

It's YOUR BUSINESS

www.centralpachamber.com

Volume 8, Issue 2 - February 2023

Vision

Helping OUR Region Grow.

Mission

To be the preferred Resource Center for our members supporting their economic and business development.



2023 officers,

pg. 3

CENTRAL PA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Board of Directors

Skyler Herb - Chair **Will Greiner - 1st Vice Chair**

Skyworks Equipment Rental

Fabtex, Inc.

Genie Bausinger - 2nd Vice Chair

Milton Regional Sewer Authority

Ashley Parrish - Treasurer

First Commonwealth Bank

Lennea Brown

Heritage Springs Memory Care

Keith Foust

Susquehanna Fire Equipment Co.

Alison Hall

Community Member

Rachael Herb

Service 1st Federal Credit Union

Rob Jones

Milton Historical Society

Nathan Lawrence

United Plate Glass

Brad Lawton

Lawton Insurance Agency

Lauren McDonald

The Wealth Factory

Ginnetta Reed

T-Ross Brothers Construction

Brandon Schemery

Backyard Broadcasting of PA

Chenelle Thomas

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

Jessica Beaver - Finance & Membership Director

jbeaver@centralpachamber.com

Ryan Workman - Business & Education Coordinator

rworkman@centralpachamber.com

The Inside Scoop

We have a new Executive Committee as you'll see to both the right and left of my column. Congratulations to Skyler Herb, Will Greiner, Genie Bausinger and Ashley Parrish on your board promotions! Learn what they had to say about it in this month's cover story starting on page 3.

As you read further in, you'll see there are several businesses and organizations that are doing great things for other people by contribution of time, talent and/or treasure. First of all, I highly encourage you to do the same, and second, share it with me when you do. You can stay humble, but then allow us to sing your praises! We hope your good works will encourage others to do the same, which is a benefit to all of our communities.

How have your resolutions been coming along? We all make progress at different speeds and in different ways. President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey has a new approach to goal-setting, and she shares that with you this month in her column "Time with Tea Jay".

If you've been a part of our Chamber for any period of time, you know we always have something great going on! Check out the various flyers inside to grow your business, your reach, or even just have a little fun. Check out the many events your fellow members are putting on, too. Here's another way to share what you have with others.

Just a reminder, this monthly magazine is a benefit all Central PA Chamber members should be taking advantage of! I know you have news to share. If you're not sure how, just let me know. I'm more than happy to help you be better recognized by your fellow members and the general public. I hope to hear from you soon.

Enjoy the issue!



Jeff Shaffer, Editor
Communication Director

jshaffer@centralpachamber.com

The President's Club

(As of Jan. 30)

Abe's Custom Woodworking	LMJJ Creative Property Solutions
Asbury River Woods	Meixell Diehl Insurance
Backyard Broadcasting of Pennsylvania	Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Company
Century 21 Mertz & Associates	Near Me Entertainment
ClearView Asset Protection	Nesco Resource
Coldwell Banker Penn One Real Estate	North Central Sight Services
Contrast Communications	North Shore Railroad Company
Decal Dynasty	On Fire Promotions
Evangelical Community Hospital	Pennsylvania American Water
Fulton Bank	PenTeleData
Green Ridge Graphics	PPL Electric Utilities
Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning	RE/MAX Bridges - Ann Hilliard
Heritage Springs Memory Care	Service 1st Federal Credit Union
Hosterman Creative	Service Electric Cablevision/SECV8
i3 Point-of-Sale	Sunbury Broadcasting Corporation
iHeartMedia	Susquehanna Fire Equipment Company
Interaction Dynamics Group	Susquehanna Valley Limousine
Java Momma	Sync Solutions
Jersey Shore State Bank	T-Ross Brothers Construction
Keystone Advertising	The Standard-Journal
La Primavera Italiano Ristorante	The UPS Store
Lawton Insurance Agency	The Wealth Factory
Lewisburg Pharmacy	UPMC
LIVIC Civil	

The President's Club is an exclusive sponsorship program created to prominently recognize members 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.*

March Digital Issue
News & Ads due by Feb. 10

Spring Print Issue* (released early April)
Ads & Flyers due by March 10

April Digital Issue
News & Ads due by March 17

May Digital Issue
News & Ads due by April 14

*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.



Pictured are the officers of the Central PA Chamber's Board of Directors for 2023. From left: Will Greiner of Fabtex Inc., 1st vice chair; Ashley Parrish of First Commonwealth Bank – Lewisburg, treasurer; Genie Bausinger of the Milton Regional Sewer Authority, 2nd vice chair; and Skyler Herb of Skyworks Equipment Rental, chair.

2023 BOD officers elected

MILTON – The Central PA Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors elected its officers for 2023 during its monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 12.

Elected as chair was Skyler Herb of Skyworks Equipment Rental, who served as the 1st vice chair last year. New to the executive committee this year, are: Will Greiner of Fabtex, Inc., 1st vice chair; Genie Bausinger of the Milton Regional Sewer Authority, 2nd vice chair; and Ashley Parrish of First Commonwealth Bank – Lewisburg, treasurer.

All officers expressed their gratitude in being elected by their peers, as well as their excitement for the new year.

"I'm grateful to our board of directors to have chosen me as the chairman and look forward to having the opportunity to help lead the Central PA Chamber of Commerce into another great year," Herb said. "We are seeing a lot of growth in our local economy, and there are lots of opportunities for both businesses and individuals to succeed in 2023."

"Let us know how the Chamber can help!" Greiner said he looks forward to further supporting "this great team in all of their initiatives to strengthen the region."

Bausinger, too, is eager to "help continue the growth, strength, and success of the Central PA Chamber in this newly elected position. I think the Central PA Chamber provides so many helpful services to its members, and I look forward to assisting the staff in continuing this mission."

And, Parrish, who will be working closely with the Chamber's Budget & Finance Committee, said, "With the ever-changing economy, I feel our board is doing a great job of keeping up with current changes and keeping our members informed. I look forward to how I can be of help to better impact our members and the community in 2023."

Tea Jay Aikey, the Chamber's President & CEO, said she is excited to work alongside this new team.

"We are seeing a lot of growth in our local economy, and there are lots of opportunities for both businesses and individuals to succeed in 2023"

**- Skyler Herb
2023 Board Chair**

"I am blessed to have already worked with each of them at various levels regarding the Central PA Chamber efforts and am eager to build on those relationships," she said. "They each are an outstanding representation of servant-minded leadership, and I know they will keep all members in mind in their decision making." Aikey also offers her gratitude to the outgoing board officers from 2022, including: Rob Jones of the Milton Historical Society, who

served as chair; Chenelle Thomas of ClearView Asset Protection, 2nd vice chair; and Lennea Brown of Heritage Springs Memory Care, treasurer. All three remain on the board as directors this year.

"I can't say enough about the impact that the outgoing officers had on the Central PA Chamber membership and internal team. We are fortunate enough to have their continued dedication on the board of directors."

Learn more about the makeup of the Chamber's board at www.centralpachamber.com/board-of-directors.



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New Members

Cross Life Ventures

North Vista Drive

Lock Haven, PA 17745

kmiller@crosslifeventures.com

Kate Miller - Operations Director and Co-founder

www.crosslifeventures.com

We are a community development business that develops people, professionals, businesses, and organizations through marketing and communication. We are dream focused. We focus on individual dreams and aspirations and what an individual wants to achieve in their here and now. Whether you are a small business trying to grow clientele, an individual seeking change, or a community looking to grow tourism, we will guide you. If we can't help with a particular dream, we find others who can.

