### T'S YOUR BUSINESS ssue 11 - November 2021

www.centralpachamber.com

# Inside Jobs, pg. 3

## Slate of board candidates set, pg. 4





Board of Directors

Ron Mackley - Chair Lennea Brown - Vice Chair iHeartMedia Chris Pinchak - 2nd Vice Chair Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning Alison Hall The UPS Store Skyler Herb Skyworks Equipment Rental **Rob Jones** Milton Historical Society Lauren McDonald The Wealth Factory Todd Ross T-Ross Brothers Construction Adam Wolfe

Pivot Physical Therapy

Heritage Springs Memory Care **Cheryl Rheppard - Treasurer** USG **Joel Harris** The Salvation Army **Andrew Hertzler** XW Construction **Brad Lawton** Lawton Insurance Agency

**Ashley Parrish** First Commonwealth Bank **Chenelle Shaner ClearView Asset Protection** 

E. Terry Baldwin - Solicitor Baldwin & Baldwin

### Staff

Tea Jay Aikey - President & CEO tjaikey@centralpachamber.com

**Jeff Shaffer - Communication Director** jshaffer@centralpachamber.com **Michael Porter - Education Coordinator** 

mporter@centralpachamber.com

Jessica Williams - Finance & Membership Director jwilliams@centralpachamber.com



A&A Construction and Services Ann Hilliard - RE/MAX Bridges Backyard Broadcasting of Pennsylvania Century 21 Mertz & Associates Coldwell Banker Penn One Real Estate **Contrast Communications** Davis, Davis & Kaar Decal Dynasty Evangelical Community Hospital Green Ridge Graphics Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning Hosterman Photography & Design i3 Point-of-Sale iHeartMedia Interaction Dynamics Group Jersey Shore State Bank La Primavera Italiano Ristorante Lawton Insurance Agency Lewisburg Pharmacy LIVIC Civil Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Milton Savings Bank

North Central Sight Services North Shore Railroad On Fire Promotions PenTeleData **PPL Electric Utilities** Raceway Mobile Storage **Riverwoods Senior Living Community** Safeguard Business Systems Service 1st Federal Credit Union Service Electric Cablevision/SECV8 Seven Mountains Media Sunbury Broadcasting Corporation Susquehanna Fire Equipment Company Susquehanna Valley Limousine **T-Ross Brothers Construction** The Daily Item The Standard-Journal The Wealth Factory Unique Inspirations Limited Watsontown Dental Weaver Wireless Consultants

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

Did you always want to be a part of the "inside" crowd? Generally speaking, it's easy as a member of the Central PA Chamber, because we strive to treat each and every person like a member of the family. However, we do provide additional opportunities to be on the inside, and you can read about it on the next page. Our cover story this month will let you know or



remind you about a great Chamber benefit that has seen a resurgence after the height of the pandemic. We're always glad to see members out and about and making business happen! With just a couple of months to go in 2021, you'll see our focus is in the new year. For our continually growing number of digital readers, click on the cover of the 2022 Member Benefits & Opportunities Guide on page 3 to see what benefits and sponsorship opportunities await you! (If you're reading the printed form, head to our web site!) As always, don't wait if you're pondering event sponsorship. Events with limited opportunities go guickly, but you can pay later.

Also inside this issue, on page 4, is the slate of candidates up for election this month to serve a three-year term on the Chamber's Board of Directors starting in January. We feel it's important for our members to decide who will represent them and help steer the organization. In addition, there are several new members to learn about, starting on page 4, and Member Spotlights are found on page 5.

On page 11, find out what Congressman Fred Keller will be discussing at our next Legislative Event on Nov. 12, and on page 15, read about a remarkable journey of a man showing support for a non-profit that has meant so much to him and his family.

There is all of this good news and so much more! Enjoy the issue!



Jeff Shaffer. Editor **Communication Director** jshaffer@centralpachamber.com

### It's Your Business Deadlines

**December Issue** News/Ads Nov. 15 -- Flyer Inserts Nov. 19

Interested in advertising in this publication? Contact Jeff at jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.

Find FREE copies of It's Your Business at these Chamber member locations (availability may vary):

### Lewisburg

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Lewisburg Hotel Lewisburg Pharmacy McCann School of Business & Technology Mifflinburg

A+ Office Outlet 
Abe's Custom Woodworking

Milton

Arrowhead Drive-Inn Restaurant Baldwin & Baldwin Central Vision Eyecare Milton Public Library Pinpoint Federal Credit Union The Breaking Bread Company

Northumberland

RE/MAX River Valley Realty - W and S Distributors

Sunbury

Eclipse Craft Brewing Sunbury City Hall Watsontown Watson Inn

November 2021



Strong Spas near Northumberland was the host site for our Inside Jobs Tour in early October. In the middle with the big smile is Tim Lust, director of manufacturing, showing Chamber staff and members around the plant floor. Business has been booming for them! They are hiring and preparing to open a new plant near Danville. *On the cover, with his back to the cam*-

era, is Brad Conner, director of engineering for Tenney Environmental, leading guests through a tour of the Thermal Product Solutions (TPS) plant in New Columbia in late September.

**INSIDE JOBS** 

MILTON - Do you want to be an "Insider"?

Whether its curiosity, nosiness, an opportunity to network or just a desire to show your support for fellow Central PA Chamber members, we would be happy to see you on an Inside Jobs Tour! Tours co-organized with member businesses and organizations have been taking place for the past few years now, but they continue to be a fun and interactive way to network and raise community profiles. It's also just great to see members doing well and even thriving in a tough economy.

Two recent Inside Jobs Tours that garnered a lot of attention were visits to Thermal Product Solutions (TPS) in New Columbia and Strong Spas near Northumberland. Both plants are fully operational and continue to grow with many job opportunities available. It's also fascinating to learn that products people rely on and enjoy around the world and made right here in Central PA.

However, Inside Jobs Tours are not only for the manufacturing setting, as many tours have previously been held at small, family operations, recreational sites, offices and more. In fact, two additional IJTs were being held right around press time at Camp Mount Luther near Mifflinburg and AIM Advertising in Lewisburg.

A tour that's fast approaching is on Nov. 10 at Northeast Training Institute in Bloomsburg.

Register for any and all future tour locations at:

www.centralpachamber.com/events. Learn more about hosting an IJT by e-mailing Jeff Shaffer at jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.



The 2022 Central PA Chamber of Commerce Member Benefits & Opportunities guide is now available at: www.centralpachamber.com/membership/benefits. Here you can view it via our online flipbook or as a pdf. This booklet serves as a resource for all of your membership and sponsorship needs. If interested in sponsoring an event next year, check out the 2022 Sponsorship Intent Form also available on the benefits web page or e-mail Jessica Williams at jwilliams@centralpachamber.com.

We're now on Instagram!



Search "centralpachamber" and follow us!



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4-Central PA Chamber of Commerce

**IT'S YOUR BUSINESS** 



The following individuals have been nominated to serve a three-year term on the Central PA Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors starting January 2022. One ballot will be e-mailed to each member business' primary contact (via Constant Contact) on Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021. Ballots will be accepted until the end of the day on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021. Please, select no more than six candidates on the e-mailed ballot.

