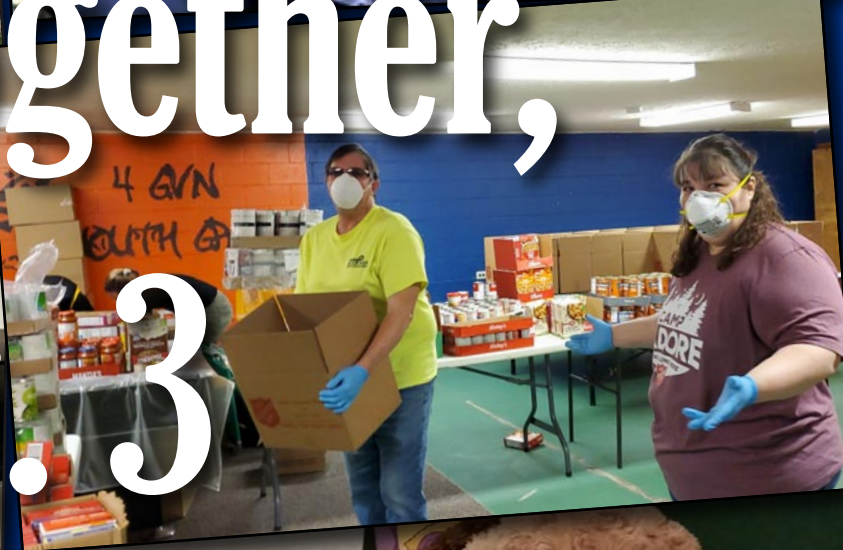


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Volume 5, Issue 5 - May 2020



Green Business
of the Year, pg. 9



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The President's Club is an exclusive sponsorship program created to prominently recognize companies that contribute to the Central PA Chamber over and above their annual membership investment. For more information, call 570-742-7341.

The Inside Scoop

I'll speak for the entire Central PA Chamber team here - we have been blown away and awestruck by what our members have been doing during the COVID-19 Crisis. Yet, we're not surprised.

We know how great our members are, and we knew they would step up and step out wherever possible. We work as a family, and it's in our nature.

Throughout this issue, you'll find stories of what members have been doing. As you'll see in the cover story, starting on the next page, there are shining examples of generosity and adaptation.

When you need to give, you give. When you need to find another way, you find another way. That is what helps make you the great business or organization that you are!

We tried our best to fit as many stories in this issue as we could. Please, be understanding if we didn't get to yours, or even hear about it in that fact. I'm sure there are many unsung heroes out there.

It's not like this magazine is "one-and-done" either. This crisis is going to affect us for quite some time. And some effects may be ever-lasting. Think about the other great trials in our history and how it has changed us.

As we progress through this together, we will be just as interested to know what you are doing to make a difference. There are many opportunities. You just need to find them.

Thank you to everyone who has shared with us thus far. Please, if you haven't, or even if you have, keep in touch. The act of "keeping in touch" is also powerful for our own well-being. We were not meant for isolation but togetherness.

We've kept some normalcy this month as far as content, including New Members and Member Renewals on page 4 and Members Spotlights on page 5.

You can also find the staff columns in their typical places.

Understandably so, events are light, but you can peek into the next couple of months to see what's going on by turning to pages 6 and 7.

Thank you for your support and taking the time to read IYB. It's with sincere hope that you find it refreshing during these difficult times.

Enjoy the issue!



Jeff Shaffer, Editor
Communication Director

jshaffer@centralpachamber.com

It's Your Business Deadlines

June Issue

News/Ads May 15 -- Insert Flyers May 22

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City of Sunbury Office ■ Sunbury Revitalization ■ The Dip-In

MILTON - We have all been impacted by the COVID-19 Crisis in someway, and there is no shortage of stories to share. Members have shined in different ways over the past several weeks, by showing their generosity, adapting and being there for others. Chamber members have been generous with their time, talent and treasures. And, apparently, several members know how to sew! There's a good chance if you've needed a "homemade" mask, you found one.

Unique Inspirations Limited, with the help of a customer, donated 500 disposable masks to a small hospital in western PA. In addition, they assisted in securing 750 masks for a nursing facility, 5,000 KN95 masks for a medical practice, and donated over a 100 disposable masks and dozens of personal-sized hand sanitizer bottles and wipes to the Sunbury Police Department. Customers, too, of UIL have been supplied masks.

Lisa Streett-Liebetrau, Founder of Camp Koala, is using her skills to make masks for nurses and people in the community. She balances



Heather Robinson of the Lewisburg Odd Fellows Lodge Oddzilliary hard at work making masks that were donated to those serving in nursing homes and on the front lines.



A Comfort Box for a child grieving the loss of a loved one due to COVID-19. These are provided by Camp Koala.

"We continue to focus on the needs of the community and 'Doing The Most Good', however, our level of interaction has changed in accordance with the governor's mandates," said Joel Harris, Community Coordinator. "Our office continues to operate through the week, and we continue to provide rent, utility, and food assistance. The Salvation Army partnered with Operation BBQ Relief to provide daily prepared meals for anyone living in the Milton, Watsontown, Turbotville and Lewisburg areas. In order to ensure all residents receive meals, they have waived all income requirements and only ask for the name of the person calling and the number of people in the house.

