New Executive Director named for the Chamber

Raymond Santillo has been hired as the new Executive Director for the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce. As a lifelong resident of Ellwood City, Ray has great pride in the community and is excited to be a part of that growth.

Ray was a Middle School Teacher and Coach at Riverside School District in Beaver County until 1996. He then continued with the District when he became the Elementary School Principal until 2011 when he retired. He and his wife now own and operate the Half-Pint Kids, Inc. Company in Ellwood City.

Ray already has a tremendous amount of involvement in the Ellwood City community. He has been very involved in sports throughout his life, the Wolves Club for years and served on several committees and boards. Ray was part of the group that founded the Gobblers Gallop in 1995 and is still the Head Timer at the event that just celebrated its 20th year. He was also involved with starting the Annual Ellwood City Octoberfest in 2010 with the Wolves Club.

Ray lives in Ellwood City with his wife, LuAnn and they have four grown children.

Ray’s favorite motto is “Don’t Fear Criticism – The galleries are full of critics. They play no ball, they fight no fights and they make no mistakes, because they attempt nothing. Down in the Arena are the Doers. They make mistakes, because they attempt many things.”

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- Employee Appreciation Luncheon Coming up in April
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- New Members for 2016
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Employee Appreciation Luncheon
April 27th, 2016
11:30-1:00 PM
Connoquenessing Country Club

Speaker: Doreen Welsh, Flight Attendant from Flight 1549

Ninety Seconds To Impact!

If you had only 90 seconds to focus the survival skills of those around you, what would you do? This is the question Doreen asks, it's the question she answers, it's the story she tells - it's the story that has audiences in tears one minute and laughing out loud the next.

Doreen takes participants on the emotional journey of that fateful day which became known as The Miracle on the Hudson. Doreen likes to say that had one person perished during that crash it would have been known as the US Airways Flight 1549 crash. Because of the heroic deeds of five crewmembers - who had never met until that day - it was a miracle!

In addition to being a captivating program, Doreen provides powerful points applicable to any audience, regardless of their occupation or background. Her program inspires audiences to develop their survival skills and manage their personal resources through proper training, skill development and risk management. She'll help your audience see the necessity of maintaining their situational awareness, the importance of engaging in team participation and the necessity of continued training and refresher programs.

As Doreen likes to say, "What would you do if you only had "90 Seconds to (make an) Impact?"

More details and registration coming soon!
2016 Calendar of Chamber Events

Mark your Calendars, It’s going to be a Great Year!

April 23rd - Earth Day Celebration (ECCE)
April 27th – Employee Appreciation Luncheon
May - Annual Thank You Picnic
Annual Fifth Grade Walking Tour
Annual Sixth Grade Park-A-Palooza
June – Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Open
June, July, August – Summer Concert Series (ECCE)
July 1st, 2nd & 3rd – Arts, Craft & Food Festival (Festival Committee)
September – 11th Annual Chef, Wine and Ale Event
September 17th - Storytelling Festival (ECCE)
September 24th – Fall Fest
October 2nd – Manufacturing Day
December 2nd & 3rd – Let there be Lights Weekend
December – Annual Christmas Dinner and Meeting
December – Christmas in the Park (CIP Committee)
Other Events with no set date: USO Dance & Reenactment
Welcome the Newest Director to join the Board of Directors!

Dave Hunter
Smokin’ Dave’s BBQ

Dave Hunter has been employed by Honeywell Corporation for 21 years as a production lead. Dave has always enjoyed cooking and making people happy. Earlier this spring Dave and his wife, Ann, decided to start a small business called Smokin’ Dave’s BBQ. Their calendar filled up quickly occupying every weekend from June thru October with bookings for golf outings, graduation parties, family reunions, sportsman club events and festivals in the area. They are thrilled with the local support and hope to expand their business to a restaurant in the near future. Dave grew up in this community and raised his two children here and has always found the time to volunteer whether it is with the Easter Egg Hunt committee, Ellwood Masonic Lodge, High School football program and in earlier years, Ellwood City girls’ softball.