## **NEWS**

## **VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.**

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## Bergen LEADS Fifth Friday to Feature Local Author and Historian

Bergen LEADS Fifth Friday, a powerful networking and learning event that attracts leaders from every sector in Bergen County, will be held on March 22, 2013 from 11:30 am to 2 pm at the Stony Hill Inn, 231 Polifly Road in Hackensack.

Fifth Friday is hosted by Bergen LEADS, Bergen County's civic leadership program for adults sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Bergen County. Tickets are \$40.00 and must be purchased in advance by registering online at <a href="www.bergenleads.org">www.bergenleads.org</a>. or by calling 201-489-9454 Ext. 119.

PNC Wealth Management is presenting sponsor for the 2013 Fifth Friday series. Linda Bowden, PNC New Jersey regional president says, "Bergen County continues to grow and flourish. Today, with 32 PNC Bank branch locations and a new PNC Wealth Management office in the area, the region's success is our success. We are proud to be deepening our local commitment by supporting Bergen LEADS' Fifth Friday. I can think of no better way to act on the community values we share with the Volunteer Center of Bergen County."

Kevin Wright, noted local historian and author, will speak about making Bergen County a heritage destination. Heritage tourism is one of the fastest growing niche market segments in the travel industry. Kevin will explain how the rich cultural heritage of Bergen County can be used to spur tourism and positively impact the region's economy.

Bergen LEADS Fifth Friday is also supported by TD Bank, Archer & Greiner PC, the Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce, Synetek Solutions, (201) Magazine and The Record.

In addition to presenting Fifth Fridays, Bergen LEADS is currently accepting applications for its next class, which begins in September 2013. The online application form for the Class of 2014 can be accessed at <a href="https://www.bergenleads.org">www.bergenleads.org</a> and is due by April 12. Each candidate must complete a simple individual profile form and provide essay

answers to specific questions. Tuition for Bergen LEADS is \$2,000 per person; scholarship assistance is available for those with financial need.

Sponsorships for the March 22 event are available. For more information about the Fifth Friday events, or about Bergen LEADS, call 201-489-9454 Ext. 119.

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