

May's Business to Business Mixer

Join us on May 9th from 5 to 7 pm at Briarcliff Pavilion, 249 Maus Drive in North Huntingdon.

Briarcliff Pavilion for Specialized Care was established in 1978 and is closely connected to the communities of North Huntingdon, Irwin, and Jeannette. Their reputation is as an attractive, high quality nursing care facility with 24 hour nursing coverage.

The facility offers recreational therapy, progressive restorative nursing, individual needs treatment, and even attention to spiritual needs such as church services and bible studies.

Don't miss this valuable networking opportunity, along with a chance to learn more about Briarcliff Pavilion. From trusted referrals to business partnerships, becoming known in the business community is one of your keys to success.

If you've never experienced a Chamber Mixer, May's event is a great place to start. Enjoy refreshments and networking in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

To learn more about Briarcliff Pavilion, you can call their facilities at 724-863-4374, or visit their web page at www.pennmed.com/briarcliff.htm.

Note: There are still a limited number of openings to host Business to Business Mixers in 2008. Yes 2008! You have to reserve early if you want to host one of these popular get-togethers. If you are interested in promoting your business through one of these popular mixers, please contact the Chamber at 724-863-0888.

Thank You Good Friday Prayer Breakfast Committee

Thank you to our Good Friday Prayer Breakfast Committee for a wonderful event on April 6th at Stratigos Banquet Centre.

"The Love, the Lamb, the Cross, and the Redeemer" provided the theme of this year's gathering, where the featured speaker was the Rev. James Leake, former pastor of the Monroeville Assembly of God.

The Rev. Leake served as pastor of the Monroeville Assembly of God for 40 years and continues to serve God through an active ministry schedule, including short-term mission trips abroad. You can learn more about the Leake's ministry at their website: www.JamesLeake.com.

Thank you to our Committee Chairman, Pastor Todd Neveu of Calvary Assembly of God, and committee members Rosanne Barry Novotnak, Norwin Chamber; Lois Bennett, First Presbyterian Church of Irwin, R.C., "Bob" Watt, RC WATT, John Ott, Joseph F. Ott Funeral Home, and Scot Noel, Computers Made Easy, Inc.



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Norwin Chamber of Commerce



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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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Vocal Point

Norwin Chamber of Commerce

MAY 2007

A Message From the President

Thank You Annual Dinner Committee

2007's Annual Dinner took place Thursday, March 22nd at Stratigos Banquet Centre. The evening proved a great success, with 43 businesses in attendance and 21 members taking advantage of this year's expo tables to display information about their goods and services.

We've heard nothing but rave reviews, especially about the Annual Dinner's theme of "Grow Your Business." There is already talk of repeating the effort in 2008, with more businesses, a longer evening, and more networking, as well as the possibility of opening the expo to public attendance.

After an excellent array of hors d'oeuvres and a delicious buffet dinner, the Chamber Person of the Year award was presented to Diana Falk, Director of the Norwin Public Library. As a member of the Norwin Chamber of Commerce, Diana demonstrates a remarkable commitment to our community, exemplifies the highest levels of integrity, and contributes to the success of the Chamber and its members.

Also honored at the Annual Dinner were long-term Chamber members whose dedication, year after year, has helped to advance our mission of providing regional leadership through total member involvement. Those members include:

35-Year Chamber Members: Colonial Grille; Grandview Nurseries Inc.; Irwin Bank

25-Year Chamber Members: Campbell's Service Center; Medicine Shoppe, Penn State Tool & Die Corporation

Our thanks go out to the Annual Dinner Committee for a job well done: Co-Chairs: Rosanne Barry Novotnak (Chamber President) and Karen Botti, Commercial Bank & Trust of PA; Christine Baverso, 1st Professional Mortgage; Frank Bonincontro, Bullseye Mortgage; Jim Duffy, Attorney at Law; Diane Hubner; Pamala Mielnicki, Welcome New Neighbors; Deanne Rymarowicz, Professional Solutions; and Nancy Smith, Irwin Bank.

We are indebted to our Annual Dinner Sponsors for making this unforgettable evening possible.

Grow Sponsor: Norwin Public Library. Water Sponsors: D. Michael Salon, GDC Fine Jewelry, Mail Priority of Norwin Hills, Michelle's Hair Boutique & Bella Boutique, and Gary J Trilli, DDS. Sow Sponsors: 1st Professional Mortgage, All-Kare Chiropractic Clinic, Business Partner of Irwin, Carlow University, CRCS, Inc., Eichelberger & Sons Heating & Air Conditioning, K Specialty, Kerber's Dairy, Ron's Thorough-Care Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning, Silpada Designs. Rake Sponsors: Mercy Jeannette Hospital and Mr. Electric.

