

MOMENTUM

Pottstown, PA
Issue 4
Winter 2015

One Good Thing Leads To Another

Winter doesn't
slow us down



Although it's cold outside, Pottstown offers many opportunities to stay active and keep warm. Get out of the house this winter and visit Pottsgrove Manor, the historic home of Pottstown founder John Potts. See Page 5 for full story.

Momentum is published four times during the year by Partners for Success, a collaborative of area organizations with a common desire to celebrate the stories that make us proud of Pottstown as residents, business owners or other stakeholders who have a vested interest in seeing our community prosper. Each quarter we share stories about business development, recreation and healthy lifestyles, education, and arts & culture.

Good things inside this issue

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Precision Polymer Products, Inc. has been at its South Street location in Pottstown since 1997.

Precision Polymer Products expansion underway

Pottstown-based manufacturer [Precision Polymer Products, Inc.](#) is growing. The medical device component manufacturer is renovating its existing headquarters and plant as well as an adjacent building it recently acquired.

Precision Polymer Products, Inc. has been in business for almost 30 years and employs about 150. The company headquarters and plant have been located in a 53,000-square foot building at 815 South Street in Pottstown since 1997. Some of the manufacturer's well-known customers include Johnson & Johnson, Baxter Healthcare, B Braun and Teleflex Medical.

The recent purchase of the property at 824 Queen Street will allow for increased capacity and improved workflow once the building is renovated to accommodate state-of-the-art inspection, washing, and packaging operations. At the existing plant, a 3,500-square foot ISO Class 8 clean room will be constructed to accommodate six new molding machines. Machines for the clean room will be built by JL Machine and Tool, a division of Precision Polymer.

The Queen Street facility renovation is expected to be completed in March and the South Street facility improvements are projected to be finished in June. The expansion is expected to create approximately 20 new jobs at the company over the next few years.

For more information, visit www.precisionpolymer.com.

Pottstown Municipal Airport provides business and recreational opportunities

Pottstown Municipal Airport is located at 1149 Glasgow Street adjacent to the Airport Business Campus. A number of exciting changes have been made at the facility to better serve the business and recreational needs of the community. Recent developments include the designation of a new fixed base operator, runway repaving, and other upgrades.

Fixed base operator [flyELITE](#) manages the Borough-owned airport and offers a variety of services of interest to businesses, residents, and visitors to the area including:

- aerial photography
- aerial tours/sightseeing
- aircraft parking (ramp or tie-down)
- aircraft rental
- aviation fuel
- flight training
- gift packages
- passenger terminal and lounge

Those interested in obtaining their pilot's license can enroll in flight training at the airport. Half-hour discovery flights are offered for those who want to just take in the scenery and hour-long discovery flights are available for those who are unsure if they want more training. Hot air balloon rides are also offered at the airport through a partnership with the U.S. Hot Air Balloon Team.

