

It's Your BUSINESS

www.centralpachamber.com

Volume 6, Issue 1 - January 2021

in Uncertain Times

Persevere, pg. 3

Thank you, pg. 10





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The Inside Scoop

Happy New Year! What is this year going to bring? It's really anyone's guess after what we experienced last year, but it doesn't mean we can't be better prepared.

Several members have a head start after attending the "Strength to Persevere Leadership Symposium" in December, which is our cover story. Dr. Kevin Sensenig, no stranger to Central PA Chamber members was joined by local CEO panelists as they provided encouraging words and strategies to help you tackle 2021. We could all use an edge on a personal and/or professional level. Never feel you need to take on the world by yourself because you don't. Resources are available. In fact, that's primarily what we're here for!

Through this issue, we're featuring members in how they work with us, each other and how they can help you.

Also inside, we have the results from our 2020 Board of Directors Election. Thank you, again, to everyone who participated by voting for the director(s) of their choice. Our process is fairly unique, as often directors are appointed as opposed to elected.

A big thank you to our returning advertisers in It's Your Business. Without them, this publication would not be possible. Your continued partnership and support of this popular publication is greatly appreciated!

If interested in advertising, please, contact me. The investment is very reasonable and fits a variety of budgets. Or, you may consider inserts flyers from time to time.

And, as always, we want to hear your good news! If you're not sure how or what to submit, just reach out to me.

Enjoy the issue!



Jeff Shaffer, Editor
Communication Director
jshaffer@centralpachamber.com

It's Your Business Deadlines

February Issue

News/Ads Jan. 12 -- Flyer Inserts Jan. 20

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2020
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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.

Year to Persevere

MILTON - As much as anyone wants to wish it so, simply beginning a new year won't drastically change what has happened throughout a majority of 2020. It's going to take much more than that.

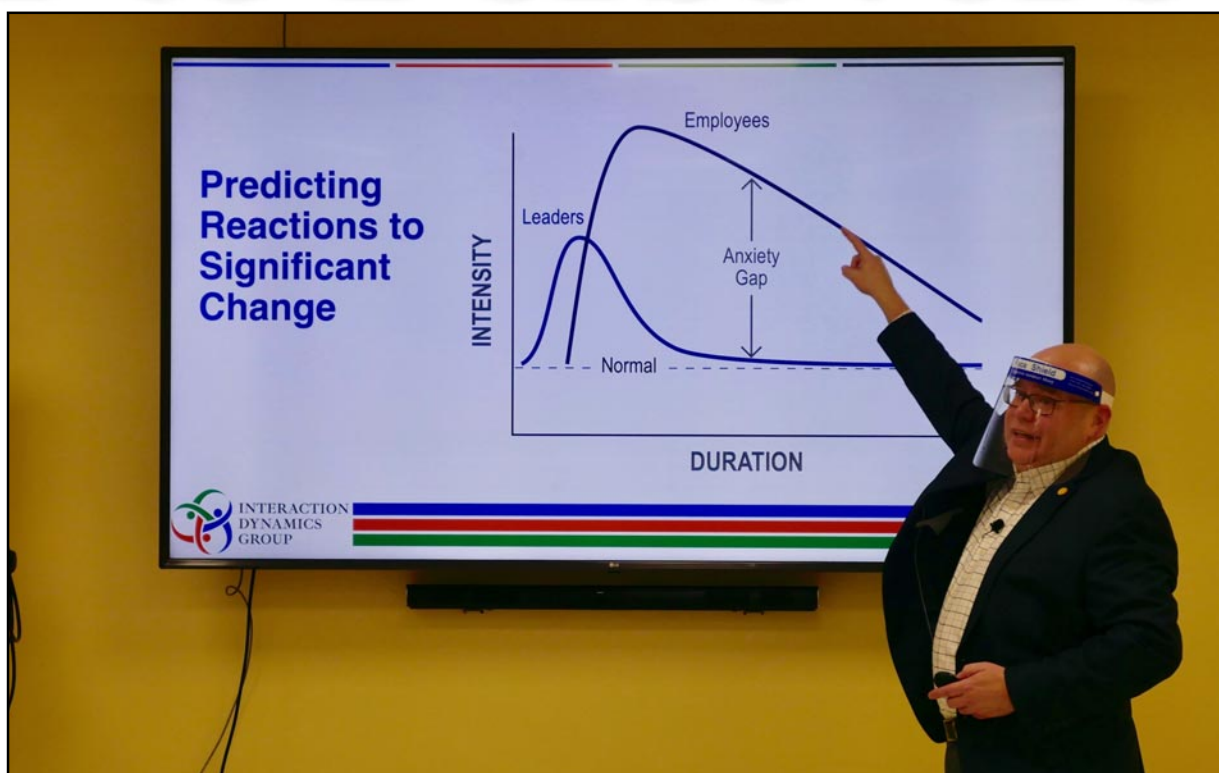
Area leaders who attended the "Strength to Persevere" Leadership Symposium in December, received valuable statistical information and insight on how to approach this new year from facilitator and presenter Dr. Kevin Sensenig of Interaction Dynamics Group, as well as a panel of some of the area's most well-known CEOs, including Todd Ross of T-Ross Brothers Construction, Colleen Fritz of Heritage Springs Memory Care, and the Central PA Chamber's own Tea Jay Aikey.

"Let's not look back but forward," said Ross, to attendees both socially-distanced in the Chamber's Smith Training Center and watching virtually.

Doing so will require reflection, as well as a transformation, according to Sensenig, who presented on the "5s of Organizational Alignment" - systems, structure, staff, skills and style.

In any case, Sensenig asked - and even challenged listeners - if they're willing to ultimately change the foundation of their organization and even tackle what are considered "sacred cows" (e.g. untouchable, above criticism). While most businesses and organizations will claim a "transformation" in 2021, most will fail without real foundational change.

"If the foundation breaks, it could lead to a big opportunity," Sensenig said. "Give people permission to think about the biggest possibilities." Doing so, he continued, will help improve industries, support customers and help employees thrive - both personally and professionally. Learning from the actions of others can be a huge time-saver when it comes to change. The three guest panelists were happy to share what they have learned.



Dr. Kevin Sensenig of Interaction Dynamics Group shows the leaders in attendance that there's a distinct difference in the way leaders and employees react and recover from significant changes at work, such as mitigation efforts taking place to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic.

"Give people permission to think about the biggest possibilities."

**- Dr. Kevin Sensenig,
Interaction Dynamics Group**

"We needed to believe in ourselves more and not focus on the 'what if' scenarios," said Fritz, who's business specializes in caring for seniors with memory impairments. "I'm focusing on having fun with my employees."

Despite state mitigation efforts that prevented certain construction projects for a time, T-Ross managed to have an overall profitable year, however, it takes proper planning. Ross said the company had to be lenient with customers who were "hit hard" by the pandemic.

"We were trying to help, but you have to remember you need income," he said. "We always plan to have six months of working dollars. It's a balancing act."

Aikey talked about the adaptability of the Central PA Chamber, whether it was continuing events online during the "shutdown", or working with members on a case-by-case basis.

"We encourage those hurting to reach out,"

See **"Persevere"** (on page 11)



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CENTRAL PA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Election 2020

The following individuals have been elected to serve a three-year term on the Central PA Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors starting January 2021.

Thank you to all primary contacts who participated in the election!

