



WEST VIRGINIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE *The Voice of Business in West Virginia*

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Steve Forbes To Be Headline Speaker At 2009 Annual Meeting/W.Va. Business Summit™

CHARLESTON -- Steve Forbes, publisher of Forbes magazine and former Presidential candidate, will be the headline speaker at the W.Va. Chamber's 2009 Annual Meeting and West Virginia Business Summit™. Joining Forbes will be Governor Joe Manchin, and both will provide remarks during the General Session on Thursday morning, September 3.

Forbes is the editor-in-chief of [Forbes](#) business magazine as well as president and chief executive officer of its publisher, Forbes Inc. He also is a former presidential candidate in 1996 and 2000 and is a frequent national commentator on business, tax and economic issues.

The Chamber's annual meeting, which will be held September 2-4 at The Greenbrier, is the largest gathering of business executives, managers and professionals from across the state. In addition, ten statewide organizations will be sponsors for this year's West Virginia Business Summit,™ which is held at part of the Annual Meeting.

"We are so excited to have lined up Steve Forbes to speak at our Annual Meeting," said Steve Roberts, Chamber President. "His perspectives on national economic issues and business news will be insightful and valuable to attendees."

Roberts said Forbes will be joined by Governor Joe Manchin, who will discuss West Virginia's economy and share his views on national issues involving energy, health care and education.

For the meeting's opening lunch on September 2, Jim Justice, the new owner of The Greenbrier, will outline his plans to regain the resort's five-star rating and to offer new amenities, such as a casino with table games. "Mr. Justice has injected new energy and excitement throughout the Greenbrier, and he has

such as positive message about the resort’s future,” Roberts added. “We are so pleased that he will be with us and to share his passionate spirit as we start this year’s gathering.”

Other presentations planned for this year’s annual meeting will cover topics in human resources, taxation, energy, government, tourism and West Virginia’s courts. “We are lining up another top-notch roster of presentations on timely business issues and matters, particularly those involving energy and health care,” Roberts said. He noted that more details on these symposium presentations will be provided in the coming weeks.

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Key hosts for this year’s Annual Meeting will be:

Presenting Host: Charles Ryan Associates

Premier Host: Chesapeake Energy

Grand Host: CONSOL Energy

Executive Host: Huntington Bank

For additional information about the meeting, please go to www.wvchamber.com.



West Virginia Chamber of Commerce – (www.wvchamber.com) As the state’s largest, most influential general business organization, the West Virginia Chamber represents all business sectors in every region of the state, with more than 95 percent of its members being small businesses. The organization’s 5,000+ membership reach comes from its network relationships with 55 local chambers of commerce and dozens of statewide business and trade associations. The West Virginia Chamber is a proactive leader in the search for solutions to problems, a voice for free market competition and streamlined government, a catalyst for progressive thinking and problem solving, and a partner with government as appropriate.

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