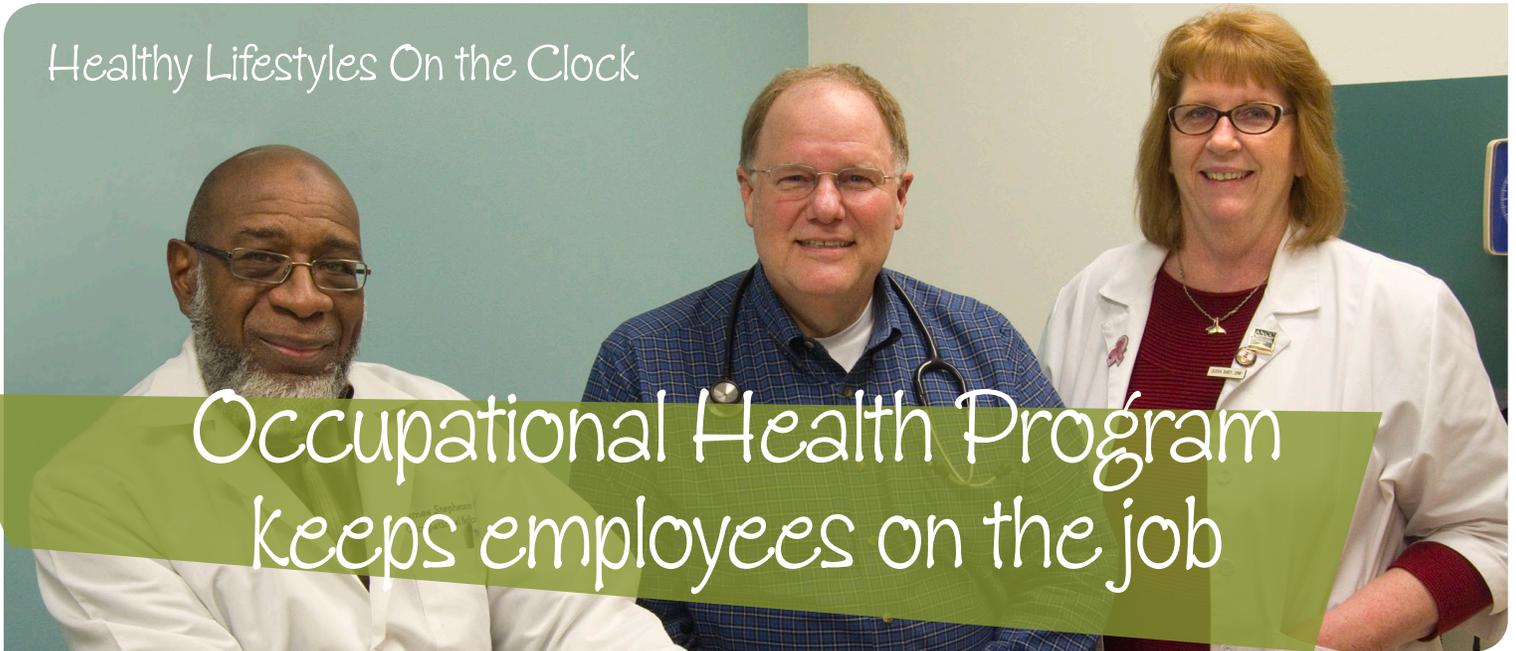
For more information, visit www.fly-elite.com.



The Pottstown Municipal Airport underwent some changes last fall with a new fixed base operator, flyELITE, LLC, a repaving of the runway and various other upgrades.



Healthy Lifestyles On the Clock



Occupational Health Program keeps employees on the job

(From left to right) James Stephenson, MD; Carl Burnett, DO/Medical Director; Debora Bukey, CRNP, take care of patients at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center's Occupational Health at Careplex.

Workplace injuries can be detrimental for all parties involved. It is advantageous for businesses to partner with an experienced occupational health program to help identify, manage and reduce the risk of workplace healthcare hazards. For more than 25 years, [Pottstown Memorial Medical Center](#) has been committed to keeping employees of local businesses on the job through its Occupational Health Services program, located at Careplex, 81 Robinson Street, Pottstown. Developing a relationship with an experienced occupational health provider who specializes in workplace healthcare can have a positive impact on the bottom line.

The mission of [Occupational Health Services](#) is to partner with the local employers to manage their employees work-related healthcare needs. Occupational Health is a resource for employers to manage work-related injuries, return to work strategies, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations as they relate to healthcare and safe work practices. Occupational Health is committed to working exclusively and closely with employers, providing expert service in the region for Occupational Medicine Services. For more information about Occupational Health Services, visit <http://www.pottstownmemorial.com/pottstown-memorial-medical-center/occupationalhealthservices.aspx>.



Sierra Petro, Radiologic Technologist, takes an x-ray.

Healthy Lifestyles Off the Clock

Save the Date

July 11, 2015

Pottstown Memorial Medical Center is also committed to keeping people healthy off the clock. The hospital is sponsoring the [Pottstown Half Marathon](#) on Saturday, July 11, 2015, hosted by the Borough of Pottstown and Sly Fox Track Club. The half marathon is one of the many events celebrating the Borough's Bicentennial. 2015 marks the 200th anniversary of the borough's incorporation in 1815. Visit <http://www.pottstown.org/index.aspx?NID=136> for additional details.



Early College Program helps Pottstown students succeed

Imagine having your freshman year of college completed by the time of your high school graduation at no extra cost for tuition.

This is a reality for Pottstown students enrolled in the Early College Program, an initiative offered by the [Foundation for Pottstown Education](#), and [Montgomery County Community College](#). The Early College Program is a needs-based program for high achieving students living in Pottstown Borough that is funded by the Foundation. During their time in the program, students have dual enrollment through [Pottstown High School](#) and Montgomery County Community College.

There is no cost for the students because the Foundation covers each student's tuition and expenses totaling about \$5,000. The Foundation offers businesses the opportunity to sponsor students in the program and the sponsorship is a tax deductible donation.

A total of 23 students have been enrolled in the program so far. The first cohort of students began taking classes at the Community College in January 2014. The second cohort of students started classes in August 2014. These students are overcoming a variety of obstacles in their lives and will have a head start to success upon graduation of high school.