Genie Bausinger Executive Director Milton Regional Sewer Authority

Rob Jones (2nd term)

Board Member/Volunteer Milton Historical Society

### **Nathan Lawrence**

President United Plate Glass

Justin Ross Principal/Co-Founder LIVIC Civil

### **Chenelle Shaner**

Director of Operations
ClearView Asset Protection

**Kent Vonada** 

Director of Operations Strong Spas

### **Ryan Workman**

Marketing & Account Executive Susquehanna Computer Innovations

Learn more about the candidates at www.centralpachamber.com/board-of-directorselection-2021/

### New Members

DJ Choices 1329 Churches Road Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-238-7465 andy@djbigandy.com Andrew Keister - President www.djchoices.com

Our mission is to steer students into making safe choices, whether it be in school or in their personal lives. Students are often faced with choices that could have serious consequences, whether it be drugs, alcohol or driving practices.

Getting Ahead Foundation 325 N. 10th St., Ste. 400 Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-238-0478 rose@gettingaheadfoundation.org Rose Williams - Founder/Program Coordinator www.gettingaheadfoundation.org

Getting Ahead Foundation funds and guides the program Getting Ahead in the Valley. GAV is a multi-phased, self-sufficiency program that supports low-income individuals as they work to build resources and achieve goals toward economic stability. Load & Go Beverage 1220 N. Front St. Milton, PA 17847 570-742-7782 Ioadandgobeverage@gmail.com Chip Rearick - Owner www.facebook.com/LoadAndGoBeverage Wine, beer and spirits store.

Delaware Run Wesleyan Church 5570 Musser Lane Watsontown, PA 17777 570-538-1967 mreece@windstream Mike Reece - Senior Pastor www.delawarerunwesleyan.org

Our prayer is that you would be blessed and strengthened by the power of Jesus Christ and that you will live a life of abundance in fellowship and service. Delaware Run Wesleyan Church is here for you. We are not just a church, but a family. A family of believers coming together to declare the glory of the Lord and celebrate Jesus as King. We study the word, practice what we learn and in the process grow together.

#### Central Pa Chamber of Commerce-5





What makes your business unique? We are one of the leading medicinal dispensaries in the area with the best staff! We are constantly looking at ways for improvement within ourselves and within our business. We think that gives the patients the best case scenario for their experience. What is your Mission Statement?

As true believers in the restorative powers

Erin Sikora, Corporate Communications Specialist

20 E. General Robinson St., 2nd Floor, Pittsburgh

What makes your organization unique? At FNB, we are known for our commitment to doing the right thing. Our teams strive to make a positive impact for our customers and in the communities where we live and work. FNB has been recognized for our unique culture, winning more than 65 Greenwich Associates Excellence and Best Brand Awards for client satisfaction and more than 30 honors as an employer of choice during the past decade.

#### What is your Mission Statement?

Our Company mission outlines why we are here: To help our customers achieve eco-



of cannabis, our mission is to turn you into a believer, too. Whether you're new to the wonders of cannabis, or a longtime connoisseur, Nature's Medicines is here to guide you. Our number one goal is to inspire you on your personal self-care journey and educate you along the way.

How many does your business employ? The Selinsgrove location has 12 full-time and 14 part-time employees.

#### sikorae@fnb-corp.com

www.fnb-online.com

nomic success and financial security by building enduring, mutually beneficial relationships based on trust and integrity; To build a diverse workforce where employees can learn, grow and prosper as contributing members of a winning team; To create sustainable, long-term value for our shareholders; To improve the quality of life in the communities we serve.

How many does your business employ? We have more than 4,100 dedicated employees throughout our multi-state footprint, including our exceptional teams serving Central Pennsylvania.

What top 3 company priorities do you focus on?

www.naturesmedicines.com

-Patient interaction

-Employee happiness

-Working as a team with no one left behind What are the characteristics you look for in employees?

Customer service backgrounds are essential. We look for individuals who are not a typical work force to be a part of our team.



Advice to those who own a business? Don't be afraid to ask for assistance when seeking advice and information as it pertains to your business. Leveraging your relationships within the local community will ensure your business reaches its full potential, allowing you to expand, attract talent, restructure as needed and capitalize on opportunities that might arise. There are a number of great local resources you can utilize to help your business, including your trusted banker and local Chamber of Commerce.



What makes your business unique? Graphite Grantworks is a unique business in that my whole life and career has been centered on the non-profit world and has culminated in this avenue where I can help non-profits do what they do better - deliver programs. Jennifer Rempe, Owner

graphitegrantworks@gmail.com

321-298-9843

#### What is your Mission Statement?

Making Words Work through full-spectrum grant services, making philanthropic funding sources more accessible to the changeagents of the world. "Making Words Work" is meant as a double-entendre in that the words we write together, should work for you, earning their keep and getting organizations more & diversified sources of funding. www.graphitegrantworks.com

Advice to those who own a business? Patience, while also being hungry. For a really long-time, I have been doing grants and grant research as a side-gig, side-hustle. Sometimes you just have to burn the proverbial midnight oil while you ramp up your business.

### What top 3 company priorities do you focus on?

Relationships, Relationships, Relationships, ships.



### Holiday Pet Photos!

Saturday, November 20, 2021 Noon to 4pm Turbot Township Fire Company- 38 Elementary School Road, Milton PA



We are excited to announce that Laughing Dogz Photography will be taking the photos for our event this year! Each session will last 10 minutes, with a maximum of three photos sent to you via email, for a \$10.00 non-refundable donation! You must sign up in advance to reserve a time, just message the pantry's Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/Arthurs.Pet.Pantry, with your email address, and please send your payment via PayPal to: arthurspetpantry.com We'll confirm your reservation and that your payment has been received prior to the day of the event.

We look forward to seeing you, and your pets!



Including: \*The history of Credit Cards; Changes through the years; Securing Transactions and PCI Compliance. The devices and how they've changed; from swiped transactions to pin transactions; All about rates – where they come from and why they are different; Using your own methodology to save money – and finally: Finding the RIGHT PROCESSOR!

Register @ www.centralpachamber.com/events

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Seminar & Training Series

Creating Positive Workplace Cultures: Conflict Resolution

10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday, November 11 Central PA Chamber of Commerce or Online Cost: **\$20 Member/ \$25 Non-Member** 

Plus a \$5 discount for previous attendance of this series for members Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by:

Angela Hummel Consulting

### STATE OF THE WORKFORCE UPDATE HRS EMINAR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18 8:30AM - NOON CHRIST WESLEYAN MILTON CAMPUS

IF YOU'RE AN HR PROFESSIONAL OR SMALL BUSINESS OWNER IN THE SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY, THIS SEMINAR IS JUST FOR YOU! WE'LL COVER CURRENT AND RELEVANT TOPICS RELATED TO HR AND HIRING. THIS SEMINAD HAS BEEN

THIS SEMINAR HAS BEEN Approved for 3 Shrm credits. SCAN THE CODE OR VISIT THE WEB PAGE TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER



HTTPS://WWW.CWC.LIFE/EVENT/HR-SEMINAR/

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Seminar & Training Series

The Remote Workforce & Microsoft 365

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Friday, December 3 Online via Zoom Link Cost: **\$10 Member/ \$15 Non-Member** Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by:





### COME JOIN US AT THE FOLLOWING NOVEMBER EVENTS

**Every Day** – We have a clothing and shoes **ONLY** bin at the puppet home as a fundraiser. It is a HandUp Foundation bin. It is located behind the puppet home in the back alley.

