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Your Business Partner

June/July 2018

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
ALLE KISKI STRONG CHAMBER

WHY YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

You could spend hundreds, if not thousands of dollars in advertising to get the message out about your company's products and services. Or, you could invest \$15+ per month (depending company size) in membership dues - and some of your time - being an active member of the Alle Kiski Strong Chamber!

Think of all the possibilities! We offer multiple networking opportunities at events, volunteer positions on committees to raise your profile and connect with many others, educational seminars, membership directory listing, sponsorships, discounted Expo display space – the list goes on and on. Like anything else, in order to get results out of your Chamber membership, you need to put some effort into it. It's simple to do! Attend monthly networking events, place an insert in the newsletter, take advantage of the low cost advertising in the Chamber's membership directory to promote your business, or even serve on a committee.

We invite you to leverage your membership in the Alle Kiski Strong Chamber and get more involved!

Be the positive force in your business and community that lays the groundwork for economic prosperity! I am proud to say that in difficult, as well as good, economic times, the Chamber continues to attract and recruit new members and we are continually looking for ways to create better events and opportunities for our members. Isn't that the type of organization we would all like to be associated with? The good news is that YOU ARE part of that group and we want you to continue to be an active participant.

It is said, "The world is run by those who show up." We will see you at the next Chamber event!

Chamber Membership is open to businesses that maintain a voluntary annual dues investment. Benefits of membership include networking opportunities, community involvement, image enhancement, political advocacy, information access, numerous discounts and benefits and heightened credibility.

We are committed to providing the highest level of service and support in promoting members, recruiting new businesses, and increasing area commerce. The Chamber provides increased visibility to new member businesses and existing members.

Additional Benefits of Membership:

Advertising Opportunities
ChamberChoice programs
Educational Seminars
Events and Festivals
Legislative Functions
Member Referrals

Membership Directory
Networking Opportunities
Sponsorship Opportunities
The Strong Connection Newsletter
Updates and Information by weekly "E-Blast"
Website Directory Listing and Profile

Visit our website at **www.allekiskistrong.com**



Alle Kiski Strong Chamber

OFFICERS

Chair - Janice Wirth

Allegheny Valley Hospital

Vice Chair - Ron Scanlon

McCall Scanlon & Tice, LLC

Treasurer - Robert W. Sodini

Sodini & Company, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Brian Clark & Associates

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Rick O'Domes

PA CareerLink Alle Kiski

Wade Woolford

Highland Tire

STAFF

Executive Director - **Lynda J. Pozzuto**

Membership Coordinator - **Rebecca Borland**

Administrative Assistant - **Toni Borrelli**

ADVERTISING RATES:

Business card: \$50 * Inserts: \$100

Sponsorship Ad: 1/2 page back cover: \$200

Alle Kiski Strong Chamber

308 Pittsburgh Mills Circle

Tarentum, PA 15084

Phone: 724-224-3400

Fax: 724-224-3442

E-mail: Staff@akstrong.com

"The Strong Connection" newsletter is published by the Alle Kiski Strong Chamber. Advertising and news articles from members are accepted with all material subject to approval.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Chamber Golf Outing

June 25, 2018

Hill Crest Country Club

8:30 am Registration

10:00 am Shotgun Start

\$100 pp

Includes:

Round of Golf, Cart, Lunch

Steak Dinner, Beverages, Prizes

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Coffee & Connections

Cooper Station

June 20, 2018

8:30 am—10:00 am

FREE for Chamber Members

Where Members Meet to Network

Coffee & Connections

Biblical Life Institute

July 18, 2018

8:30 am—10 am

Free for Chamber Members

Coffee & Connections

Community Health Clinic

August, 2018

8:30 am—10 am

Free for Chamber Members

New Kensington Wine & Beer Festival

September 14, 2018

6:00 pm—9:00 pm

Corridors of Innovation Area-5th Ave.

\$20.00 per person for tastings

Live Music, Local Authors and Artist, Vendors and
Street Performers

If you would like to help with this FANTASTIC new event please feel free to reach out to Lynda at 724-224-3400 or lynda@akstrong.com

ARTICLE IDEAS?

We are also always looking for Chamber members who are interested in writing an article! You, as a business person, have useful, interesting, and thought provoking knowledge, information, and ideas. Why not share them with your fellow businesses? It's a great way to get your name out there, form social connections, and inform fellow business owners of some of what's made you so successful.

If your business has changed recently, is hosting an interesting event, or has a truly unique outlook on how it practices business, we can talk about doing a business profile to feature you in the newsletter. Due to time and space constraints, advertorial style articles which simply advertise your business cannot be accommodated right now. However, if you'd like to place an advertisement in the newsletter give a call to the office and we can get you set up with a paid advertising spot.