As with so many of our major events throughout the year, the Chamber is also thankful for the dedicated, year long sponsorships of our incomparable Community Superstars. Gold Sponsor: Elliot Company. Silver Sponsors: Commercial Bank of PA, James M Duffy, Attorney at Law, Duncan Financial Group, Irwin Bank, and PDS Industries, Inc. Bronze Sponsors: First National Bank of Pennsylvania and The Ex One Company.

Rosanne Barry Novotnak

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2 Monthly Chamber Luncheon
11:30 a.m. – K-Vay's Restaurant
- 4 Norwin Prom Night – Please drive safely
- 8 Executive Board Meeting
8:00 a.m. – Norwin Chamber of Commerce
- 9 Business to Business Mixer
5 – 7:00 p.m. – Briarcliff Pavilion
- 9 Irwin Borough Council Meeting
6:00 p.m. – Council Chambers
- 13 Mother's Day
- 14 North Irwin Borough Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. – Council Chambers
- 15 Board of Directors Meeting
7:30 a.m. – Norwin Chamber of Commerce
- 15 Golf Invitational Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m. – Norwin Chamber of Commerce
- 16 North Huntingdon Township Commissioners
7:00 p.m. – North Huntingdon Townhouse
- 17 Membership Committee Blitz
9 – 11:00 a.m. – Norwin Chamber of Commerce
- 17 Norwin Community Picnic Committee
12:00 p.m. – Norwin Chamber of Commerce
- 18 Excellence in Education Luncheon
11:15 – 1:00 p.m. – Stratigos Banquet Centre
- 28 Chamber Office Closed on Memorial Day
- 29 Norwin School Picnic

Golf Invitational 2007

Join us for this wonderful networking opportunity in support of the Norwin Chamber of Commerce, but if you haven't registered yet, time is running out! Changes this year include the day --now on a Friday-- June 8th, with sign-in at 9:00 a.m. and a shotgun start at 10:30 a.m.

Come enjoy a day of challenging golf, fun, and prizes at the beautiful Youghiogheny Country Club. The registration fee remains the same at \$125 per person, which includes greens fees, golf cart, box lunch, course refreshments, open bar from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., dinner buffet at 4:00 p.m., prizes, and awards. (Payment must accompany registration.)

Skill prizes awarded for 1st Hole in One, Longest Putt, Men's Longest Drive, Women's Longest Drive, and Closest to the Pin. Check the Golf Invitational flyer with this issue for more information, including the registration deadline, and register today! Or call the Chamber at 724-863-0888.



Special Edition 75th Norwin Community Day T-Shirts

Something new has been added to the Norwin Community Day Picnic this year. The Norwin Chamber is designing a commemorative t-shirt to celebrate 75 years of summer fun and tradition. You have two ways to participate, but hurry, this opportunity is on a first-come, first-served basis! Both options feature a specially designed 75th picnic logo on the front and sponsor ads on the back.

And don't forget! Wednesday, August 1st, 2007 is the date for the 75th Norwin Community Day Picnic. Lots of prizes and festivities are planned. Tickets go on sale near the end of June, and can be purchased at a significant discount over gate prices, only \$15 for a regular ticket and \$14 for seniors. At these prices, you should buy an extra set of tickets to be used later in summer! Our tickets are good any weekday before or after the picnic (just in case you can't join us on August 1st.)

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.

T-Shirt Option One:

13 sponsor ads on a print run of 500 t-shirts.

- One center ad approx. 5 X 5" -- \$1,000 (sponsor receives 20 free t-shirts.)
- SOLD OUT: Two center ads approx. 3.5 X 3.5"-- \$750 each (sponsors receive 15 free t-shirts)
- Ten ads positioned about the center ads, approx. 2.5 X 2.5" -- \$500 each (sponsors receive 10 free t-shirts.)
- Option One T-Shirts will be sold to the public for \$10 each.

T-Shirt Option Two:

Your sponsor ad as the only logo featured on the back of the shirt!

- One time setup fee of \$25
- Shirts available to your company for \$10 each.
- Not sold to the public.

Enjoy Member-2-Member Discounts

Membership cards have been provided for each of your employees. Great discounts have been offered. Why not take advantage?

The Norwin Chamber of Commerce's Member-2-Member Program allows Chamber members to offer exclusive discounts directly to fellow members! These discounts extend not just to executives, but to all of the member's employees! It's a great way not only to market your business to the masses, but to provide a tangible benefit of Chamber membership to your entire workforce.

From introductory FREE childcare to 50% off valued memberships and more than a dozen other special offers, you'll find current discounts on the Chamber website at www.norwinchamber.com/Membership.htm.

