IT'S YOUR BUSINESS www.centralpachamber.com Wolume 8, Issue 9 - September 2023

Speaker selected for big event, pg. 3

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jbeaver@centralpachamber.com

Ryan Workman - Business & Education Coordinator rworkman@centralpachamber.com

The Inside Scoop

When I say this issue of It's Your Business is packed, I mean it is packed! There is hardly a dual moment with our Chamber to begin with, but we're going into fall full-force with must attend events! As you'll see from our cover story on page 3, our Annual Meeting is approaching, and it's going to be another winner, just like our key-



note speaker - Coach John Griffin III. Don't miss an opportunity to learn from someone who is constantly working on balance in many senses of the word. "Finding Balance" is something we can all improve upon.

We're also excited to announce a brand new women-centric event also coming up in October called "Powerful Women". Learn more on page 11.

Briefly, I'll share that we have a Seminar & Training Series Class, Legislative Event, Raising the Board, an Inside Jobs Tour, two Breakfast Briefings and three ribbon cuttings on the calendar - and this is just for September!

Go to our events calendar at www.centalpachaber.com/events, register and join us. Our events are designed to be engaging and allow you opportunities to grow your business/organization. Many members are kicking it up a notch after summer, too! See what some of the offerings are starting on page 6.

And, it's that time of the year when we ask the entire membership to nominate who they think would be a great addition to the Central PA Chamber's Board of Directors. Whether you think that is yourself, or someone else, I encourage you to turn to page 4 to learn more.

Enjoy the issue!

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

The President's Club

Abe's Custom Woodworking Asbury RiverWoods **Backyard Broadcasting of PA Century 21 Mertz & Associates** Coldwell Banker Penn One Real Estate **Contrast Communications Decal Dynasty Endless Mountain Enterprises Evangelical Community Hospital First Commonwealth Bank Fulton Bank** Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning Heritage Springs Memory Care **Hosterman Creative** Hot Frog Print & Media

i3 Point-of-Sale **iHeartMedia** Java Momma Jersey Shore State Bank **Keystone Advertising** La Primavera Italiano Ristorante Lawton Insurance Agency Lewisburg Pharmacy LIVIC Civil **Meixell Diehl Insurance** Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Company **Near Me Entertainment** Nesco Resource North Central Sight Services North Shore Railroad Company Pennsylvania American Water

PenTeleData PPL Electric Utilities RE/MAX Bridges - Ann Hilliard RHP Law Firm Service 1st Federal Credit Union Service Electric Cablevision/SECV8 Sunbury Broadcasting Corporation Susquehanna Fire Equipment Co. Susquehanna Valley Limousine **Sync Solutions T-Ross Brothers Construction** The Standard-Journal The UPS Store **The Wealth Factory** UPMC **USA Life Company**

IYB Deadlines

Below are upcoming It's Your Business due dates. Every effort is made to include information in a timely manner. Note: Only paid advertisements are guaranteed.

Fall Print Issue* (released early October) Ads & Flyers due by Sept. 8

October Digital Issue News & Ads due by Sept. 15

November Digital Issue News & Ads due by Oct. 13

*The Central PA Chamber also publishes IYB Quarterly four times a year. Copies are available at public member locations across the region.

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. Learn more at centralpachamber.com/tpc.

John Griffin III, Head Coach of the Bucknell University Men's Basketball Team, will be the keynote speaker at the Central PA Chamber of Commerce's Annual Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 26. Longtime fans of the Bison will recall Griffin also as a player when the team earned back-to-back invitations to the NCAA Tournament. Registration is open! Visit: centralpachamber.com/events. Photos provided by Coach Griffin.

Griffin is Annual Meeting speaker

"Perspective has given me

a great advantage in

seeking work-life

balance..."

- John Griffin III,

Bucknell University

Men's Basketball Coach

LEWISBURG - Finding balance in life is crucial, but it can also be difficult to achieve. The Central PA Chamber's keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting isn't only trying to balance life for himself and his players, he's dribbling it, too!

