

# 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.



## ANNUAL DINNER PLANS INCLUDE YOU!

It's a Party... It's a celebration... It's a really good time and a chance to win a \$5,000 dollar gift card plus some big ticket prizes, including trips, a big screen TV, quality furniture and lots more. It's the **StrongLand Annual Dinner and Players Club**, scheduled for **Laube Hall, Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**, where your seat includes a free ticket for the fabulous \$5,000 Giant Eagle Gift Card.

"Light Hearted Gaming" is on the agenda where every time you win; you could win additional tickets for the Big Ticket Raffle, which includes your usual basket items but, also, the Chamber and Business Sponsors like Thomas Tours is adding overnight packages for **Atlantic City, a big screen TV, Rivers Casino and Meadows Gaming Cash, Wood Lawn Furniture** made by Stanford Home Center and others.

We also want to take a few moments to sincerely thank the retiring County Commissioners who have done so much for us. Please come to the Annual Dinner to honor **Jim Scahill, Tom Bayla, Tom Ceraso and Patty Kirkpatrick** who have dedicated many years of their lives to service in Armstrong and Westmoreland Counties. Please make a special effort to come and show your gratitude.

In addition, we will be honoring a couple top notch StrongLand Volunteers and, of course, present the **StrongLand Business of the Year**. All of this will be going on while everyone enjoys lifting a glass together and partaking in a great gourmet dinner served by Five Starr Catering. Take the time to reserve your seat or table today, before they're all gone. Call us at **724-845-5426** to make a tentative reservation if you haven't received your formal invitation yet. ■

## ADVERTISE IN THE ANNUAL DINNER PROGRAM

### ...HIGH VISIBILITY RECOGNITIONS AVAILABLE

Here's a great opportunity to help the Chamber make this year's Annual Dinner the best event ever, while you get high visibility for your company or business. These opportunities begin at only \$25 for a card sized ad in the Annual Dinner Program. **Please take a look at the insert in this edition of the StrongLand QuickLetter to see the sponsorship and advertising opportunities available.** If you have any questions please call us at 724-845-5426. ■

## COMMISSIONERS CANDIDATES' HALLOWEEN BREAKFAST

***This year is a big year in the election of county commissioners so we, at StrongLand, thought you might want to have a chance to see, first hand, what each candidate stands for.*** Please come to

Willow Brook Country Club on Friday morning, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. for a truly wonder gourmet breakfast and a chance to see your candidates for County Commissioner in action. There will be time for questions as well as time to hear what each one has to say. For those of you who want to get a preview of candidate views you can go to the StrongLand website

at [www.strongland.org](http://www.strongland.org) to see, in their own words, where they want to take Armstrong or Westmoreland County. Seating is limited, so sign up today on the enclosed flier for a fun and informative morning. (See enclosed Flier) ■



## Oct. / Nov. 2011 Calendar of Events

- Oct. 04** - Noon - Special Events Committee Meeting, Chamber Office
- Oct. 05** - **Look for the StrongLand section in the Valley News Dispatch today!**
- Oct. 06** - 10 am—2 pm, **Alle-Kiski Job Fair**, Penn State New Kensington Athletic Center
- Oct. 10** - 7:30 am - Membership/Marketing Combine Committee Meeting, Giant Eagle Conference Room
- Oct. 10** - Noon - Finance Committee Meeting, Chamber Office.
- Oct. 13** - 7:30 am - StrongLand Board Meeting, Allegheny Twp. Community Bldg.
- Oct. 17** - Noon - KVE/Economic Development Committee Meeting, Chamber Office
- Oct. 19** - 8:00 am - Government Relations Committee Mtg., McCutcheon Enterprises
- Oct. 20** - 12:30 pm - Education Committee Mtg., Conference Rm., Parks Bend
- Oct. 25** - 8:00 am - Committee Chair Meeting, Giant Eagle Conference Room
- Oct. 27** - 8:30 am - **Student Leadership Conference**, Penn State New Kensington
- Oct. 28** - 7:30 am - **Halloween Breakfast**, Willowbrook Country Club
- Nov. 01** - 8:15 am - **Interscholastic Mathematics League**, Penn State New Kensington
- Nov. 03** - 5:30 pm - **Invention Convention**, Penn State New Kensington
- Nov. 10** - 5:30 pm - **StrongLand Annual Dinner**, Laube Hall, Freeport.