Lennea Brown (2nd term)

Executive Director

RiverWoods Senior Living Community

Brad Lawton

President

Lawton Insurance Agency

Alison Hall (2nd term)

Owner

The UPS Store, Lewisburg

Ashley Parrish

Financial Solutions Center Manager

First Commonwealth Bank, Lewisburg

Skyler Herb

Manager

Bear Rental

Find the story on the newly elected board members on page 11. New Members can be found starting on page 8.

Membership Renewals

(As of Dec. 11, 2020)

AgChoice Farm Credit
Blaise Alexander Ford
Conagra Brands
Country Comfort Alternative Living, Inc.
Dorothy Zimmerman
Dream Home Inspections
Fero Vineyards & Winery
First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania
Freedom Towning
Lawton Insurance Agency, Inc. - Lewisburg

Lawton Insurance Agency, Inc. - Mifflinburg
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Shaelyn McCormick, Office Manager

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How do you market your business?

We market our business online through Facebook and LinkedIn, chamber events and attending as many demos and other events as we can. We have also completely updated our web site to market more of what technology we are working on integrating now.

What is your Mission Statement?

Saving lives and reducing property loss with advanced technologies integrated with "boots on the ground".

What are the top 3 company priorities you focus on?

Safety, security and integrity.

What are the characteristics you look for in employees?

We look for hard working, motivated individuals, who enjoy interacting with the public, and are ready to work in an always changing industry. It is important to us that our employees can adapt to different situations and can work well under pressure.

**Want to appear in the
Member Spotlight?**

**E-mail Jessica Williams at
jwilliams@centralpachamber.com
for details!**

Susquehanna Computer Innovations, Inc.

contact.us@sciatwork.com

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www.sciatwork.com



Susquehanna Computer Innovations, Inc.

What makes your business unique?

SCI lives by four principles. We believe these principles set SCI apart.

- Integrity & Ethics – The foundation of everything we do, from working with our clients to managing our teams. With it, we continue to build and strengthen trusting relationships every day.
- Reliability – Committed to providing our clients with only the highest level of knowledgeable service – dependable every time you need us.
- Knowledge – A commitment to staying current on today's technology trends through training and certification investments in our staff and clients.
- Fiscally Responsible – A commitment to

both our employees and our clients. Keeping budgets and project goals in mind, in both process and solution.

How do you market your business?

You can find SCI advertised across a wide variety of media, including digital, print, radio, and social media.

What is your mission statement?

Our Mission – To provide quality customer service along with innovative technology solutions to meet our clients' needs.

How many does your business employ?

There are 11 staff members and one springer spaniel, Maggie.

Words to live by?

Always do the right thing.

What are the top 3 company priorities you focus on?

Our customers and service are always our top priority. Obviously in our line of work, knowledge - specifically with regards to technology - is also very important.

What philanthropic causes does your business support?

Multi-county volunteer public safety organization and Williamsport Independent Media Group.



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SingerCise returns

LEWISBURG - SingerCise, a free, live-online program, will begin a third session this month, thanks to a community grant from the Parkinson's Foundation.

The program is a music therapy, group-singing protocol designed specifically for people with Parkinson's disease and their care partners to work out little muscles that play a crucial role in swallowing and respiratory control.

SingerCise is open to individuals of all physical ability and fitness levels who are battling Parkinson's disease.

Virtual class times are Wednesdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. from Jan. 13 through March 31.

The program will be offered virtually via the Zoom platform. Registration is required and class slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Deadline to register is Jan. 12.

Interested participants may register in person at the Lewisburg YMCA at the Miller Center, by calling (570)556-4191, or at www.gsvymca.org.

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Mostly Mutts raffle

SUNBURY – Mostly Mutts, a no-kill animal shelter in Sunbury, launched its annual Mutts Madness Raffle last month with all proceeds earmarked for the care of animals at the shelter.

Prizes range from \$25 to \$500.

Tickets at \$10 each may be purchased from Mostly Mutts volunteers or by sending a check payable to "Mostly Mutts" and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Cindy Shamp, 949 Point Township Drive, Northumberland, PA 17857.

For more information, contact Shamp at 570-473-1029 or Mostly Mutts at mostly-muttsonline@gmail.com.

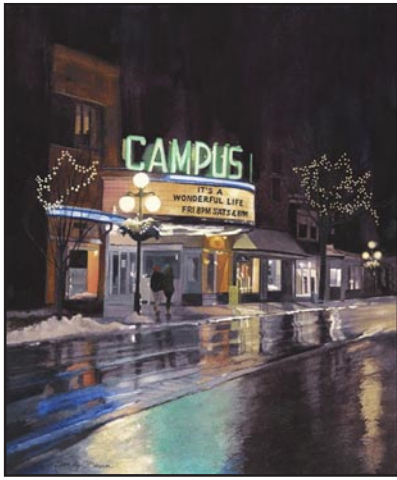
The drawing will be held Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021, at 3 p.m. at Cameron Park Gazebo, Sunbury. Winners of the following prizes will be contacted by

phone: \$500, one winner; \$300, one winner; \$200, one winner; \$100, 10 winners; \$50, six winners; and \$25, eight winners.

COVID-19 forced cancellation of many Mostly Mutts' major fundraisers in 2020, resulting in an estimated loss of \$50,000, nearly a third of the shelter's annual budget. The future of fundraising events in 2021 remains uncertain, but the cost of care continues for approximately 75 dogs and a dozen cats housed at the shelter.

For more information on Mostly Mutts, animals available for adoption and the adoption process, visit www.mostlymuttsonline.com or call 570-988-6483.

Follow Mostly Mutts of Sunbury PA on Facebook and MostlyMuttsSunbury on Twitter.



This work of art by local artist Sandy O'Conner is up for bid to support The Campus Theatre. Copies are also available for purchase.

The Campus Theatre holds 80th anniversary fundraiser

LEWISBURG - An original artwork by a local artist is helping to kick-off The Campus Theatre's 80th Anniversary this year.

The Campus Theatre is proud to offer a limited edition of 80 fine art giclées of the original watercolor, *It's A Wonderful Life*, graciously donated by award-winning local artist Sandy O'Connor. They will be available for \$500 each until sold out.

Inspired by the movie, *It's A Wonderful Life*, the painting perfectly captures the small town feel of downtown Lewisburg, and dramatically features the iconic marquee that serves as a nostalgic anchor to the historic downtown.

On Jan. 17, 1941, The Campus Theatre opened its doors.

In addition to offering these beautiful prints for sale, the theatre will also be auctioning the original, and all proceeds will go directly to The Campus Theatre. The bidding closes at midnight on Sunday, Jan. 17.

The theatre has been closed since March 13, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This effort will provide much needed support to sustain the theatre until it is able to open safely again.

For more information, visit www.campustheatre.org.

Extreme win



Before



After



Before



After

Congratulations to the Rob and Lori Boos of Loyalsock Township, who were the winners of iHeart Media's annual Extreme Kitchen Makeover radio promotion for 2020. After being announced as the winners on KISS-FM's Gary Chrisman Morning Show, they were sent to stay at the Genetti Hotel in Williamsport while the renovations took place. The outcome was nothing short of amazing! 'This is something that maybe they could never do, or afford to do, of this caliber. What begins as a kitchen makeover often turns into much more than that, with a whole lot of other perks added because of the interest, workmanship and the desire to do something really special by all the various sponsors participating,' Chrisman said. TurnKey Construction served as general contractor on the 10-day project, but several other local businesses participated as well. The Boos were selected from more than 2,000 entries for the Extreme Kitchen Makeover this past year.