“Our operations are being maintained by not only our employees but a large volume of volunteers,” Harris said. “Our volunteers ensure resources are continually available for the community and that logistic requirements from vendors and warehouses are transported to The Salvation Army of Milton.

“These needs have been accompanied by two large donations, Milton Transportation for donating a semi-truck and driver to coordinate

See “**COVID-19**” (on page 11)



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(As of April 28, 2020)

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Heritage Springs Memory Care
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At Senior Helpers, we do our best to be the advocate for the seniors in our communities. If our company can't help someone, we will work with them to help them find the help they need. We are also known for our educational programs that we use not only to train our caregivers but also the community. Senior Helpers has hands-on owners who work in the business and are always available. Our phones are answered live 24/7/365.

What is your Mission Statement?

To provide compassionate care and improve the quality of life for our clients, their families and our employees.

How many does your business employ?

Approximately 160 people out of three offices.

Advice to those who own a business?

Balance of professional and personal life is extremely important. Surround yourself with a good team and delegate!

Words to live by?

Love what you do and embrace it. Look for blessings in every day!

What are the top 3 company priorities you focus on?

Professionalism, customer service and continued growth for myself and my employees.

What are the characteristics you look for in employees?

Professionalism, knowledge, eagerness to grow and a passion to serve.

Lisa Weiser, Operations Associate

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How do you market your business?

Referrals, social media, networking events and membership in community organizations.

What is your Mission Statement?

Our mission is to build trusting, caring relationships with families and businesses in Central Pennsylvania. Through honest and open dialogue, our team creates personalized solutions to help our clients achieve their financial goals through every stage of life.

How many does your business employ?

We have four full-time employees.

Advice to those who own a business?

Good business management and client focus will drive the success of your business.

Finish this sentence – "On a day off I..."

We spend time with family and friends living an active lifestyle.

Words to live by?

"Use wisely your power of choice."

What are the top 3 company priorities you focus on?

- Meeting and/or exceeding our clients' expectations
- Staying at the forefront of industry innovation and best practices
- Paying attention to detail

What are the characteristics you look for in employees?

An employee needs to share the same values and mission of the business.

What philanthropic causes does your business support?

PA Adopt-A-Highway program and Mifflinburg Area Community Scholarship Trust.

**Want to appear
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New requirement for DoD contracts

LEWISBURG - Starting this fall, contractors will be required to have a cybersecurity certification to obtain U.S. Department of Defense contracts.

A free webcast will show interested businesses how to obtain the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification. It will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. May 28 through Zoom.

There is a limit of 100 registrants. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/2xOIB96>. Scott Dawson, president of Core Business Solutions, will present the training. It is co-sponsored by SEDA-Council of Governments' (SEDA-COG) Procurement Technical Assistance Center.

For more information, contact Robert Brown at rbrown@seda-cog.org or 570-522-7224.

SEDA-COG's Procurement Technical Assistance Center helps companies explore and compete in the local, state, and federal government marketplace. For more information about the SEDA-COG Procurement Technical Assistance Center, visit www.seda-cog.org/ptac/.

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NEW DATES!

Summer 2020 Session
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5/19/20	How Can Employers Prepare for a Post-COVID-19 Workplace	Webinar	2 to 3 p.m.	Free
5/28/20	Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Training	Webinar	2 to 3 p.m.	Free

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Date	Seminar/Event	Location	Time	Cost
	<p>Have you dreamed of being your own boss for many years but don't know where to start? Do you ask questions like: "How do I turn my good idea into a successful business?"... "What kind of forms and licenses do I need?"... "Where can I find financing?"... "Where is the best place to open my business?"... "What is a business plan and how do I prepare one?"</p> <p>The first step to starting a successful new venture is to attend an SBDC The First Step Pre-Business Workshop where you will learn the answers to these questions. New classes will be scheduled soon!</p>			

Time with Tea Jay

Keeping it moving

"My initial goal is to keep business as normal as possible and have the team work ahead as we need to be in a good sound position internally to best assist you our members during the crisis and also in the upcoming months and possibly year(s) of challenges this may undoubtedly put upon all industries and organizations with no regard to their size, ownership status, number of employees, etc. I want to be sure we are ready to assist when called upon. Tough times don't last – Tough people do."

This is from the end of my column in April's IYB, which was at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic we are all very much still experiencing the effects of and will for quite some time.

The Central PA Chamber team has been working remotely since the initial closure of deemed "non-essential" businesses by Governor Wolf. We are readily accessible to our members, as well as the general public and future members.

