

2009-IT'S A WRAP

A New Year is soon to be upon us. Let us hope that the New Year brings some economic relief and hope for a prosperous future.

If you remember the year end column that I wrote last year started almost exactly the same way. Let's hope for better results for 2010.

2009 has been an extremely difficult year for our job seeking customers, our local employers and our CareerLink staff. As a result of the economic downturn we have experienced a record number of customers utilizing our services. In an effort to live up to our mission as "The Primary Source of Excellence in Workforce Development in the Pocono Communities", we have doubled our efforts to meet the ever growing needs of our job seeking customers.

I am once again incredibly proud of our CareerLink staff for accepting the many challenges they faced this past year while continuing to provide quality and professional services with a high degree of customer satisfaction to our ever expanding pool of customers.

Here are a few highlights from 2009:

- www.monroecareerlink.org , our local website received over 35,000 hits in 2009.
- Our customer usage averaged over 1,500 individuals per month in 2009.
- New CareerLink partners in 2009:
 - Smith & Solomon
 - Prime Tech Training
- 2nd Annual golf Tournament with Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau - \$6,000 in scholarships were awarded
- Employer Job Fairs held at CareerLink:
 - US Census
 - Verizon
 - GIANT Food Market
 - US Postal Service
 - PA State Police
 - Unemployment Compensation
 - Minit Mark
 - Abacus
 - UPS
 - Labor & Industry
- Career Guidance Team wrote over 250 Individual Training Contracts.



What's going on Next Week.....

"Building Confidence in Your Job Search"

Presented by Kim J.

Monday, December 21st 9:00-11:30 pm

"Mock Interviews"

Presented by Kim J.

Tue, December 22nd, 10:00-11:00 am

"Resumes & Cover Letters"

Presented by Kim J.

Wed, December 23rd 9-11:30 am

"How to Land a Government Job!"

Presented by Julio M. & Lani C.

Mon., December 28th, 9-11:00 am


"Intro to CareerLink Services"

Presented by Kim J.

Tue, December 29th, 10:00-11:00 am



- Stimulus dollars allowed us to employ over 150 youth during the summer months.
- Our Business Services Team continued to work with Trade affected employees-TDI, Victalulic, Weiler.
- We doubled the number of one-on-one sessions through our PREP Program.
- We continued providing interview outfits through our in house career Clothing Closet.
- We completed our third employee satisfaction survey.
- We utilized a Mystery Shopper to help us improve customer satisfaction
- We celebrated PA CareerLink® week throughout the state on 4/13 – 4/17.
- We installed security cameras within the CareerLink to improve security measures.
- We partnered with local Weatherization efforts to assist with recruiting and testing new workers.
- We welcomed Jacqueline Healy, Kim Jones, Julio Masdias and Lani Culley to our CareerLink staff.
- We formed a Networking Group for dislocated workers
- We partnered with MCTI to present a “Healthcare Hero” award and sponsored an Essay Contest during Healthcare week
- We provided the following seminars free of charge to our customers through our Customer Information and Resources Team:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| - 5 Secrets for Successful Job Hunting | - Intro to CareerLink Services |  |
| - Mock Interviews | - Career Exploration | |
| - Resume Critique | - Resume and Cover Letter Writing | |
| - How to Work a Job Fair | - Computer Basics | |
| - Computerized O’Net Assessment | - Employer Website Assistance | |
| - Legal Barriers to Employment | -Career Transition for Veterans | |
| - Building Confidence in Your Job Search | - Youth Workshops | |
| - How to Land a Government Jobs | - Financial Information Session | |
| - Training Programs at MCTI | - NCC Tuition Waiver Program | |
| - Building a Business Website | -Job Changes and Your Retirement Assets | |
| - Hot Jobs In Healthcare | - Interview Basics & Salary Negotiation | |
| - Entrepreneurship: 101 | - Healthcare Employer | |



- We successfully held our 7th annual CAREER Quest with over 1,300 jobseekers attending.

These are only a few of the many highlights and successes we have had the opportunity to provide to our employer and job seeker customers, and to our community at large.

Again, thank you to all staff and partners for their dedication to customer satisfaction and quality service.

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday and a safe and prosperous New Year!

John Casella



COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE FYI.....WELCOME 2010!



TEAMOLOGY

TEAM: A number of persons associated together in work or activity to perform a common goal.

CareerLink

IT CAN STILL BE BRIGHT

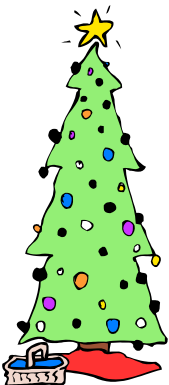


The recession has affected and changed most of our lives. However, you needn't allow it to tinge your Christmas festivities. There are still ways you can get around the recession and end up having fun.

Christmas is all about being together, embraced in the warm circle of one's family and friends. It is a time to review and count one's blessings which need not only be about the materialistic things around you. There are several simple and joyful things that are associated with Christmas that no recession can ever take away.



- This is the turning on the lights on the Christmas tree and watching the wonderment on everyone's faces, or the wafting smell permeating the environment of goodies being baked all over the block.
- Christmas, this time round, might need to be a toned down celebration. But, that certainly doesn't take away from it the fun and bonhomie involved. The warm friendliness of having people who love and care for you, all around you, can certainly not be replaced by a trip to the most exotic of islands or the largest flat screen Television set possible.
- Christmas is a time for you to teach your kids about loving and sharing. Start a kindness chain, get them involved in charity, let them see kids who are far worse off than them, and you will certainly not have any constant bickering. Inculcate the feelings of gratitude and frugality in your family, and it will serve them well for years to come. You on your part as a parent chalk down a list of things that you need to purchase, including presents. Get to the stores and malls sooner and don't wait until the last few days when shopping and the prices reach a frenzy pitch.
- Look for ways to involve your kids in the community activities taking place all around. Look for church celebrations. A few parents can get together and host a party together.



Hence, recession or no recession the feelings and festivity linked with Christmas remains the same. The joys of giving and caring can never be completely replaced by materialistic things. So, go out and grab your part of the fun to be rejuvenated to face the world in the coming year.



JOB ORDERS Spotlight



Stone, Trembly & Assocs CPA

—Accountant CPA
-web 668144

Visiting Nurse Association of Monroe County

—Purchasing Clerk
-web 669109
—Data Entry Clerk 1
-web 669101

FedEx Freight East

—Supplemental Dock PS
-web 669222

Advanced Door Technology

—Legal Assistant
-web 667861

Weiler Corp

—Sales Operations Manager
-web 668294
—Plant Custodian Night Shift
-web 668228

Monroe County Family Health Center

—Medical Practice Administrator
-web 668243

Writing on the Wall

**Christmas is a necessity.
There has to be at least one day of the
year to remind us that we're here for
something else besides ourselves.**

— Eric Sevareid (1912-92),

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