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
1/13/21	Lean Manufacturing Level One Certification	Penn College, One College Avenue, Williamsport	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	\$1,495
1/13/21	Proper Filing of the EEI through ACE/AES & Recent Regulatory Changes	Webinar	9 to 10:30 a.m.	Free
1/14/21	Lean Manufacturing Level One Certification	Penn State University Park 200 Innovation Blvd., University Park	8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$1,495

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Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
1/14/21	Business Startup Basics for Central PA	Online	9 a.m. to 11 a.m.	Free
1/26/21	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as a Business Growth Strategy	Online	9 to 10:30 a.m.	Free
2/25/21	Patent 101 and Other Intellectual Property for Small Business	Online	9:30 to 11 a.m.	Free

New Members

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Shaun Levine - Business Sales Consultant

<https://www.windstream.com/>

Windstream is one of the largest providers of telecommunications services in rural communities in the United States, and we are a customer-focused telecommunications company that provides phone, high-speed Internet and digital television services. We also offer a wide range of IP-based voice and data services and advanced phone systems and equipment to businesses and government agencies.

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Rooney's is an Irish-themed pub with a number of Irish dishes, including bangers and mash, shepard's pie and lamb burger with mint sauce. We have specialty drinks and Irish beers on tap. We also have a menu composed of steaks, salads, specialty burgers and haddock.

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Tere.Rill@welcomewagon.com

Tere Rill - Marketing Executive

<https://welcomewagon.com>

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Terri Schleiden - Marketing & HR Director

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Wendall Herb - Managing Member

<http://www.paigeelectricalservices.com>

Paige Electrical Services, LLC is an electrical construction business, and its managing member is Wendell R. Herb. Wendell is an active and working owner with over 35 years of experience. He strives for professionalism in all aspects of his electrical business. As a current member of the Better Business Bureau, The Safety Services Network of safety-minded companies along with the National Fire Protection Association, he specializes in all phases of commercial and residential electrical work. He is registered as a home improvement contractor and can help you whether you are a small business looking for a trouble shooter to help fix your loss of power, a commercial client in need of lighting upgrades, or maybe just that home owner who wishes to install a generator to help you through your crisis. We are fully insured and bonded and provide free estimates along with quality work in a timely fashion. Customers are welcome to contact us through phone at 570-374-9337 or e-mail at wrherb@verizon.net for further information.

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Jeff Stover - Executive Director
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Rail line preservation in Central Pennsylvania has been implemented by the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority. The authority was formed in July 1983, through the SEDA Council of Governments Board of Directors to pursue a strategy resulting in the public ownership of rail lines, which Conrail had decided to abandon. The eight-county (Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin Montour, Northumberland and Union) municipal authority specifically seeks to preserve service to rail-dependent industries through shortline rail operations.

David E. Vitunac D.M.D., P.C.

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David Vitunac - President

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Kyle Bryan

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Our Mission: To extend God's healing love by providing an extraordinary patient experience.

Our Vision: UPMC will lead the transformation of health care. The UPMC model will be nationally recognized for redefining health care by:

Putting our patients, health plan members, employees, and community at the center of everything we do and creating a model that ensures that every patient gets the right care, in the right way, at the right time, every time.

Harnessing our integrated capabilities to deliver both superb state-of-the-art care to our patients and high value to our stakeholders

Employing our partnership with the University of Pittsburgh to advance the understanding of disease, its prevention, treatment and cure.

Serving the underserved and disadvantaged, and advancing excellence and innovation throughout health care.

Fueling the development of new businesses globally that are consistent with our mission as an ongoing catalyst and driver of economic development for the benefit of the residents of the region.

Our Values:

QUALITY & SAFETY

We create a safe environment where quality is our guiding principle.

DIGNITY & RESPECT

We treat all individuals with dignity and respect.

CARING & LISTENING

We listen to and care for our patients, our health plan members, our fellow employees, our physicians, and our community.

RESPONSIBILITY & INTEGRITY

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EXCELLENCE & INNOVATION

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Time with Tea Jay

'We don't give up around here...'



The simple phrase for this column's title spoke volumes to me recently. It really is such a small, modest phrase, but it is definitely large in meaning. The COVID-19 virus showed us all just how strong we are and that "we don't give up around here."

A new year is upon us. As I think about 2021 and the Central PA Chamber of Commerce, I see our ordinary team continuing to do extraordinary things.

As the President & CEO of this 115-year-old organization, whose vision statement is "Helping Our Region Grow" I couldn't be prouder of how we continued to serve, protect and promote our members during the trying and uncertain times of 2020.

We did our very best to bear the burdens of our members and continue to offer unique and personalized business solutions through much uncertainty, judgement and fear.

There are a few things I realized during the dark days of 2020 that pulled me through, and I want to keep them prevalent in my mind and heart in 2021. I'd like to encourage you to do the same.

- In God's kingdom, there are NO nobodies.
- Never focus on your limitations – focus on God's abundance.
- What you have in your hand is always enough.
- With God on your side, you will defeat giants!
- We are equipped, enabled and embodied to do what God calls us to do.
- Be an extraordinary person in an ordinary world.

What will 2021 be like? Good question indeed. Although we don't have the foresight to know, we do have the choice to be positive, nonjudgmental, bear one another's burdens and be extraordinary.

Remember, the team and I are here to serve, protect and promote you as our members. We are here to offer business solutions by way of information, addressing issues and marketing assistance.

You are encouraged to keep us informed of what you and your business/organization are doing, facing and planning for down the road. We are here through the good and bad times at 100 percent. We are not going anywhere.

Stay tuned to our web site and social media outlets, as there will be lots of education and networking opportunities and more during 2021. Rest assured, we are continuing to think outside of the box and living up to our mission statement to "Be the Preferred Resource Center for our Members supporting their economic and business development".

On a closing note, have you been impressed with your Chamber during 2020? Please, tell me about your experiences whether they are positive or not. My philosophy is I can't fix what I don't know is broken. Also, we seldom share good experiences but rather share and focus on the not so good. Call and/or e-mail me your 2020 experience(s) with your Chamber as I want to make 2021 the best year yet!

Tea Jay Aikey
President & CEO

tjaikey@centralpachamber.com

Thank you!



Three Central PA Chamber Directors completed their time on the board in December, including, from left: Eric McDowell of The Coup Agency (chairman) and Beth George of Meadowbrook Christian School. Not pictured is Philip Campbell of Lackawanna College - Sunbury Center. 'Six years went awfully fast,' McDowell said. 'I thank the Chamber staff for doing an awesome job. Membership keeps growing and retention is incredible. It's been a privilege to work with this group of folks.' Added George: 'It's been a pleasure to serve on the Central PA Chamber Board. I've made some great friends. The Chamber has always been a huge resource, not only for business but individuals. I'll always use the Chamber as a resource.'

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Five new terms

MILTON - There are two returning board members and three new faces starting this month on Central PA Chamber's Board of Directors.

Following the election by the membership in November, Lennea Brown, RiverWoods Senior Living Community, and Alison Hall, The UPS Store - Lewisburg, were reelected to second three-year terms.

"I look forward to serving (this new term) and am fully committed to doing all I can to support and maintain positive relationships with the membership," Brown said.

