

## Meeting & news format changed

NCABA meetings are now being held every other month on the 4th Thursday of the month, 8 a.m. at the City Hotel, Maple Ave., Northern Cambria. The first meeting was held in January. Future meeting dates will occur in March, May, July, September and November. In November, the meeting date will be changed due to Thanksgiving.

Breakfast is provided for \$5 per person, coffee is free. The breakfast format has changed from the January meeting. Attendees who would like breakfast will now pay \$5 directly to the NCABA and we will pay the bill and take care of the tax and tip.

Newsletters will be published on opposite months: February, April, June, August, October. December's newsletter is tentative and may be replaced by a networking event.

## "Rubber Ducky" race to help raise funds for alliance

As you can see from a long list of activities this year, the NCABA will be trying to raise funds to cover the cost of some of our upcoming plans: grant writer, scholarship, operating costs, education events, Lifesteps and more to come. I'm sure you will agree that membership fees are very reasonable but don't go very far. We only have one true fundraiser: the Big Kahuna Golf Open.

This year, the Kahuna will be held July 2. But on July 4th, the NCABA will also be sponsoring a "Rubber Ducky Race" in conjunction with Hope Fire Company's Annual Car Show. Other plans are also being made to attempt some other fundraisers that day to benefit both the NCABA and the fire company. The car show draws thousands of people to the area for the day and if we can get the help, we should be able to add to the fun. Watch the website and paper for details.

NCABA  
PO Box 1142  
Northern Cambria, PA 15714

## NCABA NEWS & NOTES!

**ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH DINNERS** at NCABA member Contres-Greer Social Hall every Friday during Lent. Dinner includes all the fixings plus soup, salad and dessert bar. All you can eat is dine in only. Take outs are available. Dinner served 4-7 p.m.

### BLOOD DRIVES

- Feb. 19, N. Cambria High School, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Feb. 24, Cambria Heights High School, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- March 8, Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, 3-7 p.m.

**NCABA JOB AND CAREER FAIR**, Thursday, April 22, 1-5 p.m. at the Contres-Greer Social Hall, Rt. 219 Northern Cambria. If you are interested in having a space at the fair, please fill out the inserted form or call Barb Kirby at 948-8400 or email her at [ncaba@live.com](mailto:ncaba@live.com).

**SORE FROM SHOVELING? FREE MASSAGES!** From member, Allegheny & Chesapeake Physical Therapy at their Ebensburg, Northern Cambria, Portage, Johnstown, and Windber locations. Contact the location of your choice to schedule or call Christina Shoemaker at 814-472-1100.

**ALLEGHENY CHESAPEAKE ALSO ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR**, ACPT is excited to announce a new regional director, Dr. David Risaliti! Dr. Risaliti is the clinical director of the Ebensburg Office. He is the regional director for Cambria and Somerset Counties.

**H&R BLOCK** NCABA member has openings available for tax preparation. Call Mara at 948-6353.

[www.ncaba-pa.com](http://www.ncaba-pa.com)



Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance

## Progress, progress!

Whoever would have thought we would be turning 7 years old this year? Where has the time gone.

The NCABA has a hectic schedule for the year.

The first event coming up, advertised on the right, is the Cash Raffle to benefit the community through Miners Medical Center. The NCABA is a regional alliance and our efforts are focused on projects that can serve the entire region. It is safe to say, without a local hospital, our communities would be disadvantaged. Most of us have lived through the changes with Miners and at times thought there was a chance it would not be here for us. With God's blessings, it is here and we want to keep it that way.

Please come to the raffle not only to support the cause but to have fun with one another. We will be having a ham/chicken dinner, a "touch" of green to drink (and non-green), music and Irish toasts.

For any of you who missed the raffle in 2008, you missed the "Basket Raffle". Even the men were impressed at the baskets. If you would like to donate a basket, please take it to Miners before March 8th.

The NCABA would like to extend a special thank you to Hope Fire Company

for donating the use of the hall for this occasion. You are fab-a-luss!

We need runners and workers for the raffle as well. Please email us at [ncaba@live.com](mailto:ncaba@live.com) if you can help.

Moving along from March to April is the "Job and Career Fair". This will be held on Thursday, April 22 at the Contres-Greer Social Hall in Northern Cambria. If you are looking to hire, please consider attending this totally free event. It will be heavily advertised in the local area. Last year we had over 200 attendees. Set up will be from 11 a.m.-12:30 and a light lunch will be provided for the vendors (employers/schools). The expo will open to the public from 1-5 p.m. Please fill out the form enclosed if you would like to participate and feel free to forward it to anyone you know who may be hiring.

One of the most exciting news items this year. We will be hiring a grant writer for the community. Please see the special article inside.

July brings the "Big Kahuna" golf outing on July 2 and a duck race on July 4th.