Miss Curly's Right Hand Club – Fundraiser for a monthly subscription of \$15 or more to help pay for our monthly utilities and insurances. Go to: https://hiskingdomkidz.networkforgood.com/projects/11 9681-2021-giving

**Amazon Smile -** If you use Amazon Smile, you can help us while shopping. Go to Smile.Amazon.com click on Kingdom Kidz and we will receive a donation from Amazon Smile. No extra monies taken from you.

### Kingdom Kidz Open House -

Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4-8 pm. 11 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Watsontown Pa 17777

Quality Family Programming www.hiskingdomkidz.org e-mail: puppets@hiskingdomkidz.org Follow us on Facebook 570-838-3133

### **Stroll Through the Arts**

LEWISBURG - The Lewisburg Arts Council will present Stroll Through the Arts, a showcase of talented local artists, which runs from Nov. 6 to 14 in downtown Lewisburg.

Over 30 Susquehanna Valley regional artists will display artwork ranging from ceramics, fiber arts and woodwork to watercolors, oils, acrylics and photographs throughout downtown Lewisburg.

One can find genres from fine arts, historic arts and edible arts-offering something to suit every artistic taste.

The event is free to the public and will be stretched across nine days, beginning at noon on Saturday, Nov. 6, and ending on Sunday, Nov. 14. To make the art accessible throughout the event, most artists will display some of their work in store windows, in addition to artwork displayed inside. Posters hung at each "Stroll Stop" will feature a QR code. When scanned with a phone, the QR code will link to the artist's contact information on the Arts Council web site, as well as provide opportunities for the public to purchase artwork directly from the artist.

More than twenty Stroll Stops will be set up on Market Street between Second and Sixth streets. All artists and activities will be marked on a customized Google map, which will be posted online at:

www.lewisburgartscouncil.com. The link to the Google map will also be posted to the Lewisburg Arts Council Facebook page.

"We are so lucky to have artenthusiastic business owners willing to host an artist's work just as they are gearing up for their busiest season of the year," said Arts Council President Della Hutchison. "I hope everyone who appreciates this, too, will find a way to express their gratitude, whether by giving a shout-out to a business on social media or stopping in to say thanks or - best of all - by supporting them with a purchase."

In anticipation of the upcoming holiday season, Holiday Shoppers' Passes will be available at most downtown businesses. Passes are valid Friday and Saturday, Nov. 26 & 27, and are good for 15 percent off a single item at each of the participating merchants.

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost	INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURERS' CENTER
11/10/21	Modernizing Your Operations - Selecting a New ERP	Webinar	10 to 11:30 a.m.	Free	Lauri Moon Manager, Training &
1/19/22	Defending Against Cyber Attacks: Implementing an Information Security Program	Webinar	10 to 11:30 a.m.	Free	Outreach 570-329-3200 ext 8085
	Pennsylvania manufacturers t prosper. A private-public partr	www.imcpa.com/events			

for the 12 counties they serve and the entire state.



Small Business Development Center Bucknell University 570-577-1249 www.bucknell.edu/sbdc

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost			
11/9/21	Accounting Mistakes & Managing a Cash Crunch	Online (Live)	12 to 1 p.m.	Free			
11/18/21	Business Startup Basics for Central PA: The First Step	Online (Live)	9:30 to 11 a.m.	Free			
Have you dreamed of being your own boss for many years but don't know where to start?							

Start with the Bucknell SBDC!

### "New Members" (from page 4)

Bingaman and Son Lumber 1195 Creek Mountain Road Kreamer, PA 17833 570-374-1108 sshaffer@bingamanlumber.com Scott Shaffer - VP Yard Operations www.bingamanlumber.com Producing hardwood lumber dimension and

Producing hardwood lumber, dimension, and hardwood products for manufacturers world wide.

### Gable House Bakery 441 Chestnut St. Mifflinburg, PA 17844 570-597-2118 nikki@gablehousebakery.com Nikki Keister - Owner

#### www.gablehousebakery.com

Gable House Bakery hopes to make opportunities for all these kinds of moments. We believe there is great goodness in our valley, and that is why we are committed to sourcing locally as much as possible to create a high quality in both our product and presence in the community. We are also committed to making the concept of caring for your neighbor a reality by being an avenue of giving from person to person. For placing orders: orders@gablehousebakery.com. For wedding inquiries: weddings@gablehousebakery.com.

One Focus Property Management - Danville 418 Railroad St., Ste. 102 Danville, PA 17821 570-505-3347 jessy@onefocuspm.com Jessy Ruelens - Business Development Manager www.onefocuspm.com

What is our passion and purpose? PROTECTING AND IMPROVING THE FUTURE FOR REAL ESTATE INVESTORS. What we do better than anyone else? OPTIMIZE REAL ESTATE PERFORMANCE AND ADVOCATE FOR LANDLORDS. What makes us unique? WE ARE THE RENTAL EXPERTS, DELIVERING A MODERN, PROFES-SIONAL EXPERIENCE THAT MAXIMIZES THE VALUE OF YOUR PROPERTY GIVING YOU MORE PROTECTION, LESS WORK, AND NO DRAMA. Since 2012, One Focus Property Management has been providing best in class property management services to landlords in the West Branch Valley. Our team of dedicated professionals is led by Broker, Jennifer S. Ruelens, MBA. One Focus Property Management is the largest property management company in our region and is proud to set the standard for exceptional service to both landlords and tenants.

Barclay Home & Building Inspections 527 Fisher Drive Watsontown, PA 17777 570-538-1490 Gary Barclay - Owner/Lead Inspector

www.barclayhomebuildinginspections.com

We do a visual non-evasive inspection of your real estate property, whether you are a buyer, a seller, or someone who desires to learn more about maintaining your home. By hiring me, you don't need to hire 10 or more trades or professionals to inspect your home and property. This saves you time and money. By requesting my service, you can have an unbiased report, without me trying to sell you anything, because I do not do any repairs because that goes against my code of ethics. Every home is different and that means each home inspection is different. Every home has some serious issues, even a newly constructed home. I will inform you of any safety issues that are specific to your property and check for proper functions of the systems. We encourage you to go to our web site to find out more and see samples of our inspection reports.

### Membership Renewals

(As of Oct. 21, 2021)

American Drug and **Alcohol Diagnostics LLC BNI Central PA** Brookpark Pet Supply **Buffalo Valley Recreation** Authority **Contrast Communications Corrections Consultants** Country Cupboard Country Turf & Trail LLC **Covation Center Diane Weller Coaching** Dorothy Zimmerman Edward Jones - Lewisburg Freedom Towing Girls on the Run Central PA Hans CedarDale Satellite Inc Kinetic by Windstream Kingdom Kidz Inc. **KVS** Computers KVS Trade Gateway LLC Padgett Business Services Pivot Physical Therapy Planet Fitness - Lewisburg Representative Lynda Schlegel Culver's Office 108th District The Miss Cupcake & Let's Make Whoopie The UPS Store Tony's Custom Tailor Shop USG Veterans Multi-Service Center Weis Markets, Inc.

Find the latest member news on our Facebook and Instagram pages and at: www.centralpachamber.com.

## Looking to hire or even be hired?

IOB

OPENINGS

Visit www.centralpachamber.com and click on "Job Opportunities" under the "Economic Development" tab.

Want to post a job your business or organization has available? E-mail jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.

