

It's YOUR BUSINESS

www.centralpachamber.com

Volume 7, Issue 4 - April 2022

'Crisis' averted, pg. 3

[CCS] CUSTOM
CONTAINER
SOLUTIONS

SHIPPING/RECEIVING 200 yards ahead on left

201 NORTH INDUSTRIAL PA

Leg. Event moves to

Watson Inn, pg. 11



CENTRAL PA

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Chenelle Thomas - 2nd Vice Chair **Lennea Brown - Treasurer**

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Susquehanna Computer Innovations Baldwin & Baldwin

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Tea Jay Aikey - President & CEO

tjaikey@centralpachamber.com

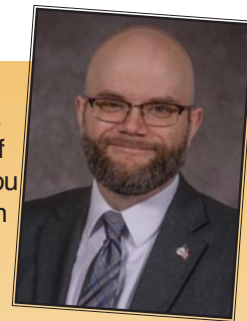
Jeff Shaffer - Communication Director

jshaffer@centralpachamber.com

Jessica Williams - Finance & Membership Director

jwilliams@centralpachamber.com

The Inside Scoop



Packed! That's how I'll describe this issue of IYB. With 560ish members, its easy to fill the pages of this publication with great content. So many of you are making us aware of the things you're doing in the community. And, we love when we have the chance to be a part of it as well.

Such is the case with our cover story. Custom Container Solutions is quickly becoming a household name in their industry, and we're happy that we could play a small role in helping it along.

There are many more great ribbon cuttings to celebrate in this issue, so check out page 14 for details. We couldn't be more proud of our members' success, regardless of where they are at in their journeys. You'll see that the number of new members and member renewals remains very high! Turn to page 4 for the beginning. We enjoy our growing family and what it means for all of our local communities.

With spring officially here, more events are popping up, providing you with opportunities to get out and meet a lot of great people. See what's going on starting on page 6.

Leadercast is now a month away, and we've announced our emcees! See who will be keeping guests engaged on page 11. On the same page, read the latest on our plans to relocated our popular Legislative Event!

The war ragging in Ukraine has been on a lot of our minds, and at least one member decided to do something about it. See how a well-known car dealer is making a difference on page 15.

And, the Chamber staff says "see you later" to one of its own. Read about Michael Porter's new journey on page 17.

There is much more to read, too, so don't miss a page! Enjoy the issue!

Jeff Shaffer, Editor
Communication Director

jshaffer@centralpachamber.com

The President's Club

Abe's Custom Woodworking	Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Company
Backyard Broadcasting of Pennsylvania	NESCO Resource
Century 21 Mertz & Associates	North Central Sight Services
ClearView Asset Protection	North Shore Railroad Company
Coldwell Banker Penn One Real Estate	On Fire Promotions
Contrast Communications	PenTeleData
Davis, Davis & Kaar	PPL Electric Utilities
Decal Dynasty	Raceway Mobile Storage
Evangelical Community Hospital	RE/MAX Bridges - Ann Hilliard
Fulton Bank	Riverwoods Senior Living Community
Green Ridge Graphics	Safeguard Business Systems
Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning	Service 1st Federal Credit Union
Heritage Springs Memory Care	Service Electric Cablevision/SECVS
Hosterman Creative	Seven Mountains Media
i3 Point-of-Sale	Sunbury Broadcasting Corporation
iHeartMedia	Susquehanna Fire Equipment Company
Interaction Dynamics Group	Susquehanna Valley Limousine
Java Momma	T-Ross Brothers Construction
Jersey Shore State Bank	The Standard-Journal
La Primavera Italiano Ristorante	The UPS Store
Lawton Insurance Agency	The Wealth Factory
Lewisburg Pharmacy	TPS
LIVIC Civil	Unique Inspirations Limited
LMJJ Creative Property Solutions	Watsonstown Dental
MCPS of Central PA	Weaver Wireless Consultants
Meixell Diehl Insurance	

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.

It's Your Business Deadlines

Below are upcoming *It's Your Business* due dates to help ensure your member information appears in IYB. Every effort is made to include information in a timely manner.

Note: Only paid advertisements are guaranteed.

May Digital Issue
News & Ads due by April 11

June Digital Issue
News & Ads due by May 13

Summer Print Issue* (released end of June)
Ads due by June 3

July Digital Issue
News & Ads due by June 17

*The Central PA Chamber also publishes *IYB Quarterly* for each of the four seasons. Copies are available at public member locations across the region.

If interested in being a drop-off location, e-mail
jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.



Congratulations to Custom Container Solutions! Long overdue (thanks to the pandemic), but the Chamber finally helped them celebrate their new location in the Milton Industrial Park with a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 28. Cutting the ribbon is Todd Vonderheid, Managing Partner, surrounded by team members and Chamber supporters. From left: Todd Ross, T-Ross Brothers Construction and a Chamber Board Director; Jennifer Rempe of Graphite Grantworks; Tea Jay Aikey, Chamber President & CEO; Ryan Workman of Susquehanna Computer Innovations, Brad Lawton of Lawton Insurance, and Rob Jones of the Milton Historical Society, all Chamber Board Directors (Jones is the Chair); Missy Shaylor, Administrative Assistant; Mark Nolan, Procurement; Vonderheid; Chuck Williams, Plant Manager; Dom Castrignano, VP of Sales/Partner; Alicia Kitchen, HR; Caleb Fetterman, Controller; and Eric Farmer, Inside Sales Associate. A plant tour followed. Cover photo and story photos by Amber G Co. Photography.

'Crisis' averted

MILTON - As long as waste keeps being produced, Custom Container Solutions looks to be in a good spot.

It's been continued growth for the local manufacturer going into its second decade. The number of employees has grown tenfold, and CCS now finds itself in a facility 20 times larger than where it started. After some hang ups caused by the pandemic, the Central PA Chamber was finally able to conduct a ribbon cutting for the business on March 28 in the Milton Industrial Park.

With the support of the Chamber and local governing bodies, the building CCS ended up buying - itself empty for years - came with a 10-year tax incentive. Without it, the manufacturer of steel containers (mainly dumpsters) could have moved states away when it outgrew its former location west of Lewisburg.

"The CCS partners were willing to consider this location if the Chamber and its economic development arm - MAIDA - could successfully submit a request to designate the location a Keystone Opportunity Zone," said Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey.

With Gov. Tom Wolf's ultimate approval, "it was the spark that ignited the owners of CCS to purchase the lifeless facility and transform it into what we saw at the ribbon cutting.

"This project would not have been possible without commitment of the Borough of Milton, the Milton Area School District and Northumberland County."

The current facility is 120,000 sq. ft., while the previous location

started with 6,000 sq. ft., when Managing Partner Todd Vonderheid purchased the former Stoltzfus Steel Manufacturing operation.

"I was having a mid-life crisis," Vonderheid joked, as he thought about his growing family. "I was looking for a business to own, operate and help grow."

And, it's been so far so good. There were less than 10 employees when they started, and now they're approaching 100, when including the Valley Can branch in western PA, an acquisition that was made a few years back.

Locally, Vonderheid is still looking for as many as seven additional welders, and a truck driver, to get out the nearly 15,000 dumpsters and 4,000 roll-off dumpsters CCS will make in a year's time for both the waste and recycling industries.

Customers can range from large, public entities to small-town waste haulers. Deliveries extend from Maine to North Carolina and New York City to Chicago.

"CCS in the last three or four years has changed dramatically," Vonderheid said. "We're trying to be a very large player in the industry, probably fourth or fifth, especially on the east coast and growing every day.

"We really want to pride ourselves on being the manufacturer that produces a terrific quality product with the shortest lead times. We think we have a terrific team here."