John Griffin III, the new Bucknell University Men's Basketball Coach, will address the Chamber's largest audience of the year at its Annual Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Silver Moon Banquet Hall, Lewisburg.

Registration is now open at www.centralpachamber.com/events. You can also click the flyer on the back of this month's issue of It's Your Business for more information.

Griffin will provide his perspective as a college coach on the keys to "Finding Balance" between work and life.

"In a demanding college athletics space, finding balance has been a key topic amongst the college coaching community," he said. "Perspective has given me a great advantage in seeking work-life balance, but it has become increasingly challenging. I am looking forward to sharing a few thoughts to consider as we all try to find the keys to work-life balance."



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47 Apple Street • Milton, PA 17847 Phone: (570) 742-9627 Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey, who is a longtime admirer of Griffin, even from his years as a player for the Bucknell Bison, is elated to have a coaching session for hundreds of Central PA

Chamber members who attend.

"It is my hope this message resonates with all who attend the Annual Meeting this year," she said. "I believe this will be such an impactful event that will change journeys, lives and relationships.

"I personally am on a balance-seeking pivotal point in my life, too, and want to learn with you." Returning as a Meal/Venue Sponsor this year is Service 1st Federal Credit Union. And, there are many more sponsorships still available! Contact Jessica Beaver at 570-742-7341 or jbeaver@centralpachamber.com.

If you've attend the Central PA Chamber's Annual Meeting for any period of time, you will recognize that no two events are alike. The "Finding Balance" theme will be present throughout as you look to enage with the speaker and network with other attendees. There will be a special keepsake for evenyone, who will also, once

There will be a special keepsake for everyone, who will also, once again, enjoy a great meal provided by Feast of Flavor Catering.



Accepting Nominations for 2024 Board of Directors

As a member of the Central PA Chamber of Commerce, you have the opportunity to elect the organization's next directors, who will serve three-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2024.

The Chamber is now accepting nominations from the membership to fill six open positions on the Central PA Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.*

Nominations must be made by Sept. 15 and can be sent to the Nomination Committee at <u>jbeaver@centralpachamber.com</u> or by faxing 570-742-2008.

The committee will prepare the slate of candidates to be published in the November issue of *It's Your Business*.

One ballot will be e-mailed on Nov. 14 to each member business' voting member. Ballots will be accepted until close of business on Nov. 21.

The nominating committee will meet during the first week of December to count ballots. Vote tallies will be presented and certified at the Dec. 14 meeting.

New board members will be contacted and given details for their introduction at the first board meeting to be held in January 2024.



*Eligibility requires you to be a member in good standing. Learn about other qualifications at www.centralpachamber.com/qualifications.



State Rep. Michael Stender (R-108) 300 Washington Ave. Sunbury, PA 17837 1-800-924-9060

Milton Borough Building 2 Filbert St. Milton, PA 17847 570-742-6975

435 E. Front St. Danville, PA 17821 570-275-3700

51 E. Wing House Box 202108 Harrisburg, PA 17120 717-260-6126

mstender@pahousegop.com Michael Stender - State Representative www.repstender.com

The 108th District is comprised all of Montour County and part of Northumberland County, consisting of the City of Sunbury and the townships of Delaware, East Chillisquaque, Lewis, Point, Rockefeller, Rush, Turbot, Upper Augusta and West Chillisquaque, and the boroughs of McEwensville, Milton, Northumberland, Riverside, Snydertown, Turbotville and Watsontown.

Sideline Documentation and Design 40 Acorn Hill Road Milton, PA 17847 570-989-0778 Amy@sidelinedocdesign.com Amy Evans - Owner and Founder www.sidelinedocdesign.com

A freelance documentation and design company that helps small to medium businesses capture their undocumented information, organize, design, and digitally document it in a visually appealing and professional manner. We create logos, ad flyers, posters, brochures, procedures, and workflows. We perform process analysis to help increase efficiencies in your workplace and generate consistency, and we also create a "Book of Business" describing your business journey.

