25), and Insurance (86). The rankings resulted from a survey of law firms comprised of 100 or more lawyers with an additional breakdown of those working for the firm in practice areas covering bankruptcy, competition, employment, energy, environmental, insurance, intellectual property, products liability, and securities. Law360, a newswire for lawyers, is the only online publication that covers in-depth issues across 16 different areas of practice.

Congratulations to "Barnes Agency" Chamber January Business of the Month!

Barnes Agency is a Putnam County-based full-service advertising, marketing and public relations firm, with a diligent eye toward achieving results. With nearly 40 years of combined

experience in the corporate marketing arena, the Barnes Agency leadership team is well equipped to initiate unique marketing solutions while keeping with the client's point of view.

Offering national award winning services that include advertising, public relations, television production, web design and event planning, the Barnes Agency works to create a combined approach to communications and creative strategy. For more information about the Barnes Agency, please contact Jeff Barnes, president and CEO, at 304.757.5700.

Valley Sign Shop

The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce welcomed **Valley Sign Shop, Chris Turley**, owner, on Thursday, November 19th, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. A grand opening celebration was held at the same time at Mid Valley Square, 3532-A Teays Valley Road, Hurricane. The shop offers front window graphics, reflective traffic signs, posts and cones, magnetic signs, tabletop displays and much more. Please visit their web site at www.valleysignshop.org or call Chris Tully at 304-562-1774 for more information. In the photo, local dignitaries and Chamber members join the new owners of Valley Sign Shop for the ribbon cutting.

PUTNAM CHAMBER ANNUAL DINNER PROUD PAST . . . PROMISING FUTURE

Keynote Speaker: Natalie Tennant, WV Secretary of State
January 29, 2010

The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to attend the Annual Dinner Meeting on Friday, January 29, 2010 at Wellington's. The social hour begins at 6:00 pm with the dinner & brief business meeting immediately following. Our keynote speaker is Natalie Tennant, West Virginia Secretary of State.

Reservations for sponsorships are still being accepted; invitations were mailed to Chamber members in December. Individual tickets are \$75 per person. Confirm your sponsorship and/or reservation early since attendance at this annual event quickly fills up. Please email chamber@putnamcounty.org or call 304-757-6510 to coordinate your participation.

Gold Sponsors

AEP John Amos Plant
Verizon

Silver Sponsors

CAMC Teays Valley Hospital
City National Bank
Putnam County Bank
West Virginia American Water

Business After Hours ~ 2010

Won't You Join Us?

Business After Hours events are the region's premier networking opportunity, offering guests the chance to mingle with people representing products and services in a relaxed, social setting. Not only will you meet representatives from the host company and the caterer, but *Business After Hours* events attract business owners, employers, civic leaders and community members - there's no telling who you'll see! In addition to the chance to network with other professionals, the Chamber selects the upcoming Chamber Business of the Month from the business cards collected at the event.

Exact dates are still being determined,
but the following hosts are committed this year:

February ~ Hampton Inn & McKee & Associates

March ~ Professional Floor & Wall Covering

April ~ The Greenhouse of Teays Valley

May ~ G & G Builders

June ~ Bella Woods Subdivision

August ~ Regency Place

September ~ City National Bank – Teays Valley Branch

October ~ Toyota

November ~ Business Expo

December ~AEP John Amos Plant

Note: The Annual Dinner Meeting in January and the Annual Golf Tournament in July take the place of Business After Hours during those two months.

Event hours are 5 pm –7 pm, light refreshments are provided.

The cost to attend is \$15 per person, RSVPs are required;
pre-payment is appreciated.

February Business After Hours Co-Sponsored by Hampton Inn & McKee & Associates, LLC



we love having you here.®

**Hampton Inn
4190 State Route 34, Hurricane**

Thursday, February 18, 2010
Catered by The Greenhouse of Teays Valley
5 pm–7 pm, Cost \$15

RSVPs are required; pre-payment is appreciated.

Business After Hours is open to members and their guests.
RSVP to 304-757-6510 or chamber@putnamcounty.org

Community News

Toyota Motor Manufacturing and Dow West Virginia Partner with EPA for Sustainable Future

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's mid-Atlantic region welcomed two new members into its Sustainability Partnership Program in two separate signing ceremonies held Friday, December 4, 2009. The Toyota signing event was held at 8:30 am, in Buffalo and the Dow West Virginia signing event was held at 11:00 am, in South Charleston. The Sustainability Partnership is an EPA Region III initiative to facilitate environmental sustainability at major organizations in the mid-Atlantic region through a collaborative effort. By sharing expertise within programs such as WaterSense, ENERGY STAR and Waste Wise, etc., EPA has proven that working with industry, institutions and governments can produce significant results in the reduction of waste generation, natural resource usage, and energy consumption. For more information about EPA mid-Atlantic's Sustainable Partnership, go to <http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/spp/index.html>

HIGH SCHOOL BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM

Friday, January 8, 2010

The teams have been formed, the business plans have been determined and the work has begun for the participants of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce High School Business Symposium.

This symposium, a culminating experience for students who complete an entrepreneurship program sponsored by local banks through the Chamber's Education Committee, includes teams of high school students from Buffalo, Hurricane, Poca & Winfield. The program emphasizes leadership skills, identification of hypothetical business' values, vision and mission and development of a product to market and sell with the goal of making a profit.

The teams of students, under the observation of their sponsors, will present their projects to an audience of business professionals, community leaders and general public at the Putnam County Board of Education office on Friday, January 8, 2010 at 8:30 am, snow date will be January 11, 2010. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please contact the Chamber office at 304-757-6510.

Calendar of Events for January 2010

Friday, January 1	New Year's Day Chamber Office Closed
Friday, January 8	High School Business Symposium Sponsored by local banks through the Education Committee 8:30 am – 11:30 am Putnam County Board of Education Office
Friday, January 15	Annual Dinner Committee Meeting 9:00 am, Chamber Office
Monday, January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Chamber Office Closed
Thursday, January 21	Putnam County NOW (Network of Women) Meeting 8:00 am, Chamber Office
Friday, January 29	Annual Meeting & Dinner 6:00 pm, Wellington's, Poca RSVP Required/\$75 per person

Putnam County Chamber Staff

Marty Chapman, President

Sherry Chapman, Office Manager

Teresa Catanzarite, Membership Director

Gretchen White, Project Director

Office Hours: 9 am—4:00 pm, Monday-Friday

Physical Address: 5664 St. Rt. 34, North, Winfield, WV 25213

Mailing Address: PO Box 553, Teays, WV 25569

Phone: 304.757.6510 **Fax:** 304.757.6562

chamber@putnamcounty.org

www.putnamcounty.org or www.putnamchamber.org

New Website Designed and Hosted by

John Rymer