To learn more, visit www.customcontainersolutions.com.



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37 N. Arch Street, Milton, PA
P.O. Box 319

Phone: 570-742-8777 Fax: 570-742-6155

New Members

River Valley Builders
70 Paramount Road
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
570-374-7823
info@rivervalleybuild.com
Dan Stimely - President
<https://rivervalleybuild.com>
Modular home builder.

The Laundry Room of Sunbury
1171 N. 4th St.
Sunbury, PA 17801
760-685-6666
lyle.brouse@yahoo.com
Lyle Brouse - Owner
Our laundromat is a modern day experience. We offer the most Earth friendly equipment available with low energy and low water consumption. We have the best prices and most convenient 24/7/365 facilities in Northumberland County. We pride ourselves as being the cleanest and having the most amenities available including: two lounges with comfortable seating, satellite TVs, air conditioning, a kids play area, dry cleaning and wash dry fold drop-off.

Dewberry - Williamsport Office
100 Sterling Parkway, Ste. 201
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
717-240-0344
vfeigles-kaar@dewberry.com
Virginia "Gini" Feigles Kaar - Market Segment Leader
<https://www.dewberry.com>
Dewberry is a leading, market-facing engineering firm with a proven history of providing professional services to a wide variety of public- and private-sector clients.

The Break Room
1009 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-560-1238
williamsportbreakroom@yahoo.com
Virginia Weigle - Sole Proprietor
<https://www.facebook.com/williamsportbreakroom/>
The Break Room provides a healthy way to release stress and anger caused by many situations, and leave the mess behind!

Fowler Diesel Service
7800 PA-35
Mount Pleasant Mills, PA 17853
717-481-3355
8001diesel@gmail.com
Robert Fowler - Owner
<https://www.facebook.com/Fowler-Diesel-Service-108096337639743/>
Commercial truck and trailer, coach and bus maintenance, repair, parts, towing and sales.

Riversedge Landscapes
123 Bobb Road
Dornsife, PA 17823
717-413-6284
riversedge717@gmail.com
Aaron Fisher - Owner
Hardscapes, landscapes, fencing and decks.

Jeana Faye's Travel
1915 E. Third St. 1016 (Mailing Address Only)
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-551-0028
JFT@JeanaFayeTravel.com
Jeane Faye Harrell - Owner
<https://sites.google.com/view/jeanafayetravel/>
No stress, no headaches, no worries when booking your trip with us!

Karen Baker
570-412-3442
Retiree and former business owner.

Gilly's Lilies
370 Chestnut St.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844
570-551-0806
gillyslilies@gmail.com
Sarah Wheatley - Owner
<https://gillyslilies.com>
A full-service florist. Our seasonal arrangements reflect the latest styles and flowers and are perfect for those who want something different. Whether you need a pick-me-up or want to send flowers for the holidays, we have the arrangements for you. Please, note that our seasonal arrangements will change due to product availability. If you are looking to customize any of the arrangements you see or want to create a whole new one, please, call to speak to one of our florists.

See additional "New Members" on page 8 and find "Membership Renewals" on page 9. Find the latest member news on our Facebook and Instagram pages and @ www.centralpachamber.com.

Mountainside Coffee & Water Services presents The latest Water Dispenser & Coffee Brew System



Storm Café

The Storm Café is the latest evolution of the successful Storm Family of water coolers. Already known for quick and simple cleaning and sanitation (using the SmartFlo reservoir technology), the Storm Café has been updated to include recessed faucets, a new fascia with additional lighting options, an updated SmartFlo, and a coffee pod brewer. With the looks you want and the features you need, the Storm Café is sure to find a home in any environment.

Model: Storm Café: Water and Coffee dispenser



Easy to use brewer works with popular single serve beverage pods.



Easy to clean. Top rack dishwasher safe.



Raised cup holder folds out for use with smaller cups or mugs.



Replaceable Reservoir System SmartFlo Water Cartridge.



750 Point Township Drive
Northumberland, PA 17857
1-888-364-8648
"We Deliver"





Member Spotlight



Rachael Murphy, Program Coordinator

rachael@capareagirlsontherun.org

570-209-8466

www.capareagirlsontherun.org

How long have you been in business?

GOTR of Central PA was founded in 2008.

What makes your organization unique?

Girls on the Run is the only positive youth development organization for girls in grades

3 through 8, which creatively integrates physical activity, and has evidence of impact through an independent study.

What is a service that people are surprised to learn you offer?

While we are called Girls on the Run, our program includes way more than running. Girls are introduced to and practice important social and emotional skills, share their thoughts and feelings during dynamic discussions, and grow in confidence through-

out the 10-week program. The program is accessible to every girl, regardless of her family's ability to pay. We provide about \$100,000 in scholarships each year.

What is your Mission Statement?

We inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident, using a fun experience-based curriculum, which creatively integrates running. We envision a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams.

Chenelle Thomas, Director of Operations chenelle@clearviewassetprotection.com

570-940-9052

www.clearviewassetprotection.com



How long have you been in business?

Eight years.

What makes your business unique?

Clearview Asset Protection is a veteran-owned business located in Central Pennsylvania. We focus on threat mitigation, threat detection and threat assessment. Our goal is to make things safer for the community and those who help protect the community. Members of our company have dedicated the majority of their lives protecting the people of this country, whether in the

military, law enforcement or EMS. They know first-hand what it is like to respond to chaotic and often life-threatening occurrences. That is why what we do is so important. With our integrated technology, we have become a boots on the ground company making things technologically advanced for our law enforcement to have the upper hand on scenarios.

What is a service that people are surprised to learn you offer?

Guard services and residential camera in-

stallation.

What is your Mission Statement?

ClearView Asset Protection is dedicated to serving Pennsylvania by providing professional security services to all of our customers at a reasonable value. Our actions, from initial contact, through our security service, will support the fact the customer is our priority. Through safe and efficient teamwork, our employees, performance, and service we will meet or exceed the expectations of our customers.



Tania Kresge, Marketing Administrative Assistant

1-800-281-3564

prosales@corp.ptd.net

www.penteledata.net

How long have you been in business?

PenTeleData began in 1994 with the idea of providing high-speed data and Internet connectivity in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In 1995, that vision came true. Our strategic partnership of local communications companies, includes: Blue Ridge Communications, Ironton Telephone, Service Electric Cable TV & Communications and Service Electric Cablevision. The PenTeleData partners cover a 28-county area in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and offer the latest in enhanced interactive digital tel-

evision services and telephone.

What makes your business unique?

Our network is 100 percent privately owned and privately funded. In fact, our partnership has invested more than \$300 million in fiber optic infrastructure, with nearly 10,000 miles of fiber optic cabling and 60 nodes for diversity and redundancy. We have private peering agreements with major national content providers and cache servers to reduce network congestion and interconnect agreements that allow them to expand their footprint to serve multiple locations. Best of

all, our customers are supported by our local 24/7 Network Control Center. One of PenTeleData's greatest assets is being locally owned. It allows us to make decisions faster and support our customers better. We pride ourselves on the ability to adapt our services to meet the specific needs of any company.

What is a service that people are surprised to learn you offer?

We also offer Business Phone Services, a turnkey and affordable option for the companies we serve.

What's Happening

Summer Camp at Mount Luther

MIFFLINBURG - Camp Mount Luther is gearing up for the 2022 summer camping season, and registrations are now being accepted for all programs until they are filled.

Campers who register before April 15 will receive a discount on their camp fee.

This year's camping season will begin on June 19. Resident and Day Camps run until Aug. 5. There are programs for all ages from kindergarten to senior high, adults, and families. Most sessions run for one week, but there are also half-week and day-only sessions.