Keystone Styling 2525 Old Route 15 New Columbia, PA 17856 570-412-0302 will.pilling@gmail.com Will Pilling - President www.keystonestyling.com

Keystone Styling is an automobile customization shop. We do anything from wheels and tires, to spray-in bed liners, to custom leather interiors. We also install heated seats, tonneau covers of all sorts, headache racks, and much more to anyone who wants something done to their vehicle. We also have 22 acres of land with two buildings, ane we currently lease part of our building to Fastenal. We also have office and warehouse/manufacturing space available.

Central Pa Chamber of Commerce-5



How long have you been in business? Girls on the Run Mid State PA has been providing afterschool and summer programs in Central PA since 2013, but we were founded in 2011.

What makes your organization unique? Girls on the Run uses an evidence-based _____

Katelyn Miller,

Operations Director & Co-Founder

267-886-4362

How long have you been in business? Four years.

What makes your business unique?

We are dream focused. We focus on individual dreams and aspirations and what they want to achieve in his or her "here and now". If we can't help with a particular dream, we find others who can. From marketing to career development, we develop communities, businesses and organizations, professionals and individuals.

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

Program Development - We love working with people to help them develop programs



How long have you been in business? Five years.

What makes your business unique?

Customer service, our customers are our number one priority – we do our best to serve each person to their satisfaction. We also fully service each piece of equipment in between customers, to ensure that each Rachael Murphy, Program Coordinator

vember Spotle

rachael@capareagirlsontherun.org

1157 Market St., Williamsport

curriculum, which integrates the practice of key life skills with movement/running. What is a service that people are

surprised to learn you offer?

People are surprised to learn that our program includes Twenty, 90-minute lessons, which build over the season. We provide scholarships to ensure that any girl can participate, and help with other barriers, including providing sneakers, sports bras, food and transportation to name a few.

What is your Mission Statement? We inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and

North Vista Drive, Lock Haven

kmiller@crosslifeventures.com

that help improve others.

F

What is your Mission Statement?

•••••

Our mission is to inspire others to be better together through challenges, hard work, helping others and love. Through our training programs, workshops, education, and support, we enrich the lives of others and their communities. It is our goal to help people become the best version of themselves so their lives can inspire others. In addition, our vision supports our efforts of building others up by focusing on their

strengths rather than their limitations. Through collaboration and acknowledgment of our own limitations, our communities will



570-701-1525

person can get their job done when they need to.

What is a service that people are surprised to learn you offer? Mulch (both black and brown) along with various sizes of landscaping stones. What is your Mission Statement? Bear Rental's goal is to offer reasonably priced rental equipment for everyone.

awolfe@zartman.com

3000 Point Township Drive, Northumberland

What other community organizations do you participate with?

Columba Montour and Greater Susquehanna Valley chambers of commerce.

Want to appear in the Member Spotlight? **E-mail Jessica Beaver:** jbeaver@centralpachamber.com

become stronger places for everyone. Our hope is to create a ripple effect throughout our world of love, kindness and positivity. What other community organizations do you participate with?

Downtown Lock Haven Promotions Committee, The Greater Renovo Area Heritage Park, Clinton County Economic Partnership and PA Wilds.

717-763-4869

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.

What other community organizations do you participate with?

Girls on the Run participates on the United Way's Teen Mental Health Task Force and the Teen Impact Committee. We support other women/minority led and local businesses through our summer camps.

What's Happening

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23

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OR **FALL 2023**

DuPont Brass Thursday, Sept. 7, 6 p.m. Weis Center Plaza (Rain Location: Weis Center Concert Hall)

Martha Graham Dance Company Thursday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m

Molly Tuttle & Golden Highway

Emmet Cohen Trio

The Legendary Ingramettes Thursday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Dublin Guitar Quartet Oct. 27, 7:30 p.

