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Computer Classes for Seniors



A special introduction to computers class for seniors will be held at the Armstrong Education Center in September. The class is underwritten by Quality Life Services (Sugar Creek Rest). The class will be held on two half days, Thursday, September 28 in the

afternoon and Friday, September 29 in the morning. Lunch will be provided after the Friday morning session. For more information or to register, contact the Armstrong Educational Trust at (724) 543-2599 or armeduded@alltel.net.

Health Care Consortium Plans Programs



The *Armstrong County Health Care Consortium* will be hosting three professional development seminars in September: September 12, 19, and 26 in the Continuing Education Room at Armstrong County

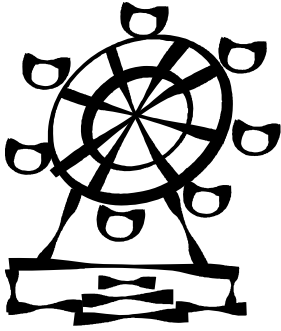
Memorial Hospital. The sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an hour for lunch. Registration will begin at 8:30a.m.

The first session will be conducted by Attorney

Albert Lee on Employment Law including ADA, FMLA, Worker's Compensation, etc.

The second and third sessions will be conducted by Rebecca Christenson. The second session will include human behavior and interpersonal skills development, communication skills, cultural and work skill diversity, and leadership skills. The third session will cover individual and team motivation, problem-solving and conflict resolution, and internal and external customer service skills. For more information or to register, contact Grace Thachik at (724) 471-7249 or gthachik@careertrack.org.

Thanks for visiting us at the Dayton Fair!



The Armstrong Educational Trust once again had a booth at the Dayton Fair which was held August 14-19.

Thank you to the many fair-goers who stopped to check out our information and to share their thoughts on education and training needs in the county.

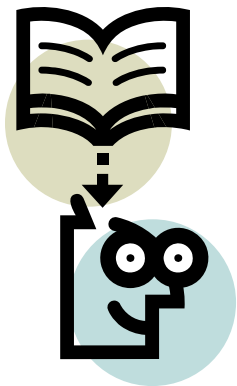
Daily drawings were held for planners; winners were:

- Monday – Suzy Zemko
- Tuesday – Ashley Pearce
- Wednesday – Eileen Minich
- Thursday – Karen Stewart
- Friday – Cindy Gemmell
- Saturday – Dale Negley



Thinking About Going Back to School?

The fall schedule for the workshops offered by the Educational Opportunity Center of Southwestern Pennsylvania has been set.



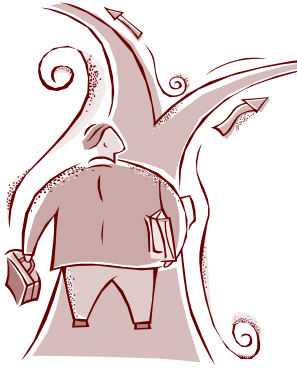
To reserve a space at any of these workshops or to arrange an appointment with the Educational Opportunity Center counselor, contact the Armstrong Educational Trust at (724) 543-2599.

The schedule is:

- Financial Aid – September 26 at 3:00 PM
- Careers – October 24 at 9:30 AM
- Financial Aid – October 24 at 3:00 PM
- Careers – November 14 at 3:00 PM
- Financial Aid – November 28 at 3:00 PM
- Careers – December 12 at 9:30 AM
- Financial Aid – December 12 at 3:00 PM



New Choices/New Options Class Forming



A new class is forming for the *New Choices/New Options* program to meet at the Armstrong Education Center with an anticipated start date in mid October.

The program, designed to connect people to the world of work, is a free service

sponsored by Indiana University of Pennsylvania and funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. For more information, call the *New Choices/New Options* office at (800) 830-3248 or (724) 357-4738.



Manufacturing Consortium Members Receive Customized Job Training Grant

Member companies of the Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium received word that the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development has awarded a Customized Job Training (CJT) grant to fund their training programs.

Member companies participating include:

- Caracal, Inc.
- CES Die Design, Inc.
- DRS Infrared Solutions
- Fuzion Technologies, Inc.
- Nature's Blend Wood Products
- Optical Systems Technology, Inc.
- Keystone Applied Technologies



Clarion / IUP Paralegal Program Delayed



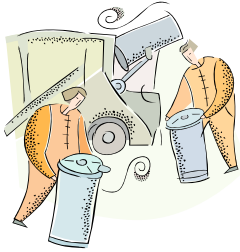
The planned introduction this fall of the Paralegal Program offered at IUP Northpointe Regional Campus in conjunction with Clarion University has been delayed to complete the accreditation process.

