



Quarterly Newsletter
Patrick County Chamber of Commerce
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Tom Bishop, Executive Director

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

E-Mail: patccchamber@embarqmail.com For More information check out our web site:

www.patrickchamber.com

New Members Reported as of October 11, 2012

The 7 new members have been added since the last newsletter:

Pro-Tech Computer Repair – Critz

Boyd's Restaurant – Ararat

Trinity Christian School-Trinity Baptist Church-Claudville

Kitcheneez-Shallotte, NC

Donna Rorrer – Individual-Critz

Jerry Helms Excavating – Stuart

Independent Living Services for the Piedmont-Danville

Welcome to all our new members!

Patrick County Tourism Reaches \$24.6 Million

The Patrick County Tourism industry has grown to \$24.65 million in year 2011 as reported by the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The payroll in Patrick County amounts to \$5.21 million for year 2011. That is 260 people employed in the industry in Patrick County. This amounts to a growth of 7.8% in tourism expenditures and growth of 2% in payroll dollar expenditures. This compares favorably with Virginia in total which shows a growth of 8% in tourism expenditures.

Dan River Park Trail Under Construction

The construction of the Dan River Trail in Ararat, VA is now under construction by J. C. Joyce Paving. On September 11 the ground breaking ceremony was held.

Gov. McDonnell Awarded Fred Herring Award

The Martinsville's Chamber Partnership for Economic Growth (C-PEG) awarded the Fred Herring Award to Gov. Bob McDonnell for helping revive the Southside's economy. Ron Haley, President of C-PEG, presented the award. Ron Haley is also President of River Community Bank.

New President of PH Community College Meets Patrick Chamber Membership

Dr. Angeline Godwin, the new President of the Patrick Henry Community College, attended the Business After Hours on October 11 at The Landmark Group in Stuart and was formally introduced by Mr. Victor Williams. She had a great opportunity to network and to socialize with our Patrick County Chamber membership. She has a great interest in promoting Economic Development in our immediate area.

RTI Begins Production in Martinsville

As reported by the October 12, Martinsville Bulletin, RTI International Metals, Inc. is up and running in Henry County. RTI's forging, grinding and hot rolling plant has been in production since January. RTI is expected to deliver titanium for use in the Airbus planes.

Chamber Business After Hours Schedule – Fall-Winter-2012

Nov. 1 – Stuart Communications – Stuart- 5:30pm

Nov. 29 – The Reynolds Homestead – Critz – 5:30pm

Sammy Shelor Wins IBMA Award

Mr. Sammy Shelor of Meadows of Dan (Patrick County), VA was awarded Banjo Performer of the Year by IBMA. He leads the band, Lonesome River Band. He and his wife operate the Mountain Meadow Farm and Craft Shop in Meadows of Dan.

Mountain Meadows Farm – Corn Maze-Meadows of Dan

The Corn Acoustics Corn Maze is open now in Meadows of Dan, just at the Blue Ridge Parkway Exit. The theme this year is 30 year Anniversary of the Lonesome River Band, led by Meadows of Dan's Sammy Shelor. They will be open September-October. To reach them, call Sue Shelor at telephone 276-952-5568 or 540-593-3279. They feature a pick your own pumpkin patch.

Doe Run Farm Corn Maze-Ararat

The Corn and Hay Maze in Ararat, VA is now open until November 4. They feature hay rides, apple launcher, fresh apples and local grown pumpkins. For more information call Jeannie and Buddy Puckett, Marigold Lane, Ararat, VA 24053. Telephones: 276-251-8287 or 336-648-5518. They are open Saturday's and Sunday, 10am-8pm (Sat.) and 1-7pm (Sun)

Patrick County Unemployment Report

Patrick County jobless rate went to 8.9% in August 2012 and it was 7.7% in July, 2012.

Windy Hill Orchards Wins County Fair Blue Ribbons

Windy Hill Orchards of Ararat, VA has won several blue ribbons at the Patrick County Fair (2012). They won blue ribbons in: 1. Peach Jam, 2. Peach Jelly, 3. Peach butter, 4. Apples - 3 categories, Granny Smith, Fiji and Winesap. They won 2nd place in Fig Jam. Congratulations to owners Debbe and Jay Noonkester. They are a member of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce.

Elizabeth Pizza Opens

Elizabeth Pizza has opened a new restaurant in Patrick Springs in the Town and Country store building. Opening Day was October 2nd.

New Crooked Road Music Visitor Guide

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce now has the new edition of The Crooked Road-Virginia's Heritage Music Trail Visitor Guide. Patrick County affiliated venues and festivals included are: Willis Gap Community Center, Patrick County Music Association, Floydfest, and Wayside Bluegrass Festival.

Poor Farmer's Farm Offers Fall Merchandise

Poor Farmer's Farm (and country store) at Vesta, VA offers a variety of apples, pumpkins, gifts, fudge, fried apple pies and their greenhouse mums. They invite travelers to stop in as they top the mountain at Lover's Leap. A great place to shop!

Chamber Provides Gift Basket for Artist

At the 37th annual J. E. B. Stuart Art Show the Patrick County Chamber provided a beautiful gift basket to a Patrick County artisan-crafter. The winner was Marcus Wood a wood crafter from Meadows of Dan. The gift basket included many collectible and memorable items representing our beautiful Patrick County.

Chateau Morrisette Wins Awards at the Women's Wine Competition

Chateau Morrisette won several awards in both the varietal and non-varietal categories at the International Women's Wine Competition. The competition was judged entirely by women. The winning wines were: Our Dog Blue-NV, double gold; 2010 Chardonnay, silver; and 2010 Chambourcin, bronze. Congratulations!