Terry Jenoure's Secret to Life with Angelica Sanchez ednesday, Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m. els Center Atrium

La Banda Morisca

Danish String Quartet

BODYTRAFFIC

Allisa Moreno

Bucknell

Okaidja Afroso: 'Jaku Mumor – **Ancestral Spirit'**

PERF

Mariachi Herencia de Mexico Thursday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.

SPRING 2024 Hamid Rahmanian's Song of the North

Jan. 30, 7:30 p. Ballet Hispanico Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m FOLK

Kyshona Thursday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. Jontavious Willis sday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m

National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine Friday, Feb. 23, 7:30 p

tenThing Friday, March 1, 7:30 p.m. Martha Redbone Roots Project Tuesday, March 5, 7:30 p.m

riday, March 22, 7:30 p.m. Bill and the Belles

f 0 9 0

Jonathan Swensen ay, April 7, 2 p.n The Jazz Ambassadors of the U.S. Army Field Band Friday, April 12, 7:30 p.m

ART

Caña Dulce Caña Brava

Dervish April 4, 7:30 p.

Washingtonville Vol. Fire Company you can eat SDAG

> September 16, 2023 4pm - 7pm

ner

Dine-In and Takeout Available Adults \$10 Children \$6 (12 and under)

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8350 PA-405, MILTON, PA 17847

Come and join us for a fun day of games and luck. Try your luck win some great gift cards! **Proceeds Benefit Lifting Little Lives** www.LiftingLittleLives.org



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SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

Managing Employee Leaves Interplay with WC, ADA, FMLA, STD....

18

7:30 - 8:00 am - Breakfast/Networking 8:00 - 9:30 am - Program

Union County Government Building 115 N 15th St. Lewisburg, PA 17837

Breakfast provided by Feast of Flavor Catering

SHRMA Members – FREE Non-Members - \$25.00

Featuring Guest Speaker Kim Nash SHRM-SCP and owner of THriv, LLC





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: <u>https://hiskingdomkidz.networkforgood.com/projects/150483-2022-giving</u>

Are You a Thrivent Financial Member? Fundraiser - Help Kingdom Kidz with your donation of Thrivent Choice Monies and/or Thrivent Action Team funds. Call us at 570-838-3133.

HandUP Clothing Bins – Cleaning out your closets, having a yard sale and you don't want to keep the left over clothing? Kingdom Kidz is just what you need. We have clothing bins located behind our building. Clothing, shoes, bedding and curtains ONLY.

Saturday, Sept. 9 – FREE Puppet Program at 1 p.m. Activity Rooms open after until 4:30. Free popcorn will be served after program.

Friday, Sept. 15 – Family Fun Night with free pizza, crafts and games from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 16 - Block Party at Port Royal UMC

Sunday, Sept. 17 – Program at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Muncy, 10:30 a.m.

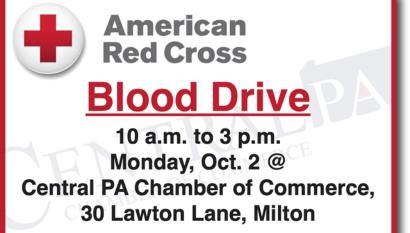
Saturday, Sept. 23 – Watsontown Yard Sales, food stand fundraiser.

Call us for a birthday party. Come see all the activity rooms available.

Quality Family Programming

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





To make an appointment, call 1-800-Red-Cross or visit redcrossblood.org. Use code "PAchamber".

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost	Lauri Moon Manager, Outreach & Special Projects 570-329-3200 www.imcpa.com/events
9/14	Lean Manufacturing Level One Certification - Lycoming County	Penn College Earth Science Center, 203 Allenwood Camp Lane Montgomery	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	\$1,895	
9/21	Problem Solving with Root Cause Analysis for Frontline Supervisors	Penn College Earth Science Center, 203 Allenwood Camp Lane Montgomery	8:30 to 11:30 a.m.	\$189	
10/24	Introduction to Good Manufacturing Processes (GMP)	Penn College Professional Development Center, One College Avenue Williamsport	9 a.m. to 12 p.m.	\$189	



Small Business Development Center Bucknell University

570-577-1249 www.bucknell.edu/sbdcevents DateEventLocationTimeCost9/14Business Startup Basics for
Central PA: The First Step416 Market St.
(DeWitt Bldg., 3rd Floor)
Lewisburg9:30 to 11:30 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!

