

## What Does My Chamber Do For Me?

Marty Chapman, President

As a membership organization, the Chamber goes through the process each year of renewing dues with our members. And each year, there is a member or two that will say they don't "see" the benefit of Chamber membership. This seems like a good time to point out the sometimes "unseen" efforts made on your behalf by your Chamber of Commerce.

We have the customary programs, activities and events that provide marketing and networking opportunities. On a daily basis, at our physical location on State Route 34, we provide information, literature and referrals. But our efforts don't stop there. Often, our most important work is creating an environment within our region for your business to grow and succeed. You may ask how do we do this? Here are just two examples:

1. Has your Worker's Compensation rate declined? The Putnam Chamber of Commerce played a vital role in the lobbying effort that changed this former government agency. (Even if your rate hasn't declined at least the worker's compensation program is being run more efficiently as a private business, rather than a deep-in-debt government agency.)
2. Have your business taxes been reduced? While improvements can still be made, the Putnam Chamber of Commerce once again effectively lobbied the efforts that phased out the state Business Franchise Tax along with a phasing out of 28% of the Corporate Net Income Tax. Additionally, the Chamber was part of the lobbying efforts for the stoppage of onerous labor-backed measures such as captive communications, mandatory overtime restrictions and other federal issues. We continue to work towards more tax reductions and more business friendly policies.

Your Chamber remains always vigilant whether it's a federal issue, state legislation or regional planning and zoning. We keep you informed and endeavor to make the regional environment receptive for business development and growth. We are constantly working for YOU, the MEMBER. Renew your Chamber membership, and keep us working for you.

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## *Welcome New Members!*

**Ahead Human Resources Southeast, LLC**

**Karen Young, President**

201 Lycan Court, Ashland, KY 41101

Phone: 606.922.7860; Fax: 606.325.8318

[karen@humanresourcesrx.com](mailto:karen@humanresourcesrx.com)

[www.aheadhr.com](http://www.aheadhr.com)

**All The Best in Putnam County**

**Marilyn S. Young, Owner**

Route 1, Box 110-A, Red House, WV 25168  
Phone: 304.586.4601; Fax: 304.586.4662  
[marilynyoung@allthebestwv.com](mailto:marilynyoung@allthebestwv.com)  
Website: [www.allthebest.com](http://www.allthebest.com)

**Big Sandy Furniture**  
**Mary Ellen Kirkpatrick, Sales Manager**  
1000 Liberty Park Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526  
Phone: 304.760.1060  
[maryellen1017@hotmail.com](mailto:maryellen1017@hotmail.com)  
[www.bigsandysuperstore.com](http://www.bigsandysuperstore.com)

**Side by Side Management Consulting, LLC**  
**Victoria W. Ballengee, Owner**  
7 Charlotte Lane, Scott Depot, WV 25560  
Phone: 304.552.8427; Fax: 304.757.7380  
[vwballengee@side-side-mc.com](mailto:vwballengee@side-side-mc.com)

*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!*

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## ***Member News!***

Thank you to **Triad Engineering, John Meeks** for hosting a very successful **Business After Hours** in **September!** Triad Engineering provided a *Tailgate theme after hours* with food, Cornhole games, music, networking and great door prizes. Chamber members were encouraged to dress in their favorite team's colors which added to the ambiance of tailgating!

### **Winners of the door prizes were:**

MU Football – Dave Tabor, American Home Inspector & Eng. Assessments, Inc.  
WVU Football – Mitch Mitchell, Mitchell Building Services, LLC  
MU Stadium Print – Tim Fink, Nvision Business Solutions, LLC  
WVU Stadium Print – Carolyn Mullins, Arthur Krenzel Lett Insurance Group  
WVU/MU Print – Melissa Bias, Real Estate Central  
WVU-MU Football Tickets – Troy Dunn, City National Bank  
WVU-MU Football Tickets – Jamie Nelson, Merry Maids  
Set of MU Cornhole – Rhonda Adkins, United Talent  
Set of WVU Cornhole – David Van Tassel, Van Imaging Systems

The winner of the **Chase** Sponsored drawing valued at **\$900** was **Sandra Underwood, The Printing Press**, had she been present!