Positive Ripples Coaching

136 S. Third St., Apt. B

Lewisburg, PA 17837

570-412-5290

Natalie@positiveripplescoaching.com

Natalie Fox - Owner and Certified Coach

www.positiveripplescoaching.com

Business and leadership coaching.

UNB Bank - Mount Carmel

1 N. Oak St.

Mount Carmel, PA 17851

570-339-1040

jhane@unb.bank

Jim Hane - Business Development Officer

www.unb.bank

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Congressman Glenn Thompson/Friends of Glenn Thompson

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814-321-3689

marcie@gtthompson.com

Marice Assetta - Campaign Director

www.gtthompson.com

Representing PA-15 in the 118th Congress. Friends of Glenn Thompson is the official campaign for Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson.

Hungry Run Distillery Lewisburg

323 Market St.

Lewisburg, PA 17837

570-765-3020

kellymc8679@gmail.com

Kelly McGlaughlin - Manager

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086650124411

Welcoming tasting room for some locally distilled PA spirits, cocktails, beers, and wines.

Membership Renewals

(As of Jan. 18, 2023)

Amber G Co. Photography
Aspire Wealth Group
Astro Village Listing Service
B & W Disposal, Inc.
Bastian Tire & Auto Centers
- Lewisburg
Borough of Milton
Borough of Turbotville
Borough of Watsonstown
Brynwood Rentals
- 535, Inc.
Bucknell SBDC
Bucky Allis
Budman Auto Body
Central Builders
Supply Company
Chickadee eMarketing
Custom Container Solutions
Delaware Township Supervisors
Eastern Millwright
Regional Council
Evangelical Community
Hospital
Greater Susquehanna Valley
YMCA - Mifflinburg Y Center
Greater Susquehanna Valley
YMCA - Milton Branch
Greater Susquehanna Valley
YMCA - Sunbury Branch
Green Ridge Graphics
Innovative Manufacturer's
Center (IMC)
Jodie Bryant - Coldwell Banker
Penn One Real Estate
Karen Baker
Larson Design Group
- Selinsgrove
Larson Design Group
- Williamsport
Lewisburg Arts Council
Lewisburg Hotel
Lewisburg YMCA at the
Miller Center
LIVIC Civil - Bloomsburg
LIVIC Civil - Montoursville
LIVIC Civil - Selinsgrove
Megan Dugan - State Farm
Insurance
Middle Creek Signs Inc.
Milton Public Library

Milton Savings Bank
Milton Transportation, Inc.
North Shore Railroad Company
On Fire Promotions
Peggy Bouton - Coldwell
Banker Penn One Real Estate
Penn State Extension Central
Susquehanna Counties
Pennsylvania American
Water Company
Pennsylvania Chamber
Insurance
Photography by David Miller
Pinpoint Federal Credit Union
Real IT Care
River Valley Builders
SEDA-Council of Governments
(SEDA-COG)
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Bloomsburg
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Danville
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Danville Main Branch
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Elysburg
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Lewisburg
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Mifflinburg
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Milton
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Shamokin Dam
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Sunbury
Service 1st Federal Credit
Union - Williamsport/Loyalsock
Service Electric Cablevision
Suburban Propane
Susquehanna Fire
Equipment Company
The Standard-Journal
Turbotville National Bank
Union County Historical Society
Union County Housing Authority
Warrior Run School District
Watson Inn
Watson Dental PC
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton
International Airport
Zartman Construction

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



Chandra Spring DeWald, Employer Outreach

SpringDewaldch@upmc.edu

570-320-7444

1100 Grampian Blvd., Williamsport

How long have you been in business?

The WorkCenter, part of UPMC in North Central Pa., started providing services in 1987 at Muncy Valley Hospital, now UPMC Muncy, when the Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) started the Federal Regulations on Mandated Drug and Alcohol Testing for all DOT agencies. It has grown to include four offices in north central Pa.

What makes your business unique?

We are the only organization that has been in business since the inception of mandated

drug testing in north central Pa. Our experience and knowledge are unmatched by any other occupational health provider. The WorkCenter's sole focus is on providing services to employers and helping local companies maintain a healthy workforce and a safe work environment.

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

Employer and employee trainings including proper lifting techniques, employer drug and alcohol training classes, job placement

assessments, and consortium/third party administration.

What is your Mission Statement?

UPMC's mission to serve our community by providing outstanding patient care and to shape tomorrow's health system through clinical and technological innovation, research, and education. WorkCenter's mission is to provide world-class care to assist our community partners with obtaining (hiring) and maintaining a healthy workforce. hol testing.

Laura Shrawder-Miles,
Owner and Wealth Advisor
570-286-8346

www.RiverfrontFinancial.net

laura@riverfrontfinancial.net

**How long have you been in business?**

I have been in the financial services business since 1987 working first at M&T bank, starting as a teller and moving to the investment and insurance side in 1993 to become a financial advisor. Then in 2005, I was able to start my own business first named Shrawder Financial Services and then changed in 2017 to Riverfront Financial Services.

What makes your business unique?

I am only 53 years old, but I have 35 years experience bringing a vast array of invest-

ment and insurance options to help clients meet their investment and insurance objectives, goals and risk tolerance.

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

Riverfront Financial Services is a local, independent financial services company. As a financial advisor, I have the revelation of providing the highest quality of financial advice, which I believe every client deserves. I am focused on providing my clients with the services, tools, and resources needed

for success. Our open product architecture and innovative fee-based programs assist our clients with the tools and flexibility to develop investment strategies best suited for their needs. I have partnered with Kovack Securities out of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. They are one of the country's largest independent broker/dealers. Due to this partnership, I am able to focus on the needs, goals and objectives of my clients rather than office logistics.



André W.K. Roupp, Supervisor
8594 OLD TURNPIKE ROAD
MIFFLINBURG, PA 17844



Andre Roupp, President/Funeral Director

andre@rouppfhinc.com

570-966-2402

www.rouppfuneralhome.com

How long have you been in business?

I have been operating Roupp Funeral Home, Inc. since 1998.

What makes your business unique?

Funeral ceremonies are a time of remembrance and celebration of a loved one's life. Each person has a life story, each family has a story, and I believe it is our challenge to help each family remember and celebrate those stories in their own personal

manner. Families trust us in an emotional and grieving time with caring for the deceased as well as creating and organizing the ceremony. We strive to assist families who have trusted in us with great commitment and diligence.

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

Hugs from Home has been a very successful initiative we put into place during the pandemic. It gives those not attending the funeral a chance to be able to share a token of love and support. By submitting a tribute

on the obituary page, we'll print that message to place it with a personalized candle. These notes and candle will be placed in the chapel as hugs for the families.

What community organizations do you participate with?

We partner with various ones for events, give them support where needed, and bring awareness to them on our social media. A few organizations we've worked with recently, include: Mifflinburg Hose Company, Kelsey's Dream, Camp Koala, Golden Rule Love Inc., DIG Furniture Bank and more!