For more information about the program, call Dr. Myra Forrest, 610-323-8200, or email mforrest@pottstownsd.org or Dr. Steady Moono, 610-819-2070, or email SMoono@mc3.edu.

For more information about the Foundation, visit <http://foundationpottstowned.org>.



Montgomery County
Community College



Criteria

Students are chosen for the Early College Program based on the following criteria:

- The student must have a 90 percent grade point average or above in all courses to be eligible.
- The student must show financial need through a review of the previous year's tax return form from his or her family.
- The student selected must be serious about his or her education and show the proper maturity level for interaction at the college level.

A Foundation for Pottstown Education committee also looks at several other items including the difficulty of the students' coursework. Honors or Advanced Placement or a combination of the two is an indicator that a student is interested in more rigorous coursework. In addition, the candidate must complete an application packet which includes an essay about why he or she should be chosen for the program.





High Street Music Company partners with school district

Pottstown High School student Brien Gilyard works in the high school's recording studio.

Thanks to funding by the Phoebe Simes Trust and guidance from a downtown business, [The High Street Music Company \(HSMC\)](#), Pottstown High School students will soon benefit from an audio recording studio updated with state-of-the-art equipment.

HSMC offers music lessons and operates a recording studio at its High Street location. When owner Louis Rieger became aware that the high school's recording studio was outdated, he offered to help with an upgrade.

Rieger suggested that the recording arts become part of the school curriculum or an after-school program. Pottstown School District agreed to implement the proposal in stages with updating the

control room as the first phase. Rieger ordered equipment for the control room including Pro Tools software and iPads that students will use as visual monitors. He and sound engineer Jeremy Simon are working on wiring the studio so that students can record other students performing in either the choir or band room.

Because the recording studio is not completed yet, students are currently learning about recording, mixing, and editing at HSMC. The trust covers 75 percent of the recording lesson fees allowing students to pay only 25 percent. In addition, Rieger and Simon are training the music department teachers how to use the equipment so they can properly instruct the students and preserve this technological resource for the future.

High Street Music Company

135 East High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464

Lessons

Brass
Woodwinds
Strings
Guitar
Bass
Piano
Drums
Voice

For more information, visit
www.thehighstreetmusiccompany.com
or call 610-906-3357.

Pottsgrove Manor gives a glimpse of 18th-century life

Take a trip back in time to the 18th century at [Pottsgrove Manor](#), 100 West King Street in Pottstown. During guided tours, the public can see the inside of the manor house, the former home of Pottstown founder and ironmaster John Potts built in 1752.

Pottsgrove Manor's furnishings and exhibits give visitors a glimpse of what life was like back in the colonial days for Potts, his wife, children as well as the servants and slaves who worked there. Scenes inside the manor house change with the seasons. The site offers a hands-on room where visitors can explore a room featuring reproductions of items used in the colonial days.

Hours

Tuesday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Unless a materials fee is specified, there is a suggested donation of \$2 per person for tours and programs. Tours begin on the hour, and the last tour of the day begins at 3 p.m. Visit <http://www.montcopa.org/pottsgrovesmanor> for more information about Pottsgrove Manor and its programs.



On February 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Pottsgrove Manor is hosting an Open-Hearth Cooking Workshop: "Roasted, Baked and Stewed".

Partners for Success

Momentum is published by Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc. (PAID) in collaboration with the Partners for Success. PAID is a non-profit economic development corporation with the mission to promote investment in Pottstown. Questions or comments about Momentum can be directed to info@paidinc.org or call 610-326-2900. To receive future issues of Momentum by email visit <http://www.paidinc.org/momentum.php> and [subscribe to the email list](#).



Borough of Pottstown

100 East High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.pottstown.org • 610-970-6500



Montgomery County
Community College

Montgomery County Community College

West Campus
101 College Drive
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.mc3.edu • 610-718-1800



Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation

152 East High Street, Suite 500
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.pottstownfoundation.org • 610-323-2006



Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc.

152 East High Street, Suite 360
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.paidinc.org • 610-326-2900



Pottstown Downtown Improvement District Authority

17 North Hanover Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.downtownpottstown.org • 610-323-5400



Pottstown Memorial Medical Center

1600 East High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.pottstownmemorial.com • 610-327-7000



Pottstown School District

230 Beech Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.pottstownschoools.com/pottstown • 610-323-8200



The Hill School

717 East High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
www.thehill.org • 610-326-1000



TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce

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