



Quarterly Newsletter
Patrick County Chamber of Commerce
February 29, 2012, Volume 8, Number 1

The Official Publication of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce
Tom Bishop, Executive Director

For questions call 276-694-6012 Office, or 276-692-6174 Mobile

*E-Mail: patcchamber@embarqmail.com For More information check out our web site:
www.patrickchamber.com*

New Members Reported as of February 29, 2012

The following new members have been added since the last newsletter:

- Laurel Point Villa-Meadows of Dan (Lodging)
- Blue Ridge Mountain Real Estate-Stuart
- Leon Bowman Garage-Ararat
- Evelyn Boyd-Free Union Quilts – Meadows of Dan (artist)
- Carol Beasley – Stuart – stained glass artist
- Valley Builders – Stuart
- Mountain Get Away-Floyd (lodging)
- Del. Charles Poindexter – Glade Hill
- Tuggles Gap Motel and Restaurant – Floyd
- Preston Ridge Winery-Martinsville
- Debbie's Catering-Stoneville, NC
- Patrick County Food Bank-Stuart

Welcome to all our new members!

Chamber Office is a Distribution Site for Trash Pick-Up Bags

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce has the VDOT orange trash bags available to the public in their assistance in helping with the 'Spring Litter Clean Up'. So be sure to come by and pick up some bags and help with the beautification of our County.

Community Wide Litter Pickup Announced for March and April

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce has just announced the Spring Litter Pick Up campaign for Patrick County, VA. This is a cooperative effort with The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, Patrick Soil and Water Conservation District, County of Patrick, Patrick County Sheriff's Office, Dan River Basin, and Town of Stuart working with local businesses, civic clubs, churches, Scouts, individuals and other organizations.

The idea is to collect litter surrounding your business, church, organization and home or other designated locations. We encourage you to help clean up the neighborhoods, recognizing that Spring and Summer are when we have a large number of visitors in our County to participate in many activities.

Disposal of Propane Cylinders-Spring Clean Up Campaign

Clark Gas and Oil of Stuart, VA is willing to be a disposable site for any old and unused propane cylinders. This is for those used for grills, RV and other usages. These cylinders will be safely taken out of service and then recycled properly. Also this includes disposable propane cylinders that are used for camping and hand held torches for plumbing and soldering repairs.

Chamber Business After Hours Schedule – Early 2012

April 19, Patrick County Building Supply, Stuart – 5:30pm
May, Primland of Meadows of Dan – Date to be determined.
June 12, Wolf Creek Farm and JEB Stuart Birthplace, 5:30pm, Ararat
July 10, Chateau Morrisette Winery, 5:30pm, Meadows of Dan

Virginia State Peach Festival Plans 2012

The Annual Friday night Music Celebration is planned for Friday evening, August 17 at the DeHart Park in Stuart, VA. This will be an opportunity for our local peach orchards to showcase their products and local businesses to be on display, with added crafters and food/beverage vendors. The music program is in the planning stage with quality performances expected.

The Meadows of Dan Folk Fair, portion of the Peach Festival, will be in the business community of Meadows of Dan, on Saturday August 18, beginning at 10:00am, with orchards, food vendors, music programs, heritage arts and crafts. It will be a great time to taste our local peaches, peach butter, peach cobbler and peach ice cream.

AT&T Cell Towers in Patrick County

Three new AT & T Cell Phone towers have been constructed in Patrick County on the U. S. 58 Corridor. The towers are located in Patrick Springs (Vernon Drive), South Fork Loop and Stella Road. Two additional existing towers will have AT&T presence and they are the Nettle Ridge Cell Tower and the Rucker Mountain (Stuart) Cell tower. At this moment the availability of this new service has not been announced.

Red Cross Office In Stuart Virginia Has New Director

The Red Cross office in Stonewall Court, Stuart, VA has a new director. He is Roger O. Rouellier. Telephone: 276-694-3505. Office hours are 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Monday-Friday.

CPL JB Kerns Honored With Parade by Patriot Guard-Martinsville

On February 9, Cpl. Joshua B. Kerns, of Ararat, VA, was honored with a parade from the Blue Ridge Airport to the Martinsville Speedway and then a Press Conference with Movie Actor Gary Sinise announcing a fund raiser. At this press conference, Actor Gary Sinise (Gary Sinise Foundation) and The Stephen Siller Foundation (and The Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation) announced a fund raiser to help build Cpl. Kerns a new log home on the banks of the Ararat River. This will be a Concert at the Martinsville High School with the Gary Sinise Band, "LT. Dan Band" on March 31, 2012.

Lisa Martin at The Homestead Is Honored

Lisa Martin, the Program coordinator at The Reynolds Homestead, was selected for the "Bull's Eye Award" by the Office of Outreach and International Affairs, Blacksburg, VA. Honorees are nominated by their peers and chosen by a committee. This award recognizes employees who combine learning, discovery and engagement in a program or project that targets a community need.