Unfortunately, we've had to make some challenging decisions in regard to many scheduled events. I have made it my goal to not cancel events unless absolutely necessary. For instance, we held our Legislative Breakfast in April. This was our very first attempt at a virtual version of this very respected and well attended event. It went flawlessly and would not have been possible without our very dedicated state Reps. Lynda Schlegel Culver and David Rowe. In addition, we were honored to have Alex Halper, Manager of Government Affairs for the PA Chamber of Business and Industry participate. These three individuals stepped out of their comfort zones in recording themselves in their private settings to be able to answer the questions submitted by those who pre-registered for the event and our President's Club members. Times like we are facing now call for many things in order to survive, and I believe one is determination and another is creativity. We could have easily and justifiably canceled the Legislative Breakfast when our partner for the typically joint event opted to not continue with the scheduled date. However, that wasn't an option I was comfortable with. My goal is to instill as much normalcy as possible in our schedules for our members. So, I proposed a virtual Legislative Breakfast to our internal team and it was all hands-on deck. Kudos to our Communication Director Jeff Shaffer for dedicating much of his time to making the event as professional and top-notch as you've come to expect from your Chamber.

Last month, just before Easter, the Chamber staff personally reached out to the primary contact of all 500-plus members to make sure you were aware that we are here for you and that will not change. It was rewarding to hear back from so many of you.

We are working diligently behind the scenes to be ready to assist as each of your businesses and organizations come back online following this crisis. I still believe we will survive and thrive.

Tea Jay Aikey
President & CEO

tjaikey@centralpachamber.com



Breakfast Briefing



The Central PA Chamber went forward with its plans to hold a Legislative Breakfast on April 17. The difference was that this event was virtual. Fielding questions from pre-registrants and President's Club members, state Reps. Lynda Schlegel Culver and David Rowe, as well as Alex Halper, Manager of Government Affairs for the PA Chamber of Business and Industry, recorded answers that were shared that Friday morning in typical fashion. The virtual Legislative Breakfast is available to watch on the Central PA Chamber's YouTube Channel. Information is changing fast, however, so make sure to visit the Chamber's Facebook page and web site at www.centralpachamber.com/covid-19 for the latest information on the ongoing COVID-19 Crisis. We fully hope and expect to be back to our regular Legislative Breakfast format in September...see you then!

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Bear Rental, Northumberland, a young venture of Zartman Construction, was named the 2020 Green Business of the Year. The Chamber staff presented the award to Manager Skyler Herb via a Zoom meeting on Earth Day, April 22. A formal presentation will take place at a later time.

Bear Rental is Green Business of the Year

NORTHUMBERLAND - Bear Rental, a young venture of well-known Zartman Construction, Inc., has been named the 2020 Green Business of the Year by the Central PA Chamber of Commerce.

The Northumberland-based business provides rental equipment for anyone between weekend do-it-yourselfers and seasoned professionals completing a renovation project. They've also shown they can be "green" in their day-to-day business practices.

Bear Rental received the most points this year on the Green Business Recognition Application, which bodes well in receiving the honor.

Many people and businesses are in quarantine during the COVID-19 Crisis, but the Chamber still wanted to continue the tradition of presenting the award on Earth Day, which is April 22.

Since the staff was unable to present the award in-person, they shared it with Skyler Herb, Manager of Bear Rental, during a Zoom meeting on Wednesday afternoon. The award is made from the top of a recycled steel drum container. "I'd like to thank the (Central PA Chamber) for the recognition," Herb said. "Zartman Construction and Bear Rental do a lot with recycling and just trying to keep the planet 'green.'"

Bear Rental scored high in many of the program's categories, including: Solid Waste Prevention, Recycling, Purchasing and Energy & Water Conservation.

When you think about it, the rental business is a form of recycling. Instead of buying a tool that will be used once or twice before it ends up taking space in the garage, it can be shared among several users.

With spring underway, and hopefully the COVID-19 Crisis winding down, it will be prime time to take on some projects. Learn more about Bear Rental at www.bear-rental.com and find them on Facebook, where there are currently sharing several great gardening tips!

Previous winners of the Green Business of the Year, are: Columbia County Bread & Granola, Bloomsburg (2019); Pompeii Street



Soap Co., Mifflinburg (2018); Arrowhead Restaurant, Milton (2017); Lawrence J. Winans, DMD, Lewisburg (2016); Hometown Disposal, Sunbury (2015); Central Susquehanna Community Foundation, Berwick (2014); and Warrior Run Petcare Center, Watsonstown (2013).

Thank you to all Central PA Chamber members who completed the Green Business Recognition Application. You do not make the Chamber staff's decision easy. For those who haven't completed the form, visit www.centralpachamber.com and look under the "Membership" tab. Who knows, you may be next year's winner!

Green Business is good business! In addition to helping the environment, it can save your business money, and your customers and employees will value your efforts.

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In April, the Milton Rotary Club, in conjunction with The Standard-Journal, organized a challenge to the community to display 'thank you' messages for all 'essential' workers. Using supplies they already had at home, participants were encouraged to decorate doors, windows, driveways, mailboxes, porches, etc. and then post their work on the Rotary's Facebook page. Prizes were to be awarded this month. Above is a fine example by the Milton Rotary Club's Andree Clinger. Below was the Central PA Chamber's entry from its 'home'.



