

WHAT IS EPEF?

The Eastern Panhandle Entrepreneurs Forum (EPEF) is a non-profit organization comprised of individuals from within the business and technical community to promote the formation and growth of innovative new businesses. The EPEF is a chapter of the West Virginia Entrepreneurs Forum at West Virginia University. The Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan County Economic Development Authorities direct and organize the group along with a steering committee of members from the SBDC, the development authorities, and various sponsors.

The EPEF is based on the premise that the future economic vitality of our region must come from the emergence of new businesses through entrepreneurship. In order for this to occur, there must be an entrepreneurial culture, a pool of resources to draw from, and successful models to follow.

We would like to invite **YOU** to join us at our monthly EPEF meetings. **The EPEF is free and open to anyone who is interested in improving their business and the overall business climate in the Eastern Panhandle.**

THE MEETING

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month and rotate between the Eastern Panhandle counties. Berkeley County – Purple Iris, Jefferson County – Inn at Charles Town, Morgan County – Country Inn
Networking hour with refreshments starting at 5:30pm, Program begins at 6:30pm
10 FREE display tables of local businesses each month reserved on a first come basis

THE EXTRAS

Yearly sponsorships are available on a pro-rated basis for 2010 – or be thinking about the possibility of a 2011 sponsorship

Cost for a yearly sponsorship is \$350, see website for benefits <http://www.jcda.net>

*The mission of the EPEF is to help businesses in our area thrive by connecting owners with state and county officials, investors, industry experts, and business service providers during the networking hour.
Our monthly programs provide entrepreneurs with free information to help them stay successful.*

CURRENT SPONSORS:

American Public University, EPBI@Biztech, Cell-Page Communications, CNB Bank, Comcast, Gateway New Economy Council, Global Data, Growth Media Services, Manpower, Morgan Financial Group, MVB Bank, Ours Lawyer Lewis & Company, Specialized Engineering, Steptoe & Johnson, Summit Point Automotive Research Center, Triad Engineering, Hawthorne Group, Eastern Panhandle Development Authorities, Eastern Panhandle Chambers of Commerce

For more information, please write to info@jcda.net or call Whitney Burch at 304-728-3255.

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER
March 4, 2010 Purple Iris	Small Business Health Insurance General Business Insurance	Shenandoah Valley Group Mid-Atlantic Group
April 1, 2010 Inn at Charles Town	Creative Marketing on a Budget	Growth Media Services and other panelists WV State Journal
May 6, 2010 Country Inn		<i>in the planning stages</i>
June 3, 2010 Inn at Charles Town	Strengthening your Business through Partnerships with NonProfits	Good Shepherd Caregivers Dish: A New American Bistro