New programs this year include Family Pick-A-Day, which allows you to come for a day of adventure during Family Camp. CMP plans to announce online a special activity on July 6 and 7. Also new

this year is Elective Explosion, which allows you to pick what you want to do during a special session each day from July 10-15. There will be electives themed around water, crafts, sports, Legos, nature, sewing, singing, folk music, and drama. And, the new Wild Pioneers, Juniors, and Intermediates will feature more nature activities as well as learning about the environment.

For more information on this summer's programs, call the camp office at (570) 922-1587 or visit www.campmountluther.org.

This year's theme is "Boundless: God beyond Measure." Campers will enter the hopeful and saving story of God and God's people and experience God's boundless creating, loving, and merciful power.



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

SUPERHERO 5K RUN · WALK

Saturday, April 30
Lewisburg Area Recreational Park
St. Mary Street and N. 15th Streets, Lewisburg, PA

9:30am Kids Fun Run, 10am Superhero 5k (chip timed), Kidzone activities, live superhero appearance, great prizes for runners, walkers, and best costumes (adults and kids), super awards, refreshments, music, and more!

All kids need heroes. Abused kids need superheroes.
Be a superhero, register now falconracetiming.com. Discount and guaranteed shirt with registration and payment by April 15th! Learn more at susquehannavalleycasa.com.

All Proceeds benefit Susquehanna Valley CASA - Voices for Children. Advocating for abused and neglected children in Lycoming, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union Counties; to aid in ensuring every child thrives in a safe, nurturing, loving, and permanent home.

REGISTER NOW!

for the 4th Annual
Golf Outing
for
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WHITE DEER GOLF COMPLEX
SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH | 9 AM

Registration & Sponsorships
NOW OPEN at

<https://www.dwellorphancare.org/golfouting>

SPONSORED BY:



Seed to Supper

LEWISBURG - The Miller Center for Recreation and Wellness, powered by Evangelical and Geisinger, is hosting a free Seed to Supper program to teach families how to grow vegetables on a budget. The beginner's gardening program is administered by Union-Snyder Community Action Agency and Penn State Extension, and made possible thanks to a grant from GIANT.

Class will be held every Thursday, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, from April 7 to May 12, at the Miller Center, 120 Hardwood Drive, Lewisburg.

Penn State Extension Master Gardeners will instruct attendees on how to build healthy soil and plan their growing space. Everyone in class will choose their own crops, care for their garden, and harvest what they have grown. The program is open to adult participants living on a limited income. Registration is required at 570-556-4757 or smw5542@psu.edu.

Everyone participating will receive a free gardening book, seeds, and other gardening supplies. Class space is limited, and participants should expect to attend all six classes.

Learn more about what's happening at The Miller Center by visiting www.millercenterlewisburg.com and finding them on social media.

*Find the latest member news and
events on our Facebook and
Instagram pages!*

CELEBRATION of the Arts

Let's Celebrate Together

LEWISBURG - The Lewisburg Arts Council has selected "Let's Celebrate Together" as the theme for this year's two-week Celebration of the Arts, which will run from Saturday, April 30, through Saturday, May 14.

Organizers encourage you to mark your calendars. See schedule below and details. If registration is required, visit www.LewisburgArtsCouncil.com.

Lewisburg Arts Festival – Saturday, April 30

It's back! Artists' booths featuring hand-crafted wares will once again line historic Lewisburg's beautiful Market Street. Savory nibbles and tempting treats will be offered in three food courts throughout the festival. Free entertainment and activities for children of all ages will add to the fun. Park in the Susquehanna River Valley Visitors' Bureau's spacious lot (next to Country Cupboard), and take the free Festival Shuttle into town.

Plein Air and Nature Photo Hikes – Sunday, May 1

Woodland wildflowers will soon be in full bloom! Painters, sketchers, and photographers are invited to capture their ephemeral beauty at the Dale-Engle-Walker property and Dale's Ridge Trail, located 1.5 miles west of Lewisburg off Route 192. Plein air artists may register to attend the morning workshop or spend the entire day painting. Members of the Lewisburg Pho-

tography Club will guide registered guests to scenic vistas and offer hints on photographing them as well as the flora and fauna. Participation is free and open to the public, but registration is required. All registered participants will be invited to submit their work to the Art Show held at the Public Library for Union County in June.

Workshop Weekend – Saturday, May 7

Stretch yourself – literally and figuratively – with our free-to-the-public workshops! Creative movement, urban sketching, and tree-trimming workshops offer three different ways to enjoy being outdoors. Workshops are free, but registration is required.

Urban Sketching and Photo Tours of Lewisburg Architecture – Saturday, May 14

Explore Lewisburg with your sketchbook or camera in hand, and we guarantee you will see it in a new way! Throughout the day, Lewisburg Photography Club members will offer guided tours of historic Lewisburg's beautiful architecture. Sketchers and photographers who register will receive an invitation to participate in the June show at the Public Library for Union County. These activities are free to the public, but registration is required.

Arts at The Piers – Saturday, May 14

Afflicted with FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out)? New to the area and wondering what there is to do in the area? Ready for a new hobby? Local organizations offering arts-related activities invite you to join them at The Piers, off Cherry Alley from North Fifth Street, for a fun-filled day of interactive arts for all ages. Stop by between 11 and 4, and find others who share your artistic passion!

The Lewisburg Arts Council wishes to thank its many sponsors, including: Susquehanna River Valley Visitors' Bureau, Evangelical Community Hospital, Bucknell University, Borough of Lewisburg, M&T Bank, Meixell-Diehl Agency, Susquehanna Community Bank - Lewisburg and The Wealth Factory.

The Lewisburg Arts Council is also welcoming volunteers. In interested, e-mail volunteer@lewisburgartscouncil.com.

For more information, visit www.LewisburgArtsCouncil.com, find them on Facebook and Instagram and e-mail info@lewisburgartscouncil.com.

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
4/13/22	Commerical Documentation for Exports	Webinar	10 to 11 a.m.	Free
4/20/22	Recognizing Dust Hazards in the Workplace: Combustible Dusts and Exposure to Poor Indoor Air Quality	Webinar	3 to 4 p.m.	Free
4/21/22	How to Effectively Attract and Retain Talent	Webinar	2 to 3 p.m.	Free



Lauri Moon
Manager, Training & Outreach
570-329-3200 ext 8085
www.imcpa.com/events



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

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
4/12/22	Cybersecurity for Small Biz: Response & Recovery	Online (Live)	12 to 1 p.m.	Free
4/14/22	So You Need a Prototype - Your Guide to the Jungle of Product Development	Online (Live)	12 to 1 p.m.	Free
4/19/22	CommonGoods: Online eCommerce Directory Information Session	Online (Live)	10 to 10:30 a.m.	Free

New Members (cont.)

No Sweat Tree Surgeons

1677 Supplee Mill Road

Lewisburg, PA 17837

570-7130445

nosweattreesurgeons@gmail.com

Brian Bontomase - Owner/Founder

<https://www.facebook.com/nosweattreesurgeons>

No Sweat Tree Surgeons specializes in residential/commercial tree removal, pruning, stump grinding, emergency/storm damage tree services, brush removal, spring/fall yard clean up, brush hauling, wood chipping, land clearing, brush hogging, leaf clean up, and hedge trimming.

Community Resources for Independence

11 Reitz Blvd., Ste. 105

Lewisburg, PA 17837

570-524-4314

kheyler@crinet.org

Karen Heyler - Regional Manager

<https://www.crinet.org>

Community Resources for Independence, Inc. is committed to preserve, enhance, and enrich the quality of life for all people with disabilities. CRI Inc. provides assistance to help individuals living with intellectual and physical disabilities, veterans, and the aging population to live a more inclusive and independent life. Whether it's helping with transportation to and from appointments, grocery shopping, or social activities, CRI can lend a helping hand.