Mark Burke

Guest Column

Reinvention: A Podcast to Give Back During Troubling Times

Have you been binge watching? No. Yeah, me either. And, I don't know many who have. Time doesn't seem to be in large supply. It seems quite the opposite, at least in my circle, and I bet, in yours, too. New family routines, work schedules, priorities, shifts in the simple things we used to do by habit, now take time. I thought I had mastered grocery shopping pre-COVID-19. Now, I set aside extra time to unpack and repack, wash this, dry that. Time for binge watching just hasn't surfaced.

Building the mindsets to shift, change, reinvent ourselves and thrive exposes us to a lot of pressure during "normal" times. Troubling times like we're experiencing now magnifies that stress by 10 times. Urgency picks up. Demand lessens for our typical offerings. Cashflow shifts or stops. Regulation increases and accountability leaps to mountainous levels. On March 16, I woke up, sat down at my home office desk and felt the heavy weight of being asked to boil the ocean with little more than a matchstick. Sound familiar?

After a week of staying the old course, I was talking with a friend many of you know, Denny Hummer of the Bucknell SBDC.

We were planning a new episode of my MYNDDCAST podcast. Denny was scheduled to talk with me about "The New Normal." It became clear that to talk about this topic in old ways was kind of ironic. Could we share a more powerful message and experience by making a shift? I decided to offer a new format for non-profit organizations called MYND-

CAST.LIVE. Rather than inviting just one guest to the show, the organization could gather others that support them or need their support to join a conversation. I could use the structure that has helped me produce many episodes in the past to engage a crowd in deep conversation.

That connection, the time to share ideas and contribute to something could be just what we all needed right now. And, I believe it is working.

With two episodes down, one with Denny and the latest featuring a Central PA Chamber of Commerce supported organization, Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week, I invite other non-profits with a mindset to explore to join me.

You can listen to the MYNDDCAST.LIVE episodes as well as all past episodes of my regular show at <https://mynddset.com/category/mynddcast/>. You can also search "MYNDDCAST" on your favorite podcast platform, including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Stitcher, iHeart Radio and Google Play.

Reinvention doesn't require huge shifts, but it does require us to adjust our mindsets. Creating an awareness, a new perspective on ourselves and those we serve can be difficult in troubling times if we stay too connected to old ways, routines and habits. If you lead a non-profit and need to explore a new mindset, being a guest and uniting with your peers in conversation will be powerful. I hope I get flooded with requests to join. It's my give back during these troubling times. Email me at mark@mynddset.com and we'll plan your episode.

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"COVID-19" (from page 3)

our first food delivery from our Williamsport Warehouse. We also had a generous donation of a refrigerator truck from Penske to ensure food continues to stay fresh and meets USDA requirements."

If anyone is in need of food, or someone to talk to, they are welcome to call 570-742-4231. The Salvation Army of Milton also continues to accept non-perishable food and monetary donations from the community.

The Country Cupboard demonstrated how "sweet it is" to give when owners Chris Baylor and Bobby Hamm decided to give away all the Easter candy to its employees who have children and grandchildren in the area. With the help of GM Steve Kulhavy, they prepared more than 180 Easter bags for pick-up.

Heritage Springs Memory Care has also been offering its support. Last month, they delivered lunch/supper to 50 emergency room employees. Colleen Fritz, President, also said they have been receiving many letters and care packages from others.

There are many examples of adaptation, too, that you can find throughout this issue of IYB.

For instance, The Arc Susquehanna Valley has been inspired by The Arc's Self Advocates and their ability to rise up while faced with stay-at-home orders. They are using technology to lift each other up with song, trivia, interviews, etc. Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey even recently appeared on a Facebook Live broadcast to be interviewed.

"While everyone is sad we can't be face-to-face, this opportunity has opened the door to learn more about technology and problem solving," said Board President Deb Brubaker.

Do you have a story to tell? Please, e-mail jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.



Above, Public Speaker and Podcaster Aaron Kalinowski of Elysburg uses his home studio to reach out to his peers at The Arc, Susquehanna Valley. At left, Deb Brubaker, Board President, and her daughter, Ashley go 'live' daily on The Arc's Facebook page to hold contests. The duo entertain the membership with trivia contests and silly hats, sunglasses, and pajamas. The hope is to use humor to better acquaint self-advocates with the Internet, build self-esteem and self-confidence, and keep in touch with their friends.



Above, James 'Jim' Burke, unloads a pallet of food boxes at The Salvation Army of Sunbury, which provided meals to more than 1,500 people weekly through Northumberland and Union counties.

Below, Harold Heganbuch, Tammy Walters and Bevianna Girardi (back) pack the first load of food boxes at The Salvation Army in Milton for those affected by job loss and layoffs during the outbreak of COVID-19.



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Last month, Evangelical Community Hospital hung an American Flag over its Patient Room Improvement, Modernization, and Enhancement (PRIME) project. Kendra Aucker, President and CEO, said, 'We are undivided in the fight to rid our communities of COVID-19. Every person, every business, every town and city across the nation is in this together. The Evangelical family hopes the flag will inspire and give a renewed sense of community to everyone who sees it, just as every kind gesture from our neighbors and friends has reenergized our staff during this challenging time.'

