



P. O. BOX 167
SCOTT DEPOT, WEST VIRGINIA 25560

PCDA PERSPECTIVE

County Welcomes Charter Communications

Site work has started for construction of one of Putnam County's newest businesses. Groundbreaking was held on August 16th for the 18,000 square foot building adjacent to the Scott Depot post office.

The new \$2 million facility will employ 75 persons in the new regional office in Teays Valley. According to Mike Kelemen, Regional Director for Governmental/Public Affairs, the company will expand its telemarketing and administrative staff in the new building. They hope to be in the new building by March 2001.

The regional office staff will manage advanced services that range from high-speed data networks to home modem connections.

Charter Communications is the nation's fourth-largest cable television company. Kelemen said that West Virginia was



Mike Kelemen, Regional Director for Governmental/Public Affairs, Charter Communications speaks at the groundbreaking ceremony for Charter's new Mid-Atlantic Regional Office facility in Teays Valley



Groundbreaking for the new Charter Communications facility (left to right) Greg Williamson, Williamson Shriver & Gandee Architects; Jim Withrow, County Commissioner; Frank Gritt, Chamber Chairman; Dave Bach, Regional V.P., Charter Communications; Steve Knouse, Regional Director Finance, Charter Communications, Mike Kelemen, Regional Director -Governmental/Public Affairs, Charter Comm.; and Gary Young, G & G Builders

chosen as the site for the new facility because the state's 200,000 customers compose the highest concentration of Charter customers in the mid-Atlantic region.

The two-story building will be designed to accommodate a third floor of additional space in the future and is being constructed by G & G Builders.



Charter site work underway

Welcome to Poca: General American Door Co.

August 9, 2000 was the grand opening of the new General American Door Company's (GADCO) new distribution center in the Rock Branch Industrial Park. The new facility will serve customers within a 200 mile radius of Charleston.

The 39-year old company manufactures steel garage doors at its Montgomery, IL plant and has distribution centers in Georgia, Richmond, VA and near Cleveland, OH as well as the new Poca facility.

The Poca distribution center has a display area for dealers to view product from an inventory of more than 1,000 doors. The center also offers customer services such as making some special non-standard doors and modifying doors, especially

when a customer needs a door immediately and can not wait to have an order shipped from Illinois. GADCO President, Joseph Kee said "at Poca, we can turn things around faster and easier than we can at the plant, which is many days away from the customer."

GADCO will employ 15 at the Rock Branch Industrial Park.

Putnam County welcomes General American Door Company.



PCDA Holds Board Meeting at Putnam Business Park

The Development Authority held its August board meeting in the outdoors at the Putnam Business Park. The purpose was to give board members and guests an opportunity to see the property first-hand.



In the photo (above), board members Johnny Harris (L) and president David Kimberling (second from right) share a moment with State Senator Robert Dittmar prior to the board meeting.

Board members were treated to grilled hamburgers prepared by PCDA's director Gary Walton. Thanks to Gloretta Bishop, we also had potato salad and baked beans, etc. for a real meal.

In addition to Senator Dittmar, County Commissioner Jim Withrow, Advantage Valley Managing Director Gayle Vest, and PROTEC board member David Call took part in the gathering.

After the outdoor picnic meeting, three of the members used their 4-wheel drive vehicles to give others a tour of the Phase I area. Phase I includes between 60-70 acres and is nearest to old U.S. highway 35. The Authority also owns about 10 acres between U.S. 35 and the Kanawha River.



In the photo above, (Left to Right), David Bunger, Senator Dittmar, David Call, Beverly Jarrett, Ben Vest and Gayle Vest listen as members are updated about the status of wetlands mitigation efforts, archeological research and general development of the new Putnam Business Park.

Guests at the meeting were also given copies of the PCDA Annual Report for 1999-2000. The report details information about the authority's accomplishments for the previous year as well as what goals are to be achieved during the coming program year.

"History repeats itself!" It has to do this—because a lot of people didn't grasp the message the FIRST TIME.

SEDC Annual Conference—Charleston, WV –Oct 14-17,2000

Charleston, West Virginia is the host for this year's Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC) annual conference October 14-17, 2000. This year's conference is entitled "Leadership in a New Economy."

The conference features presenters such as Dr. Richard Florida, Ph.D., the H. John Heinz III Professor of Regional Economic Development at Carnegie Mellon University; Dr. Jeffrey Rosenzweig, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Corporate Relations, Goizueta Business School of Emory University; and others.

While visiting the area, out-of-state guests are invited to take a train excursion sponsored by CSX Transportation through West Virginia's brilliant fall foliage. Guests can also experience West Virginia's natural beauty with a whitewater rafting trip on the New River, voted the "Best Whitewater River" by Blue Ridge Country magazine.