Patrick County Sheriff's Office Auction Sale-March 3-Stuart

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office will conduct an auction to sell surplus and seized equipment on March 3, 2012 at 10:00am. Telephone for questions: 276-694-3161. Inspection date is Friday, March 2nd. The sale includes real estate, hand tools, autos, trucks, jewelry and appliances.

Jane's Country Cafe Opening-Meadows of Dan

A new restaurant, Jane's Country Cafe, will be opening on March 1st in the Meadows of Dan, VA business community next door to Poor Farmer's Market on Business Route 58

National Civil War Park Clean Up Day-Ararat-Mar-31-2012

March 31, 2012 is National Civil War Park Clean Up Day, at Laurel Hill, birthplace of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, CSA. Volunteers are needed. Bring your own tools. Light snacks and drinks provided. Telephone for more information 276-694-6429.

Unemployment for Patrick County

The December, 2011 unemployment rate for Patrick County, VA went to 8.6%. It was 7.9% in November 2011. (As reported by the Virginia Employment Commission)

Patrick Building Supply Opens New Store

Patrick Building Supply opened a new store building on Jeb Stuart Highway, near Stuart, VA on January 1st. They now offer over 4000 new stock items. They will have a Grand Opening on the weekend of April 20-21. The store front in Downtown Stuart has been closed.

Jamie's Recycling Center to Relocate to South Mayo

Jamie's Recycling of Stuart/Patrick Springs, VA is relocating from the U. S. 58 location to the new site on South Mayo Drive. The opening date has not been announced.

Claudville Virginia Native Hired by Gov. McDonnell PAC Team

Gov. Bob McDonnell has hired E. Alex Stanley, formerly of Claudville, VA as director of his political action committee. She worked on Senator William Stanley (R-Moneta) campaign in 2011 and also on Gov. Bob McDonnell's gubernatorial campaign in 2009.
(News source: Washington Post-Jan. 25, 2012)

Cale Yarborough and Glen Wood Selected for NASCAR Hall of Fame

Cale Yarborough was inducted to the NASCAR Hall of Fame on Jan. 20 along with Glen Wood (Stuart, VA). Cale was a former driver of Wood Brothers Racing. Wood, a four-time NASCAR premier series winner, left the driver's seat to own the fabled No. 21 Wood Brothers Ford team. With his four brothers, who include NASCAR Hall of Fame nominee and crew chief Leonard Wood, the organization counts 98 victories, including its fifth Daytona 500 win in 2011 with 20-year-old Trevor Bayne. Those who drove for the 86-year-old Wood's Stuart, Va.-based team included fellow inductee Yarborough, NASCAR Hall of Famer David Pearson, A.J. Foyt and road racer Dan Gurney. "This is not just about me being inducted in the Hall of Fame," said Wood. "It's also about the Wood Brothers. And it's about NASCAR. And I'm proud to have been a NASCAR driver and car owner for the past 60 years, and I'm proud of this great honor."

Clark Gas and Oil Make \$18,500 In Donations to 17 Patrick Co. Agencies

Clark Gas & Oil of Stuart, VA has made donations amounting to \$18,500 to 17 different Fire-Rescue and Non-Profit Agencies. Presenting checks was Blair Clark, Anna Lester and William B. Clark. Clark is a locally owned family business and has served home heating fuels, including oil heat, propane gas, appliances and hearth products since 1928.

Blue Ridge Airport Plans \$25 Million Expansion-Spencer, VA

Blue Ridge Regional Airport in Spencer, VA is planning a \$25 million, 20 year plan to improve the airport with extended runway, new terminal building and other improvements. The Blue Ridge Airport has recently purchased additional land, with a value of \$711,000 with funding from the Federal Aviation Administration of 95%. (Source: Martinsville Bulletin, Page 1, January 13, 2011). Blue Ridge Airport is a member of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce.

Mid Atlantic Textile Buys Out Basic Linen Service of Stuart, VA

Mid-Atlantic Textile, LLC, has purchased the business, Basic Linen Service of Stuart, VA. The business location is 636 Mayo Court, Stuart, VA 24171. Mid Atlantic Textile is an industrial launderer.

Dr. Lock Boyce Elected Chairman of Patrick Board of Supervisors

Dr. Lock Boyce was elected Chairman of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors at the January 9, 2012 meeting. Selected as Vice Chairman was newly elected Board Member, Danny Foley, Sr.

Dr. Lock Boyce is the owner of Boyce Holland Veterinary Services near Stuart in the Peter's Creek District. He was recently elected for a second term. Danny Foley, Sr. is the manager of Foley's Used Cars near the Patrick County-Henry County line in the Mayo River District. Both Dr. Boyce and Mr. Foley are members of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce.

Sen. Bill Wampler of Tazewell, VA Will Head New College-Martinsville

New College Institute board named former Senator William C. Wampler, Jr. as the new Executive Director, replacing Barry Dorsey. Mr. Wampler is retiring from the State Senate where he served for 24 years. (As reported by the Martinsville Bulletin, Martinsville, VA.)