Return to services

LEWISBURG - With the recent announcement by Gov. Tom Wolf permitting elective surgeries and procedures to resume at health-care facilities, Evangelical Community Hospital is implementing a methodical, phased approach in operations.

"This isn't going to be a flip of the switch and we're back to normal," said Kendra Aucker, President and CEO. "We have to maintain our ability to address the continued presence of COVID-19 in the community and remain nimble enough to respond to a possible surge." The safest way to start the process of re-opening at Evangelical will be with outpatient facilities.

Opening Monday, May 4 will include: Endoscopy Center, Gastroenterology, Endocrinology, Rheumatology, Neurology, Palliative Medicine and Psychology.

The Hospital's primary care offices will continue operating in a consolidated model. Currently, primary care providers are seeing patients in: Lewisburg, Selinsgrove, Milton and Mifflinburg.

OB/GYN, the Heart and Vascular Center, Wound/Hyperbaric Medicine, and Center for Breast Health will also continue as they have been operating. These practices have been seeing patients on a modified schedule throughout the pandemic.

SUN Orthopaedics and Surgical Specialists will continue to see patients at The Center for Orthopaedics, 210 JPM Road. All other SUN Orthopaedics locations will remain closed.

The Physical Therapy clinics will begin to expand their appointment schedules to accommodate patients who were unable to complete their therapy prior to the clinic closures. The clinics that are currently closed will remain closed until the open clinics are operating at capacity.

Open Physical Therapy clinics include: Selinsgrove (Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive), Mifflinburg (Forrest Hill), Middleburg, Williamsport, Elysburg, and Lewisburg (the Miller Center).

Selinsgrove Imaging Center will resume limited operations on Monday, May 4 to support Family Practice Center and area residents needing imaging services.

Appointments in the clinics will be scheduled in a way that allows for safe social distancing.

Surgeries and procedures at the ambulatory surgical center will begin on Monday, May 11.

Two additional operating rooms at the Hospital will open on Monday, May 11 to accommodate some elective cases, but will be done in a balanced approach that allows the Hospital to manage COVID-19 volumes.

FCFP awards grants

WILLIAMSPORT - United Way leaders engaged 24 community members to review the COVID-19 United Community Funds Phase 1 Grant Awards.

First Community Foundation Partnership reported that grant awards totaling \$301,300 were distributed to 33 non-profit organizations in Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga and Union counties. FCFP is working in collaboration with the Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way, as well as the United Way of Lycoming County and the United Way of Columbia and Montour Counties.

Phase I funds will support requests from organizations with a variety of needs including: food, rental and utility assistance; diapers and infant needs; personal protection equipment for staff and clients; laptops, tablets and connectivity devices for tele-health services; and finance assistance for small businesses.

Receiving fund were: AGAPE, \$6,000; AIDS Resource Alliance, Inc., \$5,000; American Rescue Workers, Inc., \$20,000; Autism Diagnostic Evaluations Resources Services, Inc., \$5,000; Beyond Violence, Inc., \$3,000; Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, \$16,500; Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc., \$15,000; Diakon Child,

Family & Community Ministries, \$10,000; Economic & Community Growth Corp., \$25,000; Emmanuel Home Personal Care, \$5,000; Expectations Women's Center, \$9,900; Family Promise of Lycoming County, Inc., \$15,000; Family Service Association of Northeastern PA (PA 211 NE), \$16,750; Firetree Place, \$12,300; Good Samaritan Mission, \$5,000; HandUP Foundation, \$6,250; John Buck Memorial Community Food Bank, \$1,000; Keystone Human Services, \$5,000; Lycoming County Veterans Transition Center, Inc., \$1,600; Maria Joseph Manor, Inc., \$5,000; Middlecreek Area Community Center, \$5,000; North Central Sight Services, \$7,500; Regional Engagement Center, \$5,000; STEP, Inc., \$20,000; SUMMIT Early Learning, \$5,000; The Arc, Susquehanna Valley, \$4,000; The Children's Museum, Inc., \$500; The Salvation Army of Williamsport, \$20,000; Thrive International Programs, Inc., \$6,000; Transitional Housing and Care Center, Inc., \$8,000; Union-Snyder Community Action Agency, \$15,000; United in Christ Lutheran Church, \$2,000; YWCA Northcentral PA, \$15,000.

Visit www.fcfpartnership.org for updated information on future grant opportunities.



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CSCF announces Disaster Relief grants

BERWICK - The Central Susquehanna Community Foundation announced the first round of grants awarded from the Disaster Relief Fund in response to the current pandemic and resulting effects on the Central Susquehanna region.

Grants totaling \$207,438 were distributed to 31 local non-profit organizations. They were awarded to the following organizations to meet requests, including essential items (personal care, cleaning supplies, medical supplies, nonperishable foods), meal prep and distribution, equipment maintenance, financial assistance and crisis services, educational programs, operational costs and human resource needs. These awards help provide continued services for clients across the region.