Family Promise of Lycoming County

635 Hepburn St.

Williamsport, PA 17701

570-567-7103

Jenny@lycofp.org

Jenny Hull - Executive Director

<https://www.familypromiselycoming.org>

Family Promise is a homeless family shelter serving those without homes or facing housing insecurity. Family Promise serves homeless children and their families with food, shelter and case management making the recovery from homelessness possible.

Camp Susque

47 Susque Camp Road

Trout Run, PA 17771

570-998-2151

director@susque.org

Peter Swift - Executive Director

<https://www.susque.org>

Nestled in the beautiful mountains of north-central Pennsylvania, Camp Susque has been a cherished haven for generations of families. What began as a summer youth camp in 1947 has grown to include: wilderness trips, family camps, winter camps, homeschool

classes, field trips, and retreats and rentals. Values such as community, responsibility, and slowing down to "Experience Your Creator" are woven into each program and tradition. As a result, Susque has been a place where thousands of youth, young adults, and families have come for escape, refreshment, and as one camper put it, "to be myself."

Sensational Sweets / Creative Cookie

355 Sweets Lane

Lewisburg, PA 17837

570-524-4361

ashley@sensationalweets.com

Ashley Mershon - Office Manager

<https://sensationalweets.com>

Sensational Sweets started as a family-operated business and is now mainly wholesale, where distinctive confections are created, from the traditional to the unique. We are on our farm in the Susquehanna Valley, in the heart of central Pennsylvania. Everything is made in a nut-free facility and is kosher certified with many gluten free options available. Special and custom orders are welcome. Our products make wonderful corporate gifts and sell well in gift and gourmet stores. We also work with basket companies and event planners. We take pride in meeting the individual needs of our customers. Special and custom orders are welcome. Our products make wonderful gifts and are excellent additions to a gift basket, wedding favors or any special occasion. We take pride in meeting the individual needs of our customers.

Clarissa Business Solutions

805 Elm St.

Watson, PA 17777

570-768-2972

Clarissa@clarissabusinesssolutions.com

Clarissa Paige - Owner

*Web site coming soon!

Clarissa Business Solutions helps clients achieve their desired results by creating efficiencies within their businesses. Whether it is improving communication processes, implementing better organizational systems, or streamlining administrative tasks.

Crockett Financial

1421 E. Third St.

Williamsport, PA 17701

570-322-1313

mbarclay@financialguide.com

Michael Barclay - Financial Advisor, RICP

<https://www.crockettfinancial.com>

Crockett Financial serves the needs of successful individuals, families and businesses. We design custom strategies to help our clients build and protect wealth while supporting long-term financial security.



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Fleet & Truck Markings,
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Contractor Job Site Signs, Posters,
Window & Wall Graphics, Building Letters

A Quality Service

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Sales & Service



Susquehanna Fire Equipment Co.
www.susquehannafire.com

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- ◆ Backflow Water Testing
- ◆ Automatic Fire Suppression Systems
- ◆ Fixed Gas Detection Systems
- ◆ AED

- ◆ Rescue Equipment
- ◆ Portable Gas Detection
- ◆ Fire Equipment
- ◆ Breathing Air Compressors
- ◆ SCBA
- ◆ DEP/OSHA/Extg Training Classes

800-822-2105

2122 Main Street
P O Box 209
Dewart, Pa 17730

Membership Renewals

(As of March 16, 2022)

Barclay M. Wilson D.O.
Borough of Turbotville
Comfort Specialists
Custom Container Solutions
Dwell Orphan Care
Great Hair Day
Heritage Printing & Design
Innovative Manufacturer's
Center (IMC)
Jeffrey Reber
Keystone Energy Efficiency
Alliance
Lewisburg Hotel
LIVIC Civil - Bloomsburg
LIVIC Civil - Selinsgrove
Meadowbrook Christian School
Megan Dugan - State Farm
Insurance

Mifflinburg Heritage &
Revitalization Assoc. (MHRA)
Milton Harvest Festival Inc
Milton Public Library
Milton Savings Bank
New Enterprise Stone
& Lime Co., Inc.
Purdy Insurance Agency
Shade Mountain Winery
- Danville
Shade Mountain Winery
- Middleburg
Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.
The Laundry Room of
Lewisburg
The Laundry Room of Milton
The Lewisburg Downtown
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Time with Tea Jay

Mission impossible?

Recently, I learned that in the 1920s, all newly hired engineers at General Electric received an assignment to develop a frosted lightbulb. The experienced engineers believed this to be an impossible task and used the assignment to initiate the new hires.

In 1925, newly hired Marvin Pipkin got the deemed mission impossible assignment not realizing it was a joke, but he succeeded.

The definition of the word impossible is "not to be able to occur or exist." Too often we determine something to be impossible as an effortless way out, or an excuse for not working harder than normal.

We must have a mindset to not allow ourselves or other detractors convince us that something we want to achieve is impossible. There will always be critics and skeptics no matter what you are trying to accomplish.

Recently, I celebrated my 11th year as a part of the team at the Central PA Chamber of Commerce. When I started this journey of employment in 2011, I would never have imagined that I would one day become the President & CEO. Early in my tenure, there were skeptics and critics. I allowed them to be my detractors and convinced myself it was a "mission impossible" somedays. I have since embraced my faith and self confidence to silence the detractors and forge ahead.

Do not misunderstand me. Detractors will always be present, but you need to make the decision to not allow them to divert your attention from the mission you are working towards.

It is a mindset every single day. If you have ever happened to follow me on Facebook, I make a post every morning with a selfie that simply says, "Make it a Great Day!" This is a way to hold myself accountable. Do I wake up every day happy and positive without any concerns or issues weighing on me? Absolutely not, however, I do know that with my faith and positive mindset, I will overcome anything and silence the detractors in my path.

Share your positive mindset with others, too. It is such a simple effortless task that can completely change someone's mindset towards their deemed mission impossible. I am beyond thrilled for the Central PA Chamber of Commerce to, once again, be hosting the world's largest one-day leadership training.

This is a day filled with eagerness, positivity, confidence, sharing and so much more with like-minded individuals who want to make a difference. Not only in their work environments and professional lives, but also within their personal lives, communities, churches, families and beyond.

If you have not yet considered registering, I certainly hope you do. I can attest that you will not regret it.

Leadercast Live is May 4 in Lewisburg and open to the public. Register at www.centralpachamber.com/events.



Tea Jay

Tea Jay Aikey
President & CEO

tjaikey@centralpachamber.com

The President's Club



Many thanks, once again this year, to Cindy Potoeski of Decal Dynasty Wraps & Graphics for updating The President's Club Wall at the Central PA Chamber's office for 2022. It's one of the many ways the Chamber thanks its President's Club members for going 'over and above' their regular membership dues to benefit all members of the Chamber. This year set a new record with 51 TPC members. Learn more at www.centralpachamber.com/membership/presidents-club. Learn more about the many ways Decal Dynasty can help you at www.decaldynasty.net.

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Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey conducts a short presentation while Chamber Board Directors and members sample the breakfast offerings at the Watson Inn. Below, the buffet was a big hit and should satisfy appetites of all sizes.



Leg. Event moves to Watson Inn

WATSONTOWN – The Central PA Chamber of Commerce has selected a new venue to host its Legislative Event - the Watson Inn in Watertown.

