

Welcome to the March 8, 2010 edition of the St. Marys Area Chamber of Commerce **"Business Bullet"**. This weekly e-mail newsletter is designed to keep you informed about upcoming programs, events and happenings in the St. Marys Area. We will also include features on member businesses and organizations that make things happen in our community. Each Monday morning you can start your week with information that is pertinent, concise and at your fingertips!

So, if there is something significant happening in your business or in a community organization that you are aware of, please let us know. We would like to feature it in the "Business Bullet" so everyone can hear about it. The more positive information that can be spread throughout the community, the better. Just send the information to us at businessbullet@stmaryschamber.org by Thursday afternoon in order to have it appear in the Business Bullet for the following Monday.

NEW ADDITIONS AND UPDATES

- ▶ **What Employers Need to Know about Social Networking** - Social Networking Web sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter have created a whole new set of worries for employers: time wasting, the instantaneous spread of sensitive information, and most importantly, how organizations are represented online by its employees. These concerns were amplified when the Federal Trade Commission passed its Guides for the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising on Dec. 1, 2009. Although it remains to be seen how aggressive the FTC will be seeking out violation of the Guides on social networking Web sites, Section V of the FTC Act causes employers to ask the question, "What are my employees saying/posting about the company in their social networks?" Join this seminar and learn how to navigate this tricky predicament by developing a social networking and media policy that speaks clearly to the representation of your company online by your employees. Price: \$29 - \$5 discount to Chamber members. Bradford: Tuesday, March 30, 2010, from 1 to 4 PM in the Outreach Services classroom at the Seneca Building. St. Marys - Monday, April 5, 2010, from 1 to 4 PM at the Community Education Council. To Register: Please call 814.362.5206 or e-mail reach@pitt.edu

- ▶ **2010 Entrepreneur Training Series: Entrepreneurs Club Central (E-Club Central)** Our goal is to bring together ambitious people from across the region to create a free thinking and stimulating environment. We will focus on developing networks that inspire innovation and help entrepreneurs create and develop successful businesses. There will be opportunities to learn about: Business Start Ups, Business Finance, Human Resources, and many other relative topics. Most importantly, you will have an opportunity to learn about and meet local help that is available to you! Keynote Speaker: Carl B. Knoblock, District Director, US Small Business Administration, Pittsburgh District Office. Where: Best Western Inn and Conference Center DuBois, 82 North Park Place, DuBois PA 15801-2416 When: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Cost: No cost to attend. **Get More Information and Register Online Now at:** <http://t.lt01.net/m/498GdYJiWErWiUVqUI8ZSsz8mAnQnfG1iZVWJmq-2RpZi4uP-Nw>

- ▶ The University of Pittsburgh @ Bradford will be offering a food safety course. Click here for more information: http://www.stmaryschamber.org/pdf/ServSafe_2010_Flyer.pdf

- ▶ Layoffs and reductions in force have made Unemployment Compensation a top priority for many companies. But even without workforce reductions businesses can face serious UC challenges. Whether new to UC or overwhelmed by increased responsibilities, many companies are making errors handling the basics and need clear information and help to understand the proper steps to avoid common mistakes. That's why the Pennsylvania Chamber is holding a special **Unemployment Compensation Roundtable: Understanding UC Benefits and Hearings** from 8 a.m. to noon at four locations: **Friday, March 12** in King of Prussia, PA; **Thursday, March 18** in Camp Hill, PA; **Wednesday, March 24** in Erie, PA; and **Thursday, March 25** in Pittsburgh, PA.

Back by popular demand, the state's top experts-including **the Benefit Specialist of the UC Bureau** and **the top UC judge**-will be providing the answers you need on UC fundamentals to enhance your understanding, eliminate mistakes and potentially save your company money:

The fee to attend is \$50 for PA Chamber members, \$75 for non-members, and includes a continental breakfast starting at 8 a.m. The program will run from 8:30 a.m. to noon. For your convenience, you may register by calling our toll-free Conference Hotline 877 866-8965 or by secure fax 717 238-3316. Please use Priority Code E158 when registering. We look forward to seeing you there.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- ▶ State Rep. Matt Gabler is Seeking Your Input at Town Hall Meetings. Several Dates and Locations For Your Convenience. Tell Your Neighbors! Town hall meetings all begin at 7 p.m. on the following dates: Thursday, March 11, Johnsonburg Fire Hall, 99 Clarion Road in Johnsonburg and Thursday, March 18, DuBois Area High School, 425 Orient Avenue in Dubois. These town hall meetings are opportunities for constituents to have their questions answered and concerns addressed. Budget season is upon us again, and I am hopeful the people of Clearfield and Elk counties will come out to voice their opinions on the issues in these difficult financial times, as well as any other state issues they want to discuss. For the latest legislative information from my office, please visit my Web site, RepGabler.com.

*If you do not wish to receive the "Business Bullet", please reply to this email with
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2010 CHAMBER EVENTS:

Annual Dinner - Friday, March 26 - 6:30 pm - St. Marys Country Club
Women's Recognition Program - April 21 - Gunners
Golf Outing - June 3 - Bavarian Hills
Fireworks - July 2 - St. Marys Country Club
Wing Fling - September 10 - Downtown St. Marys
Light Up Night - November 19 - Downtown St. Marys
Santa Breakfast/Craft Day - December 4 - Sacred Heart Activity Center
House Tours/Holiday Mixer - December 5 - TBA