The new class includes Skyler Herb of Bear Rental, Ashley Parrish of First Commonwealth Bank and Brad Lawton of Lawton Insurance Agency, who formally served on the Chamber board, including as chairman.

"I'm looking forward to reengaging with the folks at the Chamber," Lawton said.

Parrish said she is excited to "help the community grow, network and help local businesses."

For Herb, he's "looking forward to having the opportunity to make our area one that the next generation would like to be a part of."



Lennea Brown

Alison Hall



Skyler Herb

Brad Lawton



Ashley Parrish

Learn more about the Central PA Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors @ www.centralpachamber.com/board-of-directors



From left: CEO panelists Tea Jay Aikey, Central PA Chamber; Todd Ross, T-Ross Brothers Construction; and Colleen Fritz, Heritage Springs Memory Care; discussed their experiences throughout the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Facilitator Dr. Kevin Sensenig asked them a variety of questions, including: insights on their responses, what they rely on during tough times, how they keep their employees connected and more.

"Persevere" (from page 3)

she said.

Sensenig reminded everyone that the pandemic and its effects are likely far from over, and everyone should be ready for the "winter blues".

Short-term goal setting is a valuable strategy, whether it's for your team or yourself. Sensenig noted it's important that people have the opportunity to set their own goals, too.

"Employees will get more satisfaction from it, and they'll work harder for customers than even managers," he said.

And, take time to care for yourself and recalibrate.

"Pay attention to the Seven Fs of Goodness - Faith, Family, Finances, Fitness, Friends, Fun and Future," Sensenig said, as he introduced the "Seven Fs" tool.

Try the tool yourself at: <https://www.goodleadership.com/seven-fs/>.

If you were not able to attend the "Strength to Persevere" Leadership Symposium, but want to see the recording, contact Michael Porter at mporter@centralpachamber.com. It is available to view at a nominal fee.

Contact Dr. Sensenig directly at 814-769-9110 or kevin.sensenig@idgcpartners.com.

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- Russ Fairchild, Fairchild Brothers Inc.

CENTRAL PA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Members Recognized

Transitions of PA

LEWISBURG - Following an exhaustive statewide search for the next CEO of Transitions of PA, Mae Ling Kranz, Transitions COO, has been selected. She begins her new role Jan. 1.

Mae Ling received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Cedar Crest College in Allentown. She has her Master of Public Administration Degree from Penn State University with Certificates in Public Budgeting, Financial Management and Human Resources Management from Penn State.

She joined Transitions in 2016 as Fiscal Manager and was most recently Chief Operating Officer.

Prior to joining Transitions, Mae Ling was the Program Director at the YWCA Northcentral PA where she had responsibility for managing Wise Options and Liberty House. At the time, Liberty House was the homelessness program for women and children in Lycoming County.

While at the YWCA, Mae Ling received the National Program Excellence Award from the Society for Public Health Education. She is currently the Treasurer of the Eastern PA Continuum of Care (CoC) Board, an Appointee of the PA Housing Advisory Committee, and Co-Chair of the Central Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board. She is a founding member of the Lycoming County Fatality Review Board.

This past fall, the selection committee for the new Transitions CEO was formed. The committee included the members of the Executive Committee (Ed Sigl, Mary Louie Schweikert, Toni Byrd, and Amy Gronlund); additional board members (Harvey Edwards, Kendra Aucker, Helen Nunn, Jacquelyn Paul), former board member Gayle Pollock, and staff members (Heather Over, Jamie Grobes).

The board and now former CEO Susan Mathias are discussing the role that Mathis will play as the organization adjusts to this change.



Mae Ling Kranz

T-Ross Brothers Construction

MONTANDON - T-Ross Brothers Construction is proud to report that they have worked 1,000 days without a lost time injury.

The success is attributed to their focus on mostly safety meetings, a highly decided safety committee, an well-trained and prepared employees.

According to T-Ross, the protection of employees and customers is always top of mind.

SEDA-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG)

LEWISBURG - SEDA-COG welcomed a new staff member in November.

Frankie Hockenbrocht joined SEDA-COG Nov. 24 as a program analyst for the Economic Development department.

Hockenbrocht has over five years of experience in project management, organization and administrative support. He was the program manager for the Downspout Disconnection Program at the Rock Creek Conservancy in Bethesda, Md. He also was the director of programs and development at the Policy Studies Organization in Washington, D.C., among numerous other positions.

He earned his master's degree in Public Administration from American University in D.C. and his bachelor's degree in Environmental

Studies from Juniata College with a minor in Anthropology. He also has an International Teaching English as Foreign Language Training Certificate.

As a community and economic development agency, SEDA-COG enhances the quality of life and economic advantage for residents and businesses in 11 central Pennsylvania counties through its vital partnerships and initiatives. SEDA-COG also is an advocate for the interests of its communities at the state and federal levels. For more information, visit www.seda-cog.org.

Custom Container Solutions

MILTON - Custom Container Solutions celebrated nine years in business in December, looking back on its growth over the years. CCS purchased the former Stoltzfus Steel Manufacturing in Lewisburg. Since then, they have expanded production, purchased innovation equipment, added Valley Can., Inc. in Hadley to the family and made a big move to a vacant 120,000 sq. ft. plant in the Milton Industrial Park.

Custom Container Solutions has been experience increased sales and production growth each year since 2011. "It's a great feeling to manufacture a quality product with talented team members...None of our success would have been possible without the loyalty of our customers, the support of our vendors and, of course, our dedicated team of production, sales and administration personnel.

The Daily Item

SUNBURY - The Daily Item newspaper recognized several Central PA Chamber members during its 2020 "Best In The Valley" Readers Choice Awards.

They included: Evangelical Community Hospital for Best Employer, Hospital and Physical Therapy; W&L Subaru, Car Dealership and Body Shop; Garvey's Floor Gallery, Flooring; T-Ross Brothers Construction, Home Builder, Commercial Contractor and Private/Residential Contractor; La Primavera Italiano Ristorante, Fine Dining and Italian Cuisine; Rusty Rail Brewing Company, Bar/Tavern and Brew Pub; Shade Mountain Winery, Winery; Service 1st Federal Credit Union, Bank/Credit Union and Financial Planning Services; Greater Susquehanna Valley YMCA, Childcare; Purdy Insurance Agency, Insurance Agency; Megan Dugan - State Farm Insurance, Insurance Agent; Brookpark Pet Supply, Pet Grooming; Bowen Agency Realtors, Real Estate Agency; and Aimee Buehner of Bowen Agency Realtors, Real Estate Agent. Congratulations to all!

Pennsylvania Business Central

STATE COLLEGE - Pennsylvania Business Central, in late November, released its 2020 "Foremost Under 40" list, which included individuals who are members of the Central PA Chamber.

On the list included: Jordan Fetzer, Owner of DogWatch Hidden Fences; Ryan McNally, Director of the Miller Center Joint Venture at Evangelical Community Hospital; and Chris Pinchak, Owner of Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning. Congratulations!

Evangelical Community Hospital

LEWISBURG — Evangelical Community Hospital is pleased to welcome interventional pain medicine specialist Lukasz Chebes, MD, to Pain Medicine of Evangelical.

As a pain medicine physician, Dr. Chebes specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of chronic pain.

Dr. Chebes is Fellowship-trained in interventional pain management and is board certified in both Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine by the American Board of Anesthesiology. He completed his Anesthesiology Residency and Pain Management Fellowship at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from The Ohio State University College of Medicine and his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan.

