

Inside the view...

Place to Visit	1
Member Spotlight	3
New Members	4
After Hours	5
Jim's Corner	6



PFEW BATTLES "DOOM & GLOOM!"

An exciting, one-of-a-kind program open to all area 10th and 11th grade students will be celebrating thirty-one years of quality educational opportunities for Pennsylvania youth this summer. That program, *Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW)* is completely funded, taught and staffed by practitioners from the Pennsylvania business and industry community.

The Chamber is proud to support PFEW and encourages our local companies and civic organizations to provide sponsorship for our area students and, if possible, perhaps even volunteers for the sessions. (PFEW is totally taught, staffed and sponsored by the Pennsylvania private sector.) Each student attends PFEW on a fully tax-deductible \$525 scholarship (the actual value of the scholarship is \$1,500) which is provided by a local firm or organization. The students wear the sponsors name during the program and all scholarship providers are recognized in a variety of ways for their support. Students write to their sponsors following the program to report on what they have learned. PFEW is also an approved organization through the PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program through the Department of Community and Economic Development.

If you would like to learn more about this award-winning program and how you can help, please call the Chamber directly or contact John Trombetta, president & CEO of the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education which presents PFEW at (814) 833-9576 or e-

Place to Visit for February...

The Paisley Bride

There is no longer a need to travel out of town to find that one perfect dress for your special wedding or event. The paisley bride is conveniently located at 147 East Market Street in Downtown Lewistown.

Kay Kirkland and her staff know how very important your special day is and strive to provide the personal service and attention to detail that you want and deserve, something that the "big stores" cannot. They have an **extensive inventory** from **several popular formal wear brands**. Don't forget to finish off your look with **accessories**; they offer a wide selection of **shoes, purses and jewelry**. Appointments are not required; however, they do suggest you schedule an appointment so they can provide you with the personal attention you deserve. Call them at (717) 242-0242 or e-mail them at thepaisleybride@verizon.net to schedule your personal appointment. *Also be sure to check them out on the web at www.thepaisleybride.com.*




[Things to Do](#)
[PA Maps](#)
[Trip Ideas](#)
[Travel Tools](#)

It's snuggle season in Pennsylvania.



Winter in the State of Independence is a romantic time. Cold temperatures are the perfect excuse to snuggle up by the fireside with your honey. Or, if you're the sporty type, a [ski lodge](#) is just

the ticket. Spend a weekend at one of our excellent ski resorts, or seek out a [romantic B&B](#) that's just right for the two of you. Don't overlook the Commonwealth's many other romantic places, either - how about a ride in a [horse-drawn carriage](#) or a tour of [covered bridges](#)? For a romantic roadtrip that includes a covered bridge, check out "[Beautiful Bucks Excursion](#)" by visitPA user jcat44521!

[Wineries](#) are another romantic mainstay, as are the waterfalls at [Ricketts Glen State Park](#). An incline ride up Pittsburgh's [Mt. Washington](#) provides a romantic view of the city's skyline, and the [LOVE statue](#) in Philadelphia gets the point across in no uncertain terms. (Both places are perfect for popping the question!) Get more romantic ideas by taking the tour on our homepage - [www.visitpa.com](#) And be sure to [share your own romantic stories](#) on visitPA.com.

Not crazy in love?

If winter tends to drive you around the bend, you need to get out more! Go and see something even nuttier than your sun-starved self - how about a house that's shaped like a shoe? The semi-famous [Shoe House](#), in York, is a relic of the days of programmatic architecture, and you can still tour it today.



Not far away stands a 15-foot-tall wooden Amishman named Amos. He got his start telling bad jokes in front of Zinn's Diner, but today he graces the [Hershey Farm](#). Go get your picture taken with him (maybe for next year's holiday card - and post it on [visitPA.com](#)!).

If winter driving has lost its thrill, take a ride on [Gravity Hill](#). This oddity, in New Paris, is not easy to describe - you just have to try it yourself. Take our word for it. You can learn more about these Pennsylvania oddities by taking an audio tour on [www.visitpa.com](#).

Things to do for Valentine's Day:

- Buy chocolates
- Buy flowers
- Have a heart...help our community!

Share your heart.

This Valentine's Day, make a \$50 donation to the United Way of Mifflin-Juniata and help people right here in our community.



For your gift, you will receive a limited edition coffee mug and FREE COFFEE for a year from the Downtown OIP and Grille!



SpikesFEST

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15th

11am-3pm

PENN STATE MULTI-SPORT FACILITY

(Adjacent to the BJC)

FREE ADMISSION!

