

The StrongLand Quickletter

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SERVING SOUTHERN ARMSTRONG & NORTHERN WESTMORLAND COUNTIES

Chamber Mission . . . To advance the economic, industrial, professional, cultural and civic welfare in order to improve the "Quality of Life" in communities served by StrongLand.



BIKE RACE SPONSORS RECOGNIZED...THE UNCLE CHARLEY'S TOUR DE STRONGLAND

Please come to and enjoy the 2011 **Uncle Charley's Tour de StrongLand Bike Race**, scheduled for September 10 and 11, 2011. That's right, **Uncle Charley's**, remembering their role with the Pittsburgh Steelers, is now the official Sausage of the Tour de StrongLand. **John Meighan**, Superintendent of the **Kiski Area School District**, will be our official Master of Ceremony for the Bike Race on Sunday. He will make a special effort to remember **those brave soles that lost their lives 10 years ago**, almost to the hour, on that fateful day. Please come and take part in this meaningful ceremony which will begin around 9 a.m.

We want to take the time to thank all of those StrongLand Businesses who provided sponsorships to make this event possible and they are as follows: **Uncle Charley's Sausage Company** for being the Event's Major Sponsor; our Media Sponsors, **Myers Print Shop, Trib Total Media and Comcast Spotlight**; our First Place Sponsors, **McCutcheon Enterprises, Inc., Peoples Natural Gas and West Haven Manor**; our Second Place Sponsors, **Allegheny Valley Hospital, Byers Taxi Service, Leeds and Pro Bikes**; our Third Place Sponsors, **Ferguson Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc, Stanford Home Centers and Tees-n-Tops**; and our Fourth Place Sponsors, **Adelphoi Village, Five Starr Catering, Kalmar Motor Sales, Inc., Met-Tec Inc., and WESTARM Therapy & Homecare**.

This year **Pro Bikes** with locations in Monroeville, South Hills and Squirrel Hill will be providing Tech Support (bike repair service) for our hundreds of riders that will gather on September 10th and 11th at **Roaring Run**, near Apollo and at Allegheny Township, respectively. We will begin selling raffle tickets in August so that someone will be able to be selected on September 11th to win the Mountain Bike Raffle. The antique classic car show and dozens of arts, crafts and food booths will make the Sunday event worth seeing. **See you at the races!!!** ■

IT'S COMING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011 ...THE A-K VALLEY BUSINESS TO BUSINESS TRADE SHOW !

What's the best way to find new customers and at the same time discover local suppliers of products and services.... that would be to set up a table at the A-K Valley Business to Business Trade Show, sponsored by the StrongLand Chamber of Commerce. Mark your calendar now for **Tuesday, October 11th, 2011** at the Clarion Inn on the Tarentum Bridge Road in New Kensington for this fabulous event. On that date businesses from all over the StrongLand and the Alle-Kiski Region will gather to discover if they have accounts payable or receivable in common. Set up anytime from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., network till noon, have a great buffet lunch, teardown and get back to work. It's a great chance to purchase items locally to save money and an opportunity to sell your products and services to larger and smaller companies than yourself. **Check out the flier in this mailing to sign up early for the 2011 Business to Business Trade Show. Don't have time to fill out the flier then call us at 724-845-5426 to reserve your table and lunch.** ■



Aug./Sept. 2011 Calendar of Events

- Aug. 17** - 8:00 am - Government Relations Committee Mtg., McCutcheon Enterprises
- Aug. 18** - 5:30 pm - Bike Race Committee Mtg., Chamber Office
- Aug. 25** - 8:00 am - Committee Chair Meeting, Giant Eagle Conference Room
- Aug. 29** - Noon - Finance Committee Meeting, Chamber Office.
- Sept. 05** - Have a safe holiday!
- Sept. 08** - 7:30 am - StrongLand Board Meeting, Allegheny Twp. Community Bldg.
- Sept. 06** - Noon - Special Events Committee Meeting, Chamber Office
- Sept. 10 & 11** - **Tour de StrongLand Bike Race**, Roaring Run & Allegheny Twp.
- Sept. 13** - 9:00 am - Membership/Marketing Combine Committee Meeting, Giant Eagle Conference Room
- Sept. 15** - 12:30 pm - Education Committee Mtg., Conference Rm., Parks Bend
- Sept. 19** - Noon - KVE/Economic Development Committee Meeting, Chamber Office
- Sept. 21** - 8:00 am - Government Relations Committee Mtg., McCutcheon Enterprises
- Sept. 24** - Roaring Run/StrongLand Fishing Tournament, Roaring Run Recreation Area
- Sept. 29** - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm - Invention Convention Orientation, Penn State New Kensington