Central Pa Chamber of Commerce-9



LEWISBURG - The executive directors of the Campus Theatre, CommUnity Zone and the Lewisburg Downtown Partnership are excited to introduce the "Live From Lewisburg Variety Show". It will premiere on Sunday, Nov. 21, at the Campus Theatre in downtown Lewisburg, and will be a regular part of Lewisburg's cultural life into the future. The show, performed with a live audience and streamed online. is intended to be a showcase of the professional artistic talent in the Susquehanna River Valley.

For approximately 45 minutes, host Gary Hardcastle, the rockabilly band, the theatre's organist, projectionists, and a crowd of guest players will guide the audience through vignettes, performances, and observations both funny and sincere.

The variety show will feature music, dance, comedy, flashes of vaudeville, live television, the circus, and dust covered 8mm home movies. The Live From Lewisburg Variety Show will embrace the playful and nostalgic variety show format, and against the patina of the historic Campus Theatre - pull the variety show into the 21st Century! Like variety shows of vestervear - The Ed Sullivan Show, Prairie Home Companion, Laugh-In, and The Muppet Show - the Live From Lewisburg Variety

Show will bring the audience all the things that have made variety shows popular over the years. This show will offer the opportunity to enjoy a live, intimate on-stage performance as well as offering the show to an unlimited number of viewers by streaming the program online.

"Lewisburg Downtown Partnership, CommUnity Zone and the Campus Theatre have created a successful partnership," Ellen Ruby, executive director of the Lewisburg Downtown Partnership, said. "Whether we are creating Lewisburg in Lights, bringing live performances to outside venues in our downtown or working together to create this variety show, we have found that our joint efforts create unique opportunities for Lewisburg and each of our organizations.

Scotta Magnelli, executive director of The Campus Theatre, added, "I'm very excited to bring this unique show to our stage and the broader community for the first time in the theatre's history. The collaboration has opened the door to this and many more educational and community enhancing opportunities and events now and well into the future, and for that I am truly grateful."

Learn more at:

www.livefromlewisburg.com.





Service 1st Federal Credit Union held its 27th Annual Charity Golf Tournament Aug. 27 at Frosty Valley Resort, Danville. During the tournament, they presented two local charities with donations totaling \$40,000. Beneficiaries were the Montour Area Recreation Commission (MARC) and Evangelical Community Hospital Children's Health and Wellness Program. Since 1994, Service 1st's Annual Charity Golf Tournament has raised \$553,500 to benefit area charities. In 2020, Service 1st made the difficult decision to cancel the golf outing due to the pandemic. This year's tournament included 136 golfers, numerous volunteers, sponsors and fellow credit unions. Pictured are, from left: Jeff Balestrini, chair of the Service 1st Annual Charity Golf Tournament Committee and Chief Lending Officer; Bob Stoudt, director of MARC; and Bill Lavage, President/CEO of Service 1st.



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### Time with Tea Jay

### One of my favorite things

"Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving."

- W. T. Purkiser, Pastor, Scholar and Author

Watching our member businesses and organizations share their blessings to benefit others is one of my favorite things to witness. Their humbleness tends to keep their sharing of blessings silent, but when we learn of them, we do our best to call them out as it is a beautiful thing to share the goodness in others. That kind of news never gets old in my opinion.

Just recently, I witnessed a member/business owner walk into a church dinner after its conclusion. open his wallet, lay out two fifty-dollar bills and say, "put this to the cause." Have you ever been through the drive-thru at a restaurant, and when you get to the window to pay, the cashier says, "The person ahead of you paid for you"? As simple as that seems, it is the sharing of one's blessings. A complete stranger sharing their blessings with another is magic to me. It's just so beautiful.

Too often we focus on what we want. In reality, we generally have all we need and have enough to share with others in our region.

When you share your blessings with others it is an incredible feeling. And, sharing your blessings is not just monetary. Sharing a smile, a kind word, a positive statement, a vote of confidence, a compliment - all of those things have no monetary value, but in my opinion, that is because there is not a value great enough to show their worth.

I think we all can attest that the pandemic has brought about a lot of changes both positive and negative. I want to be sure we do not let it jade us from acknowledging and sharing our blessings.

So maybe the next time you see someone walking their cart back to the store front, you can ask if you can do it for them. Or, if you see someone wearing an armed services hat to stop and thank them for their service. Remember, be aware of your facial expression and smile when encountering everyone. Nine times out of ten, they will smile back and it is the coolest feeling. It may be the first time they smiled that day.

I read recently that generosity can also be contagious and there are health benefits to it. Studies have revealed that the act of helping others actually activates the part of your brain that makes you feel pleasure. It also releases a hormone called oxytocin, which helps modulate social interactions and emotion. So, the higher your oxytocin levels, the more generous you may be.

OK, by now you may be scratching your head and saying, "What does this have to do with the Chamber and business"?

I'll leave it to this quote by former First Lady Michelle Obama – "Success isn't about how much money you make, it's about the difference you make in people's lives."

Tea Jay Aikey President & CEO tjaikey@centralpachamber.com



### Breakfast Briefing



Great to see everyone who joined us for our Breakfast Briefing on Oct. 22, sponsored by Stahl Sheaffer Engineering. Thank you! Project Manager Geoff Shaffer talked about the multi-discipline engineering services that they offer. Learn much more at: www.stahlsheaffer.com. The Central PA Chamber holds Breakfast Briefings monthly at its location, giving members and guests the opportunity to network, learn more about each other and the Cham-

ber. Breakfast is included! Register at www.centralpachamber.com. We're also looking for 2022 sponsors. If interested, call 570-742-7341 or e-mail Jessica at jwilliams@centralpachamber.com



CALL 570-742-8541 OR VISIT US TO GET STARTED 80 Broadway Street | Milton, PA 17847 | www.miltonsavingsbank.com November 2021



Eric and Paul John of Rusty Rail Brewing Company raised the most funds by noon the day of Evangelical Community Hospital's Cookin' Men event and were named Top Chef, giving them a prime location for participants to enjoy their food offering as well as receiving the Pink Whisk award.

### **Over \$50K for breast health**

MIFFLINBURG - Evangelical Community Hospital held its annual breast cancer awareness event. Cookin' Men. on Oct. 21 at the Rusty Rail Brewing Company in Mifflinbura.

The event brings together local "celebrity" men who create culinary delights for people to enjoy while raising funds to support the Thyra M. Humphreys Center for Breast Health.

The event was live this year after going virtual in 2020 due to the pandemic. For safety, event capacity was reduced to allow everyone to enjoy the festivities without overcrowding and proof of vaccination was required. Those who attended were treated to tasting-sized bites of appetizers, main dishes and desserts.

In total, the event raised over \$50,000 for the Center for breast health with donations still being accepted through Nov. 1 at www.evanhospital.com/cookinmen or by calling 570-522-4850. The Center for Breast Health uses the funds raised from Cookin' Men to provide financial assistance to women in the area who are un- or under-insured and need breast health screenings.

Pushing the fundraising over the top this year was the competitive drive toward being named Top Chef, which awarded the winner the coveted Pink Whisk Award and the premiere cooking station at the event. The contest, which challenged each chef to individually garner the most donations for the Center for Breast Health, ended at noon the day of the event.

Declared Top Chef was Eric John representing Rusty Rail Brewing Company, who raised \$7,350 by the deadline. He and his brother. Paul John, served the crowd a spicy chili combo with cornbread. Other top fundraisers included: Rick Schuck, Jim Carpenter and Jared Frank, Drew Kauffman, Domenico Napoli, Paul Burkholder, and Bob Garrett who raised \$1,000 or more.