The Chamber needed to act quickly in securing a location for its popular quarterly event, which for several years was held at the recently shuttered Country Cupboard in Lewisburg.

The new host site is a familiar one for many, and it is where the Central PA Chamber formerly conducted its Annual Meeting among other events.

Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey said it was critical to find a location that could meet the high expectations attendees had at the Country Cupboard.

"With having three more dates already on our calendar for a Legislative Event this year, and being not the only organization that needed to find a new venue, we

were up for the challenge," she said. "After discussions with many venues, I was so pleased to be able to work out an agreement for the remaining dates with the Watson Inn."

All upcoming Legislative Events for 2022 – April 22, Sept. 16 and Nov. 11 – are slated to be held in the Watson Inn's Moon Room.

The sponsors the April 22 event – featuring Sen. Gordner - are Heritage Springs Memory Care and T-Ross Brothers Construction. Sen. Gordner, who represents a large number of Central PA Chamber members, will speak on: workforce, education, the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Project (CSVT), broadband expansion and the state budget.

For more information, and to register, visit www.centralpa-chamber.com/events.

Local Leadercast emcees announced

LEWISBURG – The Central PA Chamber announces its co-emcees for Leadercast Live on May 4.

The Chamber's President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey and Pastor Billy Robel of Christ Wesleyan Church, Milton, will keep attendees engaged between on-screen discussions by world-renowned leaders.

Aikey was named head of the Chamber and its affiliates in October 2017, after serving the organization since March 2011.

She utilizes her experience in manufacturing, marketing and customer service to assist

Chamber members. She owes her success to being extremely organized, highly motivated and a dedicated self-starter.

Aikey is incredibly proud of the Chamber's growth of 85 percent over the previous 10 years.

Pastor Robel, too, shouldn't be a stranger to Central PA Chamber members. He served as the keynote speaker during the Chamber's Annual Meeting last



Tea Jay Aikey Pastor Billy Robel

fall.

Robel is the Recovery Campus Pastor for Recovery Church Sunbury, a ministry of CWC. He is a certified recovery specialist

and has been a part of the church for the past 20 years. Pastor Robel

joined the staff at

last year, serving those who struggle with addictions as well as their families. He candidly shared his personal story of addiction at the Annual Meeting, grabbing the attention of the around 200 in attendance.

Learn more and register for Leadercast now at www.central-pachamer.com/events.

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Who Represents You?

Where were you born?
Renovo, PA

Favorite vacation spot?
Aruba

Have any hobbies?
Reading, travel and music.

A fun fact about yourself?
I am an avid cruiser and try to go twice each year. I purchased land in the Finger Lakes and love my pug, Mango.

What is your favorite Chamber memory?
The last Member Appreciation Celebration...it's so much fun interacting with other members.

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Lennea Brown
Heritage Springs
Memory Care
2022 Treasurer
Term ending 2023

Members Recognized

Pennsylvania Business Central

STATE COLLEGE - The Central PA Chamber of Commerce, and several of its members, were named among the region's Top 100 Organizations, as listed by Pennsylvania Business Central. According to the publication, the annual list, which was released in late February, "highlights the vibrant economic and social life of central Pennsylvania by honoring those organizations making it happen.

"This year's Top 100 Organizations are leaders in their chosen fields, bringing new ideas, technology and services to their counties and spheres of influence. With the unpredictability of various markets and the ever-changing fiscal landscape of our country, these organizations have shown that smart business practices and shrewd decision-making can make all the difference in surviving unforeseen obstacles. They are examples of not only survival in difficult times, but of excelling through adversity.

Members honored alongside the Central PA Chamber, included: UPMC, First National Bank, Wyrope Williamsport Federal Credit Union, Evangelical Community Hospital, Swift Kennedy & Associates, Larson Design Group, FOCUS Central Pennsylvania, Mifflinburg Bank & Trust, First Commonwealth Bank, Herbert, Rowland & Grubic (HRG), ClearView Asset Protection, T-Ross Brothers Construction and North Shore Railroad Company & Affiliates.

Congratulations to all! See the full list at:

www.pabusinesscentral.com/top-100-organizations.

Service 1st Federal Credit Union

DANVILLE - Service 1st Federal Credit Union was recently presented with the Montour Area Recreation Commission's (MARC) 2021 Corporate Supporter of the Year Award.

As noted on the award, this accolade was bestowed "in grateful recognition of exemplary support for the Montour Area Recreation Commission and the Montour County community."

According to Bob Stoudt, MARC Director, "The staff and leadership of Service 1st have been by MARC's side for nearly all of MARC's 17-year history. From helping to construct the North Branch Canal Trail, to work days at the Montour Preserve, to numerous park and trail cleanup events, to the support provided through the Service 1st Charity Golf Tournaments, Service 1st has quite literally helped to build the fantastic park and trail system the Montour County region enjoys today. MARC's staff sincerely appreciate all that Service 1st does every day to support and strengthen our communities."

MARC is a volunteer-led organization that maintains outdoor recreational facilities in Montour County and seeks to provide outdoor engagement opportunities for its residents. MARC helps maintain the Chillisquaque Creek, Hess Recreation Area, Montour Preserve, the North Branch Canal Trail, the Hopewell Park/Danville Borough Farm Trails and other outdoor sites.

"We are honored and flattered the Montour Area Recreation Commission selected us for this award," said Bill Lavage, President/CEO, Service 1st. "MARC has done exceptional work in providing numerous recreational resources to the residents of Montour County. It is a pleasure to support their efforts."

SEDA-COG

LEWISBURG - SEDA-COG has recently created a new role within their administration: Chief of Staff. Promoted to that position, is Kristen Moyer.

Moyer has worked within SEDA-COG for 30 years and was previously the Director of Community Relations.

Moyer serves the entire organization and each department in this role. Due to her 30-year tenure, she has a great depth of knowledge and understanding of the organization, its partners, and the region's needs. Moyer began her career at SEDA-COG as a Project Coordinator in Community Development, after which she worked with Procurement Technical Assistance staff helping businesses obtain government contracts. She had been the Director of Community Relations since 2019.

The Chief of Staff will serve as the agency's main point of contact and advocate with external partners, lead and manage special projects, and provide oversight and guidance to staff for projects of high importance. In this role, Moyer will remain the primary connection between SEDA-COG and the federal and state legislative offices.

"As my Chief of Staff, Kristen will be utilizing all of her knowledge, experience and gained insights to advise the Executive Team when it comes to external issues and how it affects the organization and its operations," said Kim Wheeler, executive director of SEDA-COG. "Today's landscape outside of our walls looks very different from it did five or 10 years ago. Having her in this position will allow the organization to more efficiently handle the complex set of circumstances and issues that we contend with. It is wonderful to have Kristen, with such astounding tenure and experience, step up into this important role for the region."



Kristen Moyer

Timberhaven Log & Timber Homes

MIDDLEBURG - Timberhaven Log & Timber Homes, recently received a national home building accolade as part of the 2022 Off-site Construction Awards, presented by the National Association of Home Builders' (NAHB) Building Systems Councils (BSC).

Timberhaven was honored during the NAHB's Pillars of the Industry Awards, with the Excellence in Home Design – Timber Frame Design Award – for their Modified Saratoga-Wasniewski home. See photos, here: <https://timberhavenloghomes.com/log-home-gallery/saratoga-timber-frame-home-tour>.

Since 1986, the BSC's award programs has promoted excellence in systems-built housing. Front runners in the industry are honored annually for their innovative marketing strategies and unique systems-built housing designs.

"The Pillars of the Industry Awards honor some of the top builders and designs in today's housing industry," said NAHB Immediate Past Chairman Chuck Fowke. "NAHB is pleased to recognize the innovation and creativity these winners have demonstrated, especially in a year that was unprecedented."