Inside...

Page 2

- Want New Customers...Offer a Member to Member Discount!
- Sell Tickets for the \$5000 Giant Eagle Gift Card Good For Food or Gas!
- 27th Annual Dinner and Meeting
- Invention Convention

Page 3

- Support StrongLand's Special Section in the Valley News Dispatch
- Youth Leadership Program
- Leadership Alle-Kiski Valley Recruitment & Anniversary Party
- Alle-Kiski Job Fair
- Roaring Run/StrongLand Fishing Derby

Page 4

- Members With Something To Say

Inserts...

- Tour de StrongLand Bike Race Brochure & Poster
- StrongLand Business to Business Trade Show
- Member to Member Discount Program
- The Roaring Run—StrongLand Fishing Tournament
- Advertising Opportunity with the Valley News Dispatch
- Amato Financial Services
- Lenape Adult & Continuing Education
- Celebrate 20 years of Leadership Alle-Kiski Valley!

WANT NEW CUSTOMERS...OFFER A MEMBER TO MEMBER DISCOUNT

I'd like you to pay particular attention to the enclosed letter from **Andrew Joyce**, our Chamber's **Membership Consultant** regarding the newly instituted **StrongLand Member to Member Discount Program**. This is a program that will bring you new customers and help you save money on items for your business and family, just because you belong to the StrongLand Chamber of Commerce. **Here's how it works.... You offer discounts to other StrongLand Members and they, in return, offer discounts to you.** Please read Andrew's entire letter to find out how you can take advantage of this great program!

Andrew Joyce, a Kiski Area graduate and an Allegheny Township resident, is already doing a great job for the Chamber identifying new members and finding out what current members want from their membership in the chamber. When he calls, please give him a few minutes of your time to share your ideas on how we can better serve you. ■



WANT A CHANCE TO WIN \$500 WITH NO INVESTMENT OF YOUR OWN...SELL TICKETS FOR THE \$5,000 GIANT EAGLE GIFT CARD (FOR GAS OR FOOD)

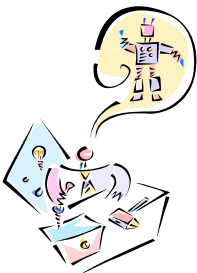
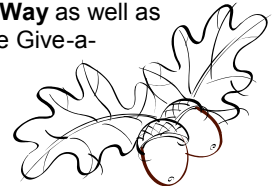
Call the StrongLand Chamber Office and **request a book of ten tickets** to sell between now and November 10th, and you might **win \$500** if one of the tickets you sell is selected at the StrongLand Annual Dinner as the winner. Better yet, buy a ticket or two for \$10 each and earn a chance to win, not only the **\$5,000** first place prize but also the extra **\$500 for selling the winning ticket**. All proceeds will go to help other worthwhile StrongLand projects like the **StrongLand High School Scholarship Program** or the **Interscholastic Quiz Bowl Program**. Another way to get your first

or an additional chance to win the \$5,000 Gift Card is to attend the **StrongLand Annual Dinner**, where you will be given a ticket automatically with your reservation. We're proud to be able to offer such a wonderful prize thanks to Giant Eagle. ■

ANNUAL DINNER PLANS ARE COMING TOGETHER ...BIG EVENT, BIG PRIZES, BIG WINNERS!!! GET A FREE CHANCE TO WIN THE \$5,000 GIANT EAGLE GIFT CARD

