



Vocal Point

Norwin Chamber of Commerce February 2007

A Message From the Interim President

Mark your Calendar for the 75th Community Picnic!

While we are still in the midst of winter, let's look forward to an amazing summer and a very special milestone for the Norwin Community. 2007 marks the 75th anniversary of the annual Norwin Community Picnic.

Often touted as Idlewild's biggest day of the summer, the date for the 75th Community Picnic is Wednesday, August 1st. So mark your calendars well in advance for one of the area's oldest and most beloved traditions. There are programs of adult and children's games, as well as a generous assortment of valuable prizes. This year the Picnic Committee will be planning special ways to commemorate three quarters of a century of tradition.

Tickets go on sale near the end of June and represent a significant discount over prices at the gate. They can be used any weekday before or after the picnic, should you be unable to join us on August 1st.

To kick things off, the Picnic Planning Committee will be holding a planning meeting at the Chamber office at noon on Thursday, February 15th. If you have ever wanted to get involved, now is the time! We will need everyone's participation to make the 75th Annual Norwin Community Picnic the unforgettable anniversary event it deserves to be. Call the Chamber at 724-863-0888 for more information.

Rosanne Barry Novotnak

Chamber Person of the Year

Congratulations to Diana Falk, Director of the Norwin Public Library, our 2006 Chamber Person of the Year! Diana will be recognized for her contributions to the Chamber and our community during the Annual Dinner, to be held at Stratigos Banquet Centre on Thursday, March 22, 2007.

In addition to helping with the annual Norwin Community Picnic and attending all of the planning meetings, Diana and her staff developed a special children's program for the picnic in 2006: a rhyme-filled walk through Storybook Forest.

She has faithfully attended the Chamber's networking luncheons and monthly mixers in an effort to get to know many of the business people and community leaders in the Norwin area.

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Continuation of "Chamber Person of the Year"

Diana, along with the Norwin Public Library, supports the Job Shadowing Program sponsored by Partners In Progress and the Norwin Chamber of Commerce, and she is also a proud supporter of the Excellence in Education Luncheon, which honors the young people of our area.

Most of all, Diana has spent countless hours working to keep the Norwin Public Library of service to its many patrons, visible to our growing community, and ready for the future. While Diana is not concerned for her own future, she shares the Chamber's apprehension for the Norwin Public Library, should a small group prove successful in its May ballot initiative to repeal the 1 mil tax levy which is the library's main funding source. Though at a recent public meeting over 100 attendees displayed solid support for the library, the taxpayer group has decided to continue its efforts.

For more information on how you can help save the Norwin Public Library, call the library at 724-863-4700.

Diana Falk to speak at February 7 Luncheon

This month's Chamber Membership Luncheon takes place Wednesday, February 7th at Colonial Grille in downtown Irwin. Our guest speaker will be Diana Falk, Director of the Norwin Public Library. Diana will provide information on library programs and address community concerns about the upcoming taxpayer initiative to repeal the 1 mil tax levy which currently funds library operations.

Chamber Membership Luncheons also represent a great networking opportunity. Use the first half hour to become acquainted with area business leaders. This is your opportunity to forge alliances and create the business relationships that will last a lifetime. Join us on February 7th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Colonial Grille in Irwin. Luncheon costs are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members and guests. Reservations are required, so please call the Chamber office before noon, Monday, February 5th at 724-863-0888.

Annual Dinner Reminder

One sure sign of spring is the Norwin Chamber's Annual Dinner! Join us Thursday, March 22, 2007 at Stratigos Banquet Centre. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres are from 5:00 to 6:00 pm. Dinner follows with recognition ceremonies for our Board of Directors, Historic Members, and our Chamber Person of the Year Award.

Tickets this year are \$48 per person. Promotional tables (approximately 4 foot) are \$25 and will be available on a first come, first served basis. (Sales are not permitted.) To reserve your display table, or for more information about this year's Annual Dinner, please call the Chamber at 724-863-0888.

Library to Host February Mixer

On February 14th, the Norwin Public Library is set to host the Chamber's monthly Business to Business Mixer. From 5:00 to 7:00 pm, you can experience the new library's dynamic, modern facilities, including computer lab, computerized book catalog, children's area, and available resources from audio CDs and books on tape to DVD and VHS selections.

The Norwin Public Library represents an outstanding resource for our growing community, come and see for yourself and to show your support. Chamber Mixers also provide an outstanding opportunity to meet fellow Chamber members in a relaxed, social environment. From trusted referrals to business partnerships, becoming known in the business community is one of the keys to your success. If you've never experienced a Chamber Mixer, now is the perfect time to become involved for 2007.

Our schedule of Business to Business Mixers is already full for 2007, but it's never too early to look ahead for 2008. If you would like to learn how you too can host a mixer, giving you the opportunity to showcase your company, please call us at 724-863-0888 for more information.

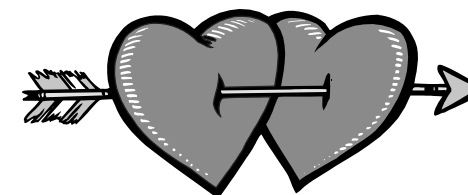
WANT Job & Career Expo

It's not too late! The 16th Annual Westmoreland Assists Native Talent Job & Career Expo takes place on February 23rd at Westmoreland County Community College. From 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, participating employers can:

- Recruit prospective employees
- Meet with job seekers and current students and alumni
- Collect résumés and conduct interviews
- Distribute company literature

Registration is \$200, or \$175 for non-profits. Your fee includes booth space, signage, an organization profile in the Employer Directory, a continental breakfast, and lunch for two representatives. Sponsorships are also available for interested businesses.

For more information, please contact Tony Gebicki at 724-755-2330, ext. 101, or visit the website at www.wantexpo.org.



Norwin Chamber of Commerce



Great Business. Great Community. Great People.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Chamber provides regional leadership through total member involvement

VISION

The Norwin Chamber of Commerce is an active organization of area businesses, industries and organizations promoting regional economic & community interests.

NORWIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007

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Attorney at Law

Jim Gallagher, Immediate Past Chairman of the Board
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John Duncan, Vice Chair of Governance and Finance
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The Davis Financial Group

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Dan Harsch, Citizens Bank

Ed Michalek,
Giant Eagle of North Huntingdon

Pamala Mielnicki, Welcome New Neighbors

John Ott,
Joseph F. Ott Funeral Home, Inc.

Dr. William Roscoe, All-Kare Chiropractic Clinic

Nancy A. Smith, Irwin Bank & Trust Company

Jill Taylor, First National Bank of Pennsylvania

Patricia Altman, Borough of Irwin

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Thomas Kerber, Sr., Township Commissioner, North Huntingdon Township

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Sandy Albert, Administrative Assistant

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