Recipients are: AGAPE; AIDS Resource Alliance, Inc.; Benton Area School District; Berwick Area YMCA; Berwick Senior Citizens, Inc.; Beyond Violence Inc.; Central Pennsylvania Food Bank; Central Susquehanna Opportunities; Central Susquehanna Valley Mediation Center, Inc.; Columbia/Montour Aging Office, Inc.; Diakon Child, Family & Community Ministries; Family Service Association of NEPA; For the Cause; Gaudenzia, Inc.; John Buck Memorial Community Food Bank; Keystone Service Systems, DBA Key-

stone Human Services; Middlecreek Area Community Center; Milton Area School District; Northern Columbia Community & Cultural Center; Northumberland County Area Agency on Aging; Regional Engagement Center (REC); Snyder County Coalition for Kids; Susquehanna River Valley Dental Health Clinic; The Arc Susquehanna Valley; The Children's Museum, Inc.; The Good Samaritan Mission; The Salvation Army; The Women's Center, Inc.; Transitional Housing and Care Center of Columbia and Montour County; Union-Snyder Community Action Agency; WVIA Public Media.

The Disaster Relief Fund, which launched in 2011, provides support for disaster recovery efforts in Columbia, Lower-Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties. The Fund has continued to coordinate initiatives and grants to benefit local non-profits during critical times through the generosity of community members, businesses and other Foundation funds.

Holly Morrison, D.Ed., president and CEO of the Foundation said, "Our Disaster Relief Fund is providing support to community organizations and agencies that are meeting the needs of individuals and families most affected by the pandemic in our region. The need is great—during our first grant round, we

saw 80 applications come in, and our committee worked quickly to make these initial distributions."

Grant decisions from the Disaster Relief Fund are made from an advisory committee composed of 10 partner organizations and Foundation representatives. The goal of the first grant round was to meet immediate needs in the community as a result of the pandemic. A second grant round considering long-term effects for local non-profits will be announced on June 1.

"Through the generosity of many, we have collected approximately \$300,000 so far to give back to our community. Our goal is to do the most good for the most people in our region, and we could not do this without your partnership," Morrison said. "There is still more to be done, and every donation helps, no matter the size."

You can join the Foundation's Disaster Relief efforts by making a secure online donation at www.csgiving.org/disaster-relief. Visit the web site to learn more about the Disaster Relief Fund.

The Central Susquehanna Community Foundation (CSCF) is a 501(c)(3) organization that develops, manages and distributes funds for charitable purposes in communities across the Central Susquehanna region.



One of the many creations appearing on the private Facebook group 'Pandemic Dinners'. Join today for great meal ideas!

A 'Simple' solution

LEWISBURG - Running out of dinner ideas?

Jeanne Bontomase of Tastefully Simple feels your pain during this challenging time, and that's why she started the Facebook group "Pandemic Dinners".

"I had no idea how great the need was. I made up the group that night (April 2) and one week later I had almost 300 members all sharing day after day what they had for dinner," Bontomase said. "Ladies are

all commenting on each other's posts. Even a fella took a picture of a stringer of fish he caught and stated he was fixing them for dinner with lemon and butter! A little spark turned into a bright light in every day pandemic living."

As of publication, there were more than 800 group members.

Bontomase also remains available for on-line Tastefully Simple parties. Contact her at 570-523-8227 or bontomase@windstream.net.

**Need something
someone else has?**

**Let's help
each other!**

**Have something that
someone else needs?**

CENTRAL PA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Business & Education

Education and community continue

MILTON - The Milton Area School District is continuing onward with its continuity in education plan - doing their best to make sure that students are connected and moving forward.

Recently, the district changed its focus from enrichment of topics already covered in prior weeks to planned instruction. They are following guidelines from the state Department of Education and the governor's office and continue to utilize technology tools, including: Sapphire, Microsoft Teams, school district e-mail, Class DOJO and REMIND.

MASD feels fortunate to have completed its "digital conversion" more than two years ago, allowing students and teachers to transition as smoothly as possible during these unprecedented times.

School officials encourage everyone to check out their Facebook page, as they share positive educational content daily from students and teachers.

In April, one of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Drafting students, Chase Hoffman, was recognized by area superintendents and the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) for his efforts to help healthcare professionals.

Using one of the district's 3D printers, Hoffman made hundreds of parts for much needed respirator masks. "We're Panther Proud of Chase for his efforts to lift up our community and make a difference," said spokesman Norm Jones.

In other news, the district is making sure students are receiving nutritious lunches at pick-up spots throughout the district. Bag lunches and meals are being provided to hundreds at each pick up, ensuring children are nourished and charged up, ready for learning. A partnership with the YMCA allows those same students to receive a dinner. Kudos were given to Food Service Director Sharon Adami and the friends at the YMCA.



Chase Hoffman



Above are 3D printers used by Milton Area High School student Chase Hoffman, who was recently recognized for his efforts to make hundreds of parts needed for respirator masks. At left are examples of the parts.



On March 30, the Milton YMCA was granted a waiver to extend the Summer Food Service Program, to provide five days worth of dinners and snacks to children in the community. As of April 20, the Milton Y provided more than 7,800 dinners! Several hours are spent each week prepping the dinners and snacks, and the Y is very thankful for the support and generosity of the businesses and individuals in the community. There are pick-up locations between Milton and Sunbury, and delivery is available to families who don't have means to get to the pick-up sites. All meals are provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you would like to support the program, contact Ron Marshall at rmarshall@gsvymca.org.

