

## CHAMBER TGIFS

The Altavista Area Chamber of Commerce held the second TGIF of the season on June 26 and featured a motorcycle show and "Scratch Gravel Road" as the band.



**THANKS** to the following for sponsorship of this event:

Bank of the James, Danville Distributors (Budweiser), English's, Express Car and Truck Parts (NAPA) and First National Bank.



The third of four TGIFs will be held on Friday, July 31st at AVOCA beginning at 6:00 p.m. Come and enjoy music by "The Recliners," a cold beverage, a hot slice of Pizza. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and children under 12 free. Bring a lawn chair and/or blanket and relax and enjoy a summer evening in the shade at AVOCA Museum. Our final TGIF of 2008 will be Friday, August 28 and feature "Key West."

## NEWSLETTER GOING GREEN

Beginning in September, the Chamber will no longer provide a printed monthly Newsletter. We will still publish a monthly Newsletter



but will only provide it electronically to our members through email and the Chamber's new (still under development) web site. Inserts are still welcomed and will be included.

To be sure you can regularly receive the Newsletter, please ensure we have your current email address. If you are unable to receive your Newsletter via email, please contact the Chamber Office.

## CHAMBER WELCOMES NEWEST MEMBERS

- **Fat Katz Sports Bar & Grill** located at 1235 Main Street in Altavista. For additional information, contact Ms. Martha Lee at (424) 369-5289.
- **Mr. Herb Miller** who has joined as an individual member.

## A great way to Get Free Customer Service Tips

Sign up for a free newsletter by Debra J. Schmidt who is known as the Loyalty Leader and author of *Building Customer Loyalty From the Inside Out*. Go to [www.LoyaltyLeader.com](http://www.LoyaltyLeader.com) to subscribe to Debra's free online newsletter. She also has webinars from time to time.

## CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Chamber's annual Golf Tournament will be Friday, September 11th and we are looking for sponsors and players. Tee and green sponsorships and teams at either \$240.00 or \$500.00 are available. Also there is \$275.00 banner sponsorship available. Please call the Chamber Office for additional information.

Sponsorship form enclosed.

## BUSINESS CONSULTATIONS

A representative from the Region 2000 Small Business Development Center will be available here at the Train Station in Altavista from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month to provide **FREE**, confidential assistance to help you start or expand your business, develop better marketing strategies and inform you of the resources available for small businesses. Contact the Chamber Officer, mornings, at (434) 369-6665 to schedule your appointment.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**National Night Out** sponsored by Altavista Police is being held Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm to 9:30 pm, English Park. This will be a fun-filled evening with hot dogs, ice cream and special demonstrations by the Altavista Police Department, Altavista Fire Department, and EMS. Bring your family out to see and learn about safety and have fellowship with your neighbors.

Altavista businesses are welcome to bring a booth or table and exhibit your products for the public to see. You may also provide giveaways if you choose. Please call the Chamber office to sign up at 369-6665. There is no charge for this opportunity for you to showcase your business.

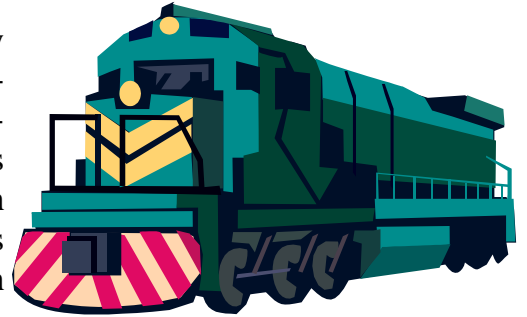
Any monetary donations or door prizes from local businesses to help with National Night Out expenses will be appreciated. To help in this regard, please contact Devin Snead at Altavista Police Department at 369-5001. Additional information available at [www.nationaltownwatch.org](http://www.nationaltownwatch.org) and at the enclosed flyer.

Altavista Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 606  
Altavista, VA 24517  
(434) 369-6665

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ALTAVISTA, VA  
PERMIT NO. 130

## ENTREPRENEUR EXPRESS

On June 23, the Altavista Chamber and Campbell County Department of Economic Development sponsored an Entrepreneur Express to help business owners move their business forward. Representatives from Virginia Department of Business Assistance, Virginia Department of Tourism and Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension presented the program. Participants learned about the free resources provided to businesses through the state, marketing strategies and business start-up and expansion financing. The 34 individuals who attended gained a wealth of information to make their businesses stronger.



“I was excited after leaving the workshop last week especially concerning the e-commerce web site assistance through VECTEC. I went to their web site and made contact that very next day. In a few days, I received the follow-up call sharing with them my web site information for their team to review. I’m excited about the possibilities that e-commerce can have in the future of my business.”  
**Major Gilbert, Altavista Church Supply Store** (see last two web sites below)

“It was most informative and I thought the marketing, financial and business plan tips were useful. We plan on utilizing several of the resources. While I have been in business for several years, I think someone thinking about starting a business would have benefited greatly. They provided a good overview of all the things you must do and where to get help.” **Connie Krantz, Wireless Zone**

“I thank the Chamber for putting on the Entrepreneur Express. I was very impressed with the information that was presented. I am going to use the contact list provided by the Virginia Department of Business Assistance regarding doing business with the state. It was a great meeting for generating new ideas and networking with other business owners. Thanks again.” **Scott Phillips, NAPPA Auto Parts**

“I found the workshop to be highly informative. The presenters had a wealth of knowledge and gave me many ideas for our restaurant. I look forward to more Chamber workshops.” **Christine Tierney, Fat Katz**

Helpful Business Websites:

[www.VATC.org](http://www.VATC.org) (register your business free); [www.vafaires.org](http://www.vafaires.org) (click Virtual Business Center);

[www.dba.virginia.gov](http://www.dba.virginia.gov); [www.lynchburgscore.org](http://www.lynchburgscore.org); [www.SCORE.org](http://www.SCORE.org); [www.LBDC.com](http://www.LBDC.com);

[www.sba.gov/smallbusinessplaner/plan/getready/serv\\_sbplanner\\_stguide.html](http://www.sba.gov/smallbusinessplaner/plan/getready/serv_sbplanner_stguide.html); [www.nfib.com](http://www.nfib.com);

[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu); [www.vectec.org/resource](http://www.vectec.org/resource); and [www.vectec.org/ecommercecourses.html](http://www.vectec.org/ecommercecourses.html).