

Berkeley County Development Authority  
**IMAGINE THAT...****Two Large Events in The Eastern Panhandle**

Issue 5, November 2010

Over 80,000 people came to Berkeley County to attend the Thunder Over the Blue Ridge Air Show in September. This was an opportunity to showcase our beautiful county and the \$280 million in improvements at the 167th Air National Guard. The event raised over \$100,000 for the local United Way .

More Details: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/548007/Thundering-event-wraps-up-Sunday.html>



Air Force Thunderbirds

The other event brought 100 economic development directors and state employees to Berkeley County. The BCDA hosted the Annual Economic Development Council meeting. The attendees were able to see firsthand the vitality in the Panhandle. They visited The Woods Resort, the Air National Guard, the McFarland House in Downtown Martinsburg, and the Hollywood Casino in Charles Town.

**Governor's Guaranteed Work Force Program**

Do you need to upgrade the skills of your employees? Do you spend money on training to make your workforce more competitive? The State of WV offers training assistance through the GGWFP. The program is available to most new companies, except retail and construction, who are creating jobs as well as existing businesses who are growing and expanding. Last year over \$100,000 was awarded to Berkeley County companies.

More Details: <http://www.wvcommerce.org/business/successstories/governorsguarantee/default.aspx>

**In the Know.....****Entrepreneurs Forum**

<http://www.icda.net>

**Chamber Activities**

<http://www.berkeleycounty.org>

**SHRM Meetings**

<http://ep.shrm.org>

**SBDC**

<http://www.wvsbdc.org>

**WorkforceWV**

<http://www.workforcewv.org>

**Kathy Mason Receives Award**

Kathy Mason was recognized by the Berkeley County Commission with the November 2010 Excellence in Community Service Award. The award was in recognition of her dedicated service to Berkeley County. Kathy has been the Business Programs Manager for the BCDA since Nov 2008. Her job is to work with the existing businesses on expansion and retention issues. She is also the incoming Chairperson for the Martinsburg/Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce.



Kathy Mason with County Commissioners

More Details: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/550608/County-recognizes-two-award-winners.html>

**I-81 Corridor Coalition Announcement**

An announcement was made at the I-81 Corridor Coalition Conference that an additional portion of I-81 in WV will become 6 lanes. Construction will begin in the spring on 5.5 miles north of Martinsburg. The Average Daily Traffic count on the Berkeley County portion of I-81 is currently 57,700. The Interstate runs from the Canadian border in upstate New York to Tennessee.

The I-81 Corridor Coalition Annual Conference was attended by 90 state and local government officials representing the entire 855 mile length of the Interstate.

More Details: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/551593/I-81-going-to-six-lanes.html>

Or: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/551522/I-81-coalition-meets-in-Hagerstown.html>

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