The annual NAHB Offsite Construction Awards are judged by an independent panel of industry experts. Recipients were recognized for excellence in achievement in a range of categories such as informative and aesthetically-pleasing websites, along with floor plan designs categorized by systems-built type and square footage.

"It is an incredible honor to be named a recipient of Jerry Rouleau's prestigious timber frame design award," said Lynda Tompkins, principal at Timberhaven Log & Timber Homes. "We are sincerely appreciative of this accolade and value the recognition bestowed on Timberhaven by the BSC and NAHB."

The Daily Item

SUNBURY – Dennis M. Lyons, national editor of CNHI, LLC, has been promoted to vice president of the company in that role, Donna Barrett, president and CEO, recently announced. Lyons joined CNHI in 2015 as editor of The Daily Item in Sunbury and sister publication Danville News. He added the title of national editor three years later. He relinquishes his Sunbury editor duties to a soon-to-be-named successor, and relocate to Charlotte, N.C. to concentrate full-time on his national editor responsibilities.

Watson Area Business Association (WABA)

WATSONTOWN - WABA recently announced the Watson Inn as its 2021 Business of Year.

“(Watson Inn) is a very important part of Watson town,” according to WABA’s press release. “It is not just a place to have dinner but a place to catch up with friends, celebrate weddings, school dances, and countless fundraisers. Many organizations are able to hold their meetings here where they discuss more ways to help the community.”

In addition to being a hub for activity, WABA stated that Watson Inn constantly supports the community in various ways, such as: holding the annual Arm Wrestling Tournament; hosting 1st Fridays each month; providing/arranging food and cooking equipment for Music in the Park; participating in parades; creating Watson town’s very own Haunted House; and setting up for WABA’s Customer Appreciation/Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

WABA also honored Kathi Wertman as its 2021 Volunteer of the Year.

Wertman “is a driving force behind the Historical Association. She is fully responsible for the archival of all acquisitions received, manages the Facebook page and website, and plans and executes the bi-annual newsletter. She, along with a team of three other board members, held numerous planning meetings and helped with acquiring the old Santander building to become the new Watson town Historical Association building.”

Wertman, who works for Ficks Hardware, “helps provide the stage-coach for Santa to come through town during the Holiday Celebration and Caravan of Lights. She also donated the trees for last year’s Festival of Trees.”

Evangelical Community Hospital

LEWISBURG - LeeAnn Almas, RN, BSN, was recently presented the DAISY Award, given to a deserving nurse who exemplifies clinical expertise and compassionate care and is recognized as a role model in the nursing community.

Almas was surrounded by her fellow coworkers and mentors, as well as hospital and nursing leadership, as she was presented with the award. She was nominated for the award by Jeannie Sommers, whose brother was a patient at Evangelical for over four weeks.

In the nomination, Sommers said, “My brother had never been hospitalized in his life and had no prior medical history. LeeAnn and he connected, and she was so patient with him. She explained medical terms and why he was being asked to do certain things, such as sleep positions. Her patience and caring for him went above and beyond.

“My brother was frustrated, scared, and angry and I watched her handle each emotion with nothing but patience and caring. LeeAnn is skilled not only in her clinical abilities, but in her caring and ability to bond with patients and understand how to handle each one



LeeAnn Almas

as an individual.”

Almas began her work at Evangelical in February 2017 as a RN in Critical Care and has continued her work on the Critical Care Unit as well as the Intermediate Care Unit. She has been a vital member of the hospital’s care team of professionals throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

Visit www.DAISYnomination.org/ECH and fill out a nomination form.

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:

- Meredith Rhodes, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner — Emergency Medicine Group, April 2022
- Elizabeth Seneca, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner — Rheumatology of Evangelical, May 2022
- Jennifer Simpson, Certified Nurse Midwife — OB/GYN of Evangelical, April 2022
- Elise Slaughter, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist — Anesthesiology of Evangelical, July 2022



Strong Spas, Northumberland, recently shared that four of their employees graduated the Lean Manufacturing Level One Certification program. Pictured from left, are: Richard Dunn, production manager; Frankie Flynn, floor manager; Kevin Reynolds, floor manager; and Chris Fetter, sustaining engineer. Lean manufacturing refers to the application of Lean practices, principles, and tools to the development and manufacture of physical products.

Ribbon Cuttings

Congratulations to The Lewisburg Studio! The Central PA Chamber helped new Owner and Executive Photographer Melanie "Mel" Ortiz celebrate with a ribbon cutting ceremony March 5 at the well-known location, 419 Market St., Lewisburg. Ortiz purchased the business from long-time photographer John Gardner.

Here, she cuts the ribbon alongside her team, including from left: Valerie Ortiz, social content curator; Colton Brouse, Mel's husband and co-owner; Mel Ortiz; Sam McBride, chief of administration for business sales and marketing; and Mandy Hartman, expert retoucher and production coordinator. There were also numerous family members and friends in attendance, enjoying the day with food and each other's company. To learn more about Lewisburg Studio by Melo Foto, visit www.lewisburgstudio.com.



Congratulations to River Valley Builders! On March 17, the Central PA Chamber of Commerce helped them celebrate the recent renovations and refresher at their model home at 70 Paramount Road, Selinsgrove, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Learn more at www.rivervalleybuild.com.

Cutting the ribbon is Dan Stimely, president, surrounded by staff and supporters. From left: Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey; Chamber Board Directors Ryan Workman of Susquehanna Computer Innovations and Ashley Parrish of First Commonwealth Bank; Lisa Wilson, office manager for RVB; Stimely and his wife, Kelli; Chamber Board Director Lauren McDonald of The Wealth Factory; and Darwin Will, a project manager with RVB.

Congratulations to Evergreen Cleaning Co.! The Central PA Chamber of Commerce conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 15, to highlight their new location at 2010 W. Market St. (Route 45) in Lewisburg.

Cutting the ribbon is Owner Leighton Lutze. Holding the ribbon are Belinda Shrewder, office manager, and Brett Eyster, project manager. Evergreen Cleaning Co. provides janitorial services, construction final cleaning and commercial house-keeping, cleaning more than 1.1 million square feet per week!

Learn more at www.TheEvergreenClean.com.

Sister company Evergreen Exteriors is also available for your pressure washing needs! Visit:

www.theexteriorclean.com.

Both offer free estimates!



SVCEP announces career prep

SUNBURY - Susquehanna Valley Community Education Project (SVCEP) is pleased to announce the formation of its first short-term career prep Nursing Assistant Training and Competency Evaluation Program, located in Sunbury, with a planned launch in the 3rd quarter of 2022.

The program has an initial capacity of five students who will learn assistive nursing practices and theory that will prepare them for the Pennsylvania state certification exam.

This is a 120-hour, three-week course that includes a clinical experience followed by the Pearson Vue exam. The Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certifi-

cation propels graduates into an entry level allied healthcare occupation that is a stepping-stone towards a stackable credential in careers as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Registered Nurse (RN) and beyond to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Master of Science in Nursing (MSN).

SVCEP officials celebrated the significant milestone with a public signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with partner Marywood University, late last month at Sunbury City Hall.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, an additional 118,000 nursing assistants are needed over the next several years. The Central Susquehanna

Valley healthcare industry is in need of certified nursing assistants in all areas, including hospitals, long and short-term care, nursing homes, rehabilitation, direct care and home health. To mitigate local need, the partners have teamed up to hire a program director and fulfill all of the requirements for the state approved program.

SVCEP is a non-profit organization that is facilitating the establishment of an independent regional community college along with Marywood University as the Middle States Commission for Higher Education Partner. For more information, visit www.newcommunitycollege.org or call 570-898-4334.

