

## Ask SCORE

### OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND FOR SHARPENING YOUR SMALL BUSINESS SKILLS

Very few people begin the process of building a small business with a full knowledge of all the skills required for success. Even those who have extensive experience or education in business management still need to bring themselves up to speed on the added responsibilities of entrepreneurship—tax issues, employee management, business development, accounting, etc.

Fortunately, the range of small business-oriented learning opportunities and training programs has never been broader for veteran and novice entrepreneurs alike. Seeking help is simply smart. No business owner can be adept at every aspect of operating successfully. Plus, conditions change, so keeping yourself informed is vital to long-term success.

The single most popular program in America is probably the SBA Small Business Training Network/E-Business Institute, which registers nearly a million users at its Web site each year. The Small Business Training Network is a Web-based conglomerate that can link you to online courses, workshops, publications, learning tools, information resources and access to electronic counseling and other types of technical help. For details on the Small Business Training Network, go to [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) and click "Training" under the site's Services section.

Free online courses are offered on about 75 topics in areas such as business startup, growing your business, home-based business and re-engineering your skills. Sample titles include: Growth Strategies; Analyzing Profitability; Building Your Brand; and, Understanding Business Insurance.

The Tools section of [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) gives you access to an extensive library of articles, podcasts, and Web chats on various small business issues.

Local SBA-sponsored training events are offered nationwide. These range from breakfast talks on local economic conditions, to brown-bag networking lunches, loan seminars, startup workshops and free business assessments. Simply go the Local Resources section of [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) and click your state on the Web site map for a calendar listing dates and event details in your area. You can also sign up for free newsletters issued by your state SBA office.

In addition, dozens of top colleges and universities offer business training courses you can take online or in more traditional classroom environments. Most require a fee, and some may have educational prerequisites. Advisors at the individual schools will help you identify one or more courses that are best suited to your needs.

To learn more about training opportunities your small business, contact SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business." SCORE is a nonprofit organization of more than 10,500 volunteer business counselors who provide free, confidential business counseling and training workshops to small business owners. Call 610.327.2673 for the Pottstown SCORE chapter, or find a counselor online at [www.pottstownscore.org](http://www.pottstownscore.org).

## REGIONAL CHAMBER ROUNDUP

Please see pages 33-39 for the TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce news and information section.

### SPRING-FORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Building a Better Community Through Business*

• 313 Ridge Pike, 2nd Floor, Limerick, PA 19468 • 610.489.7200



The Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce is a community-focused business advocate. We strive to help our member businesses grow while improving the community in which we all live and work.

The Chamber consists of local businesses whose main objective is to run a successful business. We are a great resource for members, not only because we offer the opportunity to network and brainstorm with fellow members, but also to have exposure to the local community, your customer, through our continued involvement in community events and charitable endeavors. Visit [www.springfordchamber.com](http://www.springfordchamber.com) for Chamber Events, Press Releases, Online Newsletters and more!

#### Do you need a head shot?

The Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce and Pam Baumann Photography are teaming up to provide two days in July where you can stop in and get a Head Shot done for an affordable price! Dates will be as follows:

Wednesday, July 24th - Keller Williams:  
2:00pm - 7:00pm

Thursday, July 25th - Brewed Awakenings: 11:30am - 3:30pm

Sign up times and prices will be available at the Spring-Ford Chamber website.

### CHAMBER NOTES

- REGISTER NOW for the Limerick Community Day on August 24th
- Thank you to The Lewis Group for hosting the RBA /Spring-Ford Chamber Mixer
- The Chamber is looking for members to participate in the following committees: Women In Networking, Special Events, Finance and Award Nominations. If you are interested, please contact the Chamber office
- The offers advertising opportunities on our website, event postcard and our email blasts. If you are interested in any advertising opportunities please contact the chamber office.
- If you are interested in hosting a mixer or workshop in 2019 please contact the chamber at 610-489-7200 or email [atinfo@springfordchamber.com](mailto:atinfo@springfordchamber.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

RSVP for all events online at [www.springfordchamber.com](http://www.springfordchamber.com)

#### Thursday, August 15 – Shark Think Tank

Copperfield Inn at Lakeside  
11:30am - 1:00pm

\*Business Owner Members only

#### Wednesday, August 21 – Five Chamber Mixer

Pope John Paul II High School  
5:00pm - 7:00pm  
Free for Members only

#### Saturday, August 24 – Limerick Community Day

Manderach Park  
4:00pm - 7:00pm  
Business Expo  
Food Truck Festival  
First Respondent's Expo  
RAM Nation/Spring-Ford School District  
Family Movie Night following at Dusk

#### SAVE THE DATE

#### Thursday, September 26th – Chamber Member Appreciation Night

6:00pm - 9:00pm  
Free for Chamber Members Only



### Limerick Community Day

Saturday, August 24, 2019

Festivities start at 4:00pm

Sponsored By:  
Exelon Generation.

TOMPKINS VIST Bank

1011 more FM



- Free to the public
- Kids activities by RAM Nation/Spring-Ford Area School District
- Food Trucks featuring a beer garden by the Railroad Bar and Grill
- Over 100 Great Community Businesses
- Community First Responders
- Performance by the Spring-Ford High School Marching Band
- Family Movie Night at Dusk

Limerick Community Park  
Home of Manderach Memorial Playground  
Swamp Pike and Ziegler Rd.

Presented by the Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce  
and Limerick Township Parks and Recreation

### A Mixer for Collaboration!

On Monday, June 3rd, the Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce and the Royersford Business Association came together at the Stoveworks in Royersford to celebrate the coming collaboration of these two great organizations. Whether it is National Night Out, our respective community days or our mixers and workshops. These two organizations have vowed to offer our members reciprocal opportunities. Members of each organization will be able to take advantage of each other's amazing events. The purpose of this collaboration is to help our great community grow and succeed. There are wonderful things on our horizon and the Royersford Business Association, and the Spring-Ford Chamber take great care in helping our community grow and thrive.