Please call the Chamber today at 724-863-0888.

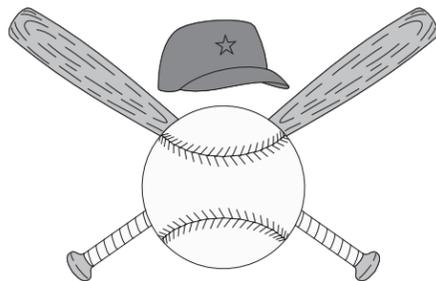
40th Annual Thunder Bucket Classic in July

After enjoying the community spirit of Norwin's Relay for Life, come back to Norwin High School the following weekend for the 40th Annual Thunder Bucket Classic.

Usually held during the Norwin Community Day Picnic, this year our traditional softball game between the Norwin Rotary and Norwin faculty takes place the weekend prior to the picnic, Sunday, July 29th at 6:30 p.m. This is a hotly contested game over a worn but honored bucket, and while that part of the competition remains the same, this year things will be different.

This year the Thunder Bucket Classic becomes a fundraiser for the Chamber's annual scholarship program, and additions include a 50/50 raffle, an ice cream social generously sponsored by Chamber member Kerber's Dairy, and the opportunity to benefit promising Norwin students.

If you've never attended this event, this is the year to start. If you have always enjoyed this famous softball challenge, come out this year to support our scholarship efforts and see who wins the 40th Annual Thunder Bucket Classic.



May's Monthly Networking Luncheon

Join us Wednesday, May 2nd for the Chamber's Monthly Membership Luncheon. This month's luncheon will be at K-Vay's Restaurant, located on Mars Hills Road, RD #1 Irwin, between the towns of Rillton and Sutersville.

In May, our speaker is Maureen Ciarolla of AmeriSource Trust HRO Group. She will be speaking on human resource management. AmeriSource is a private, woman owned business specializing in cost-effective outsourcing of non-productive employee administration functions. They offer enhanced benefits packages, human resource support, and risk management, as well as customized Personnel Management Systems. For more information, you can contact Maureen at 412-372-1332 or via email at mciarolla@comcast.net.

Don't miss this outstanding opportunity to network with fellow members and to keep up to date with experienced speakers. May's Networking Luncheon takes place from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at K-Vay's Restaurant. Costs are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members and guests. Reservations are required, so please call the Chamber by noon, April 30th at 724-863-0888.



Annual Dinner Photos

Excellence in Education Luncheon

2007's Excellence in Education Luncheon takes place on Friday, May 18th at Stratigos Banquet Centre, 131 Colonial Manor Rd., North Huntingdon.

Each year, the Norwin School District and the Norwin Chamber of Commerce are brought together by Partners in Progress to help administer programs of benefit to area students. At year's end, these efforts come together in the Excellence in Education Luncheon, which honors the top 5% of the graduating class (or the top 20 graduates, whichever is greater), based on class rankings at the end of the junior year.

This program provides for a memorable and motivational day in the lives of our young achievers.

This year, the honor goes to 21 students, whose proud parents and grandparents may also attend and share in the student's hour of distinction. During the luncheon, each honoree is presented with an engraved leather binder, displaying their name, class, and Excellence in Education.

"It is an important day for these young men and women," said Rosanne Barry Novotnak, the coordinator of the Excellence in Education Luncheon. "The luncheon is a sign that the community has come together to congratulate our students on a job well done. They come away with increased self-confidence and the spirit necessary to meet the challenges ahead."

For more information, and to find out how you can contribute to the future success of the Excellence in Education program, please call the chamber at 724-863-0888.

Beautification Project

You can help keep our community spirit alive and well by contributing to the Norwin Area Beautification Project. This project organizes and maintains four flower islands along Route 30, the two most prominent near Irwin's Dunkin Donuts and at the Norwin Hills Plaza.

The Beautification Project relies on an all-volunteer force and the contributions of local businesses to make our local landscapes a green and flowering treasure. Your dollars allow for the purchase of bulbs, flowers, water, mulch, and other supplies.

"Our biggest volunteer labor force helps out in May," explained Warren Gardner, a former Biology and Physics instructor at Norwin High School and the Chairman of the Beautification Committee. "It's a lot of hard work putting in the flowers, but everyone in the community sees the results all summer long."

If your company is interested in donating either time or money to help keep the Norwin Beautification Project alive and growing, please contact Warren Gardner at 412-751-1357 or call the Chamber office at 724-863-0888.

We are still accepting donations! Your \$25 donation goes a long way in keeping the flower islands growing! Make checks payable to the Norwin Chamber of Commerce Beautification Project and mail them to us at 321 Main Street, Irwin, PA 15642.