

Business BUZZ

National Penn high with customers

J.D. Power and Associates recently ranked **National Penn Bank** the fifth-highest mid-Atlantic bank in terms of customer satisfaction, according to its 2010 Retail Banking Satisfaction Study.

The Boyertown-based bank scored 781 and ranked high among banks included in the study, which included banks in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Northwest Savings Bank ranked highest among mid-Atlantic banks, scoring 808; Susquehanna Bank scored 806; First National Bank of PA scored 784; and S&T Bank scored 783. The scores are based on a 1,000-point scale.

According to the study, National Penn Bank's focus on customer service came at a crucial time.

Bar foundation helps its own

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and the Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers Trust Account Board joined to launch a statewide loan repayment assistance program.

The program is aimed at helping attorneys employed at IOLTA-funded legal services organizations with their law school loan debt and to help IOLTA-funded legal aid organizations recruit and retain valuable attorneys for service in the public good.

The new program will provide for one-year loans, payable to qualified attorneys quarterly, with a 12 month employment requirement at qualifying organizations.

Providing a participating attorney continues to meet the eligibility requirements, the attorney can apply for and receive up to 10 one-year loans over their tenure in qualified employment.

For more information about the program, log on to www.pabarfoundation.org.

Dime Bank Invests in fireworks

The Dime Bank donated \$1,000 to this year's Lake Wallenpaupack Independence Day fireworks display.

The display over Lake Wallenpaupack tonight, starting at approximately 9:15 and made possible entirely through donations, adds a boost to the local economy, drawing thousands to lake region restaurants, merchants, marinas, campgrounds and lodgings.

Parking will be available in the high school parking lots, and the bleachers will be open to spectators at approximately 7 p.m. Viewing the fireworks will still be available at the dike and by boat from the lake.

Pie's On moves to new location

The Pike County Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting at the grand opening of the new location of Pie's On, an Italian and American Restaurant located at 1560 Route 739 in Dingmans Ferry.

Owned and operated by the Heaton family, people know Pie's On for their specialties like Mama Mary's outstanding homemade lasagna, cannolis freshly filled to order and the largest pizza on the mountain-18 inches. The restaurant also features freshly prepared Italian food, burgers, steaks, pasta, seafood, hot and cold heroes, ice cream and real Italian ices.

"This larger, modern facility will better serve our cus-

tomers and provide us with a permanent location for years to come," said owner Brad Heaton. "You'll find us affordable and professional."

USDA offers aid to rural businesses

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is accepting grant applications to assist rural businesses and create job opportunities through cooperative development centers.

Grants of up to \$225,000 may be awarded to colleges, universities, and nonprofit groups to create and to operate centers that help individuals or groups establish, expand or operate rural businesses, especially cooperatives. The centers promote President Barack Obama's goal to bring increased economic opportunities to rural residents by allowing them to acquire tools to help their businesses grow.

IMG opens new Shavertown facility

Intermountain Medical Group recently opened a new location in Shavertown, complete with entirely electronic record keeping and solar panels producing some of the facility's energy.

IMG built the practice at 176 N. Main St. with patient care and efficiency in mind. IMG started seeing patients at the new facility May 25.

A group of five Back Mountain physicians, all members of IMG, who had their practices for the past 10 years in the Twin Stacks Center in Dallas Twp. purchased the building, the former Auto-works car dealership. A sixth doctor also has his office in the new Shavertown center, as do two nurse practitioners and one certified registered nurse practitioner.

AccuClinical Lab, a blood draw facility and Wellspring, a physical therapy and wellness center, also call the