



Hancock Chamber Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2014

Next Meeting

Monday,
June 23rd
6:30 pm

Weaver's
Restaurant

Guest Speaker:
Greg Murray
Washington Co.,
Maryland
Administrator

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Welcome to *Your* Inaugural Issue

WELCOME to the inaugural issue of the new Hancock Chamber of Commerce newsletter. After a brief hiatus, the Chamber will once again issue a regular newsletter filled with lots of information for local businesses.

Our goal is to offer a quarterly newsletter as a reminder and lead into each Chamber meeting. As not everyone is available to attend each Chamber meeting, this newsletter will be our way of keeping the entire membership informed of our endeavors and successes.

Please keep in mind that the Chamber newsletter will remain a work in progress. With your feedback and support, this newsletter will feature articles and information that is useful to you.

What we plan to offer with each issue will be a general welcome message from the Chamber Board, updates on projects and activities, a spotlight on a local business, advice from local business experts, and various advertisements of current issue sponsors.

As our slogan (*Working for a Wonderful Western Maryland Community*) suggests, your Chamber of Commerce has an overall goal of promoting our community. Like any chamber, we will support pro-business initiatives for the benefit our members, We also promote local tourism, and encourage business development.

Ultimately, we believe that when business prospers, everyone in the community benefits.

Business profit aside for just one moment, when citizens in our community have more job opportunities, choices of where to shop and things to buy,**THINGS TO DO**....then the community truly benefits from local commerce and business activity.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for an upcoming issue, please contact me. I'd love to hear from you.

Wayne Keefer
wkeef@cnbwv.com
301-678-6457



Chamber To Help Revive FBLA @ HMSHS

Last fall, and again this spring, Chamber representatives met with the Hancock Middle-Senior High School Principal Rodney Gayman and Business Teacher Donna Wallizer to discuss the Chamber's role in reviving the HMSHS FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) Club.

A new FBLA Club might be ready to launch with the start of

the fall 2014 school year if enrollment is sufficient. The Chamber has committed financial support which might include sponsoring banquets and providing guest speakers, among other things.

Students will work on projects during the school year with a possible trip to New York City to culminate a year of hard work.

"I'm really excited about the Chamber's opportunity to work closely with HMSHS students and staff" said Chamber President Wayne Keefer. "Our Chamber offers networking for local business and community leaders, how great is it that we may also have a small part in helping to grow our community's future leaders.."



Ernie Faust, Manager
 42 E. Main Street
 Hancock, MD 21750
 301-678-6307

*“Good business
 leaders create a
 vision, articulate
 the vision,
 passionately own
 the vision, and
 relentlessly drive it
 to completion”*

Jack Welch
 General Electric CEO
 1935—present

Faust is 2013 Business Person of the Year

Ernie Faust, manager at Hardee’s for the past 10 years, has been selected as the 2013 Hancock Business Person of the Year. He was presented with an award at the Chamber meeting in December.

Faust and Hardee’s have been quietly giving back to the Hancock community for years. Through Faust, Hardee’s has been a longtime supporter of local school programs over the years including programs related to the athletic and band

boosters, the Hancock Elementary School Playground Fund, and the Hancock Middle School Good Grades Program. More recently, Faust and Hardee’s have donated dozens of meals to the Washington County Boys & Girls Club—Hancock Afterschool Program, over a several week span.

In addition to student programs, Hardee’s, under Faust’s leadership, has sponsored such community events including the Canal Apple Days Parade,

Halloween Parade, the Community Easter Egg Hunt, and events of Hancock In Motion. Faust has also been a long time promoter of local tourism by actively supporting the Western Maryland Rail Trail and has provided materials to the Hancock Visitor’s Center.

A \$100 donation was made to a local non profit of the winner’s choice. Faust asked that the Interfaith Coalition Service receive the funds and earmark the money for food.

Know Your Chamber Board Members

The Chamber board is made up of the following individuals elected to serve for the 2014 year.

Wayne Keefer (President) is the AVP / Branch Manager/ Loan Officer at CNB Bank, Inc. in Berkeley Springs.

Penny Pittman (VP) is owner of the Blue Goose Fruit Market & Bakery

Lyn Goodwin (Secretary) is the Community Relations Program Manager at War Memorial Hospital in Berkeley Springs.

Angie Hager (Treasurer) is the Branch Relationship Manager at Susquehanna Bank in downtown Hancock.

Carolyn Clingerman is the VP / Branch Manager / Loan Officer at the Hancock Office of CNB Bank, Inc.

Tina Crawford is the owner of Paul’s Photography located at the Hancock Antique Mall on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Michelle Golden is the owner of Petals ‘N Bows flower shop on Main Street in Hancock.



Non Profit Update: Hancock Lions Club

Mark your calendars for September 20th and 21st as this is the weekend of the 38th annual Canal Apple Days Festival and parade.

Hosted by the Hancock Lions Club to celebrate our town’s storied connections to vast orchard industries and the historic C&O Canal (both of

which were important businesses in Hancock at one time), the event will again start with a parade through Main Street on Saturday at noon.