**Edward Jones** has the employee education solution you need. We provide financial education to employees of small, medium-sized and large companies. Our program is a great way to complete your benefits offerings, help increase participation in your

company-sponsored retirement plan, enhance employee satisfaction and loyalty, and enable your employees to better understand and manage their retirement plans. Let's create a win-win situation. Your employees will win with education and, when they request it, personal advice. Your company will win by demonstrating concern for the retirement-planning challenges your employees face. Take action today. Contact Lana Gibson with Edward Jones Investments at 304-776-5110 to get started.

**Fastsigns** is offering a special pricing on all types of signage through the end of November for Putnam County Chamber Members only. Please contact Fastsigns for additional information at 304-766-9280.

**Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College** will offer ACT Review classes for students planning to take the ACT exam. Actual sample test questions will be used and test-taking techniques will be covered. These classes are valuable for students (1) needing an intensive review program to meet entrance level requirements for colleges, (2) to meet entrance level requirements for special programs of study, (3) to meet scholarship eligibility levels, and (4) to meet eligibility for the Promise scholarship. There will be three subject matter sections. Register on-line at [www.kvctc.edu/ContEd.htm](http://www.kvctc.edu/ContEd.htm). You may also call 304-766-5113 or e-mail [workshops@wvsctc.edu](mailto:workshops@wvsctc.edu) to register. For information on other programs offered by Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College, visit the web site at [www.kvctc.edu](http://www.kvctc.edu).

**Patrick D. Kelly**, managing member of the Charleston office of **Steptoe & Johnson**, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce for 2010. Kelly joins Robert M. Steptoe, Jr., Chairman of the firm, who also serves on the Board and Executive Committee of the Chamber.

**Regency Place**, located off Teays Valley Road in Scott Depot, has two meeting rooms at their facility available for public use. One smaller room has capacity for 26 people and is available throughout the day and evening. A larger room with the capacity to seat 125 is also available, but only after 6 pm. Additionally, Regency Place can provide a podium, beverages and snacks. This is a service to the community offered at no charge, but they do require advance notice and also reserve the right to limit frequency. Please contact Connie Hill at Regency Place, 304-757-3104.

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## **Congratulations to Padgett Business Services Chamber November Business of the Month!**

The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce is proud to salute Padgett Business Services as our Chamber Business of the Month for November 2009. Enrolled Agent Randy Lucas, of Padgett Business Services® has been providing tax accounting, bookkeeping, income tax and payroll tax services, government compliance, business advice and consulting to small businesses and individuals in Putnam County since 1987. Now with offices at 4031 Teays Valley Road in

Scott Depot and 700 Adams Avenue in Huntington; Padgett has five full-time employees (and five additional seasonal employees for tax season) and is helping small businesses throughout Putnam, Kanawha, and Cabell Counties in WV as well as Southeast Ohio, and Eastern Kentucky.

By way of personal relationships and accurate, efficient, affordable service, Padgett provides **peace of mind** to help their clients' businesses become and remain successful.

For more information or to make a no-obligation appointment, please contact Padgett at 304-757-7665 or 877-757-4686 or [padgett@wvsmallbizpros.com](mailto:padgett@wvsmallbizpros.com).

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## **Annual Business Expo**

### **Thursday, November 12 ~ 4 pm to 7 pm**

**Hurricane Community Center at Valley Park**

Mark your calendar now to attend the Chamber Business Expo on Thursday, November 12, from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Hurricane Community Center. Participation in this popular Chamber event draws a variety of businesses eager to promote their services to each other and within the community. Just some of this year's exhibitors include:

- AT&T
- CAMC Teays Valley Hospital
- The Greenhouse
- Hampton Inn
- Manpower
- Marshall University TVRC
- Par Four Family Entertainment
- The Printing Press
- Putnam County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Putnam County Library
- Sleepy Hollow Golf Club
- Teays Physical Therapy Center
- Triad Engineering
- United Talent
- United Way of Central WV
- Valley Signs
- Val Pak
- Yeager Airport

Booth space is limited. The fee for exhibitors is \$150 and includes a 4' x 6' table with linen covering and 2 tickets for the Business After Hours taking place simultaneously with the Expo. For more information call 304.757.6510 or email [chamber@putnamcounty.org](mailto:chamber@putnamcounty.org).

