



# ARMSTRONG

*educational trust*



February E-Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 2

February 2008

## Scholarships Available

**Each year the Armstrong Educational Trust awards scholarships to aid qualified students who are seeking undergraduate (Bachelor's) degrees.**

### **Ralph and Mary Lou McAllister Scholarship Trust Fund**

The Armstrong Educational Trust anticipates awarding three scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 to individuals seeking a college education. To be eligible for an award, the applicant must be or will be enrolled in an approved institution of higher learning leading to a Bachelor's Degree. Also, the applicant must live in the Borough of Ford City or at a residence with a Ford City post office address.

### **Helen and Fred Ortman Scholarship Trust Fund**

One scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 is available for an individual seeking a college education.

To be eligible for an award, the applicant must be accepted to be enrolled in an approved institution of higher learning leading to a Bachelor's Degree. The applicant must be a senior who attends Ford City High School and have a grade point average of at least 3.0.

Applications are available at the Trust, through local high school guidance offices, or at IUP Northpointe.

**Due Dates for applications for both scholarships are March 15, 2008.**

In addition to these scholarships, there are dozens of local scholarships available through groups such as the Armstrong County Sportsman and Conservation League and the Armstrong County Herb Group as well as the Armstrong County Community Foundation. Each year, very few applications are received for these funds, which are designated for deserving local students.

For more information on any of these scholarships,  
contact the Trust at

**724-543-2599** or [davidaet@alltel.net](mailto:davidaet@alltel.net).

#### Inside this issue:

Programs at AET	2
Workforce Forum Presentation	2
Armstrong Co. Manufacturing Consortium	3
Armstrong Co. Health Care Consortium	3
Tri-County Technology Consortium	3
Small Business Development Center	4



Responsible  
Alcohol  
Management  
Program



**LenapeTech**  
Education at Work

## Programs Coming in March

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board will hold its **Responsible Alcohol Management Program (RAMP)** for owners/operators on March 5 at the Trust.

The **ServSafe Certification** will be offered through Lenape Technical School on March 15 at the Trust.

For more information on these programs, contact the Trust at **724-543-2599** or [davidaet@alltel.net](mailto:davidaet@alltel.net)

## Workforce Forum Presents Futurist



On January 21 and 22, Ed Barlow, futurist and president of **Creating the Future, Inc.** spoke to more than 800 individuals including teachers and administrators from Armstrong County schools, parents, school board members and representatives of local communities, and business leaders from the county about creating wealth for Armstrong County.

Mr. Barlow centered his presentations on his list of 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies, which include:

- ◆ Continuum of Change
- ◆ Economic
- ◆ Global
- ◆ Environment
- ◆ Science & Technology
- ◆ Demographics
- ◆ Organization
- ◆ Human Resources

His comments and suggestions are part of an approach by the **Armstrong County Forum for Workforce Excellence** to consider new ways of enhancing the connection between education and business in our area.

A follow up session is planned for **Friday, April 25, 2008 at Lenape Technical School**. Details on that session and capturing reactions to Mr. Barlow's presentations will be distributed soon.



For more information, contact the Trust at **724-543-2599** or [davidaet@alltel.net](mailto:davidaet@alltel.net).

## Industry Partnership/Consortia Updates

### Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium

The consortium has worked with the Butler and Indiana Consortia through a grant from the state's workforce investment boards to complete a video aimed at attracting careers in manufacturing.

This Career Gates program, similar to videos produced in the Lehigh Valley, is designed to reach young people making career decisions.

Among the companies shown on the program is **Dielectric Solutions**.

A second, more extensive manufacturing careers video is in production currently with several other local firms to be highlighted.

An update to the consortium's CJT grant is under consideration.

Members will discuss training programs at the February meeting in preparation for the possibility of

adjusting the plan previously submitted.

Thanks to the **Penn State Electro-Optics Center**, a collection of safety DVDs is now available to members.

