The First Bank & Trust Autumn Invitational Golf Tournament Set for Friday, October 3

The 14th Annual First Bank & Trust Autumn Invitational Golf Tournament, benefitting the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce, will be held Friday, October 3, 2014, at the Lonesome Pine Country Club in Big Stone Gap, VA.

The tournament will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. with a shotgun start. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. at which time a light breakfast will be served. The format will be captain's choice, and there will be three flights.

We have planned an exciting day with good food, fun, and friendly competition! Prizes will be awarded for the most accurate drive on hole #2, longest drive on hole #4, closest-to-the-pin on hole #6, and longest putt on hole #18. Make a hole-in-one on hole #10 and win a car courtesy of Dotson Chevrolet. In addition to the grand prizes, other hole-in-one prizes are available at three other par 3 holes.

The winners and runners-up of each flight will receive a trophy. Also, there will be drawings for lots of other great prizes at the conclusion of the tournament including a free chance to win a Ping driver.

Teams and players are still needed! The cost is $400 per team or $100 per player. This fee includes golf cart, green fees, team photos, awards ceremony, light breakfast, boxed lunch, on-course refreshments, and reception following the tournament. Each golfer will also receive a goody bag containing snacks and favors.

Mulligan packages will be sold at a cost of $40 per team, or $10 per player, which includes a mulligan and red tee.

Hole sponsors are also needed! Sponsors will be recognized with their company's sign prominently displayed on one of the tee boxes. The cost is $100. The proceeds earned from this event will help support and expand the valuable work of the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce.

There are a limited number of teams, so register now! The deadline to register is September 26, 2014.

For more information concerning the First Bank & Trust Autumn Invitational Golf Tournament, please call the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce at 276-679-0961. Click here to download sign up sheet!

Quarterly Board Meeting Set for September 25

The next meeting of the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce will be held Thursday, September 25, 2014, 11:30 a.m., at the Town Hall in St. Paul, VA. Lunch will be $12.00.

All members of the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce are welcome and encouraged to attend! If you plan to attend, please call the Chamber office at 276-679-0961 by September 20 in order to reserve your seat and meal.
Natural Resources Awareness Days to Be Held September 19

Natural Resources Awareness Days (NRAD) will be held September 19, 2014. Sixth grade students of Wise County along with City of Norton will take a one-day fieldtrip on September 19th to the Powell River Project Research & Education Center in Norton. Students will view displays and participate in discussions about Wise County’s natural resources as they relate to science topics incorporated in the Virginia Standards of Learning. Students will also be treated to a free lunch provided courtesy of Alpha Natural Resources, LLC. Soft drinks will be provided courtesy of Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company. Several local agencies and businesses will be participating in this year’s event - Alpha Natural Resources, LLC EM; EQT; Powell River Project Research & Education Center; USDA Forest Service - Clinch Ranger District; Virginia Dept. of Forestry; Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME); Vulcan Materials; and Wise County Litter Control and Recycling Department.

Following the fieldtrip, students will be given the opportunity to participate in one or more contests - essay, poetry, and art. Contest winners will be presented with a plaque and award at the December meetings of the Wise County & City of Norton School Boards courtesy of Alpha Natural Resources.

Natural Resources Awareness Days, formerly Coal Appreciation Days, originated in 1984 as a joint effort among several organizations to salute the coal industry and show appreciation for its contribution to Wise County. In 2001, the Chamber’s NRAD Committee dramatically changed and expanded the program to include activities and speakers relating to all our natural resources including mined minerals, water, gas, oil, and timber. To reflect these changes, the name of the event was changed to Natural Resources Awareness Days. Now our goal is to raise awareness of the importance of all of Wise County’s natural resources.

Natural Resources Awareness Days is sponsored by the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce, the Powell River Project Research & Education Center, Wise County Public Schools, Norton City Schools, and local businesses. Donnie Ratliff, Alpha Natural Resources, and Phil Meeks, Extension Agent, Powell River Project Education Center, serve as co-chairs of the Natural Resources Awareness Days Committee.