Gary Robinson, who on December 19 was officially announced as the State College Spikes' 2009 manager, will make his first visit to State College as part of **SpikesFest 2009 presented by WTAJ** this Sunday, February 15. The indoor carnival event will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Penn State Multi-Sport Facility (adjacent to the Bryce Jordan Center). **Admission to the event is free to individuals and families of all ages.**



Small Business Development Center Penn State

Helping businesses start, grow, and prosper.

Penn State Small Business Development Center will hold the following seminars:

The First Step of Starting a Small Business Tuesday, February 3, 2009 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm), 221 Technology Center, University Park (Free)

Breakfast Business Bites – Bite 2 - Alternative Borrowing Options for Small Businesses Featuring: John K. Reichard, SEDA-COG, Trudy Mitchell, CBICC, Stephen L. McGregor, Ben Franklin Technology Center. Thursday, February 12, 2009 (Registration 7:30, 7:45- 9), 119 Outreach Building, Innovation Park (\$15)

***Gaining Ground in an Economic Slowdown** (held once a month) **Tuesday, February 17, 2009 (9:00 am -11:00 pm), 221 Technology Center, University Park (Free)** Participants can learn about: • the state of our current economy and the impact on business • cost analysis (e.g., labor, energy, operating, human resources) • cash flow analysis (e.g., industry average comparison, management of accounts receivable/accounts payable; review and project cash flow) • tips on reducing costs and increasing sales (depending on types of businesses in attendance) • consideration of new opportunities (e.g., government contracting, international trade, newproduct lines, new target markets) • new marketing strategies (e.g., social networking – Myspace, Facebook, Web site update) • other resources available (e.g., business broker, accountant, legal assistance, banks, other .SBDCs in network for specialized direction, other economic development organizations)

Tax and Bookkeeping Issues for the Small Business Owner Thursday, February 19, 2009 (9:00 am – 11:30 am) 502 Keller Building, University Park (\$30 fee)

The Second Step of Starting a Small Business Thursday, February 26, 2009 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm), 502 Keller Building, University Park (\$30 fee)

The First Step of Starting a Small Business Tuesday, March 3, 2009 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm), 221 Technology Center, University Park (Free)

Cash Flow 101: Understanding and Projecting Cash Flow Needs Thursday, March 12, 2009 (9:00 am – 11:00 pm), 502 Keller Building, University Park (\$30 fee) **Gaining Ground in an Economic Slowdown** Tuesday, March 17, 2009 (9:00 am -11:00 pm), 221 Technology Center, University Park (Free)

The Second Step of Starting a Small Business Thursday, March 26, 2009 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm), 502 Keller Building, University Park (\$30 fee)

Breakfast Business Bites – Bite 2 - Issues, Challenges and Opportunities of Leading a Business Today Featuring: WBLF Radio talk show trio of Coaches Corner: Paul Nichols, Ken Pasch, and Tim Rogers Tuesday, March 31, 2009 (Registration 7:30, 7:45- 9) Celebration Hall (\$15)

Register for all Penn State SBDC seminars by calling (814) 863-4293 or (717) 247-1280, or on-line at www.sbdpc.psu.edu



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



This organization was established in 1998 by Lewistown Borough and a group of community leaders to focus efforts on the revitalization of the **downtown Lewistown** area. Their reason for choosing this specific area to begin the revitalization process; was due to results of an area wide task survey conducted by a group of county & regional municipal leaders.

This survey asked local community members to prioritize areas of needed improvement in the region. The results of that survey showed that the efforts should be focused on the downtown. Since that time DLI has worked to see many commercial property owners utilize public grant funds through the Borough of Lewistown and Downtown Lewistown, Inc. to rehabilitate storefronts and facades in downtown Lewistown. **This incentive program, launched in 2001 resulted in 32 improvements projects to 27 commercial properties in the Lewistown Central Business District.**

These grants were made available through the program allocation from the PA Department of Community & Economic Development. Some other improvements and events DLI has partnered with Lewistown Borough and many other community agencies include: The Kish River Walk, the Montgomery Avenue Streetscape Project, the Placing of over 20 Historic Markers, National Night Out, Downtown Lewistown Easter Egg Hunt, Safe Night Trick or Treat, and many other community projects and events.