What's Happening



COME JOIN US AT OUR EVENTS

Every Day – We have a clothing and shoes **ONLY** bin at the Puppet Home as a fundraiser. It is a HandUp Foundation bin and is located behind the puppet home at 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/150483-2022-giving>

Saturday, Feb. 11 – Private birthday party at Puppet Home
(No community event on this day)

Sunday, Feb. 12 - Paws-itively Obedient Dog Training School at Puppet Home

Saturday, Feb. 18 – Kingdom Kidz SOUP SALE: Pick up 1 – 5 pm. To order soup, call 570-838-3133. Veg. Beef and Ham and Bean available at \$8.50/quart.

Saturday, Feb. 18 – Kingdom Kidz Activity rooms open 1 to 4:30 pm. \$7 for Activity rooms, FREE event vouchers are available. Call 570-838-3133, or ask at door. Children 3 and under are free. Popcorn will be served.

Call us for Birthday Parties at the Puppet Home 570 838 3133. Puppet Program and/or Activity Rooms available.



Quality Family Programming

www.hiskingdomkidz.org e-mail: puppets@hiskingdomkidz.org

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*Send your event information to
jshaffer@centralpachamber.com!*



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We are looking for local vendors & businesses to recommend for our customers event needs. Would you like your business to be advertised FOR FREE on our website? Please email your business link to tabithawatsoninn@gmail.com.

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- CUSTOM SIGNAGE/PRINTING

Mutts Madness

SUNBURY – Tickets are available for the annual Mutts Madness Raffle benefiting Mostly Mutts, a no-kill animal shelter near Sunbury. Prizes range from \$25 to \$500.

Tickets at \$10 each may be purchased from Mostly Mutts volunteers, by contacting Cindy Shamp at 570-473-1029, or sending an e-mail to mostlymuttsonline@gmail.com.



Mostly Mutts of Sunbury, PA.

The drawing will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at Penn's Tavern, 113 River Road (Route 147), Sunbury. Winners of the following prizes will be contacted by phone: \$500, one winner; \$300, one winner; \$200, one winner; \$100, 10 winners; \$50, six winners; and \$25, eight winners.

All proceeds from the raffle support approximately 50 dogs and several cats housed at the shelter.

To learn more about Mostly Mutts, the animals available for adoption, and upcoming events, visit www.mostlymuttsonline.com, call 570-988-6483 or follow Mostly Mutts of Sunbury PA on Facebook and MostlyMuttsSunbury on Twitter.

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Seminar & Training Series

Introduction to Grant Writing

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21

In-Person @ the Central PA Chamber Ross Room

Cost: **Free of Charge**

Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by:



Central Susquehanna
Intermediate Unit

CENTRAL PA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **INSIDE JOBS**

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 22

Featuring:

@ 115 Farley Circle, Ste. 202, Lewisburg

- A behind-the-scenes look and discussion of their non-invasive treatment services
- A giveaway for a lucky registrant
- Lunch provided



Inside Jobs offers members a chance to tour facilities of fellow businesses/organizations. Learn more and register @ www.centralpachamber.com/inside-jobs-tours

JOIN US FOR OUR 25TH ANNUAL

Chocolate Lovers' Festival

Saturday, February 4, 2023

EVENTS INCLUDE:Chocolate Lovers' Gala—

Location: Lewisburg Hotel, 136 Market Street, Lewisburg

Time: 6:30pm – 10:30pm

Features: Hors d'oeuvres, open bar w/signature cocktail, chocolate demonstrations, professional chocolate display, chocolate fountain, dancing, live auction, on-line auction, & 50/50 drawing.

Ticket prices: \$100 per person, \$175 per couple, \$600 per table of 8.

Chocolate Lovers' Chocolate Tour—

Local and regional bakers and candy makers have partnered to create traveling chocolate tour tasting boxes or "Chocolate Flights". Each \$15 ticket includes a tasting box of at least 15 chocolate nibbles and goodies for participants to take home or enjoy while strolling through the Ice Festival & shops in beautiful Downtown Lewisburg.

Tickets for both events can be purchased online at donaldheiter.org.

All proceeds benefit the Donald Heiter Community Center.



MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S 2023 Lecture Series

FREE LECTURES HELD IN THE MILTON HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 15 at 2PM***"Chronicles and Legends of Milton"*by George Venios
Local Historian (Milton)

Take a historical journey through our town's past by exploring some of its many unique social and cultural characteristics.

Snow Date: January 22

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 12 at 2PM***"An American Icon: Jackie Kennedy"*by Jill Holland Lawrence
actress

Spend an afternoon with one of our most popular and admired First Ladies.

Snow Date: February 19

**SUNDAY
MARCH 5 at 2PM***"Pennsylvania: America's Covered Bridge Capital"*by Scott Bomboy, historian,
editor-in-chief, National Constitution Center

See many of PA's covered bridges and learn about the efforts to preserve them.

For information, contact John McWilliams, jcm6@psu.edu**Find the latest member events on our Facebook and Instagram pages!**

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
2/8/23	U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act	Webinar	10 to 11 a.m.	Free
2/16/23	CMMC Level 1 Explained	Webinar	2 to 3 p.m.	Free
3/8/23	Cargo Insurance & Carriers Liability	Webinar	10 to 11 a.m.	Free



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



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

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
2/9/23	Business Startup Basics for Central PA: The First Step	416 Market St., DeWitt Building, 3rd Floor Lewisburg	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	No Fee
2/16/23	Embracing Your Inner Salesperson: A Serious Conversation on How Not to Be the Worst Salesperson Ever	416 Market St., DeWitt Building, 3rd Floor Lewisburg & Online	9 to 11 a.m.	No Fee

Have you dreamed of being your own boss for many years but don't know where to start?...
Start with the Bucknell SBDC!

Spring 2023 Weis Center performances

LEWISBURG - The Weis Center for the Performing Art's 2022-23 Season continues in the new year, with a lineup that can entertain a variety of tastes and audiences. Here's what's on the schedule for February.

7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3

Founded in 1994 by C. Brian Williams, Step Afrika! is the first professional company dedicated to the tradition of stepping. Under Williams's leadership, stepping has evolved into one of America's cultural exports, touring more than 50 countries across the globe. Step Afrika! now ranks as one of the top 10 African American dance companies in the United States.

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8

Alash are masters of Tuvan throat singing (xöömei), a remarkable technique for singing multiple pitches at the same time. What distinguishes this gifted trio from earlier generations of Tuvan throat singers is the subtle infusion of modern influences into their traditional music. One can find complex harmonies, Western instruments and contemporary song forms in Alash's music, but its overall sound and spirit remain decidedly Tuvan.

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18

Ephrat Asherie Dance (EAD) is a dance company rooted in African American and Latinx street and club dances. Dedicated to exploring the inherent complexities of these forms, EAD investigates the expansive narrative qualities of various social dances, including breaking, hip-hop, house and vogue, as a



means to tell stories, develop innovative imagery and find new modes of expression. EAD's first evening-length work, A Single Ride, earned two Bessie nominations in 2013 for Outstanding Emerging Choreographer and Outstanding Sound Design by Marty Beller. The company has presented work at The Apollo Theater; the Celebrity Series of Boston; Columbia (Mo.) College; New York City's Dixon Place; Fira Tàrraga, Spain; Works & Process at the Guggenheim, New York; Jacob's Pillow dance festival, Becket, Mass.; the Joyce Theater, New York; La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club, New York; the River to River Festival, New York; Mass MoCA, North Adams, Mass.;

New York Live Arts; SummerStage in Central Park, and The Yard, Chilmark, Mass., among others.