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## **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

**Sponsored by Yeager Airport**  
along with  
**Gino's Pizza and Tudor's Biscuit World**

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 ~ 5 PM TO 7 PM**

**Hurricane Community Center at Valley Park**

### **(Concurrent with Chamber Business Expo)**

Join your fellow Chamber members at the November Business After Hours, taking place simultaneously with the Annual Business Expo. Business After Hours provides an exclusive opportunity for Chamber members and their guests to network and cultivate business relationships. Expo exhibitors will receive two complimentary tickets to the Business After Hours, otherwise the cost to attend is \$10 per person, payable at the door; prepayment is also available; walk-ins are \$15 per person. RSVP to the Chamber 304-757-6510 by Monday, November 9.

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## **Sheetz Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening**

**Sheetz** opened its fourth store September 30, at 104 Route 19 in Hurricane. This finishes the first phase of development of a new market for the convenience store chain. Three other stores were opened this summer in Barboursville, Milton and Huntington. As part of the grand opening celebration of the Hurricane Sheetz, the company made a \$7,500 donation to Hurricane High School.

The 5,000 square-foot facility will offer fresh food items like the MTGo! and Shweetz Bakery lines of sandwiches, wraps, donuts and muffins, along with the signature MTO® line of Angus beef burgers, premium grilled chicken sandwiches, freshly made salads, French fries, onion rings and more. Sheetz Bros. Coffeez®, a full-service espresso and smoothie bar staffed by a trained barista is going to be available at the new store.

Customers can order hand-made specialty coffee drinks including lattes, cappuccinos and mochas - hot, frozen or iced. Frozen fruit smoothies round out this popular specialty drink menu. For those who prefer to pour their own, Sheetz offers premium brewed self-serve coffees made from 100 percent Arabica beans in a variety of flavors such as Breakfast Blend, Serious Dark Roast, 100 percent Colombian and Hazelnut.

Sheetz is also proud of its tradition of giving back to the communities in which it operates. Especially important to the organization is finding ways to be involved with today's young people. Sheetz continues to partner with Special Olympics, the Make-a-Wish Foundation, and many other non-profit organizations. For more history on Sheetz, visit their website at [www.sheetz.com](http://www.sheetz.com)

## **West Virginia Contractor first in the state to attain the Green Advantage™ Certification**

**David “Mitch” Mitchell**, owner of **Mitchell Building Services, LLC** has become the first contractor in West Virginia to attain the Green Advantage™ Certified Green Building professional certification.

Green Advantage Certified practitioners have demonstrated their knowledge about constructing healthy, high performance buildings. They must pass a rigorous exam that includes knowledge of the latest green building practices, technologies and techniques. Mitchell Building Services is also proud to be the first general contractor in West Virginia to employ other Green Advantage Certified Green Building professionals – assembling the first team of West Virginia subcontractors that are also certified.

“Green construction means more than simply adding energy efficient components to a design,” explained Mitchell. “It allows us to build quality businesses and homes, while

enhancing the well-being of inhabitants, creating ways to support the environment and serve our customers with integrity and confidence in knowing that we are making a difference.” Whether the goal is to incorporate a few green components or to go “net zero”, Mitchell Building Services can help make it happen.