Bill Goad of Stuart, VA Business Success Story

Congratulation is in order for Bill Goad, President, of CMP Human Resources LLC based in Patrick County, Virginia. With help from the Enterprise Virginia program that is part of an entrepreneurial initiative at the West Piedmont Business Development Center, Bill was empowered to step out in faith and start his own business that has experienced remarkable growth in 2011. He was recognized by United Virginia as a 2011 success story.

Morgan Shepherd Presents Check for \$13,000 To PARC Workshop-Stuart

Nationwide race car driver, Morgan Shepherd, No. 89 "Racing For Jesus" Car, presented a donation to the Stuart PARC Workshop for \$13,000 on December 19, 2011. This is an annual event when Morgan brings his car hauler and a tour bus of followers and contributors to the PARC Workshop and visits clients, provides music entertainment, provides Christmas presents and conducts an autograph signing at their Christmas party.

It is truly a fun day for clients as "Harvey Garvey Tator", Barry McGhee, a Christian comedian, provides humorous music and entertainment. Also on hand for the event was Dennis Setzer, veteran of the Craftsman Truck Race Series, from Newton, NC and PRN Race Announcer, Mark Barrow.

Ricky Skaggs And Kentucky Thunder To Play At Floydfest 2012 –July 26-29 “Lovers Rock”

Fourteen-time GRAMMY Award winner Ricky Skaggs will appear at the Floydfest in 2012 in Patrick County, VA. Additionally, Allison Kraus will appear too. "Guitarist Chet Atkins once credited Skaggs with "single-handedly saving country music." His life's path has taken him to various musical genres, from where it all began in bluegrass music, to striking out on new musical journeys, while still leaving his musical roots intact." (As reported by Across-The-Way Productions). We have recently learned that the Fandango Beer and Wine Festival for early July has been cancelled.

Jim Litten Elected Grand Senior Deacon of Grand Lodge of Virginia

Jim Litten, local real estate business owner, has been elected Grand Senior deacon at the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He has been a member of the Stuart Mountain Home Masonic Lodge in Stuart for 24 years. This election puts him in line to become the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in year 2016.

FREE Seminar - Preserving Family Assets-PH Community College-Stuart

You are encouraged to attend the free seminar on "Preserving Family Assets With Long Term Care Insurance". Stuart, Va. March 15th, 6pm. Call Edward Jones Investments to RSVP (276-694-3694) Location: Patrick Henry Community College, Room 103, Address: 212 Wood Brothers Drive, Stuart, VA.

Senator George Allen Tours Southwest Virginia

Former U. S. Senator and former VA Governor, George Allen toured Southwest, VA on the weekend of February 18-19, and made a stop at W & W Produce in Patrick County (Stuart) and talked with the local press and listened to the concerns of local businessmen and local residents. He is making another run for the U. S. Senate.

Clearing Mayo River Flood Channel Underway-Stuart

Work is underway to clear out the flood channel on the Mayo River near the Narrowflex Plant, adjacent to South Main Street Stuart. This required a lot of dirt hauling. This work is being done by the County and Town of Stuart employees using their own equipment. This work is necessary to keep this flood channel clear, as required by the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers.

Upcoming Special Events

Martinsville Fast Track Trade Show, March 6-7, Martinsville
Caring Hearts Free Clinic Gala at Reynolds Homestead, Mar. 10, Critz
Martinsville NASCAR race, April 1, Martinsville (Goody's Fast Relief 500-Sprint Cup)
Customer Service Workshop, PH Community College, April 18, Stuart
50th Anniversary Celebration, Gordon Trent Golf Course, April 28, Stuart
Stuart Strawberry Festival, May 19
Memorial Weekend at Dominion Valley Park, Stuart, May 25-27
Scottish Highland Games, June 2, Laurel Hill, Ararat
Memorial Day Observance, May 30, Patrick Memorial Gardens, Stuart



879 Claudville Highway, Claudville, VA 24076
Phone: 276-251-2205 Contact: Jeffrey A. Moore
Email: jam@freelancecompanion.com
Website: www.freelancecompanion.com



The Future of Integrated Communications

With our exceptional service portfolio, rich history, strong foundation and unique way of doing business, CenturyLink is far more than simply a “phone company.” Our broad range of integrated services – including voice, data, Internet, wireless and entertainment services – is designed to help make your business more productive. And our promise of practical ingenuity is designed to deliver technology that truly works for you.

Businesses may Contact Anthony.S.Porch@CenturyLink.com or call 276-666-4253 for a free consultation or visit www.CenturyLink.com. CenturyLink is a sponsor for the Annual Chamber Banquet and the Annual Virginia State Peach Festival.

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce Office and Visitor Center is located at 20475 Jeb Stuart Highway (U. S. Route 58), Stuart, VA 24171.