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22

The Wicked Chicken plays a mix of driving rock 'n' roll, old-time fiddle and blues. Armed with exciting new material, a powerful groove and a unique sound, the Wicked Chicken will surprise and captivate audiences of all varieties. The foundation of the band are the Tritsch brothers: Gus (guitar, vocals and fiddle) and Huck (drums, percussion and fiddle).

The Weis Center is celebrating its 35 year, and you can learn much more at www.bucknell.edu/life-bucknell/arts-performances/weis-center-performing-arts.

The LINK

Proudly serving Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union Counties.



We welcome you to visit The Link

Friday, February 10th, 10:00 am – 2:30 pm

Milton Public Library

541 Broadway, Milton, PA



The Link offers professional staff support for:

- Job Matching
- Career Guidance
- Workforce Training
- Recruitment Events

The Link is equipped with:

- Computers
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For the entire schedule including locations visit our **Facebook page @TheLinkMCC** under Events or to learn even more visit our website **CentralPACareerLink.org**



Questions? Call or email:
Robert Eddy
reddy@censop.com
Craig Kurtz
ckurtz@censop.com
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Visit
www.centralpachamber.com
and click on
"Member-to-Member Discounts" under the
"Membership" tab.

Want to offer a discount to fellow Central PA Chamber members?
E-mail jshaffer@centralpachamber.com.

Dwell donation



Employees at Commercial Stainless Inc. in Bloomsburg recently rallied together and raised \$2,000 to donate to Dwell Orphan Care, a non-profit focused on supporting children in foster care. Accepting the donation from the Commercial Stainless representatives is Jenn Rarig, Director of Marketing & Development for Dwell. Established in January 2019, Dwell Orphan Care is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that exists to support and encourage foster and adoptive families in Central PA, while mobilizing and equipping the community and local church so that children have a safe, loving, forever home in which to dwell. Dwell's headquarters is located in Lycoming County with a second Hope Chest Foster Closet located in Bloomsburg. For more information, or to make a tax deductible gift to this cause, visit www.DwellOrphanCare.org.

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Seminar & Training Series


Federal Grant Writing

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28

In-Person @ the Central PA Chamber Smith Room

Cost: **Free of Charge**

Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

Presented by: 
Central Susquehanna
Intermediate Unit

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

BREAKFAST BRIEFING

7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 24 @
the Central PA Chamber of Commerce
30 Lawton Lane, Milton.

Members - FREE; Non-members - \$7
(Registration is Required)

Sponsored by:



CENTRAL PAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Pledged Asset Loan

To support its Vision of "Helping Our Region Grow", the Central PA Chamber of Commerce is offering Pledged Asset Loans (PAL) to member businesses and organizations that need help in securing business loans.

For more information,
visit: www.centralpachamber.com/pal.

"It was pretty much a seamless transaction with you guys, and it certainly will make things easier for me to do the renovations as opposed to having to use all of my cash...I'm certainly happy to suggest or encourage anyone who is looking to purchase to chat with you on how you can help them."

-Ann Hilliard, RE/MAX Bridges

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Time with Tea Jay

Providing perspective

We're officially one month into 2023. If you made any New Year's resolutions, have you been able to keep them so far? I personally have never been one to make resolutions. This year, however, I deemed it to be a year of growth and change for myself, both personally and professionally. I've heard about "vision boards" before and opted to give it a try. It puts things into perspective and provides a daily reminder of your goals, wants and dreams for the year. I choose to hang mine in an area I am sure to see at the beginning and end of each day. To the right of this column is a picture of me holding my vision board. Have you ever made one for yourself? If you would you be interested, feel free to send me an e-mail for some thoughts and feedback. Speaking of putting things into perspective, I am curious how many of us hesitate to say or do what we wholeheartedly feel is needed or right. How often do we refrain from being true to ourselves, our beliefs and our ethics because we are afraid of what others will think and/or say. Do you suppress your concerns, input, passion, acknowledgment, and follow the majority, or the ones who speak the loudest or set societal standards?

I, along with a few million others, watched the Monday Night Football game this past regular NFL season when Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin was rushed from the field by ambulance to the hospital, after what only seemed like a routine tackle.

After watching the game halted, and cancelled, and the raw emotions of compassion and the openness of prayer on national television during a sporting event where taking a knee is deemed unfavorable, I was thinking this is going to be a changing moment. The continued talk and reference of prayer was growing in the sports arena from sideline announcers, fans in the stands and players on the field.

The next thing that occurred is significant whether you are a believer in prayer or not. It is more the fact that individuals went against the norm and did what their hearts told them. It may have crossed their minds that they could be putting their careers in jeopardy; but they went ahead and prayed on live television anyway. It set a precedent, I believe, with many that we are in a country where we are beyond blessed to have the right to our beliefs and freedoms to speak on what we believe. This was just monumental to me personally.

How does this relate to business? I think we all need to speak up more for what we truly believe in and are compassionate about. We need to put our differences aside and support others even if we do not agree on everything. We need to express ourselves and encourage others to do the same.

So, I challenge you to make the point to live your life with purpose. Be true to who you are and do everything on purpose for a purpose.



President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey displays her 'vision board', which provides her a daily reminder of her goals for 2023. Read more about it in this month's 'Time with Tea Jay'.

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Tea Jay

Tea Jay Aikey
President & CEO

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WILLIAMSPORT - The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) in collaboration with Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, will host Raise the Region on March 8 and 9.

The 30-hour online program is designed to help kick off the 2023 fundraising efforts of local non-profits through the generosity of FCFP sponsors and the community at-large.

Participation in Raise the Region is available to 501(c)(3) organizations serving residents in Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Tioga, and/or Union counties.

Pre-registration is required by Friday, Feb. 24. For non-profits interested in registering for this event and a complete set of rules, visit www.RaiseTheRegion.org.

According to FCFP, Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships has donated \$175,000 that will be used to stretch every donation made to pre-registered

nonprofits. Additional monetary prizes and incentives sponsored by First Citizens Community Bank, Larson Design Group, Pennsylvania Skill by Miele Manufacturing, Subaru, Toyota Motor Corporation, UPMC and Weis Markets will be awarded to participating non-profits throughout the entire event.

In 2022, north central Pennsylvania showed its true spirit of philanthropy by donating \$2,144,702 to 320 non-profit organizations. The program had thousands of donors make over 13,700 gifts. Since the start in 2013, Raise the Region has collectively received over \$14.4 million in donations for the benefit of local non-profit organizations.

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

Headshots a hit



Our 1/2 Price Headshots fundraiser on Jan. 27 with PhotoWhere Photography was a big hit! The morning schedule was completely filled! Due to the overwhelming success, we're planning to host it, again, on May 12. Register at www.centralpa-chamber.com/events. Many thanks to Ron Aunkst for his support of the Central PA Chamber! Learn more about what he has to offer by visiting www.photowhere.com.

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A fun fact about yourself?
I played college football.

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Hosting a group for an Inside Jobs Tour.

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Term ending 2025

Members Recognized

North Shore Railroad

NORTHUMBERLAND - North Shore Railroad used its last quarterly newsletter of 2022 to recognize its employees, both new and long-term alike.

"Each year, our fourth quarter 'On Track' serves as a year-end recap of our employee recognition and celebrations," wrote Jeb Stotter, President & CEO. "This tends to be the time we also reflect on our employee retention rates. Part of my management team's mission is to continue to develop North Shore into a company that treats our employees with respect, rewards them well for their efforts, and is worth being proud of."