Information on the program can be obtained by calling IUP at (800) 889-0872.





Small Business Success Story



It's a dirty job, but somebody's gotta do it!
There's a need, there's

opportunity, and there's money to be had. And the Bests are laughing, all the way to the bank.

Best Sanitation is a solid waste management business providing refuse collecting services to the rural areas of Armstrong and Indiana Counties. Best Sanitation started in March 2006 and caters to both residential and commercial customers. The Bests believed there was a strong need for affordable hauling services in their area, and were right. In just three month's time they have secured 130 customers, and are growing their base clientele at an average of ten percent each month.

The business is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Best. Gary is responsible for the

actual collections and hauling the trash to the landfill while Vicki is responsible for managing the office which includes the bookkeeping and marketing functions.

Best Sanitation operates out of Mr. and Mrs. Best's home located at 177 Kanouff Drive, Punxsutawney, Indiana County, Pennsylvania, where they own 28 acres. As the business grows, the company will hire helpers and purchase additional trucks.

Mr. and Mrs. Best's mission is to operate a successful waste management company that provides superior service at the most reasonable price to the customer.

The Bests' goal is for the company to start small and grow over time. Their service is affordable, dependable, and reputed for meeting the needs and demands of their customers and their markets. In the future, **Best Sanitation** will pride itself on having qualified, safe drivers who provide customers with professional, courteous service.

Clarion University's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) assisted the Bests in developing their business plan so they could apply for funding. They worked through a realistic financial projection that is proving to be right on target. The business was financially assisted by Center Capital Corp. who loaned the Bests money to purchase their vehicle. It is proving to be a wise investment. What is the key to success for an entrepreneur or small business? According to Vicki Best, "Seek advice from knowledgeable professionals and work hard. There is no substitute for either."

For more information, contact the Clarion University Small Business Development Center at (814) 393-2060.

Manufacturers' Association Supervisory Skills Program Set



The *Manufacturers' Association of Northwest Pennsylvania* has announced its schedule for the Supervisory Skills Certificate Program for 2006-2007.

The first course is scheduled to be held at the Armstrong Education Center on September 20 and 21. For more information or to register, contact MANP at (800) 815-2660 or (814) 833-3200 or visit www.manp.org.

Lenape Adult Education Offers New Programs

A number of new programs are offered through Lenape Adult Education. Some of the new offerings are:



- O.S.H.A. 10-hour Construction Certification
- Troubleshooting for HVAC
- QuickBooks
- Internet Security
- Adobe Photoshop CS2
- Math- the Basics
- Tai Chi for Arthritis and Back Pain
- Yoga on Chairs
- Get the Dirt on Landscaping



For more information or to register, call (724) 763-7116, extension 316 or e-mail champagne@lenape.k12.pa.us.

ARMTech Showcase

The Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium participated in the annual **ARMTech Showcase** on August 16-18 at the Belmont Complex. Connections with manufacturers, suppliers, and other vendors were a key part of the showcase. In addition, several Armstrong Educational Trust partners

participated in the education showcase portion of the Thursday session which was open to the public. Armstrong County PA CareerLink, Career T.R.A.C.K., Lenape, IUP Northpointe, IUP, and Educational Opportunity Centers all presented their services to visitors at the showcase.



Preparing for the GED?

For those preparing to take the GED examination, ARIN offers GED preparation classes at several locations throughout the county. Locations include:

- Ford City (Ford Memorial Presbyterian Church) – Monday and Wednesday, 9:00-11:00 AM
- Kittanning (Kittanning Senior High School) – Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-8:30 PM
- Apollo (Apollo Ridge Middle School) – Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-8:30 PM
- Rural Valley (West Shamokin High School) – Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-8:30 PM



**For more information, contact ARIN at
(724) 463-5300, ext. 2309 or 2307**



81 Glade Drive
Kittanning, PA 16201

Phone: 724-543-2599

Fax: 724-545-6127

E-mail: armeduded@alltel.net

www.armstrongedutrust.org

"TRAINING FOR LIFE"

AET Mission Statement

**The Armstrong Educational Trust brings post-secondary education
and training opportunities to Armstrong County.**

To accomplish this we:

- Survey education and training needs.
- Convene educational providers to identify programs that meet those needs.
- Provide instructional facilities and a computer lab.
- Provide financial aid and career counseling to adults.
- Market provider program offerings.