

## Member Notes:

- Al's Tire & Auto has new location in Ebensburg at 811 West High Street about a block from the previous station. Although Chad is no longer selling gas, they expanded the tire and auto service area. Look for an open house soon.
- The Northern Cambria Reapers will be sponsoring their annual golf tournament on Saturday, July 18th. Brian Kotrick is the organizer. Brian is also responsible for assisting us with the projector set up at our Oktoberfest fundraiser last year. If you are interested in playing or sponsoring please contact Brian at lumpshaker@hotmail.com. The Reapers are a youth hockey team that is intra-municipal in the northern area of the county. Since they are intra-municipal, like the NCABA, they do not receive funding from any specific borough's or township's recreation program.
- Allegheny & Chesapeake Physical Therapy will be giving away free hot dogs and refreshments at the Northern Cambria Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, July 11th. Stop and see Christina for a free dog!
- Put your dancing shoes on...The City Hotel is now offering country and ballroom dance lessons on Wednesday nights. Please call for schedule and times. 951-0303.
- The Greater Johnstown-Cambria County Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring the Small Business Expo on Thursday, September 10th at the Pasquerilla Center in Johnstown. This is a great place to showcase your business. For more information, please contact the Chamber at 536-5107.

### *A Special Thank You to the Kahuna Sponsors.*

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hastings Bottling Works               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Ride Plus</li> </ul> </li> <li>Chestnut Ridge Golf Resort &amp; Conference Center               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amfire</li> <li>AseraCare Hospice</li> <li>H.R.I. Inc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Live Well Estate Personal Care               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeff Lantzy Insurance</li> <li>Med-Van Transport</li> <li>X-Cel Physical Therapy</li> </ul> </li> <li>The City Hotel Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>County National Ban</li> <li>HealthSouth Rehabilitation</li> <li>Long-Contres Funeral Homes</li> <li>Pennsylvania Highlands Community College               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rogel Ice</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valenty Enterprises               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Al's Tire &amp; Auto</li> </ul> </li> <li>Cambria County Industrial Development Corporation</li> <li>Congressman Bill Shuster</li> <li>Ebensburg Insurance Agency               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First National Bank</li> </ul> </li> <li>GAP Federal Credit Union</li> <li>Goodfellas Bar &amp; Grille</li> <li>Miners Medical Center               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Patton Pub</li> </ul> </li> <li>Cambrian Hills Country Club</li> <li>Eagles Ridge Country Club</li> <li>Ebensburg Country Club</li> <li>Emporium Country Club</li> <li>Hemlock View Country Club               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebekah Manor</li> <li>Summit Country Club</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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NCABA  
PO Box 1142  
Northern Cambria, PA 15714



Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance

July 2009

## **August Meeting:**

Wed., August 19, 4:30 p.m.  
Cambrian Hills Country Club. Meetings are now being held every other month.

## No more "Atta Boys"; member input needed

### **Mission Statement:**

The Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance represents an intra-municipal partnership of professionals and individuals committed to the economic and social welfare of the communities that comprise the northern area of Cambria County.

We are committed to promote and provide strong educational opportunities and community development programs to increase the economic vitality of our region.

### **Vision Statement:**

The Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to servicing our region through coordinated activities directed at creating employment opportunities and providing access for enhancing community development.

With that said, one half of the year is over and the executive committee has been continually reviewing our projects to ensure we are abiding by our bylaws. We feel that we are, but now we are questioning, are we going anywhere?

This year, we provided the community with a career fair that was highly attended. We held the Street Smart Program in conjunction with Remembering Adam that was poorly attended by the community. "Meet the Candidates for Judge" was a success. The Street Smart Program was a huge disappointment to say the least, maybe it was a timing issue.

Our concern: are we bridging the gap with government officials that we

had hoped to achieve, or are we just getting a few "atta-boys" here and there?

We have always been supportive of the region and plan to continue in this direction but are we receiving the same consideration from outside our boundaries?