"We are so grateful for events like these that help women in need stay on top of their breast screenings," said Andrea Bertram, Operational Director of Women's Health and Cancer Services. "It is through the generous support of others, that we can make it possible for women in our area to make their breast health a priority. When we can diagnose breast cancer early, we are able to help our patients achieve high cure rates and walk with them through survivorship."

The Thyra M. Humphreys Center for Breast Health at Evangelical has a dedicated team of specialists who provide comprehensive care including screenings, diagnosis, and treatment for women. The care doesn't stop there, after diagnosis the Center offers survivors support through clinics, programs, and one-on-one attention with professionals trained to understand the psychological, physical, emotional, and social effects of a cancer diagnosis.

For more information about the Center for Breast Health and the services available, call 570-522-4200.

## **Legislative Event** topics announced

LEWISBURG - Congressman Fred Keller (PA-12) will speak on a variety of hot topic issues at the Central PA Chamber's Legislative Event on Friday, Nov. 12.

Keller is slated to cover workforce development, labor market concerns, infrastructure, American energy, COVID-19 mandates and other important updates as the main speaker of the event starting at 8 a.m. in the Country Cupboard, Lewisburg.



The cost to attend is \$17, and you can register Congressman

now at: www.centralpachamber.com/events. The Fred Keller (PA-12) breakfast buffet starts at 7:30.

The Legislative Event is sponsored by ClearView Asset Protection. Learn more at: www.clearviewassetprotection.com.

These events give Central PA Chamber members and the general public a chance to hear from and speak directly to elected officials. There are often several in attendance as well, and they are recognized at the start of the program.

Starting in 2022, the Central PA Chamber plans to return to hosting four Legislative Events throughout the year. The dates are: Feb. 18, April 22, Sept. 16 and Nov. 11. Sponsorships are available. Contact Jessica Williams at 570-742-7341 or jwilliams@centralpachamber.com.



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## Members Recognized

#### Innovative Manufacturers' Center (IMC)

WILLIAMSPORT - Dennis Gilbert has recently been named President of the Innovative Manufacturers' Center (IMC), based in Williamsport. IMC's Board of Directors conducted a national search for a president of the non-profit organization that is focused on growing manufacturing in the 12-county Central Pennsylvania region. IMC is one of seven Industrial Resource Centers in Pennsylvania and a network member of the PA Manufacturing Extension Partnership.



Dennis Gilbert

"The board is pleased that Dennis accepted this position," said Shannon Munro, IMC Board Chairperson. "He's built strong relationships with manufacturers across the U.S., including many in Central Pennsylvania, and he understands the IMC mission. "We look forward to him providing leadership to the organization. Thank you to my colleagues that serve on the IMC Board of Directors and IMC staff for their role in the selection process." Gilbert was born and raised in Central Pennsylvania and is a strong advocate for the manufacturers that provide a solid economic foundation for the region. His professional experience includes being general manager of a local manufacturing and retail operation, managing director of Workforce Development & Continuing Education at Penn College, and most recently as president/owner of Appreciative Strategies, LLC.

He has experience in manufacturing, leadership, non-profit management and developing strategic marketing initiatives using social media platforms. Gilbert obtained his Master's Degree from Pennsylvania State University in Workforce Education & Development, his Bachelor's Degree from Pennsylvania College of Technology in Technology Management, and an Associate Degree in Computer Science from Williamsport Area Community College. "I am excited to assume this leadership position in an organization that serves Central Pennsylvania's manufacturing community," Gilbert said. "My past experiences have provided me with both the passion and knowledge to assist the IMC in its mission to maximize positive impact in our region."

IMC has a 33-year proven history of providing high quality services and special initiatives to support small- and medium-sized manufacturers in the region to increase their competitiveness to grow their business value and their economic impact in the region.

### **Evangelical Community Hospital**

nursing community.

LEWISBURG - Christie Hoover, a registered nurse on Evangelical Community Hospital's Critical Care and Intermediate Care units was recently presented the DAISY Award. The award is given to a deserving nurse who exemplifies clinical expertise and compassionate care and is recognized as a role model in the



Hoover was surrounded by her fellow co-work-

Christie Hoover

ers and mentors, as well as hospital and nursing leadership, as she received the award. She was nominated for the award by co-worker, Lynne Yannes, RN.

In the nomination, Yannes shared the reality of being a critical/intermediate care nurse during a pandemic.

"Christie, and others, watched as the CCU COVID-19 patients grew sicker and sicker, a continual decline with little hope of any

significant improvements. Christie would sit guietly and hold their hands, her face being the last thing they would ever see," she said. "I would be negligent to imply Christie was the only staff nurse who extended such compassion to patients. What makes Christie stand out in my eyes? I can explain in a single word genuine. The consistent and exceptional care she provides, the kindness and empathy she extends to her patients/families, and her gentle and comforting voice is the definition of a nurse." Between May 2011 through February 2012, Christie served Evangelical as a nursing student intern and at the end of the program chose to stay on as a nursing assistant in the Nursing Resource pool. In June of 2019, Christie returned as an RN in the Intermediate Care Unit (then known as Step Down) and the Critical Care Unit where she presently works.

The DAISY Foundation was established in 1999 in California by the family of J. Patrick Barnes, who died at the age of 33 from complications of an auto-immune disease. During his eight-week hospital stay, his family was impressed by the care and compassion his nurses provided, not only to him but to everyone in the family. They created the DAISY Award in his memory to recognize those nurses who make a big difference in the lives of so many people.

Nominations for the DAISY award can be made by patients, patient family members, colleagues and providers. If an Evangelical Community Hospital nurse has displayed extraordinary clinical expertise and compassion, visit www.DAISYnomination.org/ECH

and fill out a nomination form.

In other news, Evangelical is pleased to welcome Mohamed Hassan, MD, Hospitalist, and Kimberly Levin, MD, Pathologist to its staff. As a Hospitalist, Dr. Hassan, specializes exclusively in providing medical care to hospitalized patients. He joins the Evangelical Hospitalist team in coordinating care for inpatients including examining test results, ordering treatments and medical services, and prescribing medications.



Dr. Hassan received his Medical Degree in Medicine and Surgery from Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at SBH Health System, Bronx, N.Y. Dr. Hassan is board certified in Internal Medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine. He received Education Commission of Foreign Medical Graduation Certification.

Dr. Hassan comes to Evangelical from Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center where he served as a Hospitalist.

As a Pathologist, Dr. Levin specializes in performing lab tests that analyze tissues, organs and body fluids for the purpose of assisting healthcare providers in reaching a diagnosis and treatment. Dr. Levin received her Doctor of Medicine Degree from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. She completed a Residency in Combined Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Penn State University Hospital, Hershey. She is board certified in Hematopathology, Cytopathology, and Anatomic and Clinical Pathology from the American Board of Pathology. As an undergraduate, Dr. Levin received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Temple University, Philadelphia.

Dr. Levin comes to Evangelical from Dermatology Physicians, Inc., Lancaster, where she served as a surgical pathologist. And, Evangelical Community Hospital's Imaging Services has earned a three-year term of accreditation in ultrasound as the result of an extensive review by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

Ultrasound imaging, also known as sonography, uses high-freguency sound waves to produce images of internal body parts. At Evangelical, ultrasound imaging is used to help diagnose the causes of illness, injury, or other medical issues in the body and to examine baby development during prenatal visits. Ultrasound is safe, noninvasive, and does not require the use of ionizing radiation.

