

Career seminar Saturday in Coatesville

By Staff Report

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Residents, business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs are invited to the first Coatesville Career and Business Development Seminar set for Saturday morning at Lincoln University's Coatesville Campus.

State Sen. Andy Dinniman, D-19th of West Whiteland, has been involved in organizing the event and will welcome participants during the opening session.

"This is a great opportunity for Coatesville residents who are seeking employment, looking to change careers or interested in starting their own businesses to learn about the resources and opportunities that are available," Dinniman wrote in a news release. "In addition, it's a chance for employers to learn about the potential opportunities that are in store with the city's coming redevelopment."

Dinniman said he is working to ensure that local residents have access to job opportunities related to the redevelopment of the Coatesville Train Station and its surrounding area, and he encouraged community members to spread the word about Saturday's seminar.

"We need to be ready to get to work before these projects break ground. I cannot overemphasize how important that is," he said. "That means job training, career preparation and business education need to start now. And that is what Saturday's seminar is all about."

The event, which has been developed in cooperation with the City of Coatesville and 16 local and regional partners, including businesses and institutes of higher learning, aims to assist individuals with career development, guide entrepreneurs in pursuing their own small businesses and highlight opportunities for existing companies to expand in Coatesville.

The event is free to the public, and participants should register online at www.cityofcoatesville.org.

The format of the seminar will consist of a series of 10 different class sessions of which the participants can choose any three sessions that best satisfy their personal interest.

The doors will open at 7:15 a.m. Saturday for late registration, however late registrants may not receive their first preference for the class sessions.

The workshops will cover these topics:

- Employment and training services available at CareerLink.
- Employment opportunities in the health care industry in Chester County.
- Labor construction apprenticeship programs and other skilled trade resources.
- Business culture in the workplace.
- Rewards of business ownership.
- Mistakes new businesses should avoid.
- Launching a successful business.

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- Foundation for business growth.
- Tools and resources for business growth.
- Financing business growth.

Upon completion of this seminar, participants will understand what local and county resources are available to assist with their job and career change process.

Perspective business owners will know where to find counseling and other educational resources to build a successful business. Also, current business owners will have access to new resources for financing their businesses.

The follow-up seminar and job fair are planned for summer and fall this year.

Interested individuals can obtain additional information online at www.coatesville.org or contact the City Manager or City Council at 610-384-0300, or contact Dinniman's district office at 610-692-2112 or e-mail acirucci@pasenate.com.

This endeavor is a program funded by City Council in partnership with PNC Bank, Lincoln University, First State Community Loan Fund, SCORE, VanDyne Insurance, Chester County Workforce Development, Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce, Chester County Economic Development Council, Laborers' District Council, Chester County Department of Community Development, Coatesville Savings Bank, Laborers' Local Union, Sikorsky Global, PennDOT, SEPTA and Amtrak.

Lincoln University's Coatesville Campus is at 351 Kersey St. in Coatesville.

source: www.dailylocal.com