We all have talked about, or even "beat to death" the concern our region had with the change in plans to build the youth recreation center in Ebensburg. That was several years ago, but has anything been done to revisit securing another center for the children in our communities?

The NCABA participated in the 20/20 Regional Vision Project, the plan studied what it would take to attract young adults back to the Cambria County area—however, the questions in the survey referred to the area as the Johnstown Region. Many of our communities do not consider Johnstown as "our" region especially when they are closer to Altoona or Indiana. The study was great, but not so much for the northern area of the county and not so great when county dollars, as few as they were, were put toward it.

A few years ago, we lost the Cam Tran building from Patton to just north of the borough of Ebensburg. Are there any county or state offices now north of Ebensburg other than State Representative Gary Haluska's office? How about county offices?

On April 22, there was a posting on the WJAC-TV website that complemented the aired story about a new fire school being built in Johnstown with the search for funding being directed by the county's Redevelopment Authority, it

will cost \$218,000. In the aired story, there is a reference that it is too far for the firefighters to drive 45 minutes to use the fire school in Patton. We feel their pain, we all know what it is like to drive and they are justified. But, what happens to the fire school in Patton? Will it get any more funding or would it be phased out? Would Cambria County taxes be going to a fire school in Johnstown that Somerset County would also be able to use?

It is 45 minutes for those in our community to support the Johnstown Chiefs, yet our tax dollars and our home budgets are asked to do so.

A few weeks ago, tax exemption status was being questioned of a regional Civil Defense Club. This club provides many services to our region. There was not a deliberate move on their part to avoid the taxes and it is under investigation. Hopefully, all of the tax exempt clubs throughout the entire county will be reviewed to see if more tax dollars can be collected and not just money being taken from this club to be put back into the county's budget and then distributed to another region.

There are several other positions that could be brought up but the point should be getting across.

Did we fail? What should we have done to ensure our region is being heard? That was one of the reasons the NCABA was established.

Part of the problem is the lack of member involvement all the way around.

This organization has over 100 members. Remember, our mission is about the welfare of the community

(continued on next page)

The next meeting of the NCABA will be held Wed., August 19th—4:30 P.M.—Cambrian Hills Country Club, Hastings

## Attaboys...

(Continued from front page)

It is not about expanding your own business although the networking opportunities are priceless if you take advantage of them.

We have tried to help our community find jobs, support the hospital, educate you on several elections over the past six years, we have assisted in several drug awareness programs, offered scholarships, we sit on several boards and the list goes on.

We need member support to continue.

The extension of the NCABA depends on the interest of the community.

Please try to attend two meetings per year and attend at least one event.

Become an officer in 2010, submit news to the newsletter.

Please read between the lines, your support is needed if the NCABA is to continue.

## State and County addresses to be sponsored by alliance

We are currently making plans to sponsor two events this fall to address the "State of the County" and the "State of the State".

This past year we have all probably been involved in conversations about the stimulus program, recession, budget cuts, economic crisis, consumer driven healthcare and the list goes on.

We can hear a lot about what is going on with the federal government from the local news channels but what is exactly going on with our local and state dollars?

Currently there are two events in the making. The forums will be held in a similar fashion to "Meet the Candidates for Judge" - and will be open to the public. We will be coordinating dates and times with the County Commissioners and with Representative Haluska.

Please watch your mail for more details.



Pictured above, Red Cross reps Brenda Panetti-Conjelko and Theresa Lowe-Tibbott take questions from NCABA members at the last meeting.

## Red Cross visits NCABA; members called upon to support blood drives

The American Red Cross was a special guest of honor at the last NCABA monthly meeting.

Brenda Panetti-Conjelko of the Johnstown office of the Red Cross, along with Theresa Lowe-Tibbott, Northern Cambria Area Coordinator were on hand to give the members a better understanding of the blood donation process.

Currently, blood donations are down as a trend throughout the nation but over the past few years, blood donations in our region have been progressively decreasing.

