



SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

Check out This Week's

Chamber Chatters

Brought to you by the members of the
TAMAQUA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VISIT US ONLINE AT

www.tamaqua.net

SHOP LOCAL

If you are a Chamber member, and would like to have an item included in these “Local shopping lists”, you must submit them to us no later than Monday at noon to be included. The lists will be sent out each Wednesday until Christmas. Remember: “Shop Locally this Christmas!” and support the businesses and organizations that support our community all year round. As always, your Chamber membership must be current to be included.

**** New items this week**

****NEW Skipper Dippers Dairy Bar & Grill**, Route 309, Hometown, officially opened their bakery in October. Baked fresh daily and made from scratch, stop in for your pies, cookies, cakes, muffins, and so much more! Check out their new bakery menu at the following link [Skipper Dippers Bakery Menu](#). Pre-order your baked goods by calling 668-2515. Daily specials and happenings for Skipper Dippers Dairy Bar & Grill can be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/skipperdippers.

****NEW WINTER POPS CONCERT** – The Anthracite Philharmonic under the direction of Dr. Mark P. Thomas will hold a Winter Pops Concert on December 10, 7 p.m. at the Trinity United Church of Christ, 22 Lafayette Street, Tamaqua. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For more information call (570) 628-5158

****NEW NOSTALGIC NEW YEAR'S EVE** – Celebrate New Year's Eve in the Victorian ambiance of the Historic 1874 Train Station while savoring one of our Specially Selected Entrée's featuring Twin Stuffed Main Lobster Tails, our signature Crab Cakes, Prime Rib au Jus with homemade Horseradish Sauce and much more! Pair your dinner selection with one of our delicious Pennsylvania Wines or your favorite cocktails from our fully stocked bar. And finish with one of our decadent homemade desserts. Dinner served 4 p.m. to 10 pm. **The Restaurant at the Station** (570) 668-5020

****NEW ETA Benefits Group** is an independent insurance agency located at 242 East Broad Street, Tamaqua. Looking for coverage? Click on this link [ETA On-line Quote](#) to submit a quote for quick, accurate and affordable rates. For more information, log on to www.etabenefits.com or call (570) 668-6800. Visit us on Facebook and stay informed on the latest news from our agency.

****NEW STONEHEDGE GARDENS TREE LIGHTING** – Stonehedge Gardens, Dairy Road, Tamaqua will hold tree lightings November 25 – January 15, Friday, Saturday and Sundays 5:30p.m. & 8 p.m. Refreshments served, Gallery and Gift Shop Open. Tickets \$10. Private Showings available. Call (570) 386-4276 for more information.

****NEW CHINA II** – The production of Silk Road, Flower Rain will be coming to Tamaqua on Friday, December 16, 7 p.m. at the Tamaqua Area School District Auditorium. This is a free performance showcasing the beauty of China. If you had the opportunity to see last year's performance, this one promises to be even more spectacular. We are so fortunate to have this world-class troupe perform here in Tamaqua. Don't miss this international opportunity.

****NEW NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL RISE** – The Tamaqua Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Annual New Year's Eve Ball Rise at the ABC Tamaqua Hi-Rise on December 31, 2011. Come ring in the new year in Downtown Tamaqua. For more information call (570) 668-1880

SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE – Here is a great way to make a child's Christmas morning special this year – Shop online through the link <http://goo.gl/75621> to the **Tamaqua Salvation Army** Angel Tree site and adopt a local child this Christmas. It's easy! You can purchase the gift online and JC Penney will ship your purchase directly to the Tamaqua Salvation Army for distribution to your adopted "Angel". Christmas is a special time for sharing and this is a great way to put a smile on a child's face. The last day to shop is December 9, 2011. Angel Tree tags are also available at the Tamaqua Chamber of Commerce office, 114 West Broad Street, Tamaqua. For more information call (570) 668-0410

THIS WEEKEND'S EVENTS

TAMAQUA'S SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL EVENTS

TREE FESTIVAL – Stop by the Tamaqua Art Gallery, starting Friday, **December 2**, to vote for your favorite decorated tree. Each year, through the generosity of area businesses, organizations, and individuals, we present this annual tree festival. The trees and all the decorations are then donated to deserving families through the cooperation of the area churches, organizations, schools and the community at large. Monetary donations are accepted as the votes and the proceeds allow us to continue this tradition of sharing Christmas with the community each year. Festival is available for viewing Monday thru Friday, beginning December 2nd, from 9 to 5, and will be open during the Spirit of Christmas Festival – Saturday, from noon to 3, and Sunday from 1 to 4. Trees will be on display until December 16th.