"The Bureau of Labor States reports that the median tenure of an employee is 4.1 years. More than 80 percent of our current employees have surpassed that threshold, and in fact, over a third of our employees have been with the company for 15 years or longer. This is a good reminder that our management team and our employees are doing a very commendable job of accomplishing our mission at North Shore!"

Randy Ulrich, Train & Engine Service, was recognized for 35 years. Reaching 20 years was Dean Hixson, NSHR Train & Engine Service, as well as Diana Williams, Accounting. Celebrating their 15th anniversaries, include: James Folder, Locomotive Repair/Shop; Todd Heckert, NBER Train & Engine Service Russ Nicodemus, Accounting; Mike Sense, NSHR Train & Engine Service; and Matt Wheeland, Locomotive Repair/Shop. Celebrating 10 years, are: Eric Linn, JVRR Train & Engine Service; Zac Mahaffey, Maintenance of Way; Greg Martin, NBER Train & Engine Service; Adam Pearson, LVRR Train & Engine Service; and Mark Wertman, LVRR Train & Engine Service. At five years, are: Jesse Mizer, Communications & Signals; and Justin Stegner, JVRR Train & Engine Service.

New hires in 2022, included: Josiah Clemens, NSHR Train & Engine Service; Keith Geise, Jr., JVRR Train & Engine Service; Jerred Keltz, LVRR Train & Engine Service; and Kurt Mayer, NSHR Train & Engine Service.

And, the 2022 Terry Webster Safety Award went to Mark Wertman, Lycoming Valley Railroad Conductor/Engineer. The award is named after the late Terry Webster, "who worked on the railroad his whole life, and he never had a single railroad injury in his entire railroad career."

Community Giving Foundation

SELINGSGROVE - The Community Giving Foundation: Selinsgrove recently welcomed two new members to its board of directors.

Dr. Nicole Henry is an occupational therapist at Evangelical Community Hospital. She was born and raised in Selinsgrove and enjoys the small-town energy the community has to offer. She has worked as an occupational therapist since 2018 and graduated with her doctorate after seeing that the career aligned well with her passion for serving and helping others. Although she fully enjoys her career, Henry's greatest blessing and accomplishment is her husband and two children. They enjoy spending time playing games, wrestling in the living room, dancing to various genres of music, and reading books. Henry loves to cook and eat delicious food, read



Dr. Nicole Henry

Dr. Katie Hess

books when she has some leisure time, and experience the outdoors.

"I believe community giving is the intentionality of providing and assisting those that may not have a way to access things they need," she said. "It is not only important to give your own time and effort, but also to sustain the community to ensure future years and generations are able to flourish. It's the key to staying involved and connected to others. I am thrilled to partner with the Foundation as a board member! Serving my community and building connections is something I find very valuable and fulfilling."

And, Dr. Katie Hess is an optometrist at Hess Family Eye Care. She received an undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University and a doctorate from Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Originally from Washington, PA, Hess currently lives in Selinsgrove with her husband and three children.

"Community giving is important because it serves to identify needs within our community," Hess said. "It provides a way for donors' funds to be allocated in a way that is both important to them and valuable for the community. I am excited to be a part of the Foundation as it serves to benefit our small community."

In addition to the two new board members, the Selinsgrove Board is represented by: Donna Schuck (chair), Jodi Cope (vice chair), Philip Winger (secretary), William Bucher (financial liaison), Robert Bertram, Malcolm Derk, Frank Jankowski, Sara Lauver, Stacey Napoli, Patricia Pinkowski, Jason Robinson, and Raven Rudnitsky.

Selinsgrove is an affiliate of the Community Giving Foundation, which manages over 325 charitable funds and makes grant investments throughout the region to improve the quality of life in the Central Susquehanna area. Visit www.csgiving.org to learn more.

Villager Realty

LEWISBURG - Sabra Karr, Broker of Record of Villager Realty, Inc., has announced the names of Villager agents selected to be honored in the final Quarter of 2022.

"I am proud to announce Gretchen Bellott from the Danville Office as our Villager Realty Agent of the Quarter for these final months of 2022," Kaar said. "Gretchen is innovative, professional and a real team player. She is always willing to help and encourage newer agents and brings creative ideas to her clients and the company. 'We celebrate Gretchen and her achievements!'" In addition, Jessica Herman from the Northumberland Office was nominated for her excellent service to her sellers, buyers, landlords and tenants.

"She is a wonderful agent with a passion to serve," Kaar said.

And, the Lewisburg Office selected Terry Conrad for his mentoring skills and "can-do" attitude. "Terry is a great advocate for his clients. He cares about his co-workers and his community."

Tim Kaar, Villager Realty President and CEO, said a "heartfelt thanks and congratulations are in order for each of these out-



Gretchen Bellott

Jessica Herman



Terry Conrad

standing individuals. We are excited for them and for all our exceptional agents as we enter our 50th year serving the real estate needs of the Greater Susquehanna Valley."

North Central Sight Services

WILLIAMSPORT - Suellen Porter, a customer service supervisor at North Central Sight Services, was recognized by National Industries for the Blind (NIB) as one of the 2022 Milton J. Samuelson Career Achievement Award nominees. According to NIB, Porter has become a great asset to the agency and is a member of the organization's Advocates for Leadership and Employment program, where she meets regularly with legislators to represent the interested of people who are blind.



Suellen Porter

Evangelical Community Hospital

LEWISBURG - On National Philanthropy Day, on Nov. 15, Evangelical Community Hospital held its inaugural Evangelical Honors the Community banquet at Rusty Rail Brewing Company, Mifflinburg.

The event was designed as an outward sign of appreciation for ways the Hospital and the community work together to build a place where people want to live, work and raise families. Opening the event, Kendra Aucker, President and CEO of Evangelical, said "We are honored to be able to recognize and appreciate some of our most extraordinary community members, who have influenced one or more of the foundational community pillars through their own philanthropy, leadership, and service."

Guest speaker Barbara Hudock, Chief Executive Officer and Founding Partner of the Hudock Capital Group, spoke to attendees about the benefits of giving, not in the traditional sense of benefits



The 2022 Evangelical Honors the Community Award Recipients are, from left: Kylie Kuhns, Young Philanthropist of the Year; Emily Gorski, Community Service Award of the Year; John Furia, MD, Physician Philanthropist of the Year; DeOnne Gronlund, accepting posthumously for Robert Gronlund, President's Award; James Apple, Lifetime Achievement Award; W. Gale Reish, MD, Philanthropy Advocate of the Year; Gloria Faylor Karchner, Philanthropist of the Year; Dale Miller, President's Award; Joseph McGranaghan, President's Award; and Fire Chief Scott Derr, accepting for Milton Fire Department, President's Award. Not pictured: Silvertip, Inc. Business Philanthropist of the Year and former U.S. Rep. Fred Keller, President's Award.

but in the feelings of accomplishment it evokes when knowing that what is contributed—funds, time, commitment—creates the betterment of a bigger picture, making a difference where a difference can be made.

Receiving the very first Lifetime Achievement Award was James Apple. The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated more than 20 years of service as a volunteer and philanthropist to Evangelical Community Hospital and the greater community. In addition to involvement with the Boy Scouts of America Susquehanna Council, Greater Susquehanna Valley YMCA Board of Directors, Gettysburg College Board of Trustees, and Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Apple joined the Hospital's Board of Directors in 1967.