"Lifesteps: A Path to Peace of Mind" is getting off the ground this year in the fall.

The rest is yet to come!

## MARCH MEETING

Thursday, March 25, 8 AM  
City Hotel, Maple Ave., N. Cambria  
*Bimonthly meetings 4th Thursday every other month, 8 am, City Hotel.*

February 2010

## St. Patty's Party CASH Raffle SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Hope Fire Company Hall, N. Cambria  
Doors Open 6 p.m.

Must be 21 or older. Need Not Be Present To Win.

Sponsored by Northern Cambria Area Business Alliance (NCABA)

### FREE Adult Beverages

BYOB—Mixers Provided

Music by "Kenny Karlheim"

\$20 Donation also includes food & chances to win

### \$2,000 IN CASH PRIZES

Saturday, March 13, 2010 Prizes: \$100 Winner Drawn Every 1/2-Hour beginning at 7 p.m. & Last Drawn at 10:30 p.m.; \$200 Winner Drawn 11:00 p.m. **\$1,000 Winner Based on 3-digit PA Daily Lottery Number Drawn at 7 pm Wed., March 17, 2010**

Proceeds Will Benefit The Purchase of  
Crash Cart Equipment at Miners Medical Center!

### BASKET RAFFLE

25 Chances/\$5 Donation

Begins at Miners Medical Center  
Monday, March 8 thru Friday, March 12 and  
beginning at 9 a.m., Hope Fire Hall, Saturday, March 13 thru the  
Cash Raffle. Winners drawn at raffle. Need not be present to win!

BASKETS ARE BEING ACCEPTED AT MINERS.  
PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING A BASKET.

### CASH RAFFLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

- Al's Tire, Northern Cambria and Ebensburg
- Allegheny Chesapeake Physical Therapy, Ebensburg
- Golden Living Center (Haida), Hastings
- Hastings Bottling Works
- HEALTHSOUTH Rehabilitation Clinic, Ebensburg
- Jeff Lantzy Insurance, Northern Cambria
- Miners Medical Center, Hastings
- 6-Pak Express, Northern Cambria
- Family Practice Office of Dr. Joseph Sabo, Patton
- By Calling 814-244-1159 or sending request to [ncaba@live.com](mailto:ncaba@live.com)

More details on [www.ncaba-pa.com](http://www.ncaba-pa.com)

The next meeting of the NCABA will be held THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 8:00 a.m. City Hotel Bar & Grille

## Alliance to move forward with grant writer: Decoplan

A long standing plan of the NCABA was to hire a grant writer or work toward an inter-municipal program that would assist the communities in our region with projects. Although we have looked at several programs, most have been grass-root efforts that never prospered.

The Economic Committee took a look at some of the options. Since we are not a government agency or connected to any one specific town, we are limited as to what we can do. Hiring an employee with salary and expenses exceeding \$50K a year is not feasible. We don't have the ability to write our own grants

The Economic Committee met with Jerry Brant, partner of Decoplan Associates LLC. Jerry is from the area and has a strong background in federal and state grant applications.

What most town, municipals and lay people often don't understand, it takes money to get money. Although there may be free grant writers out there, the committee was concerned as to where we would fall in the hierarchal ladder of priorities and most of the time you get what you pay for.

The NCABA will enter into a contract with Decoplan to write six grants this year for regional projects.

The process will include the Economic Committee screening the projects and if approved, will forward them to Decoplan. The benefit is the municipality or organization will not need to pay the upfront application fee, which is often \$500-\$1,500. All the particulars have not been ironed out. Once they are, the steps will be published in the newsletter, on the website and via a press release..

With the collaboration of Decoplan and the NCABA, we are hoping that we can secure some grant money for the region for various projects.

If you are interested in moving forward with a project and do not want to wait to utilize the NCABA program, contact Jerry at 814-381-8317 to develop your own, unique contract.

## Congratulations! Cambria County Commissioner Salvatore "Sam" Valenty



On February 3rd, Salvatore "Sam" Valenty, NCABA member was sworn in as the newest Cambria County Commissioner. Sam lives in the northern area of N. Cambria Borough and is the owner of Valenty Bottled Water.