Boyd's Restaurant of Ararat Re-Opens

A Ribbon Cutting was held at Boyd's Restaurant in Ararat celebrating the reopening of the restaurant by the Boyd Family on September 7, 2012, with numerous family and friends in attendance. This is a much needed retail establishment in the Western part of Patrick County.

Reynolds Homestead Dedicates New Entrance Gate

The Reynolds Homestead at Critz, VA held an Entrance Gate Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Wednesday, October 10, 2012. The Reynolds Homestead wishes to gratefully acknowledge the Richard S. Reynolds Foundation for the generous donation that made the construction of the new entrance gate possible.

Local Pastor Leads Disaster Relief USA

Rev. Neil Pressley, of Claudville, VA is leading the Disaster Relief USA for the Cornerstone Conference of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church. This project is intended to help in time of natural disasters such as, floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

Fern Via of Critz, VA Passes Away

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce is saddened by the passing of Fern Via. She and her husband, John, operated Via's Orchard, near Critz, VA. This is the farm where the Virginia State Peach Festival was originally held. The first Peach Festival was held at the J. P. Via Orchard of Critz, August 10, 1988.

The Results Companies in Stuart Recognized

The company has been recognized for their continued support of employee education by being named a Distinguished Community Employer by the Martinsville Campus of National College. The Results Companies is an award-winning Customer Experience Management (CEM) provider of innovative contact center services for Fortune 500 companies and is located in Stuart, VA.

Chamber Collector Ornament and Mug

The 2012 version of the collector ornament and mug will be released in late October. We are keeping the announcement a surprise until they are ready for sale.

Pioneer Community Hospital to Renovate and Expand Its Facility

Planning is underway to renovate and expand services, according to Jeanette Filpi, administrator and chief executive officer. Overall plans include moving the emergency department, renovating patient rooms and adding an inpatient geriatric department.

Granite Pavers For Stuart Amphitheater at Farmers Market

The Town of Stuart is selling granite pavers at \$300.00 per 2' X 2' tile for the downtown amphitheatre and Farmer's market. The price will include engraving your name, business or loved one and is open to everyone in Patrick County. Call the town office at 276-694-3811 for more information.

Eat and Explore Cookbook for Virginia Now On Sale!

The new Virginia Cookbook is on sale at the Patrick County Chamber office in Stuart, VA for \$20.00. It includes recipes from Patrick County Citizens and advertisements for Patrick County Tourism, The Reynolds Homestead, Mountain Meadow Farm and Craft and Greenberry House, and the Virginia State Peach Festival. Get your copy while they last!

Janet Holt of Landmark Recognized

Janet Holt, a licensed assisted living administrator for the Landmark Center (Stuart, VA), was recently named a VIP member on Worldwide Who's Who. This special distinction honors individuals who have shown exceptional commitment to achieving personal and professional success. Congratulations, Janet!

Vice President Joe Biden Visits Stuart, VA

Vice President, Joe Biden, arrived unexpectedly in Stuart, VA (Patrick County), on August 14, traveling to Main Street and visiting The Coffee Break, a popular eatery. He arrived on Main Street near the El Rancho Mexican Restaurant and gave all the folks a nice greeting, speaking to the families, mothers and small children. The Executive Director of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce reached out his hand for a shake saying, "Thanks for coming to Stuart, VA and Patrick County." Mayor James McCone, introduced himself and said, "I am the Mayor of Stuart, VA." VP Biden invited him to a cup of coffee at the Coffee Break.

VA Peach Pageant Announces Winners For 2012

On August 11, the Virginia State Peach Festival Pageant (8th Annual) announced the winners in the program at the Historic Star Theatre in Stuart, VA. Winners included: Tiny Miss Peach McKenzie Dawn Holt, of Stuart, VA., Little Miss Peach, Pauline Ashley Kendrick of Woolwine, VA, Jr. Miss Peach Anna Faye Wilson of Martinsville, VA, and Miss Peach Autumn Arnder, of Mt. Airy, NC. The pageant was administered by the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the annual Virginia State Peach Festival, held in Patrick County, VA.

Allison Krauss and Union Station Entertain at Floydfest

July. 29-Allison Krauss and Union Station were the last act for Sunday's Floydfest 11. The spectators flocked the grounds and the stage for this headline group at the Blue Ridge Parkway, Patrick County, VA. The Sunday entertainment included Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder. Floydfest 11 had spectacular days on Saturday and Sunday and the weather was beautiful. Friday's schedule was interrupted by rain several times.

Upcoming Special Events

Oct. 13 – Woolwine October Festival
Oct. 13 – Black Dog Wine and Music Festival-Chateau Morrisette Winery
Oct. 19 – Rocking the Courtyard – Chateau Morrisette
Oct. 19 WHEO Radio Friday Night Jamboree at the Star Theatre-Stuart
Oct. 20 – Apple Dumpling Festival in Stuart
Oct. 20 – Dan River Park Jamboree in Ararat
Oct. 20-21 Indian Summer Days at Meadows of Dan
Oct. 21& 28 Pancake Days at Meadows of Dan



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



CenturyLink, Inc. not only provides customers with high-speed Internet service for their computers, but can also protect and support those computers, including the information on them.

CenturyLink Puts Customers @Ease with Expanded Suite of Support Services. CenturyLink @Ease™ provides computer, Internet and roadside protection. CenturyLink @Ease™ provides customers with 24/7 computer security and support services, but it doesn't stop there. For customers wanting additional protection, CenturyLink@Ease™ also offers roadside assistance and identity theft protection.

CenturyLink @Ease™ replaces the company's previous computer support services called Computer Support Packs. The new service provides CenturyLink ® High-Speed Internet (HSI) customers with the same variety of computer services as before, including computer virus and spamware protection, backup and storage, phone and web support and computer repair.

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.