



## NEWSLETTER – November | December 2010

### MEETING REMINDER

The general meeting of the Chamber is held on the first Tuesday of the month. **The next meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 4th** at the Route 6 Diner. If you haven't attended a Chamber meeting in a while, join us for dinner or a snack so we can get reacquainted.

### SMETHPORT BUSINESSES ACTIVE IN UNIVERSITY ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM

Erik Ross of Wood Baker & Ross in Smethport discussed legal issues with students participating in the Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. The program is aimed at students interested in pursuing business careers and building their own companies.

Erik spoke to the Entrepreneurship Capstone class on business entities about how to decide which legal structure to choose for a new business.

Also, each year students in the program's E-Venture Management course pick a business to work with to develop their online market. This year the students worked with Ken Rinamon of Ken's Custom Carving in Smethport.

Ken produces such custom designed Pennsylvania hardwood furniture and display pieces such as gun racks, china cabinets, mirrors, coffee tables, hope chests, and headboards. He sells his products at craft shows and dealers, but he wanted to develop online channels.

The class worked with Ken to develop stores on eBay and Etsy. Thanks to the program, Ken now has a strategic roadmap and some great ideas for developing his business.

### GRANT MONEY EARMARKED FOR SMETHPORT HEALTH SERVICES

The Center for Rural Health Practice at the University of Pittsburgh in Bradford has announced that it will receive \$4.8 million in new grant funding for partnership projects. Of that amount, \$469,382 will be earmarked for Smethport, Bradford, Kane and Port Allegany

for physical exercise programs intended to decrease chronic disease and improve the overall health of participants.

### **CHRISTMAS 'LIGHT UP NIGHT' A BIG SUCCESS**

The day after Thanksgiving (Black Friday), the Smethport Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored "Christmas Light-Up Night in Smethport".

The event featured a tree-lighting at the corner of Main & Union Streets to kick off the Christmas Season. After Chamber president Nathan Muller read the [Borough Proclamation](#) on behalf of Mayor Ross Porter, a chorale and instrument ensemble from the Smethport High School braved the sub-freezing temperature to treat guests to a medley of Christmas songs.

Santa and Mrs. Claus (George and Debbie Tufts) attended the event and passed out Woolly Willy gifts for the children.

Graham Nannen and his family graciously donated the use of their tree for this event.

Special thanks go to Borough electrician Charlie Jones who labored with Don Gamet in the cold and rain to install the tree lights earlier that week.

### **NEW YEAR'S PARTY AT SMETHPORT COUNTRY CLUB**

On Friday at 7:00 pm on December 31st, the Smethport Country Club will host a New Year's Eve Party. Music will be provided by the Wildfire Band from 9:00 pm until 1:00 am the next morning.

[Check out the flyer.](#)

Everyone is welcome. Make reservations by December 20. Cost is \$20 per couple; \$10 single.

**Send reservations to:**

Carol Duffy  
P.O. Box 5  
Smethport, PA 16749

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR: ANNUAL HAMLIN LIBRARY DINNER & AUCTION**

Hamlin Memorial Library will hold its annual dinner and auction in Saturday, March 20, from 6:00 - 10:30 pm. The event will be held at the Smethport Fire Hall.

The Social Hour and Silent Auction will begin at 6:00 pm, followed by a buffet served by Rose and Phyllis.

The cost for the event is \$45 a couple.

If you would like to donate items for the auction, you may contact the library for details: 887-9262.

## **HISTORICAL SOCIETY STACKS THE DECK**

The McKean County Historical Society is offering a unique deck of playing cards, featuring 58 pictures of McKean County and its people. Priced at \$10 per deck, the supply is limited, so call the Society now to reserve your deck: 887-5142. Makes a great Christmas stocking stuffer!

## **WORKSHOP ON STARTING A SMALL BUSINESS**

Clarion University's Small Business Development Center is holding a START UP workshop in Smethport designed to give entrepreneurs a head-start with their business.

**Date:** January 12, 2011

**Time:** 12:00 noon to 3:30 pm

**Location:** McKean County Emergency Management 911 Center at 17175 Route 6

**Speaker:** Corry Riley, Outreach Business Consultant

**Topics:**

- Lifestyle requirements that are involved in owning a business
- Differences between business organizations and structures
- How and why to prepare a business plan
- Guidelines on how to finance your business
- How to research your market and competition
- How to market your product or service
- How to conduct research on your industry
- Applications and licenses needed to start your business
- Regulations governing a business
- Business tax information
- Environmental regulation compliance
- Other resources you can use to help you plan and succeed

**Cost:** \$20.00 per person, payable by cash, check, or credit card

**Pre-registration (required):** <http://web.clarion.edu/SBDC/Training/Register.asp?CID=522>

## **MEMBERSHIP 2010-2011**

As of December 15th, the following individuals, businesses and other organizations have joined the Chamber or renewed their membership for 2010-2011:

- ADP Rental
- Ascent Solutions
- Barbara Ness
- Barbara K. Bowman
- Bill Lake Real Estate
- Buchanan Brothers Pharmacy, Inc.
- Chef Specialties – Backus Company
- Colonial Radio Group
- Connie's Route 6 Diner
- Corner Bar & Tap Room
- Costa's Ace Hardware
- Costa's Supermarket
- Country Porch Cafe

Edward Jones - Keith Delacour, FA  
Enchanted Mountain Advertising  
Forecon Inc.  
Hamlin Bank & Trust Company  
Hamlin Memorial Library  
Hancock Forest Management  
H&S Pet Animal Hospital  
Helen Cole  
Heritage Suites (Bradford)  
James B. Kane, Jr. DMD  
James K. Angell, Attorney at Law  
James P. Miller, Attorney at Law  
Kwik Fill  
Lakeview Senior Care and Living Center  
Lightwaves Laser Engraving  
Mansion District Inn, LLC  
McKean County Legion Riders  
McKean County Historical Society  
Northwest Savings Bank  
O'Day Acquisition Consulting  
Olson & Tenglund, Inc.  
**Patch Products, Inc.**  
Phillis Barnhart  
Senior Center  
St. Elizabeth of Hungary R.C. Church  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Smethport Area School District  
Smethport Country Club  
Smethport Drive-In  
Smethport Fire Department  
Smethport Gulf & Tire  
Smethport Rotary  
Thomas E. Ball Financial Services  
United Refining Company of Pennsylvania (Warren)  
Wayne and Mary Lee Pearson  
Woods Baker & Ross

\* **NOTE:** If you do not see your name / organization on this list, please drop a note to:  
[njmuller@comcast.net](mailto:njmuller@comcast.net).

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**CHAMBER WEBSITE:** [www.smethportchamber.com](http://www.smethportchamber.com)

**FREE ADVERTISING:** If your business is located in the Borough, Smethport Web will host an advertising banner at no charge. Send advertising copy, images, and contact information to [advertising@smethportpa.org](mailto:advertising@smethportpa.org). Don't miss this opportunity to use the power of the Internet to enhance your business. All the design work will even be done for you!

**NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE:** In case you need to refer to a past newsletter, the Chamber website keeps an archive at: [www.smethportchamber.com/chamber\\_newsletter.htm](http://www.smethportchamber.com/chamber_newsletter.htm).