

The News Gusher



The Oil Region Alliance is pleased to send you its newsletter. If you have difficulty viewing this format via this email, it will be posted on www.oilregion.org soon. Also, depending upon your computer system, you may need to click on "view images" to see the images. Feel free to contact me at wthomas@oilregion.org with questions and comments concerning the newsletter.

If you wish to be removed from the Alliance's email distribution group, please email wthomas@oilregion.org

Entrepreneur's First Steps

By Willis Thomas, Marketing & Communications Manager/BREP Coordinator



Small Business Development Center
Clarion University

Helping businesses start, grow, and prosper.

For all of the aspiring entrepreneurs out there this article is for you! Ever dreamt about starting your own business centered on your passion? Well here's your chance to learn how to take those first steps towards your dream. The Clarion Small Business Development Center is again offering its free seminars in the First Step program. These seminars are for starting a small business and include topics like; "What to consider before starting a business," "License and tax information," "Guideline on how to finance your business," among others. For Venango County there will be seminars held on August 6th, October 1st, and December 3rd at the Holiday Inn Express in Cranberry, and they run from 8:45 a.m. to noon. Registration is required for these free seminars and registration can be done online [here](#) or by calling the Clarion SBDC toll-free at 877-292-1843

GeoWoodstock IX comes to NWPA for its International Annual Convention

By Betty Squire, VP Tourism Destination Marketing

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Upcoming Oil History Workshop

*By Melissa Mann,
Sr. Project Manager,
Heritage Development*

On Wednesday, June 22, the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism will present an Oil History Workshop entitled "From Brine Wells to Giant Oil Fields: The U.S. Petroleum Industry of the Nineteenth Century." This free workshop will begin at 6 p.m. in the Rhoades Center Auditorium on Clarion University's Venango Campus, located at 1801 West First Street in Oil City, Pennsylvania.

Jeff Spencer,
geologist with Midstates
Petroleum Company in



GeoWoodstock IX is the world's largest gathering of geocachers. Combining a meet and greet opportunity for players from around the world with a series of classes, workshops, entertainment, a commercial venue featuring the single largest assembly of Geocaching related vendors, and appearances by legends of the Geocaching community. GeoWoodstock has grown from a small meeting into the international annual convention for the game of Geocaching. GeoWoodstock IX will be held July 2, 2011 at the Warren County Fairgrounds in Pittsfield, PA. Since the start of this event it has continually grown and over 5,000 attendees are expected to attend this year. So far participants from all 50 states, Canada, Europe, and Asia have confirmed their registrations.

Many of the attendees will GeoCache their way to and from the GeoWoodstock event and will consider making the trip into family vacations. The Oil Region Alliance's Allegheny GeoTrail Programs success was one of the determining factors in bringing this annual convention to the east coast this year. The Alliance has seen an increase in the pre-requests for the AGT Passports from all over the country during the past two months.

This event has the potential to fill every hotel and campground within 50-75 miles of the event creating a large influx of tourism spending and business opportunities throughout the region. Most of our hotels and campgrounds are filled for this weekend, many with geocachers. On Friday, July 1, over 500 members of the group will start their convention off with a special train ride aboard the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad and a GeoCaching event with special caches at Oil Creek State Park.

The Warren County Fairgrounds at Pittsfield is about 80 acres and will be filled with special events, a live internet podcasting studio and live broadcasting from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Celebrities expected to attend are Paul & Danas Gillin, authors of "The Joy of Geocaching" and Joe Armstrong, aka JoGPS, the national chairman of the GeoWoodstock Committee and

Houston, TX, will present the workshop. Author of *Ohio Oil and Gas*, Mr. Spencer is a seasoned speaker on the early history of the U.S. petroleum industry. An avid collector of oil industry postcards, photos and trade cards, he will offer a visually stimulating and informative program, highlighting Pennsylvania as well as other sections of the United States.

Randy Seitz, President and COO of the Oil Region Alliance, stated, "The Alliance is excited to have Jeff Spencer host this free educational program. His expertise in the oil history of areas like Ohio, Texas and Louisiana is sure to provide the audience with a fresh perspective on our nation's early petroleum industry."

There is no charge to attend this workshop; however, pre-registration is requested. For additional information about the workshop, or to register, please contact Melissa Mann at (814) 677-3152, ext. 103 or mmann@oilregion.org.



founder of the GeoWoodstock event. In addition, there will be several individuals from Groundspeak headquarters in Seattle, WA. Groundspeak is the corporate operator of the geocaching.com website. Also expected are representatives from major GPS manufacturers.

The Oil Region Alliance will participate in all the activities each of the days of the event and will be present with all of our marketing materials, book sales and geocaching memorabilia. We will also be validating the AGT Passports each of the days of the event.

Neilltown Church Volunteers Continue to Beautify Memorial Garden

By Mike Henderson, Project Manager Heritage Developemnt



Now that the structural repairs are complete on the historic 1842 Neilltown Church, dedicated volunteers continue to restore the beauty of the memorial garden in the front lawn. The Venango County Master Gardeners, coordinated by Darlene Eaton, have done a wonderful job sprucing up the plantings in the garden, and they will continue to maintain it throughout the season.