The biggest networking event of the year is only three months away and I am presenting it to you now to give you plenty of time save the date, Thursday, November 10th, 2011 and get ready for **one of the greatest times you will ever have**. If you remember the fun you had at the **Chamber's 25 Anniversary Party at Laube Hall**, you won't want to miss this one to be held at the same location. We expect a grand crowd of over 200 who are into really big prizes, gaming, entertainment and great food. Prizes will include among others: **the \$5,000 Giant Eagle Gift Card, the \$500 Gift Card Seller's Prize, a fabulous trip to Atlantic City, flat screen TV and many more.**

The cost to attend **will be \$50 per person** and include a complimentary entry in the **\$5,000 Gift Card Give-a-Way** as well as **money for the gaming**. You can use the money you win at the end of the evening to enter the raffle and prize Give-a-Way. We won't be asking you for any other fund raising cash that evening unless you want additional gaming tokens. Take my word for it, **you'll have a fabulous time** and will leave with some great prizes. **Anyone wanting to add to the excitement may donate a prize and receive recognition for their generosity.** Call us at 724-845-5426 if you would like to make a prize donation. We hope you will come with family and friends. ■



STRONGLAND AND ALLEGHENY VALLEY COLLABORATE ON INVENTION CONVENTION

Thanks to the **Alcoa Foundation, the StrongLand Chamber and Allegheny Valley Chambers of Commerce** are teaming up to present a really innovative program for middle school students. It's called the **Invention Convention** and it's intended for 7th and 8th Grade Students in the twelve school districts served by our two chambers of commerce. **Penn State New Kensington** will provide the location for two events connected with this program. The pre-event on **Thursday, September 29th** from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at PSNK will be an orientation to help students understand what it will take to participate in the event, as well as how to come up with and present an innovative idea. The event itself will be the **Invention Convention, open to the public, on Thursday, November 3rd**, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. This event will allow students an opportunity to build a display to explain their ideas to a team of judges and

contend for some very nice and useful prizes, like an **electronic notebook and cash**. Of course everyone in the show will receive training on patent protection and trade marking. If any StrongLand or Allegheny Valley Members would like to help set up and run the event, please call your Chamber Office at **724-845-5426** to find out how. ■

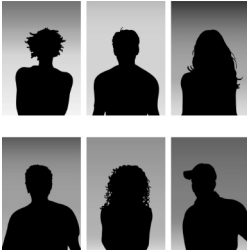
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SPECIAL RATE FOR OCTOBER NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING......SUPPORT STRONGLAND'S **SPECIAL SECTION** IN THE V.N.D.

Look for the flier in this mailing that tells StrongLand Members about the low advertising rates to advertise in the **Chamber of Commerce Month's Special Section** of the **Valley News Dispatch** scheduled to be out on **Wednesday, October 5th**. The Special Section of the Paper will tell the public about StrongLand and the advantages of Membership as well as a chance to see who some of StrongLand's Members are. The rates begin at \$175 per column inch and go as high as \$600. Don't hesitate, go directly to marketing department and reserve an ad space today. Please call **724-845-5426** if you have any questions about this exceptional offer. ■

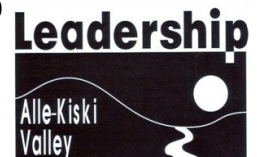
**YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Another program made possible by the Alcoa Foundation is the StrongLand Youth Leadership Program. Here students from our local high schools will gather to hear what it takes to become a leader. Leadership Skills such as **delegation, team building and problem solving** will be discussed in large and small groups sessions with the hope of helping school districts build leaders among their students. The program will be co-sponsored with the area's adult leadership program **LAKV (Leadership Alle-Kiski Valley)** who's Program Manager, **Diane Chabal**, will coordinate the program that will help students become effective leaders. We're excited about this program and hope that school districts will each send a group of students who may be in leadership positions. Club presidents, student government officers and other groups operating within a high school can all benefit from this newest of StrongLand Programs. **Your comments and**