Prior to joining Evangelical, Dr. Chebes practiced interventional pain management at St. Lawrence Health System in New York. To make an appointment with Dr. Chebes, call Pain Medicine of Evangelical at 570-768-3150.

In other news, Evangelical welcomes several advanced practitioners to its family of services.

Advanced practitioners are a group of medical professionals that include physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses, who have higher levels of training and certifications, allowing them to care for patients in a variety of care settings.

Advanced practitioners joining or moving within the Evangelical Community Hospital family of practices are:

- Kyle Connaghan, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist—Anesthesiology of Evangelical, January 2021;
- Jessica Deitz, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner—OB/GYN of Evangelical, December 2020;
- Dylan Griffin, Certified Physician Assistant—General Surgery, December 2020;
- Emily Noll, Certified Physician Assistant—General Surgery, January 2021;
- Juli Pyle, Certified Nurse Midwife—OB/GYN of Evangelical, November 2020;
- John Thompson, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist—Anesthesiology of Evangelical, January 2021.

And, Evangelical Community Hospital's Nuclear Medicine Department recently earned reaccreditations from the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in three areas: Nuclear Cardiology, General Nuclear Medicine, and PET/CT.

Nuclear medicine tests are vital in the diagnosis and treatment of every major organ system in the body and covering a broad range of medical specialties.

For reaccreditation in all three areas of service several factors are taken into consideration: the training and experience of the technologist performing the examination, the type of equipment used, and the quality assessment metrics each facility is required to measure. All of these contribute to positive patient outcomes.

This latest reaccreditation demonstrates Evangelical Community Hospital's Nuclear Medicine Department ongoing commitment to providing quality patient care.

Accreditation by the IAC indicates that Evangelical Community Hospital Nuclear Medicine has undergone an intensive application and review process and is found to be in compliance with the published standards. Comprised of a detailed self-evaluation followed by a thorough review by a panel of medical experts, the IAC accreditation process enables both the critical operational and technical components of the Hospital to be assessed, including representative case studies and their corresponding final reports. The reaccreditation term is three years at which time, the Department will be evaluated again to ensure all standards continue to be met and patient care is at an excellent quality.

For more information on imaging services available at the Hospital and Selinsgrove Imaging Center, visit www.evanhospital.com.



Dr. Lukasz Chebes



If you haven't yet, stop in at the Central PA Chamber office this month for your copy of the 2021 Men & Women of Business Calendar. Featured photos of: Nature's Medicines - Selinsgrove, Comfort Suites - Lewisburg, Forest House Hotel, Pinpoint Federal Credit Union, Family Care For Children & Youth Inc., XW Construction, Weaver Wireless Consultants, Raceway Mobile Storage, The Muncy Bank & Trust Company, Susquehanna Fire Equipment Company, Bodmer Family Foot-care PC and North Central Sight Services, Inc. Photos, calendar design and printing by Hosterman Photography and Design!



The Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary Club has placed 19 American flags at the Reish Road entrance of Evangelical Community Hospital to honor all hospital staff and local healthcare workers who are on the frontlines every day, caring for friends and neighbors and fighting to protect all from COVID-19. 'These employees are tired, having been in this struggle for nearly a year. Their personal sacrifices impact their families, too,' said club president Karen Nicholson. Rotary International has a motto which all Rotarians live by: 'Service Above Self'. Rotary members assisting with the placement of flags, pictured from left, are: Ralph Hibbs, The Rev. Marian Anderson, Max Bossert, Nicholson and Robert Pierce. A banner is also located at the site.

New member record

MILTON – For a second time in 2020, the Central PA Chamber of Commerce surpassed 500 current members and set a new 115-year record in the process.

On March 13, 2020, the Central PA Chamber first reached the 500 current member mark, just as the COVID-19 pandemic began to sweep the nation and world. In fact, it was celebrated on the last day the Chamber office was open to the public until June.

Despite the numerous changes that ensued during the last 10 months, the Central PA Chamber has maintained a retention rate of nearly 90 percent, which is consider very high in the industry.

The 500 mark was surpassed, again, on Dec. 8 when a record seven memberships were added to the roll in a single day. They included: David E. Vitunac D.M.D., P.C. in Mifflinburg, Paige Electrical Services in Port Trevorton, and five hospitals a part of UPMC Susquehanna (UPMC Williamsport, UPMC Muncy, UPMC Williamsport Divine Providence Campus, UPMC Lock Haven and UPMC Wellsboro).

That brought the total that day to 503, and as of press time, the Central PA Chamber's membership stands at 506.

"It is a true testament to the efforts of the Central PA Chamber to continue to grow during such difficult times," said Tea Jay Aikey, the Central PA Chamber's President & CEO. "Now more than ever, businesses are incredibly receptive to knowing that we are here through good times and bad times to always serve, protect and promote them.

"It was thought quite possible that we would see a drastic decrease in membership during the pandemic, but it has been the complete opposite. With an exceptional retention rate and ongoing new memberships, it is evident that we are doing what the organization was created to do for the past 115 years."

Notes of congratulations started to pile in when the first new milestone was reached.

"Congratulations! I'm so proud to be a member," said Alice Meeth of Designer Homes of PA. "Thanks for all you do to help the community and bring businesses together."

Added Jennifer Royer of Veterans Multi-Service Center: "Congrat-



The Central PA Chamber team is truly grateful for the ongoing support and trust so many business and organizations have for this non-profit. Thank you to all for helping us reach a new record high in membership! In our most recent group photo, from left: Michael Porter, Education Coordinator; Jessica Williams, Finance & Membership Director; Tea Jay Aikey, President & CEO; Jim King, Reception Volunteer; and Jeff Shaffer, Communication Director.

ulations Central PA Chamber of Commerce on 503 members. You all are rocking it. If you all weren't as member focused, the count wouldn't be nearly as high. It's very obvious that you care about the businesses you serve. We are so grateful to have you in our corner.

Keep up the good work!"

The Central PA Chamber staff is truly humbled and grateful for the praised and more so the ongoing support of its strong membership.

The Central PA Chamber of Commerce is in the business to help

all member businesses and organizations not only survive but thrive. For more information, call 570-742-7341, visit www.centralpachamber.com and follow the Central PA Chamber on Facebook and YouTube.

CENTRAL PA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to Providence Engineering Corp on its new location at 419 Market St., Lewisburg! We conducted a private ribbon cutting ceremony for them in November. Once we get through the pandemic, they hope to have everyone over to celebrate! Learn more at <https://proveng.com>. From left: David Bernhardt, President; James Horting, Senior Project Manager; Jeremy Whitmoyer, Project Manager; and Zachary Kurtz, Senior Project Manager. And, from the Central PA Chamber, Tea Jay Aikey, President & CEO; Michael Porter, Education Coordinator; and Jessica Williams, Finance & Membership Director. Not pictured from this Providence location is Brian Shraver, CAD/BIM Operator.

Foundation unveils new name, new look

BERWICK – Effective Dec. 7, the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation formally changed its name to Community Giving Foundation and introduced a meaningful new logo and web site.

Committed to enriching the lives of those in the Central Susquehanna region through partnerships with generous donors, fundholders, and local leaders, the Foundation manages nearly 300 charitable funds supporting non-profit organizations across a five-and-a-half county service area, with combined assets exceeding \$61 million (as of Dec. 31).