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- Tour de StrongLand Bike Race Report
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- Alle-Kiski Job Fair

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- Members With Something To Say

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- Welcome New Members!

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- StrongLand Halloween Breakfast
- Annual Dinner Program Advertising Opportunity
- New Member Spotlights: Kerr Light Manufacturing, French Quarters Pet Grooming / FlipSide Salon, Pharaoh's Hookah Café
- Alle-Kiski Job Fair
- Kiski Area Education Foundation—Two Outstanding Cultural Experiences for the Whole Family!
- Tees-N-Tops Pre-Christmas Special



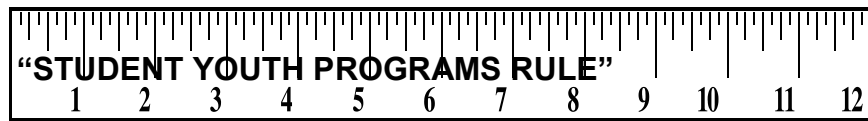
**OCTOBER IS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTH...**

**...THE CHAMBER PRESENTED A SPECIAL SECTION IN THE VALLEY NEWS**

OCTOBER 2011

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On October 5<sup>th</sup> the Chamber presents a special section in the **Valley News Dispatch** that heralds in Chamber of Commerce Month and tells the public about the StrongLand Chamber of Commerce, its programs and events. This edition features endorsements from current members and focuses on the value of the Chamber to the public and to its members. In it the Chamber announces the dates for the **2012 HomExpo** at the **Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills**, and the Chamber's Calendar of Events that will take place throughout the coming year. We hope you will have a chance to see it but if you do not, we have a limited quantity of them at the Chamber's Office that we can send to you. Please call to arrange to get your copy if you need one. We want to thank the sponsors who made this publication possible through advertising. ■



- ◆ INVENTION CONVENTION
- ◆ STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
- ◆ MATH LEAGUE
- ◆ QUIZ BOWL
- ◆ STUDENT ENTREPRENEURIAL PROGRAMS
- ◆ STUDENT MOTIVATIONAL CARD AND SCHOLARSHIP

**There is no other Chamber that even comes close when it comes to the number of quality Student Programs offered to area youth than the StrongLand Chamber of Commerce.** Thanks to a generous grant from the **Alcoa Foundation** and **Peoples Natural Gas**, the StrongLand Chamber continues to offer some extremely worthwhile programs to as many as **Twelve Area Public School Districts** and **The Kiski School** (private school), throughout the year. Our goal is to provide opportunities where local workforce development can happen by encouraging students to rise to their highest level of academic excellence. We hope that you or someone in your family has been touched by one or several of the above StrongLand Programs. Please call us if you want to volunteer your time or share your talents to present these dynamic programs to the future leaders of our community. If you want more information about any of these fine programs, please call **724-845-5426** and we will **"fill you in."** ■

**JOB FAIR, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup> AT PSNK**

You may want to find out more about the **Career Link of Westmoreland County's Job and Career Fair** effort and how it helps local businesses find quality employees during this time of economic stress. The Fair, **free to the public**, will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on **Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** in the Field House of **Penn State New Kensington**. StrongLand's role in this effort is to help get people in need of work to come forward and apply for local jobs being offered. Thanks to Penn State New Kensington, and the other wonderful sponsors, we hope that we may brighten the lives of many families for the upcoming holidays by helping them find needed work. A flier is enclosed in this mailing just in case you may have a last minute place where you can display it to help people about the job fair. ■

 <p><b>Arden H. Verner</b> Painting &amp; Decorating (724) 224-7445 www.vernerpainting.com</p>	<p>CELEBRATING OUR <b>60<sup>TH</sup></b> YEAR</p>	<p><b>Verner's</b> <b>PAINT CENTER</b> 711 Second Ave. • Tarentum (724) 224-7445 Where Professional Service Counts!</p>
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# Ferguson

***Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.***

**Ferguson Heating & Air Conditioning**, family owned and operated, are professionals of residential and commercial indoor-air quality. Three generations strong, Ferguson's offers over 48 years of experience in the heating and air conditioning industry to the Allegheny/Kiski Valley Area.