Please don't hesitate to contact me to get feedback on articles for possible inclusion in the newsletter. I will do some editing, so it doesn't have to be perfect, but do your best to write clearly and professionally. Make sure your article has a title and a unifying theme, and is related either to your business or business in general. Personal and political pieces aren't appropriate for this particular publication.

Is there a topic you think we should be writing about, but you're nervous about doing it yourself? Shoot me an email and perhaps we can write something together! I may also write pieces suggested by members, but in the end this is really about involving you and getting your unique voices out there. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

— *Rebecca Borland, Membership Coordinator*

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Young Entrepreneurs



Two area high school students reached a milestone in their transformation into business owners.

The students who completed the Alle Kiski Strong Chamber Young Entrepreneur Program were recognized for their 8-plus weeks of work in the

program with a graduation ceremony at IUP Northpointe.

The graduates above are Nicholas Karns and Jenna Rady. Nicholas was a Senior at Lenape Technical School who would like to own and operate his own business doing auto detailing at the customers home or place of business at a fair price. Jenna was a Junior at Leechburg School District and would like to start a business with a hunting app. The app she is working on is different than anything else on the market right now. With her app you would be notified in advance when license applications are due, track your previous hunt outcomes, track you path from your vehicle, access local weather forecasts, etc.

The Young entrepreneur program is a 4 month program that meets twice monthly for high school students in grades 11th and 12th. The program takes the students through the process of starting and launching a business. The students work with local mentors and entrepreneurs in various industries.

Anna Smith, Lenape Tech Entrepreneur Instructor, and small business owners facilitated the sessions and supported the students as they developed a business plan. The program also aimed to expose students to real-world experiences while increasing their public speaking skills, confidence and drive to succeed.

For more information about the program or to find out how to become a student in this FREE program please contact Lynda Pozzuto at 724-224-3400 or lynda@akstrong.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

John Connolly

jconnolly@post-gazette.com

(412) 480-0767

Keri Mason, LCSW

2207 Freeport Road, Suite C
Natrona Heights, PA 15065

(724) 681-7164

Macy's - Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills

113 Pittsburgh Mills Circle
Tarentum, PA 15084

(724) 274-1000



MJ Cares

1701 Freeport Road
Natrona Heights, PA 15065

(724) 230-8000



Scene75 Entertainment Center

1757 S. Braddock Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

(412) 477-9998



Shelton Plumbing, Inc

1556 Greensburg Rd,
New Kensington, PA 15068

(724) 335-7177



Superheroes Believe in Miracles

228 Green Parrot Lane
Natrona Heights, PA 15065

(724) 409-2908



Tarenbee

300 E 8th Ave
Tarentum, PA 15084

(412) 951-7547



Tauberg Chiropractic & Rehabilitation

55 Alpha Drive West
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

(412) 517-8124



The Tire Stop, LLC

2015 A Freeport Rd
New Kensington, PA 15068

(724) 594-0325



TriStar Ford Kittanning

151 Walnut Street
Kittanning, PA 16201

(724) 543-1015



Web.com

901 Pennsylvania Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

(724) 321-3900



Wolf Financial Services

4164 Route 66
Apollo, PA 15613

(724) 727-9653



PLEASE WELCOME

Rebecca Borland
Membership Coordinator



The Chamber is happy to welcome Rebecca Borland as the new Membership Coordinator.

Rebecca has resided in the Alle Kiski area her entire life. She grew up in Natrona Heights and has lived in Arnold for the last 16 years with her

husband, Howard. They have an almost 6 year old son, Ethan, who keeps them busy! She graduated from Highlands High School in Natrona Heights and Thiel College in Greenville, PA with a Bachelor of Arts in English.

Rebecca has more than 20 years in sales, customer service, business management, corporate training and curriculum design, and employee engagement event planning.

Being new, Rebecca knows how important it is to be connected to the right people. Her goal as Membership Coordinator is for new chamber members to have the support and information they need to be successful. She welcomes your ideas and concerns, and invites you to let her know what works well and your thoughts on how we can strengthen the Chamber. Give her a call at 724-224-3400 or send her an email to rebecca@akstrong.com.

Rebecca says, "It has been a pleasure meeting all of the current members that I have had the opportunity to interact with as well as those new members that have come aboard in my first few months. I look forward to getting to know more and more members and helping the Chamber grow!"

Toni Borrelli
Administrative Assistant



The Chamber is pleased to welcome Toni Borrelli as the new Administrative Assistant.

Her office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday and 8:00 am to Noon, Thursday.

Toni comes to the Chamber with 30+ years of experience in administrative support, business management, sales, customer service, project management, event planning, and teaching. She is a graduate of Carlow University, with a Bachelors of Science in Business Management.