YMCA Summer Food Service Program Pick-up Locations

Sunbury/Northumberland

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Mondays - Shikellamy Middle School

Wednesdays - Sunbury City Skating Rink

Fridays - Shikellamy High School

*each bag contains five dinners and snacks for one child

Milton

10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesdays & Fridays - Elm Street side of Milton YMCA

*Wednesday dinners include two bags of meals and snacks. Friday's contain five days of meals and snacks.

Scholarships available

WILLIAMSPORT - The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) announced that nearly \$260,000 in scholarships will be awarded to area students for the 2020-2021 academic year. Scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors from school districts in Bradford, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Sullivan and Union counties.

Additionally, the Community Foundation offers special interest scholarships for non-traditional students that are currently enrolled in courses or are returning to an institution of higher education.

A complete listing of all available scholarships and access to the on-line application may be found on the Foundation's web site, www.FCFPartnership.org, under Apply, Scholarships.

Deadlines for each scholarship vary. Download the "Scholarship List" for more information.

Endowed scholarship funds at FCFP are created by gifts made by individuals and organizations. These gifts are invested to provide income to award scholarships every year. In many instances, scholarships are awarded based on pre-determined criteria that are reflective of the personal values and interests of those who establish the funds.

FCFP works to improve the quality of life in north central Pennsylvania through community leadership, the promotion of philanthropy, the strengthening of non-profit impact and the perpetual stewardship of charitable assets.

For more information on the programs and services offered by FCFP, or to learn more about ways to make a difference in your community, contact the Foundation office at 570-321-1500.

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Michael's Minutes

We're still here for you



The Central PA Business & Education Association is still dedicated to serving its students and the Central PA Chamber Membership during these trying times of COVID-19.

Typically, at this point of the year, students would be graduating from our Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley program. This year, we are slated to have 31 graduates from 12 different school districts within our main five-county area. We'll still have the honor of graduating these leaders, but we will be doing so a little differently. We are planning to have a virtual graduation ceremony for our students that will be posted to YouTube and Facebook. When it becomes available this month, make sure to comment, like, and congratulate our students on this great accomplishment.

We are gearing up to present many of our local students with School Counts! Certificates right before their high school graduation ceremonies. The School Counts! program is used to highlight students' abilities to display the soft skills necessary to be successful in the workplace. Many students have done a fantastic job in achieving these goals over the past year, and we look forward to sending them congratulations soon!

As we continue through this unprecedented time, it is essential that we know the exact needs you are searching for regarding training for you and your employees. We need your input on what topics would benefit you most as your business is being impacted from COVID-19. We not only want to be able to help you through this difficult time but to be more prepared for such an instance in the future. Recent topics have included strategic planning and succession planning.

If you have a specific topic that would benefit you now, or in the future, please contact me.

Even though there is a lot of negativity tied to our current situation, it is the perfect opportunity for us to grow and develop the necessary skills to be more successful in the future.

Through this success, it will be important to celebrate and take time to relax a little bit. One way you could do this is by joining us for our annual Business & Education Golf Tournament that is scheduled for Friday, June 26 at Bucknell Golf Club, Lewisburg.

To learn more about the golf tournament and any upcoming seminars or webinars, please, visit www.centralpachamber.com/events.

Michael

Michael Porter
Education Coordinator
mporter@centralpachamber.com



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Jessica's Jottings

Here through it all

Welcome to May! Time for flowers to bloom along with a new reality to life.

We are still dealing with a threat that has impacted our families, businesses and overall way of life. It is becoming more evident that we need to stay connected with those around us, and coming up with ways to achieve this can be difficult. The staff here at the Central PA Chamber of Commerce have been working on creative new ways to make sure we stay in touch with you, and I would like to share some of these changes we made.

Retention is a major goal for us, we strive to make sure we stay in touch with our members and the general public. In the beginning of this shutdown, we made it a point to deliver personal messages to each one of our 500 members. We could not make the personal phone calls with the office being closed, we decided to go with e-mails. We e-mailed the primary contact of each business member and let them know we are thinking about them and wanted to let them know we are here to help. We received tons of e-mails back thanking us as well as questions and concerns about what they can do for their businesses.

With the stay-at-home order and social distancing guidelines to follow, a lot of events have had to be cancelled. One event that we normally have before summer is the Legislative Breakfast in April. The Central PA Chamber was not ready to completely cancel this event, so we decided to do a virtual version. We were able to get two state representatives and a member of the state Chamber to answer questions from our members. From there, we invited you to watch on YouTube from the safety of your home. This way you were still able to gain information and hear from local representatives on how they are planning to help us through this difficult time.

With our normalcy changing, we want to express that we are still here working as hard as ever to make sure you have the information you need to survive and thrive through this. Each staff member at the Chamber is accessible for you to reach out to should you have any questions, concerns or even if you want to share what your business is doing. We will continue to reach out to our members and even non-members, because we want every community to bounce back stronger than ever.