**David A. Ferguson & Joseph G. Ferguson**

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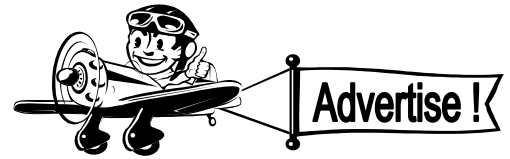


*Awarded 2009 Pittsburgh Magazine Five Star  
Wealth Manager - Best in client satisfaction*

RETIREMENT INCOME PLANNING · LIFE INSURANCE PLANNING · INVESTMENTS · HEALTH INSURANCE · LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE

**INSERTS IN THE STRONGLAND QUICKLETTER CAN BRING RESULTS**

At the end of November we will be putting together our **Holiday Edition of the StrongLand QuickLetter**, which will go out in early December. If you're interested in promoting something in time for the holidays, then please call us to place your ideas in our column "**Members With Something To Say**" and/or you may want to include your very own insert in the **QuickLetter** that goes out for only **\$100** to our 525 business owners and managers. Give us a call at **724-845-5426** to make arrangements for this very cost effective way to advertise. ■



Give us a call at **724-845-5426**

## Members With Something To Say

- ◆ **LEECHBURG, GILPIN AND PARKS TOWNSHIPS JOIN FORCES TO PRESENT... THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE PROGRAM GUIDE:** Don't miss out on supporting the **Law Enforcement and Community Resource Guide** that is being produced to protect you and your community from harm. The Guide is looking for sponsors so that it can be bigger and better, as well as more comprehensive than their last issue. It will include tips to protect yourself and home from harm like identity theft, home invasion, fire, senior safety and much more. Please call **Jim Keefer** if you would like a chance to support this bold effort so that you can feel good about your role in saving lives and property. Call Jim at **724-516-1776** for all the details.
- ◆ **CASINO THEATRE ANNOUNCES ITS FALL WINTER SCHEDULE:**
  - ⇒ **Saturday, October 22, 2011.... An evening of October Magic by Aedryan Methyus**  
7 p.m., tickets reserved at Pomfret's Paints and Variety for \$13 adult and \$8 children
  - ⇒ **Second Annual Indoor Holiday Shop.... Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 4 inside the historic theatre.**  
(free admission) (vendors needed)
  - ⇒ **Magical, Lyrical Annual Miracle... the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Christmas Show on December 2, 3, and 4, 2011.** Tickets are \$10 – \$15 Call 724-567-5049 for tickets

....go to [www.casinotheatre.org](http://www.casinotheatre.org) for more information on these and other programs.
- ◆ **NEW MEMBERS' SPOTLIGHTS INCLUDED IN THIS EDITION:** As a **new feature** in the StrongLand QuickLetter, we will be "spotlighting" our newest members in this and upcoming editions. Take a look at the informative inserts enclosed with this mailing and join me in welcoming **Kerr Light Manufacturing, the French Quarters Pet Grooming/Flipside Salon and Pharaoh's Hookah Café** as our newest StrongLand Members.
- ◆ **THE KISKI AREA EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S CULTURAL SERIES:** In an attempt to bring a variety of cultural experiences to the Valley, the **Kiski Area Education Foundation** has built a \$50 package of great performances for students and their families to enjoy. They're bringing in the exciting, world famous **Duquesne Tamburitzans** on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and the fabulous **Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra** for a Sunday Matinee on April 22 at 2:30 p.m. Open to the public in their own acoustically perfect theater, Kiski Area High School will host two distinctly different musical journeys. The Tamburitzans combine the elements of youthful folk dancing and ethnic music to recreate the culture of Eastern Europe, while the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra will unite the best of the old and new worlds as they play **Respighi and Mendelssohn** along with Puts, "**Marimba Concerto.**" Proceeds will help provide programs and scholarships for local students. Call the Kiski Central Office at **724-845-2202** to reserve your seats.

(Over to Welcome New Members!)