This collection is housed in the resource library at the Trust. In addition to the DVDs, pamphlets on each subject are available for use in training staff. Titles include:

- Office Ergonomics—Its Your Move
- Blood Borne Pathogens
- Hazard Communication –  
The Road to Safety
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Forklift Safety
- Slips, Trips, & Falls
- Lockout/Tagout –  
Controlling the Beast
- Safety Attitudes –  
Food for Thought



### Armstrong County Health Care Consortium

The consortium is preparing for its annual scholarship awards and its annual **Health Care Workers Recognition Luncheon**.

The luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at Lenape Heights Golf Course**.

Nominations for workers to be recognized and applications for scholarships will be available beginning in February.

The consortium is finalizing its training plans for 2008, and several new programs are under consideration.



### Tri-County Technology Consortium

The consortium held a training program for human resources in January. In addition to planning a follow up training program on **Project Management** for later this spring, the consortium is actively

working on a strategic plan to fulfill its goals of enhancing connections with technology and communications firms as well as building a workforce for the future in the local technology industry.



All three consortia welcome new members.  
For more information or to become a member,  
contact the Trust at 724-543-2599 or [davidaet@alltel.net](mailto:davidaet@alltel.net).

# Small Business Development Center Success Story

## Giovonni's Pizza Shop



**"We wouldn't be this far into our project, if it hadn't been for the SBDC."**

**- John McAuley**

**Client Name:** John McAuley

**Company Name:** Giovonni's Pizza

**Address:** 1014B State Route 268  
Cowansville, PA  
(724) 543-1114

**Industry:** Pizza Restaurant

**Year Founded:** 2003

**SBDC Assistance:** Planning consulting provided, business plan development, referrals.

**Additional Partners:** Farmers National Bank.

**Clarion University SBDC**  
**Kate Curtis, Business Consultant**  
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**John and Debbie McAuley**



Pizza. What can you say about pizza? It's popular. It tastes good. It's affordable. It's easy to get and the kids will eat it. So how can you make a pizza shop special, and stand out in the crowd? Just ask John McAuley because he knows how.

"It gets in your system and affects every aspect of your life", claims John. "Your family's involved, your friends understand, your customers return and multiply – and you learn to build a network of supporters to make it all come together". And that's where the **SBDC** comes into play. "The **SBDC** consultant worked diligently with me on my business plan, and facilitated the lending process".

Growing a small business is easier said than done. Well, for most of us, but not for John. He has owned and operated Giovonni's Pizza for the past four years. After ensuring its success and encountering a growth stage, John recently secured the financing to purchase property upon which to build a bigger/better pizza shop. The new Giovonni's Pizza shop also will include an ice cream parlor.

In the middle of the expansion hubbub, John married his sweetheart, Debbie. "My partnership role has taken on a whole new meaning", teases Debbie. She has shared the last few years with John, moving the business twice and now thrice.

"Giovonni's has become the most lucrative of our ventures", touts John, who is no novice to small business ownership. John owns and operates a marina, campgrounds, and several rental properties. He is a skilled construction worker and true entrepreneur, heart and soul.

Look for Giovonni's Pizza on Route 268 this coming spring, when the ice cream parlor makes its debut in the new facility. "We're certainly having fun sampling different brands and flavors of ice cream in order to choose the best one",

For individuals interested in starting a business or business owner in need of assistance to grow, the **Clarion University Small Business Development Center** offers programs, workshops, and consulting services.

Each month, the **First Step** workshop is held at the Armstrong Education Center to build a foundation for those considering the planning process necessary to begin an enterprise.

For more information, contact **Clarion SBDC** at **(877) 292-1843** or the Trust at **(724) 543-2599**.



*TRAINING FOR LIFE™*

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## **AET Mission Statement**

To strengthen and promote career awareness, post-secondary continuing education, occupational training, workforce development, and certification programs on a timely basis for business, industry, and general economic development in Armstrong County and surrounding areas.

## **AET Vision Statement**

To prepare a world-class workforce to meet the evolving economic development needs of the community by:

- developing a skilled workforce for existing businesses and new emerging industries
- improving workplace skills of incumbent workers
- increasing environmental and conservation knowledge and education
- improving literacy rates in Armstrong County
- promoting life-long learning
- increasing professional development opportunities locally
- providing funding for education and training opportunities
- brokering and promoting post secondary education
- increasing knowledge and participation in community development
- promoting career development and providing career development services