Mitchell Building Services specializes in commercial construction, design-build, construction management, building maintenance and residential renovations/additions. For more information, contact David “Mitch” Mitchell, Mitchell Building Services, LLC, 304-760-5656 or 304-389-6890, [www.mitchellbuildingservices.com](http://www.mitchellbuildingservices.com)

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## ***Community News***

### **March of Dimes - March for Babies Committee**

The WV chapter of the March of Dimes is seeking individuals to serve on the March for Babies committee in the Putnam County area as well as to participate as team captains for the 2010 March for Babies event nearest you. Your help is crucial to the success of all March for Babies events. A committee member may be asked to recruit new teams, look for entertainment, or seek donations for the day of...to name a few.

For more information about the March of Dimes or March for Babies events, go to [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com) or [www.marchforbabies.org](http://www.marchforbabies.org). Committees are now being formed for the 2010 March for Babies season. Interested volunteers may contact Terry Eller, Community Director 304.675.6029 or at [teller@marchofdimes.com](mailto:teller@marchofdimes.com).

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### **15th Annual Putnam County Thanksgiving Dinner**

Putnam County Rotary, Putnam County Chamber of Commerce,  
Lions Club and the Putnam County Commission

Tuesday, November 17 ~ Wellington's, Poca  
11:30 am-1:00 pm ~ \$13 per person

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey A. Johnson, PhD  
Pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church  
Everyone is welcome to attend!

Please RSVP to the Chamber of Commerce 304-757-6510  
Make checks payable to Putnam County Rotary Club

**Chet Marshall, President of the Putnam Rotary Club, is asking all who attend to bring non-perishable food items to this special county-wide dinner. You are invited to bring as much as you wish and can to help replenish the various Community Food Cupboards throughout the county.**

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### **Up in a down Economy**

**Tuesday November 10<sup>th</sup> ~ two sessions: Noon & 7:00 PM**

Tuesday, November 10th First State Bank, Hurricane, WV Community Center Entrance (located at back of the Bank Building) 3757 Teays Valley Road (Teays Valley Exit 39, South 34 1.7 miles, Bank is on right).

This is not Amway/Quixtar or any of the MLM's, Real Estate or Investment deals. Not one of the Juice Deals either. There is no charge and no risk so come and listen. Leave your wallet at home! With all of the Government Fraud (and there is a lot of it now), the Corporate Fraud, the Plant Closings, the Mergers, the Downsizing and almost 10% unemployment, everyone needs a "Plan B" and we have it. We give you a free website, free daily internet webinar presentations and training calls to help you build your business. All you need is a desire for more and a willingness to work for yourself and you can succeed with our help! *Do you have a Plan B?* Are you interested in Going Up in this Down Economy? If you are, come hear Jim McCune, a former High School Principal tell how on a part time basis he and his wife Mary Martha built one of the most successful businesses in the Home Business Industry. You will not have to sell anything, stock or inventory anything, and there is no risk whatsoever! Jim and Mary Martha started for less than \$30.00 in 1993 and have been free for over 15 years.

Excellent income potential with no risk for Moms who would like to stay at home, for Dads or Professionals who would like to have more time with the family, or folks who would just like to pay all of their monthly bills with out using their primary income! Contact Marilyn at 1-800-678-0465 or Jim 1-800-285-1602.

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## **Calendar of Events for November 2009**

### **Thursday, November 5**

Generation Putnam Cheers (Networking Event); Billy Sunday's, St. Albans, 5 pm – 7 pm, Free Appetizers/Cash Bar

### **Monday, November 9**

Membership Committee; 4:00 pm, Chamber Office

### **Thursday, November 12**

Business Expo ~ Business After Hours; 4 pm – 7 pm, Hurricane Community Center Sponsored by Yeager Airport; Cost \$10 per person with RSVP; Walk-ins \$15

### **Tuesday, November 17**

For This We Give Thanks, 11:30 am, Wellington's, RSVP required; \$13

### **Wednesday, November 18**

Education Committee; Noon, Chamber Office

### **Thursday, November 19**

Putnam Chamber NOW (Network of Women); 8 am, Chamber Office

### **Thursday, December 3**

Generation Putnam Cheers; Sleepy Hollow Golf Club, 5 pm – 7 pm

*The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce Office will be closed November 27 & 28 in observance of Thanksgiving Day.*

**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

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