# Welcome New Members!

Michael Rametta  
**BUSINESS NETWORK OF ALLEGHENY  
 VALLEY**  
 Lower Burrell, PA  
 724.337.8676  
*Services:* Networking Organization

Robert R. Clark  
**CLARK CANDIES, INC.**  
 Tarentum, PA  
 724.226.0866  
*Services:* Candy Manufacturing

Tim Feerst  
**FEERST CONCRETE & LANDSCAPING, LLC**  
 Pittsburgh, PA  
 412.287.4342  
*Services:* Concret & Nature Store

Tracie Caramellino  
**FRENCH QUARTERS PET GROOMING  
 FLIPSIDE SALON**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 724.845.7387  
*Services:* Pet Grooming  
 Beauty Salon

Jodi Fowler  
**GENRE'S KIDS WITH CANCER FUND**  
 Irwin, PA  
*Services:* Non-Profit  
 Children's Cancer Fund serving the Tri-State Area

Ellen Shoemaker  
**GRANDMA'S ATTIC**  
 Apollo, PA  
 724.727.9632  
*Services:* Antiques  
 Collectibles  
 Amish Sheds & Garages

Cathleen L. Stear  
**HAPPY CAMPERS**  
 Vandergrift, PA  
 724.568.4396  
*Services:* Hoagie Shop  
 Bait & Tackle

Thomas Blinkhorn  
**HILLTOP AUTO GLASS**  
 Apollo, PA  
 724.567.7441  
*Services:* Auto Glass Repair and Replacement

Susan Katona  
**INSIGNOUT., INC.**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 724.337.9506  
*Services:* Sign Mfg.  
 Lighted Signs  
 Vehicles

James D. Safranyos  
**IPG FITNESS, LLC**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 724.845.7488  
*Services:* Fitness Center

Howard E. Nolen  
**ITG-SLYDER, INC.**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 724.991.3354  
*Services:* Family Games

Edward Pappa  
**KEIBLER-DICOLA AGENCY**  
 North Huntingdon, PA  
 724.845.7363  
*Services:* Insurance Agency

Heather Kerr  
**KERR LIGHT MANUFACTURING, LLC**  
 Apollo, PA  
 724.309.6598  
*Services:* Promotional Products Distributor

Summer Tissue  
**MILITARY CONNECTIONS CORPORATION**  
 Pittsburgh, PA  
 412.496.8941  
*Services:* Non-Profit  
 Military Troop Care Package Shipment Organization

J. Bryant Mullen  
**NEWPORT BUSINESS INSTITUTE  
 OAKBRIDGE ACADEMY OF ARTS**  
 Lower Burrell, PA  
 724.339.7542  
*Services:* Business School

Charles Brouwer  
**OAK LAKE GOLF COURSE**  
 New Kensington, PA  
 724.727.2400  
*Services:* Golf Course  
 Golf Courses/Public/18 Hole

Gregory M. Smith  
**PET STOP OF GREATER PITTSBURGH**  
 Mercer, PA  
 412.977.7907  
*Services:* Pet Obedience Training  
 Pet Behavioral Evaluation/modification  
 Pet Fencing

John Truett  
**PHARAOHS BED & BREAKFAST  
 HOOKAH CAFE'**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 724.236.0061  
*Services:* Bed & Breakfast  
 Hookah Cafe'

**ROSES**  
 Lower Burrell, PA  
*Services:* Retail

Andy Salego  
**SALEGO HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**  
 Lower Burrell, PA  
 724.335.4610  
*Services:* Heating  
 Air Conditioning

Raymond Seelnacht  
**SHIPMAN HEATING & COOLING**  
 Brackenridge, PA  
 724.224.4254  
*Services:* Heating & Cooling

Jennifer Simon  
**SIMPLY SIMON**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 724.681.0084  
*Services:* Farmhouse Antiques & Decor

Martha L. Frech  
**STREAMLINE ENGINEERING, INC.**  
 Leechburg, PA  
 412.372.5150  
*Services:* Engineering-Civil  
 Engineering-Consulting

Lori S. Harris  
**TRI-COUNTY TECHNOLOGY CONSORTIA**  
 Kittanning, PA  
 724.541.8246  
*Services:* Information, Communication, Technology  
 Promotion

Frank B. Emmerling  
**UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
 Pittsburgh, PA  
 724.309.4045  
*Services:* Retirement Planning  
 Wealth Building

Todd Slomka  
**U-NEEK CONCRETE COATINGS**  
 Tarentum, PA  
 724.882.9604  
*Services:* Floor Coatings  
 Home Improvement Supplies & Service  
 Concrete/Precast Ornamental

John Mandak  
**VALOS CHOCOLATES**  
 ARnold, PA  
 724.339.2669  
*Services:* Wholesale/Retail Chocolate Manufacturer

Gabe Monzo  
**WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
 AIRPORT AUTHORITY**  
 Latrobe, PA  
 724.539.8100  
*Services:* Airport

(Over For Members With Something To Say)