Currently, the organization is working to obtain funding to complete revitalization efforts in the **Five Points/East End "Elm Street" Neighborhood**. This program encourages community residents to identify areas of concern and then participate in the process of seeking solutions for these concerns. **DLI has already been awarded \$250,000** in Residential Reinvestment monies from the PA Department of Community & Economic Development, and has purchased the now vacated parcel on the "Five Points" corner and are presently actively working to design "**Fountain Square**" Park on that site with a fall construction date anticipated.

Future plans include **neighborhood infrastructure upgrades, residential improvement grants, neighborhood identity initiatives, cost sharing, greening, transportation enhancements and general economic development** of the expansive neighborhood of **800 plus residences.**



MEMBER SINCE 2000

WELCOME! Please join us in welcoming our new Chamber Member by patronizing their businesses! Their membership reflects their integrity as a responsible business owner and demonstrates their commitment to the community.



Ricardo Carter, MD LLC

310 Electric Avenue, Suite 231
Lewistown, PA 17044
(717)242-3760

Contact: Diane Carter, Nurse Manager

Email: rcarter246@aol.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

RECURRING EVENTS

Belleville Sale & Livestock Auction - Wednesdays – All year (unless a holiday) in Belleville, PA 717-935-2146

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Belleville Mennonite School - 3RD annual Chocolate Festival is **Saturday, February 7, 2009**, in the high school gymnasium from Noon – 4:00 PM For more information, call (717) 935-2184 or click on www.bellevillemennoniteschool.org.

FEBRUARY 15TH - SPIKES FEST 11AM—3PM AT THE PENN STATE MULTI SPORT FACILITY.

APRIL EVENTS

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT at Indian Valley Middle School April 11th @ 1pm. 717.667.6795

Sacred Heart - More Than An Auction: A Family Fun Fest on April 26, 2009 at the Youth Park in Reedsville. More than an Auction is an annual event that is always held the last Sunday in April.

“Opportunities for Your Future”

Career Opportunities with South Central Region Employer’s Thursday, April 9, 2009 from 2:00-7:00 pm at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center 2300 Cameron St. ,Harrisburg, PA 17110

JULY EVENTS

Juniata RiverFEST - July 4th Noon - 11pm @ Victory Park, Lewistown PA Raft Regatta - Rockin’ by the River - 5k Race

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

American Homepatient	Lowe’s
Big Valley Area Business Assoc.	Mifflin County Soccer Club
Feldman, Eugene W., DMD	YBMC
First National Bank	Community Partnerships
FirstEnergy, Corp.	RC&D
Kish Travel Agency	G Man Entertainment
Standard Steel, LLC	Knisely Shredding
Wallace, C.W.	Cross Country Coach, LLC.
Watson’s Optical Inc.	Briar Rose Bed N Breakfast
Quality Inn & Suites	Keystone Hearing Solutions, LLC
Buckell Plastics Co., Inc.	Worthy’s Refuse, Inc.
State Farm Insurance Agency - Robert T. Richard	Bryson’s Stuff
WMRF, WIEZ, First Media Radio, LLC	Hartman Employee Benefits, Inc.
PCI Insurance, Inc.	Bicounty Inspections
South Hills School of Business & Technology	Primerica Financial Services
Comcast Spotlight	Ron Myers Auctioneering & Appraisal
Crown Hardwood Co., Inc.	PennTerra Engineering, Inc.
National Goose Council, Inc.	White Deer Run/Cove Forge Behavioral Health System
Capperella Furniture	



United Way



VITA – HERE TO HELP

The United Way of Mifflin-Juniata has partnered with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Branches of Mifflin and Juniata counties to bring VITA sites to the area. VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance – sites provide free tax help to low-income families. Trained volunteers help people find the tax credits that will help the most, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and The Credit for Child and Dependant Care Expenses. Starting in February, call the United Way office to set up your free appointment: 248-9636

BUSINESS

After Hours

SACRED HEART SCHOOL BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Nearly 80 Chamber Members, many of which were Sacred Heart School Alumni and parents, were in attendance to help Sacred Heart School kick off the celebration of Catholic Schools Week! Class rooms were opened for attendees to browse and enjoy the various artwork and class room displays created by the students, some of which were quite amazing!

The school staff did a wonderful job of intercepting visitors and provided them with a warm welcome and guided tour. Ed & Cheryl Glick of Brookmere Winery and Vineyard Inn manned a well-stocked wine bar where guests could sample the latest Brookmere wines as well as old favorites. The food for the event was supplied by John Pannizzo of the Downtown OIP and J.P. Edwards, and was enjoyed by all; from the gourmet tray of imported meats and cheeses to the crab balls and colorful as well as delicious fresh pasta salad & breaded mushrooms. Nicole Swanger from the Downtown OIP's Cakes by Nicole, was in great shape by the end of the evening from her many trips up and down the stairs making sure all trays were well stocked, fresh and ready to be enjoyed!