"Evangelical has been serving the community for 96 years, and Jim has served it 57 percent of the time it's been in existence," Aucker said. "Kindness is Jim's superpower, and he espouses it every day. Whether he recognizes it or not, it is a force that has changed the lives around him for the better. From his example, I have learned that kindness is really an act of courage that matters. Kindness is life changing. And it is kindness that binds us together like nothing else."

Other awards given recognizing contributions to the Hospital and the community at-large were: Philanthropist of the Year – Gloria Faylor Karchner; Philanthropy Advocate of the Year – W. Gale Reish, MD; Physician Philanthropist of the Year – John P. Furia, MD, SUN Orthopaedics of Evangelical; Business Philanthropist of the Year – Silvertip, Inc.; Young Philanthropist of the Year – Kylie Kuhns, Kelsey's Dream; Community Service Award of the Year – Emily Gorski, DIG Furniture Bank; President's Awards –Robert Gronlund (presented to wife, DeOnne Gronlund, in his memory); Dale Miller; Joseph McGranaghan; former U.S. Rep. Fred Keller; the Milton Fire Department.

In other news, Evangelical has welcomed 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:

- Nathan Badman, Certified Physician Assistant—Hospitalist Group, Evangelical Community Hospital, January 2023
- Jack Bogart, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner—Critical Care Group, Evangelical Community Hospital, December 2022
- Janine Gerringer, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner—Heart and Vascular Center of Evangelical, January 2023
- Michelle Herman, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner—Family Medicine of Evangelical-Lewisburg, Brookpark, February 2023
- Theresa Kelly, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist—Anesthesiology of Evangelical, January 2023
- Melissa Kireski, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner—Urgent Care of Evangelical, February 2023
- Jillian Korgeski, Certified Physician Assistant—SUN Orthopaedics of Evangelical, January 2023
- Kimberly Pesarchick, Certified Physician Assistant—Critical Care Group, Evangelical Community Hospital, January 2023
- Ciana Rollman, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist—Anesthesiology of Evangelical, January 2023
- Katlyn Yebernetsky, Certified Physician Assistant—Emergency Medicine Group, Evangelical Community Hospital, December 2022

Tell us about your new hires, awards, promotions and more!
E-mail jshaffer@centralpachamber.com!

Influenced to volunteer



If you have been following Amber G Co. Photography on social media, you would know she has a team of 'Senior Influencers' that she works with and are even used as models for fellow member Fusion Formal & Bridal, Lewisburg. It's not all glitz and glam, however, as part of the job is to also help with a volunteer project. Last summer, they spend time at the Donald L. Heiter Community Center, Lewisburg, helping with a yearbook project. And, in September, they teamed up with Arthur's Pet Pantry, helping with registration during the Milton Harvest Festival Annual Pet Parade. Owner/Photographer Amber Gardner can see the volunteerism continuing this year and loves the fact that the influencers are coming up with their own ideas to help out in area communities. For more, visit: www.ambergcophotography.com and find her across social media.

Legislative Event topics announced

WATSONTOWN – Congressman Dan Meuser (PA-9) will discuss the U.S. border, soaring energy costs and the state of the economy during the Central PA Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Event on Feb. 17 at the Watson Inn.

In the 118th Congress, U.S. Rep. Meuser now represents many businesses and organizations across the region. Meuser had addressed the Central PA Chamber membership once before a few years ago, but this will be the first time the Congressman speaks in-person. There are still seats available for the Legislative Event, which is from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 17, in the Moon Room of the Watson Inn, Watsontown. However, they are expected to fill up quickly with just a couple of weeks to go until the event. The cost to attend is \$20 for Central PA Chamber members and \$25 for non-members. Registration includes a breakfast buffet and

the opportunity to network with 100-plus business and community leaders. Among them are usually several additional elected officials.

To register, visit www.centralpa-chamber.com/events. This Legislative Event is sponsored by Pennsylvania College of Technology Workforce Development. Learn more now at www.pct.edu/business/workforce-development.

Congressman Meuser serves on the House Small Business and House Financial Services committees and is also a member of the Problem Solvers Caucus, the Republican Study Committee, Republican Main Street Caucus, and the Border Security Caucus.



U.S. Rep.
Dan Meuser (PA-9)

SECV deploys Fiber-to-the-Home

NORTHUMBERLAND – Service Electric Cablevision, a leading provider of residential and business Internet, TV and phone services is excited to announce it has completed deploying Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) to residents in a Snyder County network expansion area south of Selinsgrove.

Residential and commercial customers in the Selinsgrove expansion area now have access to fast, reliable matching download and upload Internet speeds ranging from 100M to 2 Gig, Plume Whole-Home Wi-Fi, TiVo Stream IPTV service and home phone.

"It is exciting to provide a high quality wired broadband service to residents of an area where no such service was previously available, especially when delivering service over a totally fiber optic network," said Sam Haulman, General Manager of the Sunbury System. "The Snyder County network expansion consisted of approximately 20 miles of fiber routing and passed over 300 homes.

"We are also pleased to announce that construction has

started on another FTTH network expansion project located in Mount Pleasant Township, Columbia County. This build consists of approximately 50 miles of fiber routing and will pass over 500 homes. Service is expected to be available to residents late in the first quarter of 2023."

To learn more, visit www.secv.com/ftth.

About Service Electric Cablevision Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. (SECV) is a leading Pennsylvania provider of residential and business Internet, TV, and phone services and the founder of the cable television industry. SECV continues to deliver new and improved content and products to its customers. The company offers Internet download speeds up to 2 Gig, Plume Whole-Home Wi-Fi, IPTV with Cloud DVR powered by TiVo, convenient features like TV Everywhere (TVE), and more.

SECV serves over 100 Pennsylvania communities in three operating regions with local employees.

Learn more at www.secv.com.



In January, the Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary Club invited Kristy Lair, a Certified Personal Trainer, as one of its speakers. Her business Kickstart Fitness For Women is located in Watsontown, where she offers group fitness instruction, personal training and lifestyle and weight management coaching. Lair is pictured at right, alongside Rotary Club member Shirley Brough. Learn more at www.lewisburgsunriserotary.org.



Pictured above, in December, Lifting Little Lives was able to donate \$3,000 to The Two Sisters Toy Drive in support of the Chief Carl Reed Memorial Fund to help provide a great Christmas to children in the Warrior Run School District. In addition, LLL also had the pleasure of sending Luke, at right, and his family of nine to an all expense paid trip to Hershey Park. According to Ashley Parrish, president of Lifting Little Lives, Luke loves Hershey Park, and they also covered two nights at the Hersey Lodge, sweet lights, tickets to the park, and more. Learn more at www.liftinglittlelives.org and on Facebook.



Legacy honored

BERWICK - The Community Giving Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Six County Fireman's Association Mark Coons Memorial Scholarship Fund.

This scholarship award was originally created in 2013, in memory of past Association president Mark Coons of Jermyn. Coons gave his life to the fire service, serving with the Crystal Fire Company and as a member of the Firemen's Association of Pennsylvania, the Northeastern Volunteer Firemen's Federation, and the Six County Fireman's Association. His heart for service to the community led him to actively recruit people, especially new and young firefighters, to join these organizations.

The Six County Fireman's Association dissolved in June 2022. Before it disbanded, members came together and made the thoughtful decision to continue the spirit of the scholarship and legacy of Mark Coons through a fund at the Community Giving Foundation.

