

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



George Gross paints the door to the kiosk while Judy Gross is double-checking her work to make sure not a single spot is left unpainted.

Kiosk Painting Party! When Martha Johnston-Nash sent out an email suggesting a Friday night *Kiosk Painting Party* (and sweetened the deal with an offer of pizza), a number of our members responded including Keith Bodine and sons, Erica Morton, Ron Hawes and his wife, Irene, and Marcia Drenzyk. However much to everyone's surprise, Judy and George Gross (also volunteers at the Mathews Museum) had arrived a few hours earlier and had nearly completed the entire task. All that was left to be done were some finishing touches to the primer coat. It was an unexpected treat, especially for those folks who had been working all day and arrived right after 5:00 PM. Instead it was a time to socialize. When asked why they did it, Judy laughed and said, "We're retired so we were able to get here early." **Our sincerest thanks to Judy & George for making Friday night so easy and enjoyable.**

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Fall Conference / Seminar - Tuesday, November 17th / Union Masonic Hall Potluck dinner at 5:30 pm. Seminar begins promptly at 6 pm.

This year our fall conference / seminar will feature three guest speakers. Attorney Mikaela Wentworth, of the firm of Elliott and MacLean, will address the topic of collections and bankruptcy, while Melissa Mank of Camden National Bank will be updating members about credit cards and explain some of the new laws regarding their security and guidelines. A representative of Coastal Enterprises Inc. will discuss how they can help small businesses survive in a tough economy, such as the one we are currently facing. Liz Petruska (832-5570) is coordinating the potluck dinner which will precede the seminar. Please call to tell her what you plan to bring.



Set Up for Christmas Trees on the Commons, Saturday, November 28th

Chamber members, family and friends are invited to help set up the Christmas trees on the common in preparation for the annual holiday display and lighting event. Works starts at 10 am and should be completed by noon. Remember, many hands make light work, so come join your friends and fellow members. The lighting ceremony takes place Dec 6th. at 6 pm.

Hamish Bodine demonstrates great care and attention as he paints the lowest edge of the kiosk.

RECENT EVENTS



Photo: courtesy of John Jensen, Free Press

Cordelia S. Crowe, CPA, recently participated in the scarecrow contest hosted by Sweet Seasons Farm. Miss Crowe donated her third place prize money to fellow Union Area Chamber member, Gibbs Library.

NEXT MEETING — MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Don't miss our next Union Area Chamber of Commerce meeting to be held on November 25th, 8 am at the Badger Cafe & Pub.

RECENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Website Committee

Several members of the committee took a trip to Bath in October to meet with our web service provider. The discussions were helpful in determining which services we had available to us that were currently not fully using. The committee continues to evaluate our website and we are considering changing the underlying basis the site to a program called "WordPress," an open source program, which is less technically demanding to use than other web programs. The goal is to make it

easier to update our site without paying the web company for technical support. Committee members are John Fromer, Paul Gaudreau, Cheryl McKeary and Marcia Drenzyk. If you would like to join the committee, contact John Fromer for the date and location of our next meeting.

SUGGESTIONS?

Send to:
chestnuthill@cablespeed.com
or call Marcia Drenzyk at
832-4133.

TIPS & TIDBITS

"Never let perfect be the enemy of good."

As the year rapidly comes to a close it sometime seems as though every day goes by faster and faster as we fall further and further behind. Therefore, it may be a good time and review what you really need to accomplish. A trait of many business people is to push themselves to raise the bar of accomplishment each year. However there comes a time to stop trying for perfection, cut yourself some slack, and become friends with the words: "good enough." Waiting for things to be perfect can mean missing opportunities that are available when you say "good enough." Determine your priority list and then decide which ones can be fall into the category of "good enough." If your goal was to add two more sales event this year and you instead added one, then evaluate the effectiveness of the events you did hold. If you wanted to increase your market share ten percent this year and you achieved two percent, remind yourself you didn't lose ground. It's a matter of keeping perspective, focusing on what you have achieved. It's part of creating an overall plan, keeping flexible to changing events, and making progress, however small and imperfect, as you go.

The Publications Committee has begun meeting and establishing a graphics library of all of the work published by the Chamber. Our goal is to make sure that we own outright all the work that we pay for so we can reuse any items that are useful and reusable (particularly maps, etc.). We also expect to create specifications for the items we publish so we can easily put them out for competitive bid.

There's still time to join, so please contact Paul Gaudreau for the time and place of the next meeting.