The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities meeting ACR Practice Parameters and Technical Standards, following a peer-review evaluation by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. Image quality, personnel qualifications, adequacy of facility equipment, quality control procedures and quality assurance programs are assessed. The findings are reported to the ACR Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report that can be used for continuous practice improvement.

### The office of state Rep. Lynda Schlegel Culver

SUNBURY - State Rep. Lynda Schlegel Culver (R-108) recently received the Guardian of Small Businesses Award from the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) for the 2019-2020 legislative session.

State Rep. Lynda

Schlegel Culver

The award is given to lawmakers who vote consistently with small business on the key issues identified by small business owners.

"I will continue to work to make it easier for small businesses to thrive in the Commonwealth," Rep. Schlegel Culver said of the honor.

### MCPS of Central PA

NEW BERLIN - Marguis Who's Who, the world's premier publisher of biographical profiles, is proud to present Art Lieberman with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. An accomplished listee, Lieberman celebrates many years' experience in his professional network, and has been noted for achievements, leadership gualities, and the credentials and successes he has accrued in his field. As in all

Marguis Who's Who biographical volumes, indi-

Art Lieberman

viduals profiled are selected on the basis of current reference value. Factors such as position, noteworthy accomplishments, visibility and prominence in a field are all taken into account during the selection process.

A successful entrepreneur, Lieberman has enjoyed a career of diverse and plentiful successes through his five business ventures. He has excelled as the owner of MCPS of Central Pennsylvania, MCPS for Campgrounds, Tornado Marketing, Campground Advocate, and Virtual Hospitality Expo. Furthermore, he maintained involvement as a producer for the Campground Expo from 2010 to 2011 and again in 2019. Moreover, he is proud to have lent his expertise in the marketing of credit card services to retailers in Central Pennsylvania, as well as RV Campgrounds throughout the United States.

Lieberman initially studied business psychology at the University of Maryland in 1963. Thereafter, he received a certificate from the Paralegal Institute in New York. Furthermore, he is an active member of 17 national and state associations in the RV campground industry.

Over the course of his career, Lieberman is gratified to have produced the East Coast Video Show in Atlantic City and World Festival 2000, an international food and music event held at Fort Hamilton Army Base in Brooklyn.

Additionally, possessing an advanced repertoire of over 16,000 songs, he performed as a piano entertainer for over 50 years. In 1962 as "Arty Lee", Lieberman appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show.

For his contributions for working with RV campgrounds, Lieberman has been the recipient of such accolades as the Campground Owners of New York Certificate of Recognition, the Certificate of Appreciation from the Mid-Atlantic Coastal States Campground Conference and multiple Certificates of Recognition from Northeast Campground Associations.

Presently, he is creating the first virtual mall - S.U.N. Virtual Mall in Central PA and the U.S., which opened in July, Looking toward the future, he aims to continue working while keeping up with current technologies in order to sustain his successful businesses.

### Stahl Sheaffer Engineering

ergy companies.

**CLEARFIELD - Stahl Sheaffer Engineering is** pleased to welcome Jeffery R. "J.R." Baughman, P.E., as a Project Manager for the Site/Energy/Environmental department in the

firm's Clearfield office. Baughman brings over 20 years of industry experience in the design and management of civil engineering projects for clients including PennDOT, DCNR, local municipalities, and en-



Jeffery Baughman

He will work closely with Stahl Sheaffer's highly experienced staff to lead projects throughout Pennsylvania, leveraging his valuable experience to enhance project delivery and meet client needs. Baughman is a licensed professional engineer in Pennsylvania

and Ohio. He is a graduate of Bucknell University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering.

And, Stahl Sheaffer is also pleased to welcome Dylan Dilulio, EIT, as a designer for the Site/Energy/Environmental department in the firm's Clearfield office.

Dilulio brings three years of experience in stormwater management and design in the solid waste and land development fields. As a Designer for Stahl Sheaffer, Dilulio will provide de-



Dylan Dilulio

ter calculations, land development plan creation, E&S control, BMP implementation, and permitting.

#### **One Focus Property Management**

WILLIAMSPORT - One Focus Property Management's broker

and co-founder, Jennifer Ruelens, hit a career milestone by attaining her Residential Management Professional (RMP) designation from National Association of Residential Property Managers (NARPM).

She reached it along with other colleagues from Pennsylvania, including: Jeff Wright at Foundation First Property Group, LLC and Yuriy Scripnichenko at Trustart Realty.

The new RMPs took their oath and received their certificates at the recent NARPM Pennsylvania Chapter meeting.



Jennifer Ruelens

sign and modeling services to various private and public clients. This includes performing stormwa-



## Ribbon Cuttings



Congratulations to RE/MAX Bridges, Lewisburg! On Oct. 7, we helped them celebrate the new and recently renovated location at 2006 W. Market St. with a ribbon cutting ceremony. 'This has been 10 months in the making,' said Ann Hilliard, broker/owner. 'Fortunately, we had the benefit of a PAL (Pledged Asset Loan) from the Central PA Chamber to help us do some of those things.' The PAL provided by the Chamber allowed Hilliard to secure the necessary loan amount from Milton Savings Bank, which is one of many financial lenders a part of the Chamber's program. Learn more at: www.centralpachamber.com/pal. Here, Hilliard cuts the ribbon surrounded by family, staff and supporters. From left: Tea Jay Aikey, Central PA Chamber President & CEO; Terri Snyder and Lisa Grant of MSB; Steve Slotter, RE/MAX River Valley Realty; Ann's husband, Dave; Jill Baker, RE/MAX Bridges; Helen Martin, RE/MAX River Valley; Ann; Nathan Wesner, RE/MAX Bridges; Katie Hilliard, RE/MAX Bridges and Ann's daughter; Christina Handford, RE/MAX River Valley; Keith Crebs and Tiffany Forman, RE/MAX Bridges. Learn more about RE/MAX Bridges at: www.remax.com/real-estate-agents/lewisburg-pa. Photo by Hosterman Creative.

Congratulations to T-Ross Brothers Construction! On Oct. 13, we helped them celebrate their new corporate center at the former Montandon Elementary School with a ribbon cutting ceremony. President Todd Ross said the move and renovation was necessary since the business outgrew the previous location across Route 147 that they called home for 21 years. The updated space features approximately 18,000 sq. ft. with 29 offices, three conference rooms and plenty of room for growth. T-Ross also has a new web site at: www.trossbrothers.com. Cutting the ribbon is Todd Ross, surrounded by team members and supporters. From left: Tea Jay Aikey, Central PA Chamber President & CEO; state Rep. Lynda Schlegel Culver; Todd; Tom Ross, VP and Todd's brother; Chris Helmrich, CFO; and Tommy Michaels, VP of Operations. A second ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the T-Ross team. Find it on the Central PA Chamber Facebook page. Photo by Hosterman Creative.





Congratulations to Calculated Design! On Oct. 13, we helped them celebrate their grand opening at 906 Old Route 15, New Columbia, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. This location is the former church where Owner/Operator Cheri Nicholas and her family used to attend. She said it was a 'God thing' to end up there and many renovations have taken place for the variety of spa services she offers.