Some visitors will also travel the Allegheny Trail on a mountain bike to experience the unspoiled scenery of the New River Gorge. There will also be golf at the Greenbrier, and arts, crafts, food and live entertainment at Tamarack—The Best of West Virginia.

PCDA's Vice President, John Smolak, is also First Vice Chairman of SEDC and the SEDC 2000 Local Conference Chair.

The headquarters hotel will be the Charleston Marriott Town Center at 200 Lee Street, East, Charleston.

SEDC is the oldest and largest regional economic development organization in North America. Seventeen states and the District of Columbia are represented by the organization. For registration information, call SEDC at 1-800-969-7432 or call the Authority's office at 757-0318.

PCDA's Director Earns CED Designation

PCDA's Executive Director, Gary Walton, earned the designation of Certified Economic Developer® (CED) at the June 3rd Dallas, Texas administration of the exam.

With over 20 years of economic development experience, Walton's former experience included serving as Executive Director of the Washington County Economic Growth Partnership in Salem, Indiana. He also served as Director of Planning & Economic Development for the Governor's Indiana Military Base Use Coordinating Commission. Walton was also responsible for creating the Perry County Development Corporation in Tell City, Indiana.

The CED designation recognizes the professional economic developer and sets the standard for excellence within the profession of economic development. Candidates must pass a rigorous three-part certification examination which tests knowledge, proficiency, and judgment in all important areas of economic development.

An individual must have at least five years of full-time professional employment in economic development, plus credits for professional activities, higher education, or accredited courses in economic development to qualify to sit for the examination.

There are currently more than 700 CEDs throughout the United States and Canada

Government experts in the Census Bureau continue to analyze recent census figures. A recent "statistical report" notes that large cities with the highest population—are those that had the MOST PEOPLE in them

Available Industrial Buildings

FOR LEASE

Former Orr Safety building

5,000 square feet

Located on .63 acres in the Rock Branch Industrial Park in Poca, West Virginia



For more information on available buildings, please call the Putnam County Development Authority at 304-757-0318 or you can reach us by e-mail at pcda@pcda.org

Both buildings are in very good condition and are located in the Rock Branch Regional Industrial Park at Poca, West Virginia. The park is only 5 minutes or less from the Nitro Interchange at Interstate Highway 64 in Putnam County. Only about 15 minutes or less from Charleston, WV and Interstates 77 and 79.

Donations Needed for JIT

The Just in Time Transportation Development Corporation is requesting donations to aid in getting accurate information in the hands of the public regarding the need for a new western West Virginia Regional Airport.

Within the past year, there has been considerable publicity generated "against" the construction of a regional airport facility. It is extremely difficult to counter negative publicity without adequate funding.

If you would like to make a donation, you can call the PCDA office at 757-0318 or you may call (304) 342-4218 for more information. You can also visit the Just in Time web site located at www.I64airport.org for updates.

For LEASE

4,050 sq. ft. Warehouse
950 sq. ft. Office



Call Gary Walton today for more details. If you have an available industrial or commercial building for sale or lease, call Gary Walton at the PCDA to request a building/site information form. Complete the form, and provide up-to-date site/building plans and we will include the information in the county's marketing information and Internet web site.

Putnam Business Park Update

Board of Directors

Clinton Beaver
James Caruthers
Dale Eggleton
Patsy Hardy
Beverly Jarrett
Virginia King
Jack McLane
Courtlandt Smith
John Smolak
Harry Whipkey
Thomas D. Winter

Wayne Bennett
David Bunger
Roy Hamilton
Johnny Harris
David Kimberling
Dennis Prisk
Robert Pennington
Nancy Smith
Ben Vest
Linda Williams

Staff

Gary S. Walton, *CED, Executive Director*
Gloretta Bishop, *Administrative Assistant*

Phone: (304) 757-0318

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. have almost completed the archeological work at the Putnam Business Park. Initial archeological review is expected to be completed in mid-September.

The Wetlands Mitigation Plan was completed in early September and the plan and application materials were submitted for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers review and approval prior to construction of replacement wetlands on site.

In addition, the board expects to have the Master Plan for Development completed by the end of September. The next steps are design and construction.



Joanna Wilson, Senior Archeologist, WV Division of Culture & History (left) and Michael Anslinger, Principal Investigator, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (right) discuss the archeological site review in process on the Putnam Business Park property. Photo taken: 9/11/00

Municipal Visits

I have continued to meet with municipal governments in recent months. Recently, I've had the opportunity to attend city/town council meetings at Hurricane, Eleanor, Buffalo, Nitro, and Poca. Thanks for all your courtesy during my visits.



Poca Mayor Pat Hill shares a laugh with town council members at an August meeting of the council.

ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE

The Authority's Annual Report for 1999-2000 is complete and ready for distribution. If you would like a copy the Annual Report please contact the PCDA office at 304-757-0318

Visit us on the Web at:
www.pcda.org

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Address Correction Requested