Toni and her husband, Frank, have been residents of Sarver for the last 25 years and have three adult children.

Her duties as the Chamber Admin includes assisting with database management, event registration, processing payments, answering phones, weekly Eblast, assisting with networking events, and other daily Chamber operations.

She is excited to be a part of this active and engaged Chamber community. Please feel free to reach out to Toni with any questions, and stop by to say hello.

Toni is looking forward to getting to know and help as many of the members as possible!



AK STRONG YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Develop your leadership skills to help achieve your professional goals by becoming a trusted and respected addition to the group of industry leaders.

Gone are the days when you can find your new bestie bonding over chemistry lab work. Whether you are in a new city or simply a new phase of your professional life, joining a networking group can connect you with a whole new group of friends.

A Young Professionals group gives you the building blocks for success—a way to promote your business, a chance to meet like minded individuals, education, motivation, and FUN!



The Escape Room Pittsburgh Mills



NETWORKING IS
MORE ABOUT
FARMING THAN
IT IS ABOUT
HUNTING.

- Ivan Misner

Wooden Door Winery



*The term “Young Professional” gets misused frequently. Many young workers across the state (and country) don’t necessarily see themselves as professionals if they are not sitting in an office or wearing a suit and tie. **We** like to think of young professionals as a group of like-minded individuals who come together for a common focus and conversation on issues specific to our demographic, regardless of profession.*

Whether your goals are to grow your career and build up your network or to help your community and make new friends, joining these groups can help you stay motivated to reach your personal, professional and community goals.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Andrew Hersch

Web & Graphic Designer
Kittanning, PA 16201
www.theperfectwebsitenam.com
(484) 540-5263

Armstrong County Building and Loan Association

935 5th Ave
Ford City, PA 16226
(724) 763-7137



Brian Copus - US Health Advisors

Natrona Heights, PA 15065
www.ushageny.com/brianacopus
(412) 215-3748



BS Outfitters

259 South Jefferson St
Kittanning, PA 16201
(724) 793-7984



Chapel Valley Honey

300 E. 8th Avenue
Tarentum, PA 15084
(412) 951-7547



Community Foundation: Serving the Heart of Western Pennsylvania

220 South Jefferson St
Kittanning, PA 16201
(724) 548-5897



Escape Room Immersion

590 Pittsburgh Mills Blvd
Tarentum, PA 15084
Store Front 356
(412) 951-1929



The Geezer Squad

New Kensington, PA
(412) 298-3548



The Girls' Lunchbox

Food Truck
clepolite@gmail.com
(724) 553-6871



Guardian Storage Allegheny Valley

1390 Old Freeport Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
(412) 826-7368



Heather Connell - AFLAC

Brackenridge, PA 10514
heather_connell@us.aflac.com
(724) 257-1177



IE Power, LLC

1187 Butler Road
Freeport, PA 16229
(724) 295-6455



MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS



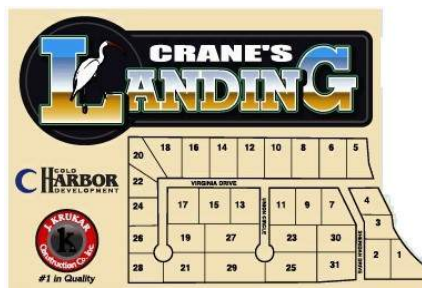
American Cancer Society

The American Cancer

Society has raised over \$6.3 billion dollars since 1985 for life-saving research, Patient programs, and education through their Relay For Life program alone. But did you know there is more to the American Cancer Society than Relay For Life? We are home to other signature events such as Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Greater Pittsburgh, Coaches vs. Cancer of Pittsburgh, the Larry Richert Celebrity Golf Classic, Daffodil Days, and Determination Pittsburgh. Along with fundraising we offer many patient programs including Road to Recovery – providing FREE rides to and from treatment, and our Hope Lodge program – housing cancer patients and their caregiver for FREE while going through treatment away from home.

Looking for ways to get more involved with the American Cancer Society? Reach out to Emma.Craven@cancer.org.

For 24/7/365 information and support, call 1.800.227.2345 or visit www.cancer.org



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Build a Home that's Uniquely Yours with Lasting Beauty & Structural Integrity.....in our Quiet, Secluded Residential Development, "CRANE'S LANDING," located in Kittanning, PA., which is just 40 minutes north of Pittsburgh. We are the exclusive Builder & there are Covenants implemented to protect your valued investment.

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We are a member of the PA Builders Assoc. & are fully insured.