A special thanks goes to Sue Parzanese and her events committee for the wonderful job they did in the organization of this event, it was truly a lovely evening enjoyed by all. The celebration of Catholic Schools week continued as students made a stop at the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau with donuts as a thank you for our support of their Business After Hours Event. Jim, Chamber President, help conclude Catholic Schools week by serving as auctioneer at the school's annual student cake & cupcake competition fund raiser. Over 30 lots of treats were auctioned off to the highest bidder, mostly family, friends and teachers of the students.



2009 AFTER HOURS:

- February 25th** - Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau at the Historic Courthouse in downtown Lewistown
- MARCH 25th** - Hite Company
- April** - EXPO After Hours
- May 13th** - HealthSouth Mifflintown
- June** - Juniata County Historical Society at the Pomeroy Academia Bridge
- July** - Edward Jones, Cross Country Coach & Caretaker LLC
- August** - Embassy Theatre
- September** - Bings Diner
- October** - Crider-Mitchell
- November** - Dairyland Gift Shops
- December** - Holiday Gathering

JIM'S CORNER



It was September 1998 and my three year old daughter Olivia was about to enroll in nursery school at St. John's Lutheran Church on North Main Street in Lewistown. I walked her from our home on North Wayne Street the short one block to the rear entrance of the church. As I opened the door I sensed a fellow parent approaching behind me and I held the door open for a Mom and *her little white haired son*.

Olivia immediately bonded with her new friend and little did I know that for the next eight years of her life he would be her very closest male friend. They completed nursery and pre-school at St John's and on the first day of kindergarten at Sacred Heart School, in a class of 12 students, there he was. They attended Sacred Heart through the 5th grade because the private school only offered the opportunity through 5th grade. They lived close to each other and spent their summer vacations riding bikes and scooters together, watching movies and playing at the playground.

During the **Festival of Ice**, as fifth graders, they spent an evening together with us at the Historic Courthouse. The courtroom was booked all evening with live acoustic performers. Near the end of the last performance of a bluegrass band from West Virginia the banjo player invited them to render a duet (You Are My Sunshine) with the band. The audience count was less than a dozen when they took to the microphone and gave it their best. We took Olivia's friend home that night and I asked if he had a good time. *His reply:* "Today was the best day of my life, I sang with a real band."

In 5th grade they starred in the annual Christmas play together and Olivia was so worried that he wouldn't remember his lines that she memorized his so she could prompt him if he forgot any. He came through with flying colors, winning the audience with his loving natural ability to charm all he met. He was a small, fair haired happy kid. Always the comedian, always the center of attention. We often talked about his future. Would we see him in movies or on television? *We knew he was special and we anticipated greatness. Everyone loved him.*

At the end of the school year we learned that he was the subject of a custody battle and he moved away. Olivia didn't hear from him ever again. We talked about him, wondered how he was doing, supposed he'd made new friends and was loved by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. We missed him.

On Friday, January 16, 2009, Jack Roddy died from a gunshot wound in Port Royal, Pennsylvania. It was a snow day, one of those special days off, cherished by kids of all ages. Rumor has it he and another boy were producing a video to post on You-Tube. *It proved be his last performance.* On Monday, January 19, 2009, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, at five A.M. I stepped out onto our front porch to get the Sentinel, as I do six days a week. I carried it to the kitchen, ground the coffee beans and added the water to the coffee machine and sat down at the kitchen table waiting for the first cup. I read the headlines, followed the page to the bottom and checked the obituaries as I do religiously every other day of the week.

I never poured that cup of coffee. I could not believe that the victim of the horrendous news of the past weekend could possibly be sweet little Jack. Surely the obituary page will prove I have the wrong Jack Roddy. I opened the paper to page six and there was his picture at the top of the page. How in the world will I ever be able to tell Olivia? I had several hours to prepare, yet when she finally started her day I had no clue as to how I was going to deliver the news. We spent hours crying and sharing stories and crying some more.

Jack Roddy gave us some of our greatest joys and one of our worst tragedies. The investigation continues and little is known. How could such a horrible fate take such a sweet person? *Unfortunately, there will be no happy ending to this story.*



Historic Courthouse ~ One West Market Street ~ Lewistown, PA 17044

Phone: (717) 248-6713 ~ Fax: (717) 248-6714