

MARCH 2006

THE CHAMBER NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER MUHLENBERG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Lt. Gov. Pence Highlights March 16 Meeting



Steve Pence

Lieutenant Governor
of Kentucky

The Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome **Lieutenant Governor Steve Pence** as the guest speaker at our March meeting. To accommodate the Lt. Governor's schedule, the meeting date has been changed from the second Thursday to **Thursday, March 16**, and moved to the **Christian Life Center of the First Baptist Church in Greenville** in order to better accommodate the anticipated crowd. The meeting will begin at 12 noon.

In honor of Pence's appearance, a brief presentation will be made as part of the program by STAND (Students Talking About Narcotics Dangers). This group of high school students is a subcommittee of the Drug Endangered Children's Coalition. Lt. Gov. Pence also serves as Secretary of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, which is tasked with leading Kentucky's war on illegal drugs and substance abuse.

Also, the Bremen Eagle Express children's choir, directed by Mr. Larry Vaught, will perform during our meal.

To adequately plan for the anticipated crowd, RSVP's will be required for this special meeting. Please contact Dorothy Walker at 338-5422 or Shelia Bivins at 754-2360 by Tuesday, March 14, to reserve your space.

We also want to offer a special thank you to the professionals at **RE/MAX Real Estate Executives** for sponsoring the March meeting. We truly appreciate your support of the Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce in this special way.



"Chamber After Five" Debuts March 20th

As your Chamber president, I'm proud to announce that **Monday, March 20**, will mark our first "**Chamber After Five**" event. The **UK Cooperative Extension Office** will be hosting the reception from 5 p.m. until approximately 6 p.m. This is a great opportunity for those of you who are unable to attend noon meetings to meet and interact with other Chamber members. Extension Programs will be highlighted through information stations and refreshments will be served, **so please join us!** The UK Extension Office is adjacent to Paradise Park and 911 Central Dispatch located just off the 189-Bypass at Powderly (across the street from the Muhlenberg County Ag & Convention Center).

We'll see you there!

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Chamber Website

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Work on the Chamber website continues. The current Chamber Membership list is now posted. Please log onto www.muhlenbergchamber.org and double-check your information for accuracy. We have included links to member websites where provided. Also, we would appreciate it if you could add a Chamber link on your website!

The website is an evolving process, but we hope to have it complete by the end of June. Check back frequently for updates on the Calendar of Events, Tourism, and other areas.

If you have events or other relevant information that needs to be posted, just contact Dorothy or Shelia.

Community Events, Meetings, Reminders

A ribbon cutting will be held on March 24th at 2:00 p.m. for the new Reflection's Unit located at Maple Manor Healthcare & Rehabilitation in Greenville. This specialized unit will be for the care and treatment of Alzheimer's patients. We hope you will mark your calendar to attend this celebration.

An Open House to welcome Dr. Lesley Shure, Orthopedic Surgeon & Dr. Carl Rosen, Urologist, to our community will be held at 211 Cherry Street in Greenville, KY on Sunday, March 5th from 1:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. The public is invited.

An Open House/Ribbon Cutting will be held on Sunday, March 12 from 2- 4 (Ribbon Cutting at 2:00) at the newly expanded and remodeled Emergency Room and MRI facilities of Muhlenberg Community Hospital.

Get Moving/Start Losing Muhlenberg kickoff is March 13, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at MSHS. The program encourages physical activity and /or weight loss. Participants may sign up by attending the kickoff event or registration materials may be picked up at the Extension Office in Powderly.

The Drug Endangered Children's Coalition will meet March 21st at 2:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. This meeting is open to the public and will provide updates on what is happening in Muhlenberg County.

The Muhlenberg County Quilters will be displaying their beautiful stitchery during March at the Duncan Cultural Center. Open House will be held Saturday, March 11th from 1-4 p.m. Enjoy live music and refreshments!

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be held March 14th from 12-6 pm at the Greenville Second Baptist Church.

The Character
Counts
Pillar for March is
Citizenship
Serving Our
Community and
Country through
Our Actions

RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER! Summerfest will be held in downtown Central City May 3-6. We need at least 10 community-minded businesses that are brave, fun-loving and talented-enough to volunteer to creatively "lip sync" a song. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. This should be a lot of fun for all involved, Please contact David Richey at 754-3300 or Shelia at 754-2360 to reserve your spot.

Educational Opportunities

“Budgeting (All your bills-Personal Finances) by Teresa V. Fisher—Certified Securities Examiner— will be presented on Saturday, March 11th at 9:00 a.m. at the Harbin Memorial Library Meeting Room. This is a free workshop and attendees will receive a free take-home empowerment guide relating to the workshop.

Get ready for Spring with Darrell Simpson at the Extension Office in Powderly. On April 1st, learn about soil testing, lawn care, and landscaping. Please register at the Harbin Memorial Library.

Apply now for Summer and Fall 2006 Classes at the Muhlenberg County Campus. To get started: Submit admission application; submit official high school or GED transcript along with previous college transcripts; submit placement test scores; apply for financial aid (if needed). Call 270-757-9881 for additional information.

Everly Brothers Honored by Kentucky

Don & Phil Everly recently received the Governor's National Award for the Performing Arts at a ceremony in Frankfort. The award was for Kentuckians that have gone on to national and international fame in the performing arts while maintaining a Kentucky presence and promoting their home state. Central City Mayor Hugh Sweatt (left) and Judge Executive Rodney Kirtley (right) accepted the award from State Representative Brent Yonts on behalf of Don & Phil Everly who were unable to attend due to performance obligations.



Grant Opportunities Available to Rural Companies

The Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation has announced a new cycle of Rural Innovation Fund: Level 1 funding. The mission of these funds is to “assist rural companies with the commercialization of a product/process/technology with the ultimate goal of developing new or value-added companies, jobs, technology, products, processes, or services.” KSTC is now accepting applications for grants of up to \$25,000 to innovative companies in the rural counties of Kentucky. The application deadline is March 31, 2006.

Interested companies should consult the website at www.startupkentucky.com/?13 for fund requirement and application guidelines. To locate the director serving this region see www.startupkentucky.com/?78.

Be Part of the Business Retention & Expansion Survey Process

The Chamber-sponsored Business Retention & Expansion Survey is now underway. We have identified a cross-section of approximately 45 existing businesses in Muhlenberg County that will be asked to participate in this important study by the Chamber, the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University.

We plan to train 10 teams of two persons to conduct 4-5 interviews per team. The training will be held on Thursday, March 30, at the Conference Room of First Kentucky Bank in Central City. Two one-hour sessions will be offered at 12 noon and 4:30 p.m.

If you can help the Chamber by being a part of a survey team, please call Dorothy or Shelia ASAP!

Don't forget. The next meeting of the Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce is Thursday, March 16, at the Christian Life Center of First Baptist Church in Greenville.

Don't forget to RSVP for this very special meeting featuring Lt. Governor Steve Pence.

- Also, special thanks again to our March meeting sponsor -



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