The NCABA made an effort to endorse Sam; he is a true advocate for the entire county. For those of you who don't know him, he has been an influential strength throughout the county and for this region as well. In a letter to Judge Creany, Jeff Lantzy, NCABA President cited some of Mr. Valenty's

involvement and accomplishments:

- Cambria County Alliance for Business and Industry Board Member
- Cambria County Planning Commissioner
- Pennsylvania Highlands Community College Foundation Board Member
- Miners Medical Center Board Member
- Established the "Valenty Scholarship" endowments at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, Saint Francis University, and Mount Aloysius College for students focusing on a business program
- Established a nursing student scholarship at Conemaugh School of Nursing in loving memory of his wife, Sara
- Greater Johnstown-Cambria County Chamber of Commerce Past Board Chairman and was inducted into the Johnstown Area-Cambria County Chamber of Commerce Business Hall of Fame
- Annual Supporter of the Chamber of Commerce: Showcase for Commerce
- Speaker on behalf of The Greater Johnstown Keystone Innovation Zone
- Received Legion of Honor Award from the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, Veteran Community Initiatives
- Past Board Member of JARI (Johnstown Area Regional Industries)
- Northern Cambria Community Development Corp. Past Board Member
- Formally Recognized by CamTran and the Cambria County Commissioners for generosity in providing transportation to children to utilize the North-Central Recreation Center in Ebensburg (refer to Cambria County Commissioner Minutes, February 18, 2008, it was also noted that Sam remains quiet about what he does for communities).
- In addition to those accomplishments listed above, Sam has made wise and generous contributions to support many business, economic and educational programs throughout the county and has always been a strong advocate of this region. He has serviced everyone from children in ball teams to working on programs for displaced workers to advocating political candidates to assisting citizens with health and wellness issues.

A few NCABA members attended the induction ceremony. Judge Creany gave a well respected introduction of Sam. One of the prominent comments was that all three commissioners have an established working relationship and he can trust they won't try to "one up one another" but will work together.

Congratulations Commissioner Valenty. We know you will care just as much about Dysart as you will about the West End in Johnstown and everywhere in between. Good luck to you!

## Health and wellness providers met in December

On December 9, 2009, over 20 health and human services organizations met at Cambrian Hills Country Club to meet and greet and discuss plans for the upcoming "Lifestep" project.

Although many more RSVP'd., an unexpected snowstorm hit (go figure) making travel dangerous.

The luncheon consisted of a meet and greet session where everyone was welcomed to give a 30-second verbal "commercial" about their organization. We had representatives from a multitude of organizations including Occupational Vocational Rehab (OVR) in Carrolltown, Home Instead, Hillsdale Nursing and Rehab Center, HealthSouth, Golden Living Center-HAIDA, Prince of Peace, Rebekah Manor, Allegheny & Chesapeake Physical Therapy, Select Specialty Hospital, Asera Care Hospice, Miners Medical Center, X-Cel Physical Therapy, Horizons Hospice and United Cerebral Palsy.

The NCABA directory of "Lifesteps: A Path to Peace of Mind" was re-introduced. This will be a directory developed with local health and wellness, end-of-life, and financial and legal planning information.

The NCABA would like to thank Golden Living Center-HAIDA and HealthSouth for providing lunch.

Look for more information on the Lifesteps program to roll out in the fall.



Above, participants in the Lifesteps program enjoy lunch on a snowy day in December at Cambrian Hills.

## Membership drive still in full swing

For those of you who did not renew your NCABA membership for 2010, please consider joining. This year, more than ever, we need your support.

Remember, your \$50 annual membership gives you a nice return. You will be listed in the paper each year and your listing will be on the website. You also receive one free insert in the newsletter each year, just provide us with 225 flyers. Please make sure they are on regular weighted paper and are 8.5x11 or smaller—we will stuff them in the newsletter for you.

Your membership entitles you to discounted website advertising—\$50 per year (that's less than \$1 per week). Many of you have already taken advantage of this, please go to our website to see member ads—[www.ncaba-pa.com](http://www.ncaba-pa.com).

A monthly ad is placed in the local paper for "What's Your Beef" - directing readers to log onto the website to answer...they will see your ad (see left for this month's question).

You can also deduct your \$50 NCABA membership dues from the Johnstown Area-Cambria County Chamber of Commerce dues if you join this group as well. The Chamber

affords links to networking, collaboration and business development features.

The NCABA also sponsors several networking events throughout the year. This year, Tim Whited, Membership Chair would like to incorporate some membership education seminars.

Please remember that the Alliance has a multitude of perks for your business or organization but our main goal is working together to benefit the region.

One of our goals was to become a go-to entity for our political leaders. Since our establishment, we have managed to have representatives from the alliance sit on the Cambria County Planning Commission, Cambria County Alliance for Business and Industry, CamTran and we have been asked for our input on several state and local projects.

In order to keep the ball rolling, we need your help.

For membership applications, please log onto [www.ncaba-pa.com](http://www.ncaba-pa.com) and click on the "joining" tab. Please forward the application to anyone else whom you think may have interest in joining. You may call Tim Whited at 814-948-7880 for membership questions.

**What's Your BEEF?**

**What type of municipal consolidation should occur in the region (ex: police, boros/twps, schools, fire companies, etc.) or none at all?**

To answer the question, log onto [www.ncaba-pa.com](http://www.ncaba-pa.com) and click on the "What's Your Beef" logo.