The goal of the scholarship remains the same - to assist active members or children of active or deceased members of a fire department with the financial burden of furthering their education. Applicants may reside in Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland or Schuylkill counties. Preference is given to students pursuing education in an emergency services field.

"The need for volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel continues to be on the rise across our area. Our hope is that in some small way the money received through this scholarship may help students pursue one of these fields," said Deanna Force, Danville Fire Dept. PIO and former Montour County Vice President with Six County Fireman's Association.

Though the Association was dissolved, its members know that their passion for giving back to the communities they live in and serve will continue as they support the next generation of emergency personnel.

Contributions can be made to the Six County Fireman's Association Mark Coons Memorial Scholarship Fund online at www.csgiving.org (click Donate and search "Fireman"), or mail to the Community Giving Foundation, Attn: Six County Fireman's Association Fund, 725 West Front Street, Berwick, PA 18603.



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Business & Education

Guest Column

Where do we find and keep great employees?

We know how hard it is to find and keep great employees. We need people who possess communication, leadership, teamwork, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. We need people who really know business. But where do we find them? Right here at home. Since 1979, many of our local students have attended the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education's (FFEE) award winning program, Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW). PFEW's incredible impact as described by 2022 PFEW graduate Julia Bianchin: "PFEW is unique in that it gave me a glimpse into the business world in a way that I don't think I could have experienced otherwise. There have also been incredible speakers with powerful messages that will change my life. The lessons, in business and in life, that I have learned here will be unmatched in any other event that I attend. Students need to experience this hands-on learning that will prepare future generations to become the next community leaders and understand what employers want and need."

That's why we support FFEE, and I'm asking you to support them, too.

Students attend PFEW on a \$695 sponsorship provided by businesses, chambers, founda-

tions, and others who want to prepare our young people for the workforce. I hope you'll consider a gift to a local student today.

FFEE offers two additional programs that prepare students for great careers:

★ The Stock Market Game™ (SMG) - students in grades 4-12 learn about investing, capital markets and financial literacy

★ Speaker Series – students explore careers, discover the education and skills needed for success in a wide variety of fields, and make real connections to our local workforce

For more information, contact FFEE President & CEO Karen Musante at 814-833-9576, ext. 104, karen@pfew.org or visit www.pfew.org.

Lastly, from PFEW 2022 graduate Miruna Vasilescu: "Not only has PFEW helped me excel in developing my leadership skills, but it has also changed me as a person and allowed me to consider more about my life outside of academics than anything else I have ever experienced. Your investment in students' futures is more important than ever during this crucial time in our development when we discover who we are."

PFEW is that important, and I hope you'll support students today. Thank you.

- Scott T. Lee

VP of Marketing and Development
Foundation for
Free Enterprise Education



Pictured, from left, are Service 1st reps: Scott Temple, Vice President Specialized Lending; Jennifer Watts, Assistant Vice President Milton Market; and Brett Johnson, Vice President Lending; during the recent Financial Reality Fair held at Meadowbrook Christian School, Milton.

Service 1st, Meadowbrook partner for Financial Reality Fair

MILTON - Service 1st Federal Credit Union recently partnered with Meadowbrook Christian School, Milton, to host the school's first Financial Reality Fair.

More than 170 students in grades 6 through 12 took part in the mock budget experience.

"What a rewarding day, definitely for me and I believe for the students as well," said Jennifer Watts, Assistant Vice President Milton Market, Service 1st. "Having the students work through their own budget is teaching them the skills to choose between needs and wants and helping them determine if they could afford all of those things based on the career they choose."

"It's helping to get them on track for the lifestyle they desire."

The Financial Reality Fair is designed to place students in real-life situations where they select a career, are provided with an entry level salary and challenged to make decisions while remaining within budget. Students are required to visit booths at the fair and purchase necessities, such as housing, clothing, food and transportation. As in real life, non-essential options are also presented, such as entertainment, Internet and cell phones. Before leaving the fair, students must spin the "reality wheel" and meet with financial counselors from Service 1st to review their decisions.

To schedule a Financial Reality Fair, call 800-562-6049.



Mifflinburg Bank & Trust President and CEO Jeffrey Kapsar holds a new Chromebook computer, which the bank will award to the student with the highest portfolio in the Mifflinburg Bank & Trust/Union County Stock Market Challenge.

The Pennsylvania Council on Financial Literacy announced that thanks to the generous sponsorship of MB&T, all students in grades 3-12 can have full access to the Personal Finance Lab, free-of-charge. This world-class, web-based stock simulation platform and curriculum includes the Personal Budgeting Game, online learning with certifications in Personal Finance and Investing 101, plus the Stock Market Challenge. This cutting-edge, real-time stock market game is used in over 80 percent of the top business schools in the United States. The platform provides lessons, assignments and grading for seamless teacher management as well as the superior gamification of the Stock Market Challenge and the Personal Budgeting Program. The competitions are held in the classroom, both county-wide and state-wide. The next big Stock Market Challenge and Personal Budgeting Competition begins on Feb. 13 and area schools can sign up at www.penncfl.org.

Student of the Month



The Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary Club, in January, announced Maximos 'Max' Mitchell, a Lewisburg Area High School student enrolled in the carpentry program at SUN Area Technical Institute, New Berlin, as its Sun Tech Student of the Month. Mitchell and his team are slated to compete in a small home building project at Penn College of Technology in Williamsport. Pictured, from left, are: Cory Mitchell, Max's father; Peter Harer, Rotary Sponsor; Max; and his mother, Heather Mitchell.

Ryan's Writings



The resources you need

Just like the theme of this column, my originally planned writing was scrapped in order to share with you some more recent developments on the Business & Education schedule here at the Chamber. I'm sure you're familiar with the proverb, "Hope for the best, plan for the worst." Well, this is a case of hope for the best, plan for success! No matter how well planned, how thoroughly thought through, you must always be knowledgeable of the past, able to adapt to the present, and then be successful in the future.

At virtually every opportunity I have to hear from you, the business and community leaders of central Pennsylvania, I am reminded of three common themes: 1. There is a need for workers in our region. 2. There are jobs readily available in our region. 3. Population is decreasing in our region because students and workers are looking for opportunities outside of our region and the commonwealth. To address this, your Chamber is working diligently to provide educational and networking opportunities as well as access to information and organizations that can help provide students and workers with the skills to meet the demands of the modern workplace, and employers with a stream of potential hires.

Two recent revelations gave me a unique insight and fresh perspective on this precise issue. The first occurred just this week during a Seminar & Training Series class with Advance Central PA discussing registered apprenticeships. One of the employers in attendance said that the average age for workers in their industry was 60 years old – yes, that's 60! This particular industry is invaluable to the daily life of every single human being who relies on, let's just call it indoor plumbing! Additionally, there are already apprenticeship programs registered at the federal and commonwealth level to train workers for this occupation. If your industry is in need of workers, I encourage you to utilize the registered apprenticeship programs. Advance Central PA is the perfect resource to get you started. I would be happy to make the connection for you.

The other revelation came in preparation for a fast approaching Seminar & Training with the Pennsylvania Center for Employee Ownership. Did you know "over the next ten years, four million U.S. businesses will transact as a result of aging of the Baby Boomers?" According to the U.S. Department of Labor, more than one-third of these businesses could cease to be, taking the jobs with them. Small, family-owned businesses are still the backbone of America's economy. Can you imagine an America with only a big box and online store monopoly? This Thursday, Feb. 2, the Central PA Chamber will host PaCEO to provide you with an action plan to transition to employee ownership. Let's hope for the best, and plan for success! Hind this phenomenon.