Volunteers Jim and Rachel Ashbaugh of Franklin, along with Jim and Donna Sheely of Pleasantville, have repaired and repainted the memorial plaque located within the garden. The plaque contains nameplates of community members who have contributed over the years to the garden and grounds. Many thanks to our volunteers for their tireless work!

Venango Video TV Auction

By Jonathan Wenner, General Manager Venango Video
Venango Video will be holding it's "Live Annual Great TV

Board/Staff Spotlight

Chris Coxson
Finance Assistant/
Office Manager



As a local girl Chris went to Oil City High School and after graduation she went on to Erie School of Business to receive her Associates Degree in Business Administration. Shortly after her graduation from there she was hired by a predecessor of the Oil Region Alliance, the Venango County Industrial Development Corporation. She is a very loyal employee because after 18 years she is still here and has not lost her passion for the organization through the years.

At the Alliance Chris is responsible for assisting with financial matters, supplying the office with business supplies, and all human resources.

When not at the office Chris likes to spend time with her family; Emily, Tasha, and Denny. She is also an avid traveler. She recently returned from a cruise through the Caribbean and looks forward to where her next vacation will take her.

You can find out more about

Auction" in Franklin at the Commons July 8th through the 10th. We are looking for item donations to auction off and sponsorship. Donations and sponsorship are great ways to get your business noticed locally. We also have volunteer opportunities available: Hosting, Camera Operators, Tech Director, Audio Tech just to name a few. Being a volunteer for Venango Video is not just educational, it's a fun experience. The proceeds of the auction will be used for upgrading equipment, maintaining our exciting mix of programming as well as perusing new and informative television programs of local interest. By donating and volunteering you are helping Venango Video become a better organization as well as helping to make your community grow stronger! For more information about donating and/or volunteering call 814-677-3152 ext. 123 or email at jwenner@oilregion.org.

Member Spotlight:

Cranberry 10 Minute Oil Change

Cranberry Car Wash

Cranberry Pet Wash



Need to get your oil changed, car washed, or pet scrubbed clean quickly? The Cranberry 10 Minute Oil Change, Cranberry Car Wash, and Cranberry Pet Wash by the Cranberry Mall on US 322 is the all-in- one stop for you! Owners Dan Klapac and Joe Lehosky have owned and operated this growing business since 2002. The oil change service was the first of the three to come to town back in 1995. The technicians are either certified or in the process of being certified by both Pennzoil and the Automotive Oil Change Association. With a full line of Pennzoil Motor Oils, Rain-X wipers and the ability to rotate tires amongst other abilities, Cranberry 10 Minute Oil Change offers a full range of preventive maintenance options for your car, truck, or anything in between.

the staff and Board of Directors of the Alliance [here](#)

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To see upcoming events in the Oil Region, go



to www.oilregion.org and check out the "Event Calendar" on the home page.

Cranberry Car wash features one manual wash bay and two automatic wash bays. The manual bay is of special interest to motorcycle riders as the bay is equipped with clear coat and spot free rinse. The Chrome will shine brightly as the water is treated with reverse osmosis. The automatic bays feature the latest in soft-wash technology, undercarriage rinse, wheel wash and ArmorAll Clear coat protectant and body shield. The last part to be added to this complex was the Cranberry Pet Wash. This is a two bay, self-serve pet wash that has a walk up ramp, a non-slip tub, and has an anchor to tie your pet to so you can use both hands. It features not only a selection of top quality shampoos and conditioners, but also has a odor neutralizer if your pet has had an encounter with a skunk! You can learn more about all three [here](#), or just drop by because no appointment is necessary.

The Alliance Thanks These New Members

**Cranberry 10 Minute Oil Change
Leaders Inspire
The Movies at Meadville
Liz Powell
Queen City Cafe**

...and These Renewal Members

**GBS Television
George Thompson, Esq.
William Wilson, Esq.
William Cisek, Esq.
Klapec Trucking Company
Mary & Richard Balas
Svetz Consulting Services, LLC**

Membership benefits everyone that lives, works, and plays in the Oil Region of Northwestern PA
Find out how you can help your community by calling 814-677-3152 or logging on to www.oilregion.org .

Thanks to the Oil Region Alliance's Major Members!



FLY FKL



Gulfstream International Airlines serves Venango Regional Airport with daily flights between Franklin and Cleveland -- Continental Airlines' hub -- with connections to more than 60 locations. Travelers can park for free at the airport while on their trip. There are same day departure and arrival capabilities.

The Alliance urges business and pleasure travelers to use this valuable asset when planning trips.

To FLY Franklin (FKL), simply work with your travel agent, go to your favorite travel web site, or call O.C. Bell at the airport at (814) 432-5333.

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If you have suggestions or new ideas you would like to share, feel free to email them to chairman@oilregion.org.

We welcome input from you, the Oil Region community.

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