questions are welcomed to help make this program more successful. ■

LAKV SEEKS 20TH ANNIVERSARY CLASS

It's that time of year again, when you're preparing your favorite pupils to get ready to start another school year, and so it is with the adult leadership program, **Leadership Alle-Kiski Valley**. This program was formed when four chambers of commerce decided that what was needed was a way to help educate our newly emerging leaders within the region. The course is **\$900** and encompasses a skill building overnight retreat, in addition to meeting once a month from October through April to focus on seven different types of community organization. The classes of about 15 students learn about **healthcare, marketing and media, government officials, education, human services and more**. The class is a great way to learn who's who in the community, and build the best networking relationships possible. These relationships help personal, business and volunteer pathways and help each leader get the most out of their volunteer and professional time. The program is a **MUST** for the rising star executive and will pay for itself back many times over. If you're interested in the program and would like more information on it or its financial assistance program please call **Dianne Chabal**, Program Manager, at **724-681-4109**.



Check out the flier enclosed in this mailing that tells about Leadership's 20th Anniversary Party to be held on Thursday, October 13th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at River Forest Country club. All four sponsoring chambers hope their members will plan on attending and meeting members of the Leadership Classes, past and present. ■

ALLE-KISKI JOB FAIR TO BE HELD AT PSNK THURSDAY OCTOBER 6TH

If you have jobs to fill or you know someone looking for a job, then you need to look forward to the **PA CareerLink Alle-Kiski and Penn State New Kensington** sponsored Job Fair to be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, October 6th in the PSNK Field House, located near Route 780. Over 50 job providers will be there to pass out information and collect resumes from nearly 600 local job seekers. If you're interested in having a low cost table at this wonderful job fair please call Rick O'Domes at **724-334-8600**, extension 211. They're also looking for sponsors who want the community and job seekers to be aware of their interest in helping the local unemployed find jobs. ■



**NEW THIS YEAR!!! THE ROARING RUN---STRONGLAND FISHING DERBY
...INCLUDES A SPECIAL CREEK EVENT FOR KIDS, TOO**



The folks at the **Roaring Run Recreation Area** and the **StrongLand Chamber** have teamed up to present **The Roaring - StrongLand Fishing Derby** to be held at the Roaring Run Trail near Apollo on Saturday, September 24th, 2011 from 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. The entrance fee is **\$10 for adults** and **\$5 for kids** 12 and under. Kids 12 and younger, accompanied by adults, will have the opportunity from 8 a.m. till noon to fish for newly stocked trout in the Roaring Run Creek pools. Prizes will be given for the **longest trout and bonus tagged trout**. After this event the kids can also fish for more prizes along side parents in the Kiski River. **At 5:15 p.m. \$600 in cash and prizes will be given out to the winners at the registration pavilion. Prior to and during the event, those who have sponsored cash and prize items will be recognized, as well as being honored on Roaring Run's and StrongLand's websites. See the enclosed Flier for details.** ■

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Members With Something To Say

