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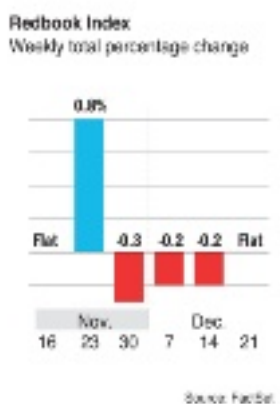
S&P 500	+23.76	NASDAQ	+59.20	DOW	+166.03	6-MO T-BILLS	+0.02	30-YR T-BONDS	+0.08	CRUDE OIL	+1.02	EURO	-0.0020	GOLD	+20.50
1,428.19		3,019.51		13,104.14		.11%		2.85%		\$81.82		\$1.3201		\$1,574.00	

Today

New Year's Day
The New York Stock Exchange, Nasdaq market and NYSE MKT will be closed for New Year's Day. All of the major U.S. stock exchanges are scheduled to reopen for business on Wednesday.



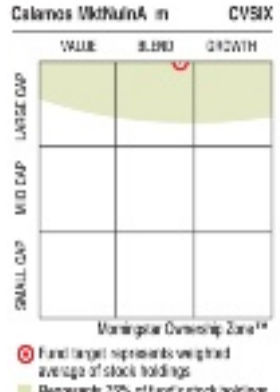
Redbook
The latest holiday season sales have been the weakest since 2008, when the nation was in a deep recession. That hasn't helped retail stocks which many investors have been dumping of late. The spotlight will be on retailers again Wednesday, when the latest Johnson Redbook retail sales index is released. The index tracks data on sales open at least a year.



Construction spending
U.S. builders have been boosting spending on construction projects, buoyed by a strengthening housing market. Economists anticipate that the Commerce Department will report on Wednesday that spending on construction projects increased again in November. As of October, construction spending was at an annual rate of \$872.1 billion, nearly 17 percent above its low in February 2011. Even with the gains, construction spending remains at just half the level considered healthy.



FundFocus
This offering has long been a top choice among market neutral funds, which aim to reduce investment risk. Experienced management has contributed to the success of its complex strategy.



CATEGORY Market Neutral
WORNINGSTAR
RATING™ ★★★★★
ASSETS \$1,154 million
EXP RATIO 1.14%
MANAGER Steve Klouds
SINCE 2003-12-31
RETURNS 3-MO -0.3
YTD +5.6
1-YR +5.9
3-YR ANNL +4.2
5-YR ANNL +2.2

TOP 5 HOLDINGS PCT
SPDR Gold Shares 0.8
Apple Inc 2.72
Swedish Kingdon C 3% 2.17
Exxon Mobil Corporation 2.11
Jds Unibase Cx 1% 1.81

2012's economic 'wins' for Pottstown

Steve Bamford, executive director of Pottstown Area Industrial Development, outlines town's strengths going into 2013

By Evan Brandt
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POTTSTOWN – There are more positives in the borough's economic picture to talk about than just the fact that there will no tax hike in 2013.

Looking back as the year now ending, Steve Bamford told borough council this month that 2012 was a good year for economic development in Pottstown.

Bamford is the executive director of Pottstown Area Industrial Development, better known as PAID, and, as such, is the primary person charged with attracting and retaining businesses to Pottstown.

"It is in our nature to focus on weaknesses, to look for things that need fixing" he told council, "but we also have some strengths from economic development this year. We have solid momentum going into 2013."

Bamford ticked off a list of economic development "wins" for Pottstown:

- **Sly Fox Brewery** – A \$6 million project that filled 30,000 square feet in the Circle of Progress and brought 20 full-time jobs to the borough.

- **VideoRay** – A high-tech company that this month held an open house to showcase its move from and East Pikeland barn to downtown Pottstown. The company purchased the former Levitz building on High Street and renovated 32,000 square feet, to be filled by 32 new full-time jobs.

- **Steel River Playhouse** – Once known as the Tri-County Performing Arts Center, the non-profit theater and classroom center not only changed its name, but completed the second phase of renovations to its High Street location. In 2012, it staged 90 different performances, Bamford said.

- **Montgomery County Community College** – The Pottstown campus of this school has seen a 60 percent growth in enrollment in the last five years and now has 3,000 credit students and affiliations with Temple University and Albright College. In 2012, it expanded into the former AAA building on South Hanover Street for its University Center project, which makes four-year and graduate degrees available at the Pottstown Campus.

The college also broke ground on the \$1.2 million phase II of its environmental studies center in the Schuylkill River Heritage Building in Riverfront Park.

- **Schuylkill River National Heritage Area Headquarters** – In addition to the expansion of the college into that building, the Heritage Area organization opened its River of Revolution interpretive center, something that will continue to attract visitors to Pottstown and to the Schuylkill River Trail, Bamford said. That trail will be extended from Pottstown back over to the



Mercury file photos
Visitors check out the lobby and box office area of the Steel River Playhouse in Pottstown. Once known as the Tri-County Performing Arts Center, the nonprofit theater and classroom center not only changed its name, but completed the second phase of renovations to its High Street location. In 2012, it staged 90 performances.



At left, the ceremonial ribbon cutting for the grand opening of the MCCC University Center in Pottstown is shown. In 2012, the college expanded into the former AAA building on South Hanover Street for its University Center project, which makes four-year and graduate degrees available at the Pottstown Campus.



The Sly Fox Brewing Company in 2012 moved its operations to a much larger facility in the Circle of Progress in Pottstown. The \$6 million project filled 30,000 square feet in the Circle of Progress and brought 20 full-time jobs to the borough.

Chester County side as a result of the new Route 422 bridge being built at the Sanatoga Interchange, thus creating a vital connection between Pottstown and the Chester County portion of the trail which comes up

river from Phoenixville and current reaches as far as Parker Ford.

- **Hanover Square** – Construction of 118 three-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath townhomes, complete with two-car garages – some with views of the Schuylkill River, on 13 acres that was once Mrs. Smith's Pies is now underway. So far 18 homes are completed and occupied and another 30 are under construction.

- **Honorable mentions** – "There were also many smaller expansions," Bamford said. "To name a few were the new offices for the Wolf-Baldwin law firm, Dallas Data, Pottstown Auto Wash and Grumpy's Sandwiches."

As for 2013, Bamford has high hopes. "I'm optimistic that 2013 can be even better," he said.

"Of course, we have a lot of things in the works, but you know how it works. You have many irons in the fire and you have to have 100 going to get a handful that actually come to fruition," Bamford said.

"But I feel safe in saying we'll have some exciting announcements in 2013," he said.

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Submitted photo
VideoRay recently held an open house at its new Pottstown headquarters. The company purchased the former Levitz building on High Street and renovated 32,000 square feet, to be filled by 32 new full-time jobs.