Other activities scheduled for the week include dozens of vendors selling food and crafts, a baby contest, apple cider making, and music.

The Chamber hopes to have a tent highlighting area businesses—so if you have literature or freebies from your business, please contact the Chamber so we can help promote and market your business free of charge for Chamber members. Got a menu? Sales flyers? Special event? Be sure to let us know!

What You Need To Know: Insurance

It's something we all purchase, but hope we never have a need to use it. Yes, that would be insurance. State Farm agent, and Chamber member, Sharon Elbin reports that it's a good idea to review your policy annually to determine if you have enough coverage. She also notes that coverage can be customized to keep up with your changing needs.

The first thing that might come to mind with business insurance is generally building property insurance and business

personal property. However, other coverage may also be available, such as:

- Arson Reward
- Debris Removal
- Forgery or Alteration
- Counterfeit Money
- Pollutant Cleanup / Removal
- Signs

- Employee Dishonesty
- Spoilage

Also very important to know, if your business were shut down because of a covered loss, your Businessowners Coverage Form could provide financial benefits to help make up for your loss of income.

So, if it's been a while since you last updated your insurance policy, now might be a good chance to make sure you are fully covered.



Sharon Elbin, Owner & Agent • 215 N. Pennsylvania Avenue • Hancock, MD 21750 • 301-678-5660

Have You Noticed Our Website's New Look?

If you haven't checked out the Chamber's website lately, chances are you don't know about our new look and feel.

Late last year, DH Web, a Washington County website design company, completed a facelift to www.HancockMD.com. We've now had one million visits (that's 1,000,000), so it was time for a fresh face.

For nearly a decade, if not longer, the Chamber's website was the only online site actively promoting all aspects of Hancock—business or otherwise. Although

the Town of Hancock now has a municipal website, the Chamber's webpage remains the only site devoted solely to business and tourism.

The town and Chamber, with help of Chamber volunteer Lou Close, partner on ensuring the calendar of events is updated and events are shared on both sites—our many thanks to Lou for this arduous task!

As always, your membership provides for your business to be listed on the site, along with a link to your company's website. In

keeping with our mission to promote the business community and encourage economic growth, the Chamber will also provide a listing of all commercial properties for sale.

A special thanks to Tina Crawford, local photographer and Chamber member, for providing dozens of wonderful pictures to help showcase our community on the website.

If you haven't already, check it out, and let us know what you think.

2013 Chamber Highlights

The Hancock Chamber of Commerce was very productive in 2013. Here are our highlights for the past year.

- Co-hosted, with the Hancock Lions' Club, a Meet and Greet event for 3 Mayoral and 9 Council candidates.
- Chamber Board invited the mayor, entire council, and town manager to a dinner meeting at the Log Cabin Inn to discuss local economic issues.

- Chamber and Town partnered for a multi-page spread in the Rail Trail book.
- Chamber hosted individuals from the MD Dept. of Business & Economic Development at our October meeting.
- DH Web, Inc. of Hagerstown reconstructed our website. *Please verify that your business information carried over correctly.*

- Small Business Saturday support in local paper
- 2nd annual full-page Christmas ad to promote local shopping ran in *The Hancock News*. All Hancock businesses, members or not, were listed.
- 2013 Hancock Business Person of the Year—Ernie Faust of Hardee's (See additional story in this newsletter).



Hancock Chamber of Commerce
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Place
Stamp
Here

Working for a Wonderful Western Maryland Community

Chamber Spotlight: Paul's Photography

Tina Crawford has always had a passion for photography, especially landscape photography. After a 16-year career with the US Postal Service, Tina purchased Paul's Photography in 2010. Paul Smith was looking for the right person to continue his well established business. He wanted the name to go with it and he wasn't willing to sell to just anyone. Tina was fortunate enough to be the one Paul chose.

Tina, born and raised in Warfordsburg, moved from the area in 2002. After her husband retired and her younger daughter graduated from high school, they decided it was time to move back. The Postal Service had a job for her but she was looking for something less stressful. "My mother told me I needed to get out before we all went 'Postal!'" Tina shared. Being a photographer allows Tina to use her

creativity and being her own boss is definitely more enjoyable.

Tina admits there was a learning curve going from her previous photography experience to owning a successful studio. "It would have been much more difficult if Paul had not been such a great mentor to me," Tina said.

Though Paul's Photography's bread and butter is high school seniors, "We get students from all over Washington County, Pennsylvania and West Virginia," Tina said, she is branching out more into children, family, pet and engagement portraits.

Working alongside Tina is her husband, Bob. "He is my lighting guy and we make a great team. We get along well and have a fun time together. That helps make a great

portrait session for our clients as it helps to relax them and provides cheap entertainment!"

Tina is the mother of three daughters and a Grammy to one granddaughter. She has 2 stepchildren and 4 step grandchildren. She and Bob live in Warfordsburg and her studio is located in the Hancock Antique Mall.



For more information...

Paul's Photography

266 N. Pennsylvania Ave.

Hancock, MD 21750

301-678-5222

www.PaulsPhotography.com