SANTA PARADE & LIGHTING OF DEPOT SQUARE PARK – Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive in Tamaqua on Friday, **December 2**, at 6:30 p.m. Santa & Mrs. Claus will receive the children's' requests at the Chamber office immediately following the parade. For more information call (570) 668-1880. Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for \$2.00, sponsored by the Tamaqua Chamber of Commerce.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE – The Tamaqua Spirit of Christmas committee will sponsor a dance for middle school students (grades 6-7-8) on Friday, **December 2**, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the gym at the Tamaqua Salvation Army. Please bring a non-perishable item to be donated to the Tamaqua Salvation Army. Admission \$3

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – Saturday, **December 3**, 9 a.m., Tamaqua Salvation Army, 105 West Broad Street, Tamaqua. Sponsored by the **Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Commission**. \$6 per person which includes breakfast and a picture with Santa. Reservations are required. Call (570) 668-6899 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

ADVENT BREAKFAST – The newly formed Tamaqua Fellowship Network, along with the Tamaqua Ministerial Association and the Tamaqua Area Chamber of Commerce are working together to host a Tamaqua Community Advent Breakfast, Saturday, **December 3**, 8:30 a.m. at **Zion Lutheran Church**. The hour long event will feature food, speakers, music and a candle lighting ceremony. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Church and Chamber office.

VICTORIAN HOUSE TOURS – Saturday, **December 3**, beginning at 10 a.m. Browse the beauty of Tamaqua's Old Victorian Homes during this two hour tour. Reservations required. Call (570) 668-6899 for more information Tickets are \$10 each and include a Victorian Tea in the Gift shop at the Tamaqua Train Station

CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW – Sunday, **December 4**, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tamaqua Salvation Army. Handcrafted gifts, vendors and refreshments. Do your Christmas shopping in one stop. For more information call (570) 668-3268. 1 table \$20 or 2 tables for \$30. Register today, space is limited.

LIVE HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT – FREE Sunday, **December 4** Tamaqua Salvation Army. Scheduled to perform: 1 pm – Christmas Angels Rose Beck (violin) and Kathy Rimm (guitar); 1:45 pm – St. Jerome’s Regional School Chorus; 2:30 pm – ICE; 3:15 – Gabriel Chamber Ensemble students. Great afternoon of free holiday entertainment.

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING – Sunday, **December 4**, 6 p.m. Depot Square Park. See the park come alive with music and lights to kick off the holiday season in Tamaqua. Free entertainment and light refreshments will be available after the tree lighting in the Tamaqua Ambulance Building and will include samples of cookie contest entries and hot chocolate. No admission. Sponsored by the **Tamaqua Beautification Association**.

COOKIE CONTEST – Think you bake the best cookies in the area? Enter the Tamaqua Beautification Association Cookie Contest. Cookie drop off is between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, **December 3**, at the Tamaqua Area Chamber of Commerce. Cookies will then be shared with the community at the Tree Lighting ceremony. Cookies will be judged and awards will be handed out after the tree lighting in Depot Square Park on **December 4**. For more information call Kevin at (570) 668-1252 or Janet at (570) 386-3613. Winners in each of four categories will receive a \$25 Tamaqua Area Gift Certificate.