According to president and CEO Holly Morrison, D.Ed., the change comes as a result of strategic planning with the Foundation board. The new name and look were developed with a dedicated committee of board members and staff over the last year.

“Community Giving Foundation will represent the same personal and professional services our area communities have come to rely on for the last 20 years,” Morrison said. “The goal of our Foundation is to help people create funds that change lives, both



now and for years to come. As we continue serving and supporting area non-profits through the giving spirit of donors and fundholders, we look forward to growing our impact and partnerships with community leaders across our region.

“All of the words and symbols within our new brand are significant. They have been carefully designed to embody our philanthropic commitment to our region and represent who we are to all of our stakeholders.”

This includes: 1) Community indicates the

essential role in serving communities in their five-and-a-half county service area, as well as the community of generous donors and fundholders that partner in this work.

2) Giving reflects the emphasis on meeting donors' charitable intentions to support these communities, which in turn provides vital resources and support for area non-profits.

3) Foundation identifies its position of providing a trusted and solid base for community philanthropy in the region.

4) The tree in the logo suggests strength and growth, while the gentle arch indicates umbrella support for the communities.

Community Giving Foundation remains committed to local philanthropy. They help connect people to the causes they care about, both now and in the future. With nearly 300 charitable funds, Community Giving Foundation has helped many families and individuals create a lasting tribute—grants and scholarships are made every year in their name, reflecting an ongoing commitment to their community and values.

Call 570-752-3930 or visit www.csgiving.org to learn more.

Monkey business



In November, Kristy Creasy reached out to Raceway Mobile Self Storage, looking for an option to store 1,500 stuffed monkeys. Breanna Herriman of Raceway Storage gave her a call and learned about Kristy's daughter's ministry. 'Aly's Monkey Movement' began after she got out of the hospital a few years ago. The Raceway Storage team immediately wanted to help, so they delivered to them a mobile storage unit where their driver, Shaun, had the privilege of meeting Aly herself. Raceway received a monkey from Aly and her mom, and they planned on donating the monkey to another child in need. Now, everyone at Raceway Storage are advocates for Aly's

Monkey Movement, and they will help them in any way they can! Aly's Monkey Movement provides stuffed animal monkeys to children all over the world who may be experiencing a difficult time in their lives. Whether it be the loss of a loved one, or a diagnosis that leaves them hospitalized.

You can learn more at www.alysmonkeys.org.

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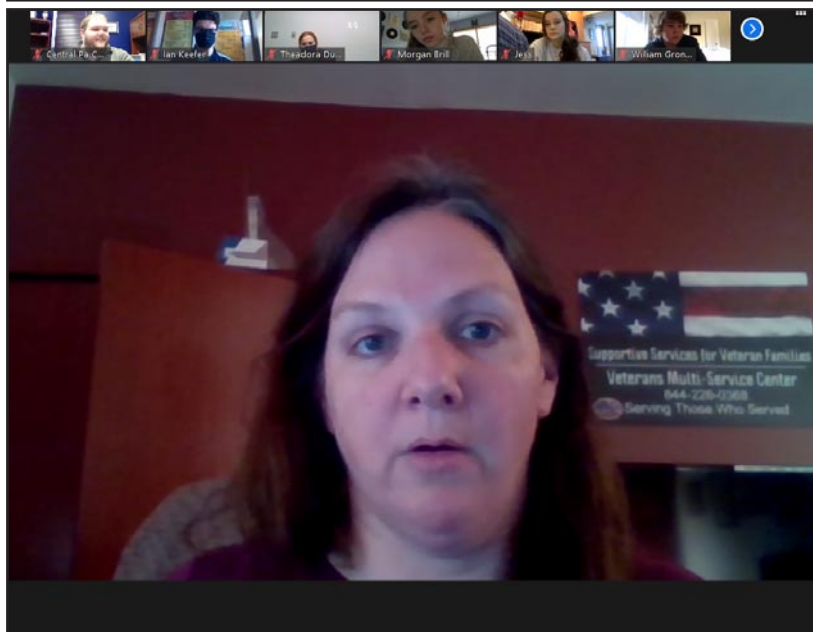
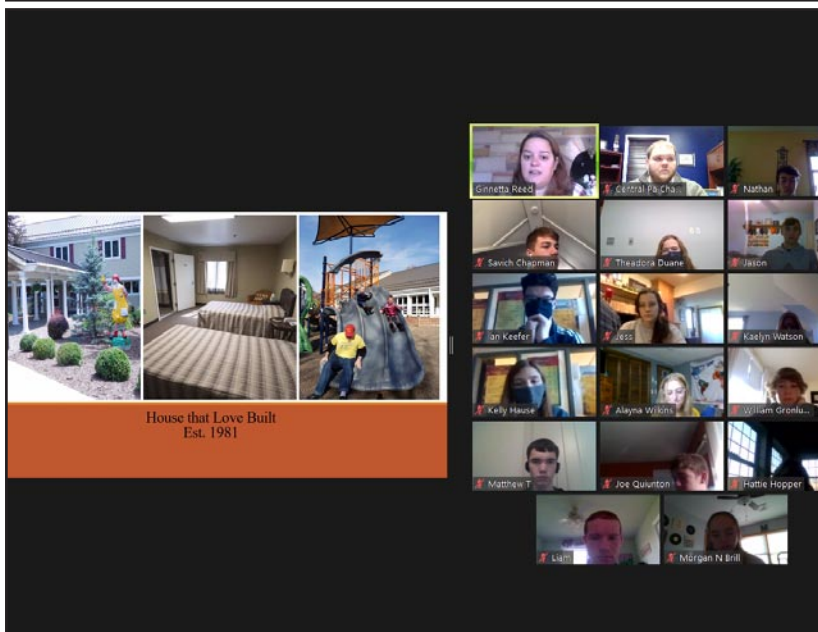
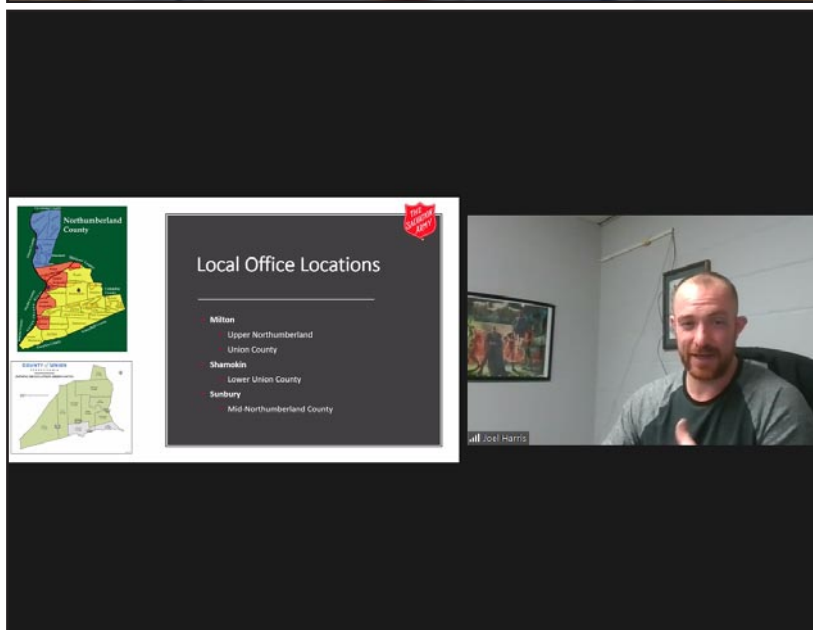
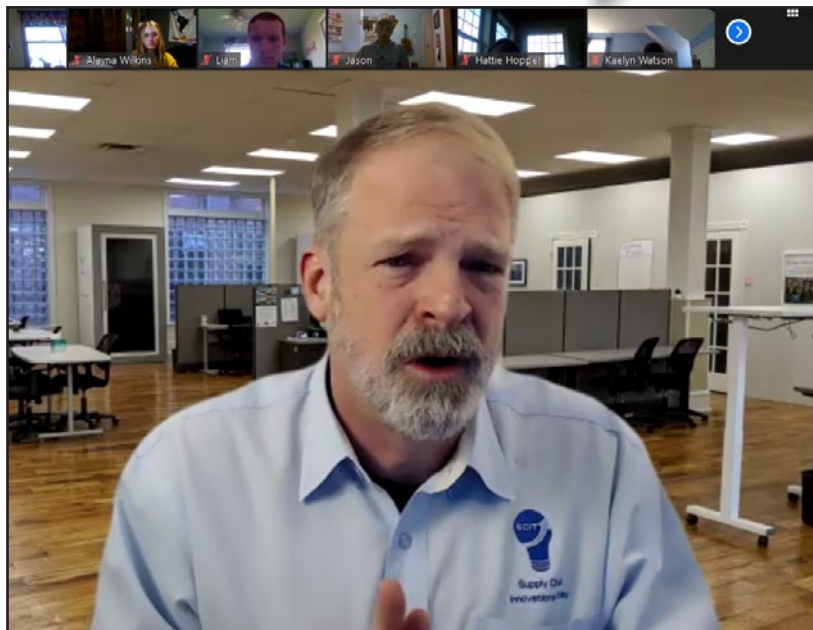
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Business & Education

