

Stop in to see us!

The Chamber office is located at 349 E. Main Street, Twin Lakes, next to the caboose. The Chamber office is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit us at www.twinlakeschamber.com.

'The Lakes Area' CHAMBER NEWS

Where Business and Community Come Together

Twin Lakes Chamber of Commerce • 349 E. Main Street, Twin Lakes Wis. • (262) 877-2220 • e-mail: info@twinlakeschamber.com

February Business Spotlight: Associated Bank

By Gail Peckler-Dziki

Irina Kwiatkowska has been branch manager at the Twin Lakes Associated Bank branch for two years and feels right at home. "I have a wonderful group of people working with me. We have employees who have been with us for over 15 years," she stated. "We are a big town bank with a small town feel, our customers are the best." Customers and employees celebrate the Holidays together, Irina says. "Customers bring in lots of baked goods. We know our customers by name and we share events and news from their lives. Customers and bankers have watched each other's kids grow up. They share their joys and grieve together at times. I am

very happy to be here." Irina was with the Racine branch of Associated prior to Twin Lakes. "Corporate allows each bank to operate rather independently within each community. Our underwriters are local and we have been the top SBA (Small Business Administration) lender in Wisconsin for the past five consecutive years."

"We work with local start-up business customers if they have a plan. We help refine that plan and sometimes we help to create the plan. Because our underwriters are located in Wisconsin," Irina said, "they already understand the business and economic climate here." Associated Bank has been a

Chamber member for over 15 years and Irina said their staff jumps into Chamber activities. "We have sponsored the March Business Expo for the past two years here in town and this year again at WHS. I believe in the Chamber's mission and what the Chamber does for the community."

Associated Bank staff members also volunteer for LibertyFest every summer and Trees on Parade & Holiday Shopping in winter. "LibertyFest is a great attraction for the village. People who live here year around and tourists all have a great time," Irina said.

Listen to her talk and you know Irina is from somewhere other than Wisconsin. She grew up in Bulgaria and spent two years here in an internship program. "I met my husband. I had gone back to Bulgaria and we continued to court. He visited me several times and convinced me to marry him and move over here."

They have two little boys who have already visited Europe several times. "How many three month old boys have passports?" Irina quipped.



Mark Your Calendar for Sat., March 13

What an exciting time to belong to the Twin Lakes Area Chamber & Business Association!

The 2010 Lakes Area Business Expo has moved to Wilmot Union High School.

Moving to our new venue at the High School will allow easier access to the event, larger parking area, better handicap accessibility, lots of natural lighting, room for growth and the ability for our participants to hold mini-seminars.

Information and registration has been mailed to all chamber members and past participants. If you didn't receive yours OR if you are a non-Chamber member, PLEASE CONTACT US!

Business Expo Registrations must be received in the Chamber office no later than

Monday, February 22 to be included in the Expo Guide.

A bag, which will be handed out at the door the day of the event, will include items from various businesses. The deadline for providing those items is March 1.

Anyone interested in participating in the "Lakes Area Business Expo" can contact the Chamber office (262) 877-2220 to receive information. Downloadable forms are available on the Chamber website www.twinlakeschamber.com

Watch for more details on next month's Chamber page (March 6) for a complete listing of the businesses in attendance. It's going to be a great place to come talk to a wide variety of businesses - all conveniently located under one roof!

Look Who's Coming to Dinner March 17

We're lucky to have DJ EHLERT and the Magic of Marketing!

DJ is an expert sleight of hand magician with unique and exciting magic. And on St. Patrick's Day, DJ will combine

comedy, magic, and audience participation to make marketing "magical"!

Dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the International House of Wine & Cheese in Richmond, Ill.

It's All About Attitude . . .

By Anna Moldenhauer

If you've been following the Lakes Area Chamber page each month you are accustomed to reading two interviews. Normally it's an opportunity for two Chamber businesses to highlight their relationship with the community and with the Chamber.

This month we're going to focus the second article on our upcoming speaker, Paul Argiewicz.

I guess you could say I'm using my "presidential discretion" since I'm the 2010 Chamber President. I coordinate the Chamber page, which I hope you find interesting and informative! I'm also the one procuring the speakers so that our meetings are entertaining and educational.

On February 17th at the monthly Chamber meeting, Paul Argiewicz will be sharing with us a few of the stories that have made his life so very rich.