New Business Highlight

Tales of the Lonesome Pine bookstore in Big Stone Gap was established nine years ago. Owned and staffed by Wendy Welch and Jack Beck, it carries a wide selection of used and regional new books. Since the publication in 2012 of Welch’s memoir *The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap* (St. Martins Press), the store has been visited by individuals and groups from all over the US, and following publication in Portugal, Poland, S. Korea and China has fans all over the world.

A year ago the upper floor of the store opened as SECOND STORY CAFE, serving breakfasts and lunches, managed by chef Kelley Pearson. The Second Story Cafe has established a deserved reputation for the quality of food prepared fresh daily, using locally grown ingredients wherever possible.

The Trail of the Lonesome Pine bookstore operates Tuesday - Saturday, from 10 am - 6 pm. The upstairs cafe serves lunches Sunday - Thursday from 11 am - 3 pm (Sunday from Noon), and breakfasts by reservation from 8:30 am - 11 am. Tales of the Lonesome Pine Bookstore is also a sponsor of the *Celtic Festival* and a big part of the community of Big Stone Gap. Don’t hesitate to stop in and check them out soon!

The book store is located on 404 Clinton AVE, East in Big Stone Gap. For more information and to contact: jbeck69087@aol.com : 276-523-5097 : www.wendywelchbigstonegap.wordpress.com or visit them on Facebook.
Chamber Ribbon Cuttings and Newest Members

GNC sets the standard in the nutritional supplement industry by demanding truth in labeling, ingredient safety and product potency, all while remaining on the cutting-edge of nutritional science. As their company has grown over the years, so has their commitment to Living Well. In fact, GNC is the world's largest company of its kind devoted exclusively to helping its customers improve the quality of their lives. From scientific research and new product discovery to the manufacturing and packaging processes, GNC takes pride in a rigorous approach to ensuring quality. Their commitment to quality extends to the interactions with the customer and in each store in our stores and after you buy their products. The new GNC is located at 724 Commonwealth Drive, Norton. Matt Bates, Store Manger is a resident of Wise County and is eager to make this location a success in the community. Stop and visit them today!

The Wise County City of Norton Chamber held a Ribbon cutting to help celebrate their grand opening on August 9th. Thanks to GNC for helping support the Chamber and the local community.

Pathfinders Outdoor Adventures is a retail and rental outlet for outdoor adventure tourists in the Heart of Appalachia that offers hiking, biking, wilderness survival gear and supplies, in store and online, for all your outdoor needs. Pathfinders’ services include kayak, canoe, and mountain bike rentals and a wide range of outdoor safety courses such as NRA certified firearm safety, wilderness survival, first aid, and emergency preparedness. They also offer guide services for fishing, mountain biking and hiking alongside a concierge service that will capitalize on the Appalachian Spring initiative, which links adventure travelers to outdoor equipment, area outdoor adventure locations, and authentic Heart of Appalachia cultural venues.

Pathfinders Outdoor Adventures is located on 534 Park AVE, Norton. Please stop and see them today for your outdoor adventure needs.

Contact at (276) 679-2629 OR www.pathfindersoa.com

It's All About You Salon and Boutique

Offering a variety of services which include: Makeover’s, manicures, pedicures and hair services. Boutique hours are Monday through Friday and offer many dresses including: Wedding, Prom and Accessories for every occasion. Zumba Classes are offered Monday—Friday at 6 p.m. and morning classes Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

It’s All About You Salad and Boutique is also your authorized Disney Vacation specialist. Booking cruises, hotels and much more.

Give them a call today and see how they can help you today!

Located on 750 Park AVE, N.W., Norton
276-325-0068

Pictured above are Norton City Officials, Chamber Directors, Local Entrepreneurs and GNC employees.

Pictured above are the employees of It’s All About You, left to right: Mikayla Watkins, Linda Pirtle, Allison Francis, Leandra Shortt-Riley, and Tina Raymond.

Pictured above are Carol and Mark Caruso owners of Pathfinders Outdoor Adventures.
Newest Members Continued…

Ø Springleaf Financial

A ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the new location for Springleaf Financial now at 732 Commonwealth Drive, Norton. Pictured above are Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Springleaf Financial employees.

Warren Associates Development

Warren Associates Development has over 50 combined years of experience in the building and building trades industry, serving the Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee areas for over 30 years. Offering 24hr Emergency Service, reconstruction, remodeling, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, commercial cooking hoods and exhaust systems. They do free estimates and carrying a wide verity of products from A to Z. They are currently a Factory Authorized dealer for Carrier Enterprise heating and cooling systems.