- ♦ **VIP HOLDS... VANDERGRIFT'S GOT TALENT SHOW:** Here's a homespun version of "*America's Got Talent*", right here in our own back yard, called "*Vandergrift's Got Talent*". And what better place to hold such a variety show than the historic **Casino Theatre** in Vandergrift, the area's original Vaudeville Theatre that has just celebrated its 111 Birthday. The show, sponsored by the Vandergrift Improvement Project (VIP), will feature a dozen acts of all types, where ***the audience will vote to select their most talented act***. There is no charge for admission, so come one and come all to enjoy all the fun. Voting will be done by the audience for a nominal fee to help select the winners. The donations will be split with the winners as a part of their grand prize. That's show business! The event will be Thursday, August 25th and will begin at 7 p.m. **Also watch for the special "big time" magic show to be at the theatre on Saturday, October 22nd just in time for Halloween.** For more details go to www.casinotheatre.org.
- ♦ **WEST HAVEN HOLDS BEAUTY PAGEANT AT LAUBE HALL:** **West Haven Manor and Fair Winds Manor** and their sister nursing homes from the **Quality Life Services**, are proud to announce the 2nd Annual **Ms. Quality Life Beauty Pageant** to be held on Tuesday, September 27th, 2011 at 11 a.m. at Laube Hall, high above Freeport, Pennsylvania. **Tickets are only \$8.** The contestants are residents from 8 nursing homes throughout Western Pennsylvania, with the oldest contestant recently celebrating her 101st birthday. If you're interested in attending, please contact **Tabitha Kupec** at the Quality Life Services home office- tkupec@qualitylifeservices.com or call 724-431-0770, extension 2139. **Deadline to reserve tickets is September 13, 2011.**
- ♦ **LEECHBURG'S 5 K TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24TH :** The **Leechburg Area Community Association (LACA)** will hold its 2nd Annual Leechburg 5K beginning on Market Street in Leechburg, registration at 6:30 a.m., race time at 8 a.m., on Saturday, September 24th, 2011. Proceeds from the event will benefit LACA and the Leechburg Food Bank. The course is all flat and everyone will have a great time because this event coincides with Homecoming and alumni weekend. For more information please call Brandi Sprankle at 724-845-6618 or you can go to their special website, www.leechburg5k.com.
- ♦ **VANDERGRIFT FARMER'S MARKET CONTINUES THROUGH OCT. 20TH:** Every Thursday from now through October 20th, you can meet friendly vendors, see live entertainment and buy great produce and products in the Columbia Avenue Parking Lot, across from the State Wine and Spirits Store in Vandergrift. A special bonus is that you can stop by the indoor market at 134 Grant Avenue (former JCP Store) for indoor market items, too. You are encouraged to go to www.vandergriffarmersmarket.weebly.com to vote for Vandergrift's market as **America's Favorite Farmer's Market**.
- ♦ **FLEA-TIQUE CONTINUES INTO THE FALL:** August 21, September 18 and October 16, still remain for the largest flea-market in the region. **Tour-ed Mine** is the location of this large and exciting event. To reserve a space or to get more information about it you can call **724-224-7666** and talk to someone at the **Allegheny-Kiski Valley Historical Society**, the program's sponsor.
- ♦ **SERIOUS ABOUT THE NAME CHANGE.....:** They've changed their company name from **Serious Materials** to **Serious Energy**. They feel that this better reflects their platform of breakthrough innovations designed to reduce energy use and costs for building owners while comfort levels are raised for building occupants. It can be said that they are serious about your buildings and delivering value in a realistic manner. **Please make the appropriate name changes in you current StrongLand Directory.**
- ♦ **THOMAS TOURS PLANS TRIPS TO STEELERS AWAY GAMES:** Please note that **Thomas Tours** has announced that it will be offering some fantastic away game action including overnight hotel accommodations, meal, deluxe motor coach transportation and tickets to the games, not to mention any tailgate party you can crash! The trips will be offered for the November 12th and 13th weekend (**Pitt at Cincinnati**) and December 31 and January 1 (New Year's Special) (**Pitt at Cleveland**). The prices are \$275 and \$225 respectively. Call them at **724-337-1551** for all the details about this or any other fine trip you would like to take.
- ♦ **ADELPHOI VILLAGE PROVIDES NEEDED SERVICE FOR YOUTH...CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE:** *You could probably pass right by it and never know that hundreds of kids who have committed acts against society are there working hard with professional guidance to correct the mistakes they have made in their lives.* **Adelphoi Village**, its headquarters located in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, celebrates 40 years of service and dedication to helping kids in trouble with the law to become better citizens. Recently I had the privilege to tour their main campus near St Vincent College and meet their staff and clients. I could definitely see how this organization was making a real difference in the lives of boys and girls who made some mistakes in their lives. Most of the young people at their campus in Latrobe and at the **Leonard C. Miller Home** in Apollo, Pa. come out of the program with a new focus on being positive and constructive citizens in their communities. We all owe Adelphoi Village a round of applause as a "**thank you**" for what they do for all of us. For more info you can view their website at www.adelphoivillage.org and find out how you can help.