

# Roasting for a cause

## Couple shares store's proceeds with missions

By **MARCUS RAUHUT**  
Staff writer

A local couple is using a new business to touch the lives of people half a world away.

On Friday Jeff Myers and fiancé Stacy Smith opened Abednego Coffee Roasters, which donates a quarter of all sales to Christian missions work.

"We want to show people you're making an impact when you drink coffee," Myers said.

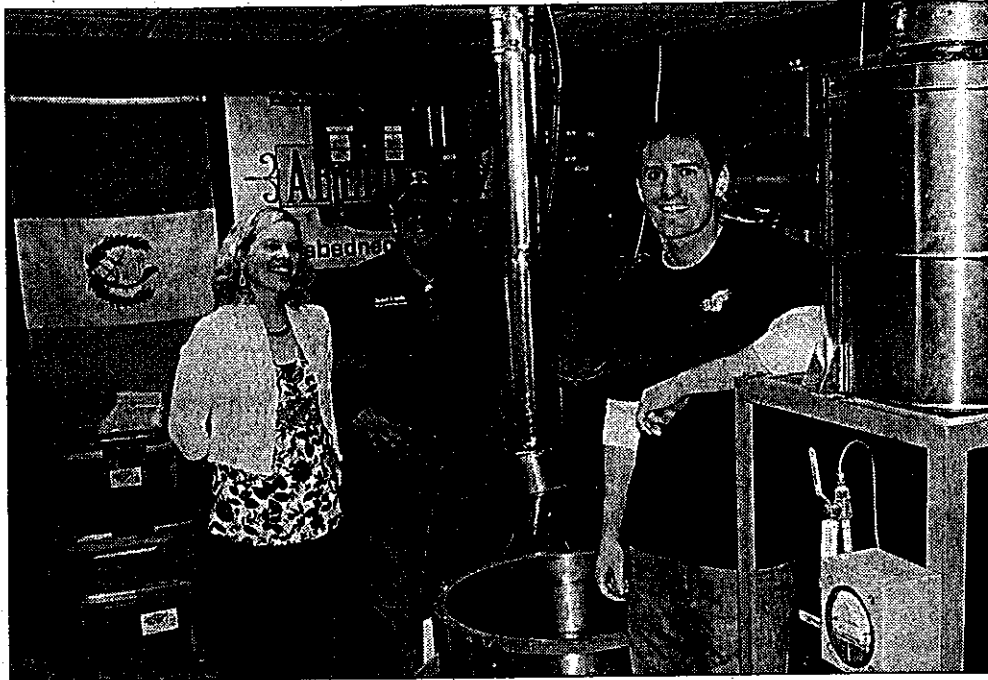
Myers said his fascination with coffee began when he was attending graduate school at Iowa State University and wrote a paper on coffee growers. That fascination grew into a passion after traveling to Uganda in 2004 to spend time with coffee growers.

Smith also spent four years in Cambodia, and the two said their experiences abroad motivated them to give back.

"It moves you," Myers said.

Now, they are using the Guilford Township business to help others in need. The two partnered with South East Asia Prayer Center, a nonprofit ministry that supports work in Cambodia, Thailand and other countries.

"It's just another way to give to missions. Now you can give in the form of coffee," Smith said. "It's something very small."



For Public Opinion/ Russell Nye

**Above:** Stacy Smith, left, Rodney B. Smith and Jeff Myers show off equipment at Abednego Coffee Roaster.

**Right:** Stacy Smith holds a bag of coffee and information for a mission supported by the business. A quarter of all sales is donated to Christian missions work.



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They also sell fair-trade coffees, which ensures that the coffee growers are paid livable wages.

Abednego Coffee Roasters only sells ground coffee and whole beans, but sample cups are available.

They offer five blends, including a Chambersburg and a King Street blend, named after King Street Church.

The store is a part-time venture for Myers, who

works for AgChoice Farm Credit, and Smith, an ESL teacher for the Chambersburg Area School District.

Myers and Smith plan to tie the knot this summer. At their wedding, they plan to have a coffee and espresso bar and guests will receive coffee as favors.

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## The business

Abednego Coffee Roasters is located at 123 Garman Drive, Chambersburg. The store is open 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

For more information on the store, visit <http://www.abednegocoffee.com>. For more information on the South East Asia Prayer Center, visit <http://www.seapc.us>.