Located downtown Big Stone Gap at 507 Wood Avenue, they are able to offer quick service to our surrounding area. Give them a call today at 276-523-5021 email at warreneatingandcooling@hotmail.com and visit their facebook page as well!

Lonesome Pine Airport to honor historic WWII aircraft Red Tails, Candy Bombers

The Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1416, located at Lonesome Pine Airport, is pleased to announce the 2014 Let Freedom Ring Educational Event, slated for Sept. 16 - 20 at the airport in Wise. This year’s event will feature the Red Tail Squadron, a member of the Commemorative Air Force. The Red Tail Squadron honors the heroism of the Tuskegee Airmen, African-American fighter pilots who overcame prejudice to become one of the elite fighter groups of World War II. Returning to Lonesome Pine will be the “Spirit of Freedom,” the Douglas C-54 E aircraft which serves as a flying museum dedicated to interpreting the
Let Freedom Ring Event to be held at Lonesome Pine Regional Airport—September 16-20 Open Daily 9-5

Continued from page 4  
Berlin Airlift and the actions of the 48th Troop Carrier Squadron, and other air groups who were known as the Candy Bombers. The Red Tail Squadron will bring a rare P-51C Mustang. This unique piece of flying history will stand out for two reasons: it has a bright red tail and it is a key part of an educational initiative to help people—particularly young people—understand and appreciate the history and legacy of the special group of African-American pilots who flew airplanes with bright red tails during WWII: “Tuskegee Airmen.”

It will be joined by the CAF Red Tail Squadron’s new customized 53-foot trailer with expandable sides which houses a 160-degree curved movie screen and seating for 30 in climate-controlled comfort. An original movie called Rise Above focuses on what the Tuskegee Airmen—pilots and their support personnel—had to overcome to be allowed to fly and fight for their country during World War II. Dedicated to Preserving the Memory and Legacy of the Berlin Airlift of 1948-1949. The Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation is dedicated to preserving the memory and legacy of the greatest humanitarian/aviation event in history: The Berlin Airlift. Historical Foundation has obtained and restored to flying condition an aircraft which helped support the C-54s which carried out this great mission. Named “Spirit of Freedom,” the aircraft is painted to represent the 48th Troop Carrier Squadron, one of the many groups which carried out the event. Inside the “Spirit” is a genuine museum dedicated to the Berlin Airlift, filled with artifacts, displays, and information explaining this all-important event in recent history. For group and school reservations call Bob Spera at 276/328-5300.
Chamber Accepting Nominations for 2015 Board of Directors

The Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce will be electing new members to its 2015 Board of Directors and new officers at its annual business meeting on December 5, 2014.

The Chamber is actively seeking directors who demonstrate great potential for leadership, dedication, service, and a willingness to contribute their sincere efforts to the betterment of Wise County and the City of Norton. These individuals must have the time to attend Chamber board meetings as well as assigned committee meetings.

Chamber members are urged to nominate qualified individuals not only from their locale, but from across Wise County and the City of Norton. All nominees must be members of the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce.

You may make nominations by calling the Chamber office at 276-679-0961 or writing to the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 226, Norton, VA 24273. Deadline for making nominations is Friday, October 24, 2014.

Chamber Accepting Nominations for Forward Wise County 2015

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2015 class of Forward Wise County, a leadership development program sponsored by the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce.

Forward Wise County 2015 will begin in March and will conclude with a graduation ceremony in May. There will be ten weekly sessions. One all-day Saturday seminar and one Saturday field trip may also be included. Session topics will include Criminal Justice System, work styles and leadership skills, generational identity in the workplace, Appalachian perception, workplace harassment, legislative issues, sensitivity training, tour of Wise County Landfill & CNW Wastewater Treatment Plant, tour of Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center, local government, and more.

The cost of the program is $250 which includes all sessions, meals and refreshments, a plaque, and the graduation luncheon. The 2015 class of Forward Wise County will be limited to 24 participants. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age.

For more information or to nominate someone, please call the Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce at 276-679-0961. Nomination forms are available on our Web site: wisecountychamber.org