Nicholas said her mantra for the business is 'creating a more confident you,' which means she wants to help men and women find their inner confidence by enhancing their outer self image. In the future, she plans to offer massage therapy, manicures and pedicures. CD is currently seeking a massage therapist, as well as a cosmetologist and/or esthetician. To apply, call 570-246-3599. Nicholas said anyone who mentions seeing this press release will receive 15 percent off of a service. Cutting the ribbon is Nicholas, surrounded by family and supporters. From left: Amber Amato de Guerrero, business consultant with the Small Business Development Center at Bucknell University; Cheri's daughters Audrie, Jazmine (who also works there), Makayla and Avery; husband Mark; daughter Tyffany; and Tea Jay Aikey, President & CEO of the Central PA Chamber.

November 2021

### Central Pa Chamber of Commerce-15



65-year-old PA native Bob Gardner recently wrapped up a dream coast-to-coast bike ride, which also served as a fundraiser for Pennsylvania Cystic Fibrosis, Inc. (PACFI).

### Coast-to-coast for PACFI

SELINSGROVE - Pennsylvania native and avid bicyclist Bob Gardner had a retirement dream of bicycling from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean.

He wanted to see the country and meet people by taking two lane roads and avoiding major highways. Having worked as a motel manager for many years in State College, Gardner moved to Meeker, Colo., where he eventually retired and began bicycling through the mountains in training for his ride.

Gardner's son, Kyle, has cystic fibrosis (CF) and he and Kyle played in the annual Pennsylvania Cystic Fibrosis, Inc. (PACFI) Golf Classic in addition to supporting some of organization's the other fundraisers. PACFI provided financial assistance for Kyle on several occasions over the years, and Gardner decided he would "give back" by asking that any donations people made during his ride go to PACFI.

Gardner began his ride on the shores of the Pacific Ocean in Oregon on May 17, and he hit the Atlantic Ocean finish line near Portland, Maine, on Sept. 24.

He took a few weeks off in August to go home to Meeker to rest and regroup, but the thought of not being able to finish never entered his mind. At the finish line, Gardner said he did what he wanted to do, "Absorb the beauty and embrace the silence."

He thanked all those who donated and who helped him along the way and noted "if you dream it, you can do it."

"It's very cool and just amazing that this 65-year-old man was able to pedal and enjoy those 5,300 miles in 77 days," PACFI President Logan Roush said. "And, we thank Bob for his effort and his decision to have PACFI get all the donations."

PACFI Founder and Secretary Bob Derr agreed with Roush and added, "I'm 73 years-old, and I doubt if I would have made it out of Oregon!"

About \$2,700 was raised so far, and anyone who wants to donate can do so through the PACFI web site at www.pacfi.org or by making a check out to "PACFI" and mailing it to: PACFI, P.O. Box 29, Mifflinburg, PA 17844.

PACFI is an independent, non-profit all volunteer 501(c)(3) organization that provides services and financial assistance for Pennsylvania residents with CF and also funds CF research.

Anyone interested in Gardner's ride can go to his Facebook page at Robert W. Gardner where he provided daily updates and lots of photographs of the towns and places he visited.



T-Ross Brothers Construction recently made a \$1,500 contribution to the Ronald McDonald House of Danville. At left is Todd Ross, president of T-Ross Brothers, presenting the ceremonial check to Mike Turlis of RMHD. The donation will help support families of critically ill children. Learn more at: www.rmhdanville.org.





Central PA Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey has been enjoying her new office chair, a gift from our friends at The Wealth Factory, Lewisburg. Thank you! Learn more about them at: www.twfplan.com. She has a lot of memories tied up in the old one, but it was time considering the tears and the wheels coming off!



*Where were you born?* Lewisburg, PA

*Favorite vacation spot?* Sea Isle City and summer cabin trips

Have any hobbies? Hunting, hiking, coaching our son's teams and following Penn State wrestling

#### A fun fact about yourself?

I was raised on a small beef farm and grew up learning and understanding the importance of hard physical labor and responsibility in life.

What is your favorite Chamber memory? The annual B&E Golf Tournament





Adam Wolfe, Pivot Physical Therapy Board Director Term ending 2022

#### **IT'S YOUR BUSINESS**

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### Business & Education

new year of BLSV



The newest class of Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley (BLSV), made up of high school juniors from several area school districts, began meeting in-person and/or virtually in September. Last school year was conducted completely online. At the October class, teamwork and diversity were the main themes of the day. Above, the students attempt to figure out a 'traffic jam'. Top right, from left, Amber Birdsong, Milton Area High School; Maria Darrup, Mifflinburg Area High School; Sophie Shadle, Southern Columbia; Gavin Millett, Meadowbrook Christian School; and Penn Patten, Warrior Run High School, build a spaghetti tower in a team building exercise. And, at right, John Machak of The Wealth Factory talks about teamwork within athletics. Other presenters that day were Dr. Kim Bolig of Bloomsburg University STEM and William Greiner of Strong Spas. Interested in participating as a class presenter and/or sponsor of BLSV? Contact Michael Porter, program director, at 570-742-7341 or mporter@centralpachamber.com. You can also find BLSV on Facebook.

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### GSVUW partnership offers virtual tutoring

SUNBURY – The Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way is partnering with Bucknell University and Susquehanna University to offer virtual tutoring sessions to K-12 students in the Susquehanna Valley.

The virtual tutoring sessions offer up to two hours per week of tutoring over Zoom. College student tutors from Susquehanna and Bucknell receive training and close staff supervision. The program offers tutoring in the following subjects: reading/early literacy, math, science, literature/English, and history (with K-5 options limited to reading/early literacy and/or math only).

Parents, or students over 18 years old, can sign up at www.gsvuw.org/tutoring.

After two semesters of virtual tutoring, parents in the program recognize the importance and benefit of the tutoring sessions. Of the parents surveyed, all indicated that the tutoring sessions were very helpful, noting how the tutoring sessions helped to problem solve and improve grades.

Stacey Piecuch, the Senior Director of Community Impact at the Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way, said "The virtual tutoring sessions offered by 'United We Learn' in partnership with Bucknell and Susquehanna allow K-12 students the opportunity to have more focused learning. The one-on-one sessions offered through the program give students extra time to work through difficult subjects and topic areas.

The United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties by addressing the root cause of social problems. GSVUW strives to serve as a catalyst, leader and partner to develop long-term social change by engaging communities to address identified areas of impact.



Kaleb Pfleegor, a diesel and truck technology student at SUN Area Technical Institute, New Berlin, was recently honored as the Sun Area Tech Student of the Month in September by the Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary Club. Pictured, from left, are: Gary and Brenda Pfleegor, Kaleb's parents; Jack Neidig, the diesel instructor at SUN Tech; Kaleb; and Marcia Murray, club member.

### **Michael's Minutes**

**Highlighting diversity** 

Diversity and teamwork are two essential things for success of any organization. Throughout the month of October, we saw this theme over and over as we took an Inside Jobs Tour of Strong Spas, had Angela



Hummel Consulting lead a Seminar & Training Series class, and had our students in Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley (BLSV) learn from multiple presenters on the topics. Strong Spas was a great Inside Jobs Tour that allowed us to see just how diverse their company truly is, along with the improving work environment that has led to increased production and increased sales even throughout the pandemic! Their new management team is so invested and involved with their company now that it is spilling over into all of their employees and beyond. Strong Spas even continues to invest in their team by sending them to many of our Seminar & Trainings, including the most recent one by Angela Hummel Consulting.

Angela Hummel of Angela Hummel Consulting presented last month on the topic of "Building an Effective Team" to a group of approximately 15 individuals in a hybrid presenting style of both in-person and online students. The majority of those individuals were from Strong Spas as they want to continue to improve the leadership abilities of their floor managers and are taking full advantage of their Chamber members. This small two-hour investment had them going back to the office excited to share their new knowledge and even more so to make a difference and improve the company they work for.