New Members (cont.)

rabbittransit

415 N. Zarfoss Drive York. PA 17404 1-800-632-9063 jreedy@rabbittransit.org Jenna Reedy - Chief of Staff www.rabbittransit.org

Susquehanna Regional Transit Authority, doing business as rabbittransit, is a regional public transportation provider offering a variety of transportation services.

Fired Up Fireplaces 2812 Old Turnpike Road Lewisburg, PA 17837 814-312-7335 apassonetti@aol.com Andy Passonetti - Owner Fireplace store and also install.

Keiser's Plumbing & Heating 370 Beagle Road Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-524-9280 apassonetti@aol.com Andy Passonetti - Owner www.keisersplumbing.com

Keiser's Plumbing & Heating, LLC is proud to provide plumbing & heating service and repair in Lewisburg, Milton, Mifflinburg, Sunbury, Selinsgrove, Watsontown, Muncy, Montgomery, Northumberland, Middleburg, Williamsport, Danville, Bloomsburg, Berwick, and all Susquehanna Valley residents.

Labels by Pulizzi 3325 Wahoo Drive Williamsport, PA 17701 570-326-1244 spulizzi@labelsbypulizzi.com Selina Pulizzi - Co-Owner www.labelsbypulizzi.com

Labels by Pulizzi is a full service flexographic, offset, and promotional printing business.

Membership Renewals

our Facebook and Instagram pages!

(As of Aug. 23, 2023)

Angela Hummel Consulting Apex Homes of PA Baker's Waterproofing Bingaman and Son Lumber Borough of Lewisburg Bryden & Kessel Family Dentistry **CSP** Office Equipment Company Gable House Bakery Little Mexico Campground Longacre Bookkeeping Services

OPTIMO Information Technology **RE/MAX Bridges - Lewisburg RE/MAX Bridges - Watsontown RE/MAX River Valley Realty** Sheks Sealcoating & Paving Sunset Staffing The ARC Susquehanna Valley The Forest House Hotel The Miss Cupcake & Let's Make Whoopie The Wealth Factory Transitions of PA **USA Life Company** White Horse Graphics Find the latest member news and events on

Advertise on our popular website!





10-Central PA Chamber of Commerce

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

Time with Tea Jay

Considering people

Business is defined as "the practice of making one's living by engaging in commerce". And, the phrase "Business is Business" alludes to the idea that to be successful it is necessary to do things that may hurt or upset others. More simply said,

profit has precedence over personal considerations. I struggle with that logic. Obviously, without profit, there is no business. However, personal considerations are equally significant in building and keeping relationships in business which impact profit.

Let me give you an example. Imagine you are in the building industry, and you have used a vendor consistently for decades. The vendor embarks on building a new facility. The ground is broken, and the sign placed as to whom they chose as the builder for the project.

Of course, you would have liked to be selected for the project, but more importantly, you would have appreciated the opportunity to submit a bid.

This is an example of how personal consideration can impact profitability.

The Central PA Chamber operates with personal consideration at the forefront. When in need of a product or service, we make a concentrated outreach to all members who are in that arena to allow them to respond should they be interested in engaging. We practice the same philosophy when we make referrals. For example, a caller is looking for an insurance provider. We refer all insurance provider members to the caller at once. This allows for an even playing field and puts the outcome in the hands of the insurance providers to create the relationship which results in profit. Relationships are critical in business. We frequently hear and use the term ROI (Return on Investment), and more recently, the term ROR (Return on Relationships). More and more it is common to hear of businesses having a "Relationship Manager", and it is critical to profitability.