Non-profits & community

The Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley (BLSV) students met in early December to discuss non-profit organizations and the community. They heard from five different non-profit organizations and how they impact their communities. The presenters starting at right, moving clockwise, included: Dr. Steve Brady of Covation Center; Joel Harris, The Salvation Army of Milton and Sunbury; Jennie Royer of Veterans Multi-Service Center, Inc.; Ginnetta Reed of the Ronald McDonald House, Danville; and Michelle Warofka of Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW). The BLSV students learned of ways to impact their communities both now and in the future. This month, the BLSV class is slated to meet with the Bucknell Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to learn the steps involved in starting a business. They will create business plans and worked with current business leaders. Interested in volunteering? Contact Michael Porter, BLSV Program Director, at 570-742-7341 or mporter@centralpachamber.com.





Watch Heather Ulrich of Sunbury as she shares her personal story as an adult learner in the CSIU's Adult Education Program. Visit <https://www.csiu.org/adultedvideo>.

Adult education

MONTANDON - The Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) has several workforce development programs that can directly benefit Central PA Chamber Members.

These partnerships may include the WATCH Program, dedicated to increasing regional employment in health-related careers; the YES Program, providing paid work experiences for local businesses and life coaching for unemployed and unenrolled 16 to 24 year olds; or the Adult Education Program.

The CSIU Adult Education Program provides instruction — in the classroom and online — to adults to improve their math, reading, writing and language skills to obtain employment, get a better job, begin a training program, or enter postsecondary education.

The CSIU teaches adults to read, write and speak in English and prepare them to pass the GED or HiSET exam to earn their high school diploma. The instructors prepare adults for training and college entrance exams and help them brush-up skills they need to succeed on the job, including: critical thinking and problem-solving strategies, business and work-related math, clear and accurate writing, digital

literacy and basic technology skills, and soft skills needed for success in the workplace. Adult education programs provide the support people in the community need to get back on their feet again after life-changing experiences, as well as realistic options for workers to learn new skills while remaining employed or caring for a family. The CSIU is an integral part of the PA CareerLink workforce development system, helping workers get the education and training they need to enter new career pathways.

To help communicate how adult education services transform lives, families and communities, Heather Ulrich from Sunbury shared her personal story as an adult learner in the program. She describes the journey that she embraced to obtain her GED, giving her the confidence and skills she needed to obtain successful employment after being laid off from Wood-Mode in Kreamer. Watch the video at <https://www.csiu.org/adulted-video>.

For more information on adult education and other workforce development programs, visit:

www.csiu.org/adulted and www.csiu.org/careerand-training, or contact Mary Mingle at mmingle@csiu.org.

Michael's Minutes

Plenty of ways to help

Happy New Year, everyone! As we begin the year, I am very excited for all the opportunities we have for our area students to connect with businesses and business leaders in 2021.

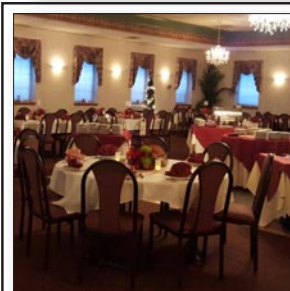
Throughout the new year, we have opportunities for businesses to support students by volunteering their time at many of our events, including our Spring and Fall Career Fairs that impact many students from elementary to high school. We are planning to try to hold these events whether they are done virtually or in-person come the time of the event. I'll keep you posted on any updates.

Otherwise, to start the year, you can volunteer by sharing your expertise and knowledge with our Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley (BLSV) students as they continue throughout their school year. Currently, it is as simple as joining in on a Zoom call to leave a lasting impression on these future leaders. Finally, you can help by volunteering your time at our biggest "B&E" fundraiser - our Business & Education Golf Tournament, which is planned for June 26. We are always in need of help with this event and many of our other fundraisers.

In lieu of volunteering, we are always in need of donors and sponsors for our programs as well. Your donation could be tax deductible as our Business & Education Association is a 501(c)(3). There are opportunities to donate within our golf tournaments, BINGOs, career fairs, and our BLSV program days. Your help and support of these events allows us to continue to provide great programs for our schools throughout the year. Another side benefit of supporting these events is the additional publicity you can gain through our publications and outreach, including this magazine! Many, if not most, sponsorships come with pre- and/or post-event publicity. If your business works with non-profits to hold fundraisers, we would love to work with you, too! Another way to help our students is by joining our Business & Education Association Committee. If you are interested in helping us review our current programs and develop new programs that can make a difference for our local students, I highly encourage you to join this group of businesspeople and education professionals. This committee meets at noon on the last Tuesday of every other month, starting in February. These meetings typically last an hour and present opportunities for you to make a difference for the local students within our community.

If you are interested in assisting with any of our programs, or joining our committee, don't hesitate to reach out to me. I would love to have your help and input to help make a brighter future for our students!

Michael Porter
Education Coordinator
mporter@centralpachamber.com



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Jessica's Jottings

Start the year off on the right foot



Happy New Year and welcome to 2021! We made it to the new year, took time for a little celebration and then back to work! I hope you were able to take some deep breaths during the holidays and come into the new year ready to tackle 2021. The Central PA Chamber of Commerce is ready to help you with any needs your business/organization may need.