W&L owner helps families in Ukraine



Andy Long, dealer principal of W&L Subaru, and his wife, Sylvia, sponsored a family in need from Ukraine when they were trying to get out of harms way and head to their sisters, but had no means to get there. The Longs coordinated a way to get flights for their entire family so they could get to a safe destination. The family responded with, 'It's unbelievable that you become a part of my family's destiny...such cases make me believe that the Good and Justice would turn Evil into Humanity and Love to each creature on our beautiful Earth.' The Longs intend to try and provide transit out of Ukraine for additional families. 'We want to continue living the Subaru Love Promise even at our household and not only at our dealership,' Andy Long said. 'We are more than just a car company but a part of the community, and much more. We have so much empathy for those living in Ukraine and this is just something we thought could help and provide safety for families. Also, this really hits home for us, as my wife is from Romania, which is not far from Ukraine. She has been in touch with many families, and we are continuing to find other ways to help assist. Our thoughts, prayers and blessings go out to Ukraine.'

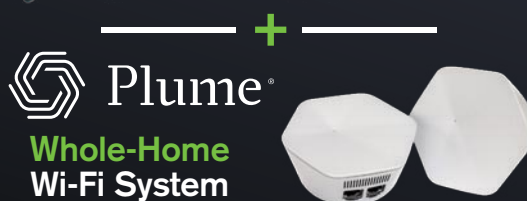


The Watsons Police Department in conjunction with the Police K9 Project, would like to thank the employees of New Enterprise Stone & Lime Company, Winfield, who recently donated \$500 to the canine project. The money raised came from New Enterprise's snack section at the office. Pictured with Sgt. Timothy Kiefaber and K9 Mariska, from left, are: Joe Whitcomb, Val Leso, Stephanie Zimmerman, Mike Pennycoff and Gary Phillips.

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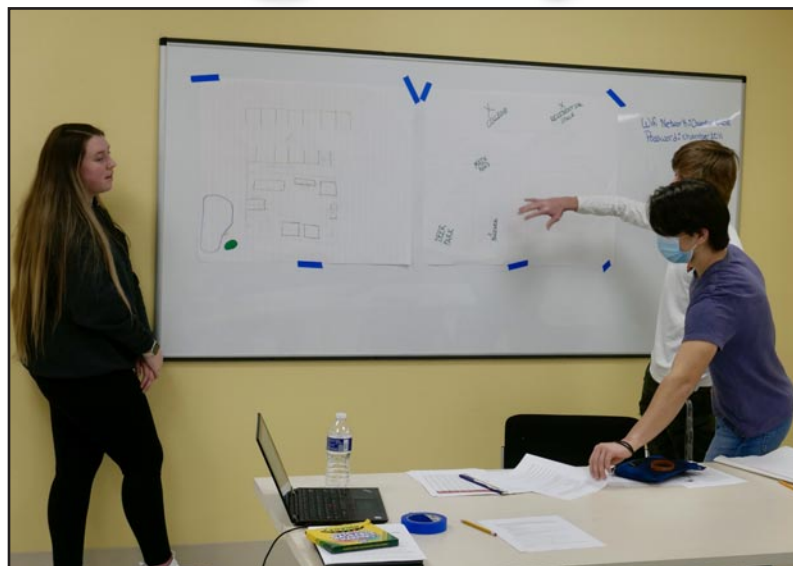
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Business & Education

Closing out another great year



The Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley (BLSV) School Year is wrapping up later this month with a graduation ceremony! Over the last couple of months, they've been working on their fictitious business plans to present before sharks at graduation and learning about economic development and local government. From

left, moving clockwise: Lyn Bingaman, Mifflinburg Area High School, and Sage Dunkleberger, Warrior Run High School, explain their thoughts on strengths, weaknesses and needed changes for the region moving forward during a recent class. Table mentor Lincoln Kaufman of Snyder County Planning explains to students how to develop their site plan for their mock business they have been developing. BLSV students Amber Birdsong of Milton Area High School, Penn Patten of Warrior Run, and Gavin Millett of Meadowbrook Christian School describe their final site plan for their business project. Interested in participating in BLSV next school year? Call 570-742-7341.

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We'll miss you Michael Porter! Thank you for your service to the members over nearly the past five years. You've definitely left your impact on everyone at the Central PA Chamber! We wish you the best in your new role with Pennsylvania College of Technology. Read the full story, here:

<https://centralpachamber.com/michael-porter-moves-on-from-central-pa-chamber>. Pictured, from left, President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey; former Education Coordinator Michael Porter; Communication Director Jeff Shaffer; Finance & Membership Director Jessica Williams.

More than \$2 million raised

WILLIAMSPORT - The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) in collaboration with Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, hosted Raise the Region 2022 on March 9 and 10, to help the communities of Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Tioga, and Union counties support local non-profit fundraising efforts.



North Central Pennsylvania showed its true spirit of philanthropy by donating \$2,144,702 to 320 non-profit organizations. The 30-hour online fundraiser had thousands of donors make 13,704 gifts. The Central PA Business & Education Association was, once again, part of RtR, receiving a combined \$2,225 from 25 donors, shattering the goal of \$1,500. Thank you to donors for your support as "B&E" as it helps to prepare students for their careers! "Raise the Region has transformed the philanthropic landscape of North Central Pennsylvania," said Jennifer D. Wilson, President & CEO. "When FCFP launched the program in 2013, we never imagined that it would trigger \$14.4 million in charitable donations over the following decade.

"We are grateful to Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships and the generous sponsors that make the program possible. Above all, we are proud to support the incredible work of our regional non-profits, and are inspired by the extraordinary generosity of their donors." Participating non-profits benefited from \$334,500 in stretch funds and prizes from the Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships and associate sponsors.

Monetary prizes and incentives sponsored by: Autotrader, First Citizens Community Bank, Larson Design Group, Pennsylvania Skill by Miele Manufacturing, Subaru, Toyota Motor Corporation, UPMC, and Weis Markets were awarded throughout the day to more than 90 participating non-profit organizations. Non-profits were divided into three categories based on their size, allowing more organizations to receive prizes. To view a full list of the prize and incentive results, visit: www.raisetheregion.org/prizes.

Michael's Minutes

Not Goodbye, but see you later

As many of you may now know, I accepted a new position with Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, leaving the Chamber along with my duties as Education Coordinator.



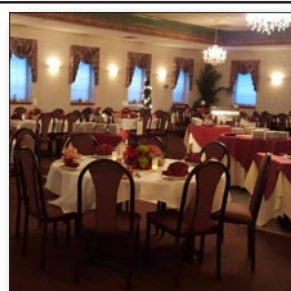
My time with the Central PA Chamber of Commerce has been nothing less than extraordinary. The amazing people I've met and worked with have made a lasting impact on me that I can't quite describe. From all your support with Business & Education programming to supporting fundraisers and other Chamber events, the value you provide to this organization is invaluable. I can't begin to thank the Board of Directors and the Business & Education Committee members enough for their endless support throughout my time with the Chamber. Another aspect of my time with the Chamber is the students that I worked with. Each school year marks a time to reset with new students across the region. Through Building Leaders for the Susquehanna Valley, I have worked with close to 100 students and the relationships that are built in such a small amount of time spent together are tremendous. The career fairs, which has impacted thousands of students, brings about great opportunities for students to gain passion and understanding of what careers are available to them within our region. They can make a deeper connection to how important it is to identify the needs of our region's workforce each year.