In addition to the Seminar & Training Series involvement, Wil Greiner, plant manager of Strong Spas near Northumberland, was just one of many great speakers that came to speak with our BLSV students this past month. His story of understanding who he is versus what he is truly hit home with our students as they are looking for a better understanding of diversity in our region and how it can play a role in their lives. These students want to see more diversity in our region and more acknowledgment of that diversity, too.

It is my hope that we all continue to showcase the diversity within our organizations and help set a great example for the students and future leaders of our region. Strong Spas is just one of our members that has taken the steps to utilize the benefits and programs of both the Central PA Chamber and the Central PA Business & Education Association.

Please, contact me if you too would like the opportunity to become more involved with our "B&E" programs!

Michael Porter Education Coordinator mporter@centralpachamber.com



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### Jessica's Jottings

#### Time to plan ahead!

Well, readers, we have made it to November 2021. Give yourselves a pat on the back and take a breath because we have two more months until we start a new and exciting year in our region!



With that being said, there are also two items I would like to discuss with you that are extremely important, not only for the Central PA Chamber, but also for you as well. These items are directory listings and sponsorship opportunities for 2022. We all know what a directory listing is, but do you know the importance of your listing with the Chamber? Not only is it where everyone can see your business name, contact information, description, and logo, it also gets you connected with the community and other businesses as well. The staff here at the Chamber uses the member directory listing daily to make referrals to the community, members and businesses that need your expertise for their homes and/or workplaces.

Can you imagine if this information was left unchecked or updated? You would be missing out on work that will affect your bottom line. But, don't worry, this is one of the many reasons why the Chamber is around. We want to make sure all of your information is current and ready to go. This month, you will start to see outreach from myself to make sure you go out to the Central PA Chamber of Commerce web site (www.centralpachamber.com) and review your directory listing. If there are changes that need to be made, simply e-mail them to me, and I will get your listing looking and working fabulous for you once again! The next item you will start to hear about are the 2022 sponsorship opportunities for the Chamber. If your business/organization is in a position to sponsor one of our many events, make sure to take advantage of signing up now. These sponsorships tend to go guickly! This is an opportunity to get your name out in front of hundreds - if not thousands - of people and let them know who you are and that you support the growth of your community. There are even opportunities for those that cannot give a monetary donation. We want to make sure all our members have the opportunity to showcase their business/organization. Even if you cannot sponsor an event, be sure to mark the dates of these events on your calendar for 2022, as attending will give you the opportunity to network and learn.

If you have any questions about any of these items, do not hesitate to contact me.



Jessica Williams Finance & Membership Director jwilliams@centralpachamber.com





At right, Watsontown Area Business Association (WABA) members Jay Jarrett of the Watsontown Borough and Diana Johnson of First National Bank present a check of support to Warrior Run Area Fire Department Chief Doug Funk during Music at the Canal Boat on Aug. 25. Learn more about WABA is doing in the community at: www.watsontownaba.com.



In late August, Kingdom Kidz Inc. received a \$1,000 grant from the endowment fund at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lewisburg, to produce and distribute DVDs of their programs to nursing homes, daycares and related facilities due to in-person limitations caused by COVID-19. Anyone interested in learning more about the DVDs may call 570-838-3133. Pictured is Donna Bridge, founder of Kingdom Kidz Inc., flanked by (at left) The Rev. William Henderson and Tim Goff, council president.



### **Guest Column**

### **Staying compliant**

As if high inflation and COVID-19 issues were not enough to deal with, local business owners must now also grapple with a slew of new federal government regulations.

Whether we're talking about OSHA, DOL, or others, employers are struggling to stay compliant in order to avoid time-consuming audits and high penalties.

That is why we offer business owners access to virtual tools to help answer the pressing compliance questions they often have.

These tools inform employers when laws change and advise them about compliance with the revised rules. The resources also enable them to stay ahead of legislative deadlines and access timely information about the latest industry trends.

We not only provide business owners with compliance guidance, but also generate many governmentmandated benefit notices to help them avoid violating ERISA, ACA, HIPAA, and other laws. These documents include Wrap Summary Plan Descriptions (SPDs) and Wrap Plan Documents, which wrap around the companies' certificates of insurance and benefit plan booklets.

The agency also provides clients with detailed information about the distribution requirements of these notices. These requirements are important, because when employers who are plan administrators fail to maintain and distribute certain documents like SPDs to plan participants within a set timeframe, their companies may be faced with audits and/or stiff penalties.

Many large businesses also need help complying with the Affordable Care Act's tax regulations. We offer these clients strategic planning, as well as the digital tools needed for plan implementation, monitoring of hourly activity, and generation of monthly reports in order to prepare for annual IRS reporting and audits. For businesses with employees who choose to continue their company health insurance coverage after leaving employment, we offer COBRA administration, which includes providing HIPAA certificates and required letters, as well as employer reporting. Companies using this service rather than in-house COBRA administration usually see substantial savings.

So, what is the best way for business owners to ensure that their companies comply with the tangled web of federal government regulations? I advise employers to meet with an experienced insurance broker, who can help them analyze their benefit plans for compliance and set up a roadmap to prevent any violations in the future.

- Jerry Calistri, President and CEO Swift Kennedy & Associates jerry@swiftkennedy.com







Roupp Funeral Home, Mifflinburg, hosted its first ever local food drive from Aug. 30 to Sept. 3. The 'Fill The Hearse' campaign benefitted two local food pantries - Hope's Haven Food Pantry and Union-Snyder Community Action Agency. As you can see, the hearse was filled, and funeral home reps are beyond grateful to the community!



The Crystal Lake Ski and Outdoor Center (CLSOC) recently received a \$12,000 grant from the Williamsport Lycoming Community Fund at the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP). The CLSOC is one of the only full-service cross-country ski areas in central Pennsylvania, and very few facilities in the area offer the full range of activities offered there. With these grant funds, the CLSOC will be able to expand outreach to the community through events and programs, improve check-in processes on property, and purchase items needed for a mobile demo booth. Learn more at: www.crystallakeskiandoutdoorcenter.com. Pictured, from left, are: Brian Bluth, FCFP Board Chair; Nathan Bowen, Executive Director of Crystal Lake; Logan Landry, Program Manager at Crystal Lake; and Jennifer Wilson, FCFP President & CEO.



Medicare's open enrollment period runs October 15 through December 7. If you are enrolling in Medicare for the first time, you will discover that it is more complex than an employer-sponsored group health plan. Already enrolled in Medicare (Part A and Part B), the open enrollment period gives you a chance to review, adjust and change your Medicare plan. If you would like to discuss options with me, please feel free to call me, Shawn Hays at **570-742-3903**, **ext. 6009**. Another value-added service available to you, your family, and friends at Pinpoint Financial Solutions.

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All ad artwork, text, logos, and photos must be emailed to Lauren Koch at Lauren@addone.com by November 19, 2021

Please submit artwork using the following guidelines: All ads are non-bleed (see sizes above)

Acceptable file formats include InDesign CS6 or lower (include all fonts and images), high resolution PDF file with fonts embedded, Adobe Illustrator files: please contact Lauren with questions at 570-286-1111 or Lauren@addone.com. We do have designers on staff who can help you with your ad design.

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