

## SCORE CPA February 2011 Newsletter

### Business Improvement Workshops

**Business Basics Workshops** every 2nd Tuesday (monthly) pay a pre-registration fee. It will be refunded if you attend the workshop.

**Beyond the Basics Workshops** are fee based. \$50.00 per person. Preregistration discount is \$35.00. Save money, pre-register.

- **Cash Flow Financial Management**—February 15, 2011
- **Writing a Better Business Plan**—March 15, 2011
- **Ten Ways to Finding New Customers**—April 19, 2011

Note: The April 19<sup>th</sup> workshop is being sponsored by THE UPS STORE, 19 Colonnade Way - FREE only if pre-registered. Save money, pre-register. \$15.00 per person after deadline or at the door.

All workshops are in Centre County, 9:30am –Noon at the Nittany Bank, 2541 East College Avenue, State College PA (near the Nittany Mall)

#### Spotlight



Ned Book, Sara Parks with WHVL-TV **For the Record** host, Jed Donahue, talk about current small business issues. Program airs on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am

### Business Tip #1: Maintain good business credit score

Why should entrepreneurs keep personal & business credit separate?

One problem with relying solely on personal credit is that if the business ever becomes at risk, the associated personal credit score becomes at risk as well.

**Why is credit monitoring important for a micro- or sole- proprietor business?**

Business owners need every tool at their disposal to avoid trouble and spot opportunities to grow. When success depends on the ability to build capital as well as protect the business from fraud, business credit monitoring can help. A business credit monitoring service such as Experian's Business Credit Advantage can help business owners become aware of the factors that drive their current business credit score and report.

**What should an entrepreneur look for in a credit reporting service?**

The ideal monitoring plan should provide unlimited access to a business credit report and score. Entrepreneurs also should look for cost-effective plans that provide access to real-time online reports. Most importantly, a monitoring plan should offer proactive notification alerts when key changes occur to the business credit report and score. Such alerts can help protect the business and its owner from fraudulent use of business credit information (for example, someone trying to claim business ownership or open new, unauthorized accounts).

Source: Adam Fingersh, VP Strategy & Innovation, Experian Business Services

([http://www.score.org/pdf/Experian\\_AdamFingersh\\_ExclusiveTips2010.pdf](http://www.score.org/pdf/Experian_AdamFingersh_ExclusiveTips2010.pdf))

### Business Tip #2: Websites related to business tax assistance

**FileTaxes.com** - Thousands of businesses are using FileTaxes.com to electronically file W-2's, 1099's and 941's to the federal government. FileTaxes.com mails the necessary copies to the recipient or employee on the forms and emails you a confirmation for each filing. FileTaxes.com is owned by Greatland Corporation, which has more than 50 years of experience in tax form development.

**Payroll-Taxes.com** is a useful site for conducting payroll research. Users can search the payroll database to find information on both state and federal forms, rates, publications, unemployment rates, labor laws, local taxes and important dates to know for filing forms.

**CPA Directory** is an online directory of 450,000 Certified Public Accountants nationwide. The searchable database helps you locate CPAs by name, location, area of specialization and industries served. "Ask a CPA" is a free service that lets users chat real time with a CPA. (Source: score.org)

Chapter #618 serves Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, and Mifflin Counties. Its members and clients are accepted without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, national origin, race, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. SCORE CPA 2820 East College Avenue, Suite E, State College, PA 16801 Phone/Fax/24/7 Answering Machine 814-234-9415 (Centre County). Other offices: Clearfield 814-765-8987, Huntingdon County 814-643-3126 and Mifflin County 717-2348-6713 SCORE CPA Newsletter is free to anyone interested in business development issues. Tell a friend. Communicate your comments to

[scorepanewsletter@scorecpa.org](mailto:scorepanewsletter@scorecpa.org)