

THE WEST VIRGINIA CENTRAL NEWSPAPER

PROUD MEMBER OF THE WEIRTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



From The President

2018 is here! Our committees are meeting and busy planning their programs. We are always open to new ideas, so if you are looking for a fun way to get involved, please come to one of our meetings and see which one interests you. New faces bring new ideas plus it's another great way to network.

Our 2018 Leadership Weirton Class will kick-off on Friday, January 19th. We have been presenting this rewarding program for many years and have updated the program for this year. We appreciate our businesses sponsoring a participant and supporting this program each year.

Mark your calendars for our monthly "Leads to Success" breakfasts on the first Thursday of each month. Our next breakfast is on Thursday, February 2 at Spicy Gringo's. It's a great way to start your day. Good food, good company, and again, GREAT networking!

The Tri-State Home and Garden Show will begin on March 23rd. If you would like to be part of the show, call Rob Vandine from Wheelhouse Creative at 304.905.6005. He will answer any questions you may have.

The Annual Banquet and Membership Meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 27th. Invitations and more details will be going out next month.

Our Spring "Shop Around Your Hometown" advertising campaign will begin in April and run through June. More information will be available soon.

Our Annual Ladies Day at the Chamber coming up on April 26th. It's a new year and we are bringing new changes and ideas to our event.

Further details on all of our upcoming events and programs will be coming soon.

Brenda

Upcoming Committee Meetings

(All meetings are held in the Chamber Conference Room-Please RSVP)

If you would like to join a committee, please contact the Chamber.

February 5: Retail Merchants Committee, 9:30am

February 7: Special Projects Committee, 9am

February 12: Education Committee, 3pm

February 13: Membership Committee, 9am

2018 Chamber Events

(Please RSVP to the Chamber)

January 26: Leadership Weirton Kick-off, Undo's, 6:00pm

February 1: Leads to Success Breakfast, Holiday Inn, 7:30am

All meetings are held in the Chamber Conference Room.

"Your Chamber and You"

My name is Stacy (Arango) Patrick and I was born and raised in Weirton. I am very excited to be a part of such a wonderful community organization The Weirton Chamber! I am a district manager with AFLAC and I have been helping business owners offer supplemental policies at no cost to them at the same time helping individuals if they should have a serious illness or accident. As a cancer survivor I know that not only do you have emotional nightmare but also it could be financially devastating. AFLAC is #1 in their industry and pay the most out in claims in your time of need. My extensive background in Human Resource allows me to be a true partner with a business owner. Yes, you might have met with a representative before, but not like myself, I will be there for you when you really need me. Call me for more information 412-216-5739.

Any Chamber member interested in having your business spotlighted in The Town Crier and WV Central Newspaper should write a short article in Word format and call the Chamber at 304.748.7212 or e-mail services@weirtonchamber.com to be scheduled.

Build A Stronger Chamber - Help Recruit A New Member
Call the Weirton Area Chamber of Commerce Office at 304.748.7212
Or email at services@weirtonchamber.com

Business Spotlight

EscapeWorks has brought a new type of entertainment to Weirton. Escape rooms are interactive games where players enter a suite that resembles a fictional place. It might be a laboratory, a prison, a casino, etc. Players must work together to solve puzzles built into the room in order to "escape" before time runs out. This is an interactive, hands-on group activity that incorporates teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving. Businesses throughout the country have discovered the team-building benefits of escape rooms.

While there are hundreds of escape rooms operating throughout America, our area has been slow to join the trend. EscapeWorks opened in May with a museum-based game. Players take a behind-the-scenes tour of the fictional Watley History Museum and must solve entertaining puzzles built into the exhibits. Players are IN the story, not just watching it. "We went to great lengths to create a fun, challenging game that appeals to everyone," said Dr. Michael Whalen, co-owner. "We've seen families, workplace groups, and sports teams play our game, as well as bachelorette parties and group dates." The museum game will operate until the end of October, then will give way to a new "Criminal Minds" experience in November. Photos, video, and enthusiastic reviews from happy players can be seen on the EscapeWorks Facebook page (EscapeWorksOhioValley) and web site. Owners can be reached at (304) 639-8985 or via email: admin@escapeworks-ov.com.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Chamber's Business Spotlight once again shines bright on the Chambers and James Funeral, Pet and Cremation Services of Follansbee and Wellsburg, WV. Eric Fithyan, owner and remembrance planner is proud to announce that the funeral homes have earned the prestigious National Funeral Director Association Pursuit of Excellence for the third year in a row. "This year is unique, this award we bring back to the Ohio Valley especially the families we serve," explained Eric Fithyan.

In addition to being in the top 2% of funeral homes with key area of proficiency including compliance with state and federal regulations, offering outstanding programs and resources to bereaved families, maintaining an active level of involvement in the community participating and actively servicing in the funeral service profession, the funeral homes were also nominated as the Best of the Best finalist. Each year we add another new project or program and this year our James Garden was our new idea," Eric explained. Our staff was amazed that we landed our project on the top of funeral service international." Think about that our local Chambers and James Funeral Homes, serve us and are ranked top in funeral service internationally. This is one reason the spot light shines on them.

The second spot light comes from the Herald Star and Weirton Daily Times where the funeral homes were named Reader's Choice Best of the Best Funeral Homes and Friendliest Employee respectively for three consecutive years. Join the Chamber in congratulating the Chambers and James Funeral Homes for being the best for grieving families of our community. Look for the next project on Facebook at Chambers & James

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Weirton County

Chamber of Commerce

Thanks WV Central Newspaper

for providing **NEW**

Chamber members the opportunity to receive a complimentary full page advertising

Our Newest Members:

Bidell Gas Compression, Inc.
Dan Martin
1400 Main Street, Weirton
304-748-8601
clotzgeselle@bidell.com

Cricket Wireless
Taryn Veal
247 Three Springs Drive
Weirton, WV 26062
weirton@ringringwireless.com