PEEK-A-BOO REVUE HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR – Saturday, **December 3**, 6 p.m. The Neo-Burlesque Troupe is taking their Holiday Spectacular on the road! The Peek-A-Boo Review will take you through a tassel-twirling, strip-teasing, sequin-lined wonderland of debauchery that is sure to beat those winter blues. Also featured on stage a live authentic strip-tease orchestra. Combine this with a delightful 3-course dinner at Tamaqua’s **Restaurant at the Station** and an old fashioned trolley ride to and from Jim Thorpe’s Mauch Chunk Opera House for a holiday celebration to remember. Tickets limited. For more information call (570) 668-5020.

HOOP SHOOT – **Tamaqua Elks** will host its annual “Hoop Shoot” on Saturday, **December 3**, at the Tamaqua Elementary Gym. Ages 8-9 will shoot at 10 a.m., Ages 10-11 will shoot at 11 a.m., and ages 12-13 will shoot at noon. For more information call (570) 668-0701.

NEXT WEEK’S EVENTS

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY VISITOR’S BUREAU HOLIDAY DINNER – Monday, **December 12**, 6 p.m. at Madelines, 1100 East Market Street, Orwigsburg. Cost \$35 per person in advance only. Reservations only. Call (570) 622-7700 or email donna@schuylkill.org

QUILTING A PATH TO FREEDOM – Learn about the secret codes and messages that slaves used in quilts to help each other find their way to freedom. Guest speaker Sue Paul will be at the **Tamaqua Public Library** on Thursday, **December 8, 2011** at 6 p.m. discussing the role of quilt-making in relation to the Underground Railroad. The program is free and light refreshments will be served. Please call (570) 668-4660 to reserve a seat.

NEW LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD – FIRST GIFT 2011 – Friday, **December 9, 2011**, 6:30pm and 8 pm. Join us for a beachy-keen Christmas Celebration at New Life Assembly of God, 407 Schuylkill Avenue Tamaqua. Doors open 30 minutes prior to each presentation of this unique Hawaiian Christmas Family celebration. The first 100 (ages 4 thru 11) children at each presentation will receive their first gift of the season! Join us for puppets, music, door prizes, games and more. For more information call (570)668-4059 or email: admin@newlifeag.us. All Children MUST be accompanied by an adult. No admission.

CHRISTMAS EXPO – Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold a Christmas Expo on Saturday, **December 10**, 2011 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Homemade crafts & Food. Vendors needed. Call Lucy Gerace at (570) 668-2818. Registration forms are available at www.zionlutherantamaqua.com

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – Santa is on his way! The **Tamaqua Public Library** will hold its Annual Preschool Children's Christmas Party the second week of December. Bring your Children and Grand Children in to visit with Santa. In addition to a gift from Santa, children will be singing seasonal songs, making crafts and enjoying the stories our librarian will be reading. This event will be held on Monday, **December 12** from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. All infants and toddlers are also welcome. Snack donations to the party are appreciated. Please call (570) 668-4660 for more information and to register.

2ND SUNDAY CHRISTMAS TEA – Sunday, **December 11**. Enjoy the finer things in life amidst the ambiance of our beautiful Victorian Train Station on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Indulge in a leisurely afternoon with a delightful 5-Course High Tea which includes: Salad, Scones and Tea Cakes with Cream & Jam, Trio of Tea Sandwiches, Soup and Dessert complete with a selected Tea of the month. \$15.99 per person. Prepaid reservations required. Call **The Restaurant at the Station** (570) 668-5020.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

QUILTING CLASS – Every Wednesday 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. or every Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Carolyn's Quilt Shop**, 109-2 East Broad Street, Tamaqua. Don't know how to machine quilt? Here is your chance to learn. For more information call Carolyn at (570) 668-3090.

KICKBOXING CLASS- USA Martial Arts, 118 East Broad Street, is now having high energy kickboxing workouts every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Fitness kickboxing takes the music, excitement, and energy of an aerobics workout and does it one better. Class includes free bag gloves or hand wraps. Fees are \$35 monthly for unlimited classes or \$20 monthly for once a week classes. Call (570) 668-0565 for information on your free trial class.