Be sure to check out our Facebook page and web site for additional information and updates! Stay safe and strong!



Jessica

Jessica Williams
Finance & Membership Director
jwilliams@centralpachamber.com



Above, Andrew and Lizzy Hertzler of XW Construction took the show on the road during the COVID-19 Crisis, having been awarded a contract at Fort Bragg in North Carolina. In fact, they are 'hiring more people than ever before.' Below, the staff at Yogi at Shangri-La has been working hard to remember that all they do will eventually be enjoyed by happy camping families. They are taking advantage of this extra time to make more improvements, more updates and more additions, and to re-plan the activities schedule in order to heed the 'new normal'. 'We are touched by those campers who call to offer words of encouragement and by those who, knowing that their plans have been cancelled by ever-changing orders and restrictions, reschedule because they want to get here as soon as they are free to camp again,' said Desiree Schulz, who manages the campground with her husband, Tom. Both construction and private campgrounds in the state were given the OK to reopen as of May 1, following state and federal guidelines.



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Still open for business

MILTON - Several members have let the Central PA Chamber know they remain open for business, but with some modifications, during the COVID-19 Crisis. They are also growing and learning from the experience.

"Once the governor said certain businesses had to close down, we realized the bigger impact that it had to our friends and neighbors in the businesses around us," said John Yogodzinski, owner of The Graphic Hive. "As a way to bring the community together and to raise some money for everyone involved, we decided to waive any setup fees on building out apparel web stores and offer them for free to anyone in need. These stores are a no-risk venture for any small business or organization that would like to raise a little extra money. All we ask is some input from the business owner as to what they'd like. The business will make any of the profit over the wholesale costs.

"To date the web stores have brought in over \$23,000 for area small businesses."

Those interested in getting started with a sale should visit:

www.thegraphichive.com/fundraisers.

Feeling the pain? Phoenix Rehabilitation and Health Services in Lewisburg reminds everyone that musculoskeletal rehabilitation doesn't have to wait. You can see them without a physician's referral, depending on your insurance. A quick call to the office can answer that: 570-768-4562. Phoenix Rehab. & Health in Sunbury added that they are providing home treatments to those who don't feel comfortable coming to the clinic. Tele-health services are also available. Call 570-286-0100.

"This allows patients to get the therapy they need in the environment they feel most comfortable with," said Chelsea Howe, the facility director in Sunbury.

In addition, Watsontown Dental continues to be open so that people can "call and talk with a living and breathing person to help direct them to meet their dental needs," according to Dr. Dale Chomas. If there is an emergency, they are currently open for visits on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call 570-538-5533.

"I have been busy preparing for life beyond this COVID-19 pandemic," Chomas said. "When life returns, which it will, dental practices like many businesses will be a little different.

"Sorting through all the news takes time. Evaluating research can be tricky. It is important that business owners like myself take the necessary amount of time to constantly evaluate, test and measure, weaving new recommendations into existing systems so that patients and staff will all be able to return to a safe environment."



The team at Phoenix Rehab. & Health in Sunbury is ready to help you with your aches and pains, whether it is at their place, yours or a combination of the two using tele-health services.

Pinpoint Federal Credit Union has been finding ways to continue to serve its members the best way possible.

"Our no-surcharge ATM is used frequently, and we continue to disinfect it regularly," said Brenda Raker, Manager/CEO. "Our team tries to make the transactions as quick as possible, while maintaining our personal touch and have even gone outside to take their 'transaction order' to get them back home sooner. We offer small dollar loans for those who need it and digital signatures for loan processing so they do not need to leave their homes. We also have several digital banking options for contactless services."

In addition, Pinpoint is offering three-month loan forbearances, no cost skip-a-payments and waived fees for anyone affected by the virus and/or business shutdowns.

Many people working from home also appear to be tackling home projects as well. If the thought of large cleaning projects is unbearable, keep Keystone Power Washers in mind. People are welcome to call for estimates. Dial 570-523-8222.

Thank you to all members who reached out about what they have been doing to strive and thrive during the COVID-19 Crisis. Please, keep the good news coming. E-mail jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.

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Find the latest COVID-19 news and information @
www.centralpachamber.com/covid-19

Join Us at these Upcoming Events!

All events are tentatively scheduled and may change depending on the COVID-19 situation

BREAKFAST BRIEFING

7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, May 15 @
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30 Lawton Lane, Milton.

Free to Attend - **Registration is Required**

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INSIDE JOBS

12 p.m. Wednesday, June 3

@ Yogi at Shangri-La

670 Hidden Paradise Road, Milton

Featuring:



- Tour the property (approx. 1.5 hours)
- Lunch provided (RSVP required)

Inside Jobs offers members a chance to tour facilities of fellow businesses/organizations.
Find tour details and register @ www.centralpachamber.com/events.

BREAKFAST BRIEFING

off-site! 7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, June 12 @ *off-site!*
the Central PA Chamber of Commerce,
30 Lawton Lane, Milton.

Free to Attend - **Registration is Required**

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