Finally, I would be crazy to not mention and thank my work family for all their love and support both personally and professionally. Jim King, while a volunteer, was like a grandfather figure to me. He was always there to discuss the tough topics and to encourage me when I needed it. Jessica has been a great friend throughout my time, and we have grown together in many ways as she was hired just a couple months after I was. Jeff has been like an older brother and mentor to me as I navigated my way through some of his old duties and learned to be a backup to his current duties. Tea Jay is like the mother of the group, maybe because she calls us all her "kids", but more so because she carries those duties and is always quick to defend her employees and encourage us when accomplishing great things. To say I'm thankful for all of you is an understatement!

So, in my final column, I will not choose to say "Goodbye", but rather to say "See you later", as I plan to stay a supporter of the Central PA Chamber and "B&E" for many years to come.

Michael

Michael Porter
former Education Coordinator
and lifetime Chamber friend



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Jessica's Jottings

More ways to save



Spring is here, and that means it is time for some cleaning! It's time to declutter and clean up those business spaces and homes. Last month, I told you about members that have discount plans for gas, and this month, I am going to share with you some members that offer discounts for cleaning!

Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning offers 10 percent off any product or service for residential and business spaces. Here at the Central PA Chamber office, we have them come in every year to deep clean our carpets and hard flooring. Chris Pinchak, the owner, tells the truth he says it is a quick drying process! Need the car or truck looked over before all the warm weather driving? Head down to Kevin's Garage in Montandon and save 10 percent on an oil change. Kevin and Aisha will get you in and out and can answer any questions you might have about vehicle upkeep.

Need to do a huge cleanout of your business or organization's space, but have no room to move things around? No worries, just contact Raceway Mobile Storage and take advantage of 10 percent off self-storage rentals or 25 percent off mobile rentals. With multiple locations and the ability to bring the storage to you, you will have no issues decluttering and rearranging your workspaces.

How do you take advantage of these discounts you might ask? Well, if you are a Central PA Chamber of Commerce member, all you need to do is call these places up and mention the Member-to-Member discount, say that you are a member, and you're ready save.

Not a member of the Chamber, but want to take advantage of the discounts? I have one extra step for you to take. Go to the Central PA Chamber website and click the "Join Now" button at the top of the screen. Once the application and payment are received, you will be able to start saving with these members, too. Also, we have a discount for membership as well. We partner with different organizations and reward businesses/organizations who belong to other like organizations, by offering a Central PA Chamber membership for \$135 for your first year! So, whether you are an existing member or a new member of the Chamber, there are many ways to save. Have a discount to offer the over 550 Chamber members? Go to the Chamber website and enter the discount or contact me if you need further information or instruction.

Stay tuned for more ways to save next month, and as always, keep in touch with your Chamber team so we can assist your business/organization with any needs that arise! Happy savings!

Jessica Williams
Finance & Membership Director
jwilliams@centralpachamber.com

Breakfast Briefings



Many thanks to Covation Center and Barclay Home & Building Inspections for sponsoring our two Breakfast Briefings in March. Above, Dr. Steve Brady provides an overview of Covation Center's services at their co-working space in Williamsport. Visit www.covationcenter.com to learn more. Below, Owner Gary Barclay (aka "Inspector Gary"), navigated the attendees at the Central PA Chamber through his easy-to-use web site, highlighting inspection reports and his various services. Learn more at www.barclayhomebuildinginspections.com. Breakfast Briefings are a great way for business and organizations to network and take place monthly at the Chamber's location at 30 Lawton Lane, Milton. Register at www.centralpachamber.com/events.



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member-to-member-discounts](http://www.centralpachamber.com/member-to-member-discounts).**

Evan making a move

LEWISBURG — As part of its continuing efforts to ensure the communities it serves have convenient access to a variety of important health-care services, Evangelical Community Hospital has entered into negotiations with Family Practice Center, PC to move services into the Susquehanna Valley Mall and purchase the facility at 21 Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive.

The Hospital will move SUN Orthopaedics of Evangelical and the Selinsgrove Imaging Center from the facility at 21 Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive to the leased space adjacent to the Family Practice Center and Geisinger offices in the former Sears store at the mall.

Plans for the property at 21 Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive will not be finalized until the Imaging and Orthopaedic practices are moved into the new mall location.

The Family Practice Center offices at 21 Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive will remain at the location for the foreseeable future.

"We are excited about the opportunities these projects present for our patients in the Selinsgrove area," said Ken-

dra Aucker, President and CEO, Evangelical Community Hospital. "The leased space in the mall provides convenient access for patients needing orthopaedic care or imaging services, particularly those already seeking other healthcare services at that location. And, the location along Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive affords us a fantastic opportunity to provide expanded access to a variety of specialty practices and services in the region."

"We are pleased to welcome Evangelical's Orthopaedic and Imaging practices into the healthcare space we've constructed at the Susquehanna Valley Mall," said Ben Williard, CPA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer, Family Practice Center. "This kind of collaborative effort enhances care for the entire region and benefits everyone."

Design work for the new spaces in the mall is progressing. The offices are expected to open to patients in early 2023. Plans for the property at 21 Susquehanna Valley Mall Drive will not be finalized until the Imaging and Orthopaedic practices are moved to the new location.

At right, Liz Mertz of Penn's Tavern draws winning tickets in the Mutts Madness Raffle held in February. With her is Cheryl Hill, executive director of Mostly Mutts.



The Mutts win

SUNBURY — The dogs were the big winners in the Mutts Madness Raffle held in February at Penn's Tavern.

Proceeds benefitted the care of about 60 dogs, and a dozen cats, at the no-kill shelter near Sunbury.

Theresa Martini of Wyoming, Pa., was the grand prize winner of

\$500. Other big winners were Dan Rearden, Sunbury, \$300, and Cindy Shamp, Northumberland, \$200.

Many others purchasing some of the 920 tickets sold, won \$100, \$50 and \$25 prizes.

For more information on Mostly Mutts, visit www.mostlymuttsonline.com or call 570-988-6483.



The Northwest Susquehanna Chapter of Credit Unions, which Central PA Chamber members Service 1st FCU, Wyrope Wmspt FCU and Pinpoint FCU belong to, donated \$2,000 worth of meals from the PB&J Bar in Danville earlier this year to the employees of Geisinger as a thank you for all they do for the community. The plan is also to donate \$2,000 to Evangelical Community Hospital employees and \$2,000 to UPMC Muncy employees. Pictured here, from left, are: Jay Reed, Service 1st; Christian and Shannon Force, PB&J Bar; Jim Barbarich and Annette Welch, MC FCU; Scott Naughton, Palco FCU; Ashley Weber, NICU RN; Linda Lee Martz, Operations Manager; Tina Kester, NICU Administrative Assistant; Janelle Seibert, Central Susquehanna Community FCU.

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BY THE NUMBERS...

*As of press time

The Chamber's Facebook page has over **46,000** page reaches through the first three months of 2022.

That's more than **70** percent of its reaches for all of 2021.

In the first quarter of this year, the Chamber has welcomed **37** new members.

Join us at these upcoming events!



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
welcomes
State Sen. John Gordner (R-27)



7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, April 22 @ Watson Inn, Watsontown
Topics: state budget, workforce, education, CSVT and broadband

Admission: \$17
Register @ www.centralpachamber.com/events

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Seminar & Training Series

How to Deliver a Great Elevator Speech
9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 25
Central PA Chamber of Commerce, 30 Lawton Lane
Cost: \$5 Member / \$10 Non-Member
Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by: 

21st Annual "B&E" Golf Tournament
Friday, June 24 @ Bucknell Golf Club



Master Sponsor: 

Details/register: www.centralpachamber.com/events
Sponsorship opportunities: jwilliams@centralpachamber.com

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