Brenda came to the meeting to ask for our support in getting the word out on the blood drives and wanted some ideas on what to do to establish new donors in our communities.

**The next blood drive in our area will be on Saturday, August 22nd at St. John's United Methodist Church, 910 Chestnut Ave., Northern Cambria from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and then on Tuesday, September 1st from noon-6 p.m. at the same location.**

The NCABA would like to encourage everyone to donate blood. Brenda pointed out that summertime is an especially critical

time as donors are on vacations and accidents occur more.

Donors must be 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. Nearly 40% of the population in the U.S. is eligible to give blood but only 5% do.

It is a myth that you can donate your blood to a family member in need in the event of an emergency situation, by the time your blood is processed your loved one already received the blood.

The blood donation process takes a little over an hour but the actual donation procedure takes about 15 minutes. The process includes: registration, a short health history, the donation, and then a snack.

Please consider permitting your employees to donate on work time or permitting them to leave early for the day.

For more information on blood drives in your area log on to [www.redcrosslife.org](http://www.redcrosslife.org).

You may also contact Brenda Panetti-Conjelko at 814-262-2632 or via email at [panettib@usa.redcross.org](mailto:panettib@usa.redcross.org).

Thank you for the info Brenda!

## 2009 Scholarship Recipient Sara Beth Britton



Sara Beth Britton is the recipient of the \$500 NCABA Scholarship. She is a graduate of Northern Cambria High School and will be attending the Pennsylvania Highlands Community College.

Dear Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance,

I am the daughter of Brian & Shirley Britton of Northern Cambria, my father's parents are Tom & Verda Britton, and my mother's parents are Herman & Maryann Weinzierl of Summerhill. I have four siblings one brother, Ben, and three sisters, Katie, Sherry, and Becky. I am the middle child. My hobbies include hunting, fishing, taking walks, swimming, paddleboating, canoeing, camping, playing any kind of sport, and cooking. In my spare time I like to hangout with friends and family. My Birthday is May 29 and my favorite holidays are Christmas and Halloween. I love living here in Northern Cambria and I am proud to be a Graduate of Northern Cambria High School. My special interest is helping out people not able to do everyday things that we can. My future plans are to attend Pennsylvania Highlands majoring in Health Care Management, and then to get a good job. Finally I would really like to thank The Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance for the scholarship money it will be very helpful in paying for college. Thank you for everything.



The Big Kahunas! Pictured above are the winners of the Big Kahuna Golf Tournament. Seated, Andy Lubert, standing, left to right, Maren Lantzy, Jeff and Marilyn Lantzy and friend Chris Cerimele. Marren and Chris were visiting from Colorado. (Hey, check out the tiki hut! It didn't blow over!)

## Big Kahuna is big success!

It couldn't happen again...they were calling for rain but the Big Kahuna was one of the best days ever for golf.

We had approximately 80 players who had a great time!

Special thanks to all of the sponsors and to Eva Wargo of Cambrian Hills for putting up with all of our last minute requests.

The final number isn't in yet, but the committee believes we raised over \$3,000 for the organization.

The Little Kahuna will be played on Friday, September 11 with tee-off at 3 p.m. It will be a smaller scale, \$25 per person with some hot dogs, soda, adult refreshments and even some "shrimp on the bar-b"! There will be karaoke and other games following the tournament so if you can't golf, come for happy hour around 6 p.m. for a mixer. As always, you and your guests are invited to mingle. Postcards will be mailed closer to the date but mark your calendars now.

The tournament is open to all, not just NCABA members. If you never golfed before and would like to try a tournament, this is great place to start. For more information contact

Tim Whited at 948-7880 or Jeff Lantzy at 948-8866.



Armed and dangerous! Gabby Persio, of Goodfella's, is wicked with a spatula at the Big Kahuna! Special thanks to Goodfellas for providing prizes for the two teams coming in last. "I didn't do it to make light of them. I did it because many people come to this tournament just to help us raise money. They weren't expecting to win but we appreciate them and need them!"