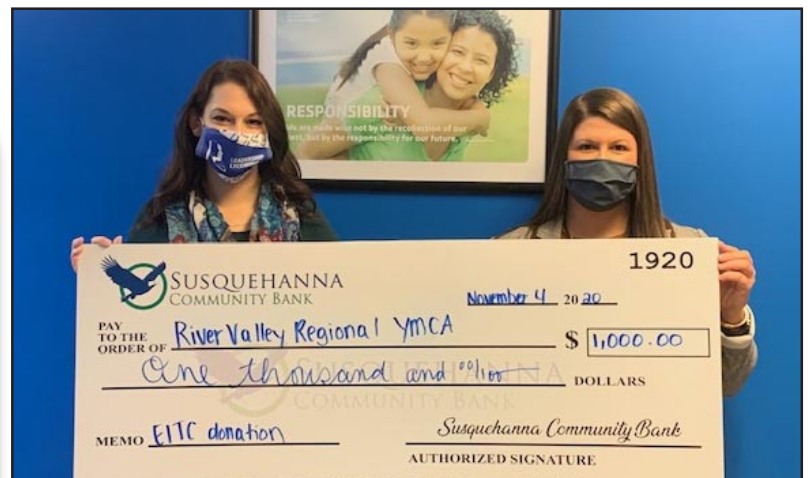
The first item on your list should be to review the benefits you are receiving from the Chamber. Be on the lookout for a checking in message from me this month. This will be to welcome you to the new year and make sure you are aware of some basic benefits that all members should be taking advantage of. This message will include a member checklist, use this form to keep track of the benefits you have used and the ones you have not. If you have any questions, be sure to contact myself or another member of the staff.

The second item on your list will be to share with the Chamber any news you have. This can be good or bad news, but hopefully it is good though! For good news, we can start scheduling ways to share this news with your fellow members and the public. If you are sharing bad news, we can start finding resources and solutions to help you overcome this bad time. No matter what you may be going through, we want you to know that the Central PA Chamber is here to help!

Lastly, make sure your business, organization and personal life is prepared for anything that might happen this year. Having been through 2020, we should all be better prepared to adapt and handle anything that 2021 throws at us. Do not try to live like we used to, instead embrace the changes that have come and find more ways to grow your business. This is the time to be creative and think outside the box.

There is always room to be surprised, as one of our members experienced last year when they thought their sales would plummet and took the time to enhance their online presence. This allowed them to exceed their sales and stay open! Just remember to take a deep breath and do not be afraid to change your model on how you succeed. The Central PA Chamber is here to see our members and region succeed, and we are all in this together. When we come together, our region will grow stronger!

Jessica Williams
Finance & Membership Director
jwilliams@centralpachamber.com



The River Valley Regional YMCA recently received a \$1,000 EITC contribution from Susquehanna Community Bank. The funds will be used to enhance and expand the current educational programming in the Williamsport Branch YMCA Summer Day Camp. From left, are: Kryisia Ziegler, Susquehanna Community Bank; and Jessica Probst, RVR YMCA Development Director.



Service 1st Federal Credit Union's Loyalsock Office held a collection to support the Deployed Soldiers Project throughout November. It supports deployed members of the military by sending them the essentials they need while serving. The donations collected through this initiative will be distributed by members of the Blue Star Mothers Chapter 12. Pictured, from left: Maria Forehand, Blue Star Mothers; Tina Cupp, Assistant Market Manager, Service 1st; Mary Jo Martin, Assistant Vice President Williamsport Market; and Mary Ann Goetz, Blue Star Mothers.

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Breakfast Briefing



Mifflinburg Bank & Trust donated \$15,000 to the Pennsylvania Council on Financial Literacy. The Pennsylvania Council on Financial Literacy (PennCFL) helps teach solid financial management skills to students across Pennsylvania. The organization provides training to K-12 teachers, supports local, regional and statewide competitions in personal finance and entrepreneurship, and advocates for standardized courses in economics and finance at each grade level. MBTC's loan officer, Amber Bierly, presented the check to Jennifer Henderson, a representative from PennCFL.



Zach Herman is among the Tulpehocken Mountain Spring Water delivery drivers working hard and staying safe during the pandemic. Clean water is something everyone needs, and the team has been taking extra precautions resulting in longer days. They do home deliveries, so it's one less trip out for some people, and drivers often keep hospitals and nursing homes supplied. Interested in delivery for your home or business? Contact Debra Rozyckie at 570-898-9463. They have Mountainside Coffee, too!



Thank you to our sponsors and those who attended our two most recent Breakfast Briefings. Above, Denise LeMay of Meixell-Diehl Insurance, who sponsored the breakfast on Nov. 20, exchanges information with Debra Rozyckie of Tulpehocken Mountain Spring Water/Mountainside Coffee. LeMay quizzed guests about the office before discussing the various products they offer for businesses and individuals. Below, Damon Allmaras of PatchMaster, who sponsored the breakfast on Dec. 4 and specializes in drywall repair, networks with Harry Hinkle of Mission Autism Clinics, who was visiting and checking out the Central PA Chamber for the first time. We have Breakfast Briefings scheduled throughout 2021, and you're invited! Visit www.centralpachamber.com/events. In addition, some sponsorship opportunities remain. For more information, contact Jessica Williams at 570-742-7341 or jwilliams@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

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION **Seminar & Training Series**

Women & Leadership: Working Through Barriers and Biases

9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, January 27@

Online Via Zoom

Cost: \$20 for Members & \$25 for Non-Members

Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by: **Angela Hummel
Consulting**

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION **Seminar & Training Series**

How to Deliver a Great Elevator Speech

9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 3 @

Central PA Chamber of Commerce, 30 Lawton Lane, Milton

Cost: \$5 for Members/ \$10 for Non-Members

Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by:

CENTRAL PA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

St. Valentine's Lottery Bingo

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

REGISTRATION

4:30 PM

GAMES START

6 PM

Pre-Sale Tickets \$25

At the Door \$30

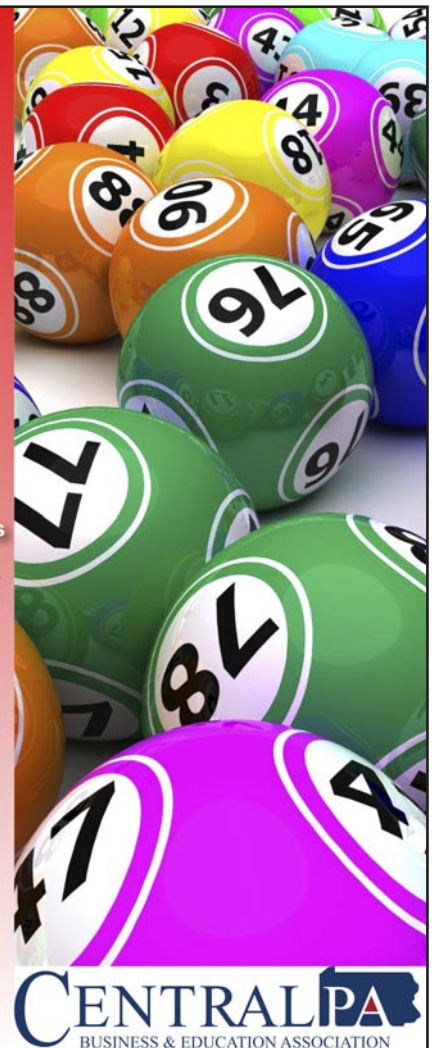
Buy Tickets ahead of time at:
www.centralpachamber.com/events

Bring your sweetheart and see if
you are lucky at this Valentine's
Day themed Lottery Ticket
BINGO!

Proceeds from this event go to
support the Central PA Business
& Education Association which
provides career exploration and
leadership training for area
students.

D&S Event Center

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