Ryan Workman
Business & Education Coordinator
rworkman@centralpachamber.com

CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Seminar & Training Series

The Benefits of Employee Ownership

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2

In-Person @ the Central PA Chamber OR Online via Zoom

Cost: **Free of Charge**

Register: www.centralpachamber.com/events

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CENTRAL PA BUSINESS & EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Seminar & Training Series

SO, WHAT IS A CHAMBER?

9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 1

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Cost: **FREE**

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Learn more about "B&E" at
www.centralpachamber.com
under the "Business & Education" tab!

Jessica's Jottings

Updates wanted



Wow, did we even have a January this year? It seemed the month went by way too quickly! Maybe it was the lack of cold temperatures and snow that made it seem speedier than usual.

Well, now that we are into February, have you gotten caught up from the holidays yet? If not, don't fret, even though February is our shortest month of the year, there is still plenty of time to make sure everything gets done.

Did you know one of the simplest tasks to complete for your Chamber membership is to review your Directory Listing on our website? With the printed Annual Directory coming out soon, now is the time to make sure your information is correct. There are different items to review within your listing, but I am here to make sure you don't miss them.

Let's start with your Category Listing(s). We have 30 to choose from and you can be listed in as many that apply to your business/organization with no extra cost. Next, your business/organization name, address, phone, and fax (if applicable). Now, your About information. This information can be your mission or vision statement, hours of operation, services available, or all of the above. This is your chance to let everyone know who you are and what you do before they click to explore more. The Primary Contact is next. This should be the person that will receive referrals when made and the Chamber's main contact for any news we have to share with our membership. Note, you can have multiple contacts for your business/organization, but we can only list one Primary Contact on the listing.

Okay the left side of the listing is done, now let's move to the right side. Your logo! Check to make sure we have the most current one for you. Don't have a logo? Reach out to us on referrals of who can help. Social Media platforms are next. We currently can list Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Snap Chat, Vimeo, and we can embed a YouTube video as well. These provide direct links to your pages so your future customers can explore all your different platforms. Finally, click on "Visit Website" to make sure this goes to your current website. Don't have a website, be sure to let us know, and we can also refer you to members that can help.

These listings are important for all of us to maintain. With over 56,000 visits to our website in 2022, we know people are exploring and searching for our members. When you review your listing, if you have any changes that need to be made, simply e-mail me these updates. I will get them done right away.

If you have any other questions, do not hesitate to contact us!

Jessica Beaver
Finance & Membership Director
jbeaver@centralpachamber.com

Breakfast Briefing



Thank you to everyone who joined us for the January Breakfast Briefing, sponsored by Moms for Liberty - Northumberland County. Speaking on the group's behalf was Chapter President Clarissa Paige. The organization is not only open to moms but anyone 'that has a desire to stand up for parental rights at all levels of government.' Learn more at www.m4lnorthumberland.org/home. The first monthly Breakfast Briefing of 2023 also introduced a new breakfast casserole for our guests to enjoy. Pictured below is the Chamber staff giving it a trial run and approval. From left, are Jessica Beaver, Finance & Membership Director (and cook); Tea Jay Aikey, President & CEO; Ryan Workman, Business & Education Coordinator; and Jeff Shaffer, Communication Director.



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Women's heart health

LEWISBURG - Every minute, a woman dies from heart disease in the United States — it is the number one killer of women, causing one in three deaths each year, according to the American Heart Association (AHA).

Prioritizing heart health awareness for women, Evangelical Community Health and Wellness will present a panel discussion on heart health, warning signs, and prevention at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, in the Miller Conference Center, located in the Main Entrance of Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg.

This panel discussion for women about women's heart health is presented by Melanie Patel, DO, Cardiologist, Heart and Vascular Center of Evangelical; Taryn Wilk, Wellness Educator, Evangelical Community Health and Wellness; and Christina O'Rourke, Clinical Dietitian, Evangelical Community Health and Wellness.

"Heart disease and stroke can affect a woman at any age. It is vital for women to have the conversation, to understand personal risk factors, and to take the time to understand their own family history of cardiovascular disease," said Dr. Patel. "The goal of this 'Talk with the Doc' is

to arm women with the knowledge needed to promote a heart healthy way of life."

The panel discussion will focus on Dr. Patel's expertise on heart health management and treatment. More specifically, Dr. Patel will discuss signs and symptoms of heart attacks in women, which are often more subtle in nature than for men. Wilk will share how to focus on physical and mental well-being through exercise, stress reduction and education. Instead of talking about what you should not do, O'Rourke will help participants understand what they should be eating to help improve overall heart health.

This free event is open to the public. Registration is required and can be completed online at www.evanhospital.com/calendar or by calling 570-768-3200. Evangelical is partnering with the American Heart Association and the Go Red for Women movement during heart month, which is February. Go Red for women not only advocates for cardiovascular health of all women, but also funds lifesaving research and educates women across the United States and is committed to removing the unique barriers women face to experiencing better health and well-being.



Above, at right, Lisa Grant, VP/Chief Lending Officer of Milton Savings Bank, recently presented Kingdom Kidz Inc. with a \$500 donation at their Puppet Home, 11 E. Third St., Watontown, which will provide 72 children free admission to the activity rooms on the second and third Saturday of each month. During 2022, over 500 people of all ages participated. At left, is Wendy Heintzelman, Branch Manager/Lender, as she tries her 'hand' with one of over 200 puppets in the puppet room. Learn more at www.hiskingdomkidz.org.

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BY THE NUMBERS...

With **580** current members, we're representing more than **16,000** employees!

There are **73** member renewals listed this month. Thank you all for your continued support!

There are **4** upcoming Seminar & Training Series classes listed in this issue...check them out!

Join us at these upcoming events!

BREAKFAST BRIEFING

Off-site!

7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 10
@ Milton High School,
700 Mahoning St., Milton.

Off-site!

Free to Attend
(Registration is Required)

Sponsored by:



CENTRAL PA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

welcomes
Congressman Dan Meuser (PA-9)



7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 17 @ Watson Inn, Watsontown

Topics to include: the U.S. border, energy costs and the economy

Central PA Chamber Members - \$20; Non-Members - \$25

Register @ www.centralpachamber.com/events

Premier Sponsor:



Workforce Development

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INSIDE JOBS

10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22

Featuring:

@ 366 Smoketown Road, Lewisburg

- A behind-the-scenes experience
- Learn about the various roles to operate the golf course and restaurant
- Lunch following tour



Inside Jobs offers members a chance to tour facilities of fellow businesses/organizations.
Learn more and register @ www.centralpachamber.com/inside-jobs-tours

Open house from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with refreshments and a drawing for a free consultation or handbook review!

Ribbon Cutting

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12 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23 @ 30 Lawton Lane, Milton

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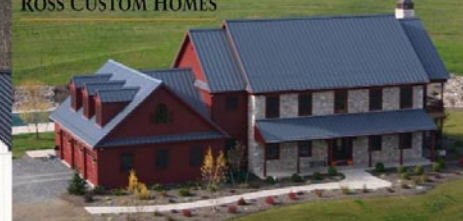
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