Perhaps you don't recognize the name. Maybe you haven't had the opportunity to be at one of the many community groups, schools or libraries that he's spoken to. Trust me. Once you do meet him you won't forget him.

To quote Deanne L. Joseph, the author of *Number 176520 - The Story of Paul Argiewicz, a Teenage Holocaust Survivor*, Paul "represents something truly heroic. Having survived the worst that humanity has to offer, he has lived a life exemplifying the best in our nature. He is a true inspiration."

These days, sorry to say, the word "survivor" is common place. Sometimes it's surviving the death of a loved one. Sometimes it's surviving divorce, cancer, bankruptcy, losing one's home, one's job. Yes, these are horrible things that happen... life changing things.

Webster defines a survivor as a person who has survived an ordeal or great misfortune... a person regarded as resilient or courageous enough to be able to overcome hardship, misfortune,

etc.

But it's not just surviving that's needed. It's **LIVING!** How does one go through the tough days and not just survive, but LIVE?

It's all about **ATTITUDE!**

To quote Deanne again,

"Paul Argiewicz has never met a stranger, cheated a helpless man, or taken advantage of another's fear, ignorance, or innocence for personal gain. Generosity toward his fellow man and a genuine concern for humanity are paramount in his worldview. He has not only endured and survived the incomprehensible nadir of human cruelty and depravity, but he has overcome the most hideous of circumstances with grace, integrity and forgiveness."

"Paul Argiewicz is an American national treasure - a devoted patriot from a generation that has all but disappeared from American life and memory. He served his country faithfully during the Korean War, is a loving family man and is a man whose miraculous story is finally being told after more than six decades of silence."

The story of Paul's experience, *Number 176520*, is unique

among Holocaust books and includes cultural and historical information, maps, charts, letters and photographs as well as scans of original Nazi documents.

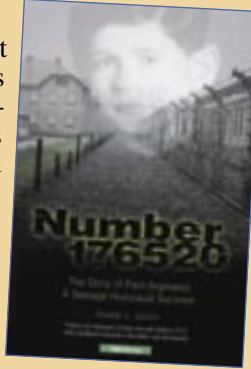
If you'd like to purchase this book, you can go to <http://www.paulsstory.com/> or the Chamber office

has copies available (\$18.00). On February 17th, Paul will stay for a short time, following the Chamber luncheon, to visit and sign his book.

Deanne further states, "As we face the daunting challenges in the world ahead, as we strive for global peace and hope for reason to dominate communication between nations, may we be ever-vigilant to recall the lessons of our past. For it is, indeed, in the heeding of these lessons that we will be empowered to prevent such catastrophes in our future."

Survival. It's all about attitude. Come one, come all - Chamber members or not. Join us on February 17th and hear the stories of a man who showed perseverance and faith in the face of relentless depravity... the stories of Paul Argiewicz...

Reservations needed by 2/15/10 call (262) 877-2220.



Welcome to the Chamber

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Tickets are now on sale for the annual Reverse Raffle!

Don't know what it is? Every year the Twin Lakes Chamber hosts a Reverse Raffle at the Twin Lakes Country Club - the proceeds from this raffle help to off-set the cost of the Libertyfest fireworks.

This year's raffle will be held on Thursday, April 15.

The drawing itself begins at 7:00 p.m. and you need not be present to win.

Here's how it works: The evening begins with a Brat & Burger Buffet which is included with each ticket.

There are 275 tickets sold. All the numbers are put into a drum to be picked randomly. All of the corresponding numbers are placed on a board. As the numbers are pulled the matching number on the board receives a strike through it. When your

number has 2 strikes through it; it is removed from the board.

Prizes are awarded to every 10 numbers that are eliminated with their second strike.

The grand prize for this drawing is \$8,000.00.

Don't miss out on your chance to win big! Contact the Chamber office (262) 877-2220 to purchase your ticket or for more information.

ADVERTISE HERE AND SHOWCASE YOUR SERVICE...

Call the Chamber office at (262) 877-2220 or Ted at (262) 763-2575, Extension 263 to find out more.

Lake Area Builders, Inc. 9257 375th Avenue Twin Lakes, WI 53181



Special Program Announcement!

Leland Stohr of Lake Area Builders, Inc. has announced that the company will begin donating 10% of all remaining lot sales in the Arrowhead South Addition #4 to the Twin Lake Area Chamber Foundation. These funds will be made available to local college bound students as scholarships.

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