724-545-9665

J. Krukar Construction Co., Inc.

110 Woodland Drive
Kittanning, PA 16201
www.jkrukarconstruction.com
joe_jkrukarconstruction@comcast.net
PA002935



#1 IN QUALITY

LEADERSHIP ALLE KISKI VALLEY

Are you ready to become a Leader?

Are you in a rut at work? Do you see yourself wanting to take the lead on a project? How about changing your community for the better? If you're interested in these things, look no further, LAKV Class XXVII is the place for you!

We are now accepting applications for Leadership Alle-Kiski Valley's 27th consecutive class of future leaders. Submit your application today along with a copy of your most recent resume. We're looking for the go-getters, the motivators, those who aren't afraid to roll up their sleeves, get hands on, and accomplish great things for their employers and our region.

If that's you, you fit the bill. There are no specific requirements to participate in LAKV Class XXVII. The Board of Directors and our Program Manager, Lisa Slongo will use your application to build a program around our class. We want to know your strengths, weaknesses, and even your fears. LAKV can help hone the strengths, turn the weaknesses into positives, and force those leadership fears away. It's what we do. LAKV creates tomorrow's leaders today.

So come on, fill out an application and join the ranks of thousands of Alle-Kiski Valley alumni who have changed our region for the better! Visit lakv.org to learn more about Leadership Alle Kiski Valley.



Class XXVI

Lisa Hyland, Mary Queen of Apostles School
Lynda J. Pozzuto, Alle Kiski Strong Chamber
Erica Kozen, Arconic
Kimberly Greene, Apollo Trust

(Back Row)

Margie Kovath, NextTier bank
Eileen Kenzevich, Alcoa Corp.
Ernest Ngirimana, Allegheny Valley Hospital
Wes Kuchta, Lenape Technical School

Contact Lisa Slongo, LAKV Program Manager, at 724-681-4109 or by email at info@lakv.org for additional details or an application for the upcoming class.

We can't wait to hear from you!

CHAMBER EVENTS



Coffee & Connections
hosted by:
FOREVER



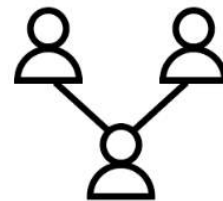
**Medical Marijuana in the Workplace:
An HR Perspective**
sponsored by:
Allegheny Valley Hospital



**Anytime Fitness, Cheswick
Fitness Center
Grand Opening**




**Meet & Greet
with the
Westmoreland Co. Chamber**



On-boarding for Small Business
presented by:
The Bradley Partnership



**MJ Cares
Accounting & Insurance Services
Grand Opening**



**Administrative Professionals
Day Luncheon**

CHAMBER MEMBER NEWS



Official Designation given to Middle Allegheny River Water Trail

It's Official! Recently the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau along with the Armstrong County Department of Planning and Development received notification that the Middle Allegheny River Water Trail has been approved by the Pennsylvania Water Trails Partnership of the National Parks Service, The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and The Pennsylvania Environmental Council as the newest Pennsylvania Water Trail.

The Middle Allegheny River Water Trail is a boat route suitable for canoes, kayaks and rowboats. Some areas may be appropriate for paddleboards and sculls. Our main route, running the 61-mile length of the Allegheny River in Armstrong County, connects specific locations, and contains access points, launches, and day-use sites. The trail lies between the Allegheny River Trail (Upper) to the north and the Three Rivers Water Trail to the south.

This designation completes the missing link between the Allegheny River Water Trail and the Three Rivers Water Trail as a recreational and educational corridor that will allow us many more opportunities to promote and attract Tourists to beautiful Armstrong County and our scenic Allegheny River.

Copies of the Middle Allegheny River Water Trail Map that highlights points of interest along the Water Trail are free and available at many sites along the Trail and at the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Office, by email: touristbur@co.armstrong.pa.us or call: (724) 543-4003. Additional Trail information is available on www.armstrongcounty.com.



Biblical Life Institute Moves Closer to Accreditation

On February 19, 2018, the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) granted candidate status to Biblical Life Institute.

Although involved in Christian higher education for 80 years, Biblical Life Institute (BLI) has only recently begun the process of becoming an accredited school. Candidate status is the half-way point of a process that typically takes 8-10 years.

Founded in 1938, BLI trains men and women for Christian ministries such as pastoral leadership, missions, and youth ministry. Some BLI students also attend the school simply to get a strong biblical education which they then use to support churches, Christian ministries, or as a foundation for further education. More information about the school can be found at www.bli4u.org. The school is located near Freeport.

ABHE is an accrediting agency recognized by the US Department of Education. It accredits Christian colleges, universities, and Bible colleges.



Huntley & Huntley Energy Exploration



Ed Valentas, HHEX's Director of Landowner & Municipal Affairs, provided an Informative tour of a local natural gas drilling site.