MEETING SCHEDULES AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORTS

TAMAQUA ROTARY SCHEDULE – **December 7** – Business Meeting, Tamaqua Salvation Army, **December 21** – Business Meeting, 8 a.m. Tamaqua Salvation Army, **December 28** – No Meeting, **January 4** – Business Meeting, 8 a.m. Tamaqua Salvation Army. December Christmas Party TBA. For more information or to join, please contact Gary Price, Secretary at (570) 668-2775.

TAMAQUA SALVATION ARMY NEWS

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET DISTRIBUTION – Holiday Food Baskets, Toys for Tots and Angel Tree Items will be distributed on **December 19, 2011**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Pre-registration required**. For more information call (570) 668-0410.

CHRISTMAS BOOT CAMP – Prepared for Christmas? Join Beth Job for a Christmas Boot Camp (6) Thursdays – 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., **December 8th** at the Tamaqua Salvation Army, 105 West Broad Street, Tamaqua Get organized, gifts & giving planning & budgeting, cookie & dessert planning, establish holiday traditions, create homemade gifts & more! For information call (570) 668-0410

THE RESTAURANT AT THE STATION NEWS

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – Sunday, **December 18**, 8:30 a.m. to Noon. What a wonderful experience for both you and the kids! See the Historic Train Station all decked out in trees, lights & Gingerbread Houses. Meet Santa and plug whatever is on your “wishlist”. Enjoy a delicious family breakfast with seasonal treats like gingerbread pancakes and peppermint cocoa. Pick up that last minute gift in 3 unique gift shops. **The Restaurant at the Station**, 18 North Railroad Street, Tamaqua (570) 668-5020

STEAK & ALE NIGHT – Every Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. **The Restaurant at the Station**, 18 North Railroad Street, Tamaqua. Featuring a 10 oz. Delmonico Steak with 2 sides and a Pint of Chesterfield Ale for just \$12.99. Call (570) 668-5020.

HALF PRICE HUMP DAYS – Every Wednesday at the **Restaurant at the Station** we help you get over the “Hump” and still have money for the weekend! Every Wednesday, all day, buy one Entrée and get one Entrée at half price! No coupons required (Minimum purchase required Lunch: one entrée must be %5.00 or more, Dinner: one entrée must be \$11.99 or more. Applicable to entrée’s only, does not include appetizers, soups, desserts, beverages or daily specials. Cannot be combined with other discount coupons or offers). (570) 668-5020

WING NIGHT- Every Thursday at **The Restaurant at the Station**, 18 North Railroad Street, stop in and try some of their delicious wings for just \$5.00 with tons of awesome sauces.

SHRIMP BASKET NIGHT- Every Friday at **The Restaurant at the Station**, 18 North Railroad Street, features shrimp, served golden or in your choices of sauce with hand cut fries and coleslaw for just \$8.99.

TAMAQUA ELKS NEWS

BEEF & BREW – **Tamaqua Elks** will be serving “All You Can Eat Beef Sandwiches and 3 drink chips for \$10 following the Hoop Shoot Contest on Saturday, **December 3**. For more information call (570) 668-0701.

VILLAS CROSSING GOLF COURSE NEWS

Villas Crossing will remain open weather permitting, Call ahead for tee-time and course updates. Contact 610-826-2771

CLAMTOWN TAVERN NEWS

Wing Wednesdays at Clamtown Tavern – 7 pm to 10 pm – 40 cents each for bone in or boneless wings in a wide variety of flavors,

Clam Thursdays at Clamtown Tavern – 6 pm t 10 pm – Get one pound of delicious clams (approximately 3 dozen clams) for \$5.99 and enjoy one of our Yuengling Draft Specials

CHECK OUT THE CALENDARS AT
WWW.TAMAQUA.NET AND WWW.TAMAQUAAREA.COM
FOR EVEN MORE EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE AREA

“Now, more than ever, it pays to belong to the Tamaqua Chamber”.

PLEASE NOTE: Chamber members are encouraged to submit their announcements, news and events by email to tamaquachamber@verizon.net or call 668-1880 before Thursday of each week to insure publication.