I attribute the success of the Central PA Chamber to our building and maintenance of relationships. Our member recruitment and retention are a direct result of relationships, which then become profit and business success.

Relationships in business do not need to be a budgeted expense, but rather a non-monetary investment. It is a written note card, an uncomfortable but needed conversation, the acknowledgment of a milestone, a customer referral, offering the opportunity to submit a bid for a project, and so on. It would be great for the phrase "Business is Business" to be trumped by "Business is Relationships". Customers having a sense of connection based on trust and communication is key to long-term success.

I'll conclude with a quote I have remembered for a longtime, by author Jay Danzie, "Your smile is your logo, your personality is your business card, how you leave others feeling after having an experience with you becomes your trademark."

4,000+ mile visit



Vanessa Luque (left), Marketing and Group Sales Vice President for Rotabelt Conveyors, recently paid the Central PA Chamber a visit from France to check in on their U.S. location in the Milton Industrial Park. It was nice seeing her since her regular schedule was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. She had a great chat with Central PA Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey before receiving many referrals for various needs related to growing their customer base, number of employees and embarking on their fifth year in Milton!



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Tea Jay Aikey President & CEO tjaikey@centralpachamber.com

Central Pa Chamber of Commerce-11

Chamber presents 'Powerful Women'

LEWISBURG - Calling all women making a difference across the region!

The Central PA Chamber of Commerce is presenting a new event next month, aimed to empower ladies to grow and move out of their comfort zones.

"Powerful Women" will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Oct. 5, at Fero Vineyards & Winery, Lewisburg. To register, click the flyer on this page!

The event will be headlined by featured speaker Kim Nash of THriv, a member of the Central PA Chamber. She recently authored "Burn the Plow: A Story of Surrender", available on Amazon and other online retailors. She will also have copies of her book for sale (cash only) at Powerful Women.

"To grow and to reach our goals/desires, we must be willing to be uncomfortable," Nash said. "I finally surrendered and moved from my comfort zone.

"I learned many lessons along the way that I captured in my book, Burn the Plow. Having the right perspective, building relationships, the danger of comparison, and being open to opportunities are examples of a few of the lessons."

In addition to the speaker and a light breakfast, everyone will

have the opportunity to make their own custom T-shirt as a reminder and keepsake. The Graphic Hive will be on-hand to assist. The entire event is only \$35 per person!

Tea Jay Aikey, Central PA Chamber President & CEO, is excited to organize this new event for women of all ages and levels of experience. The theme reminds her of a personal favorite verse, "God is within her, she will not fail."

"We are all on a journey and fear holds us back from our full potential," Aikey said. "We compare ourselves to others, but we are like a fingerprint as we are all unique.

"Let's embrace our purpose and empower other women along the way."

Nash has been consulting with human resource professionals for more than 30 years. She has partnered with hundreds of organizations in a variety of industries.

In 2017, Nash founded THriv to mentor, coach, teach and train both HR professionals and leaders for success.

In addition to her book release this past spring, she just launched a vlog called "Fill My Cup".

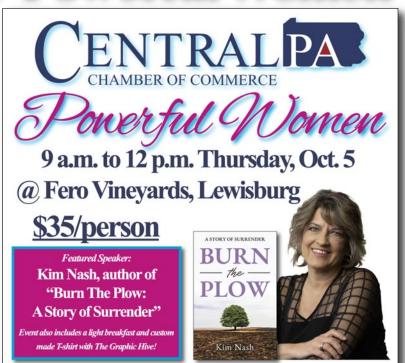
Learn more about her at www.uthriv2.com.



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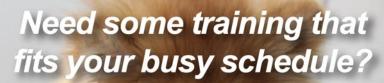
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Growth Comes When We Move from Our Comfort Zones!

"To grow and to reach our goals/desires, we must be willing to be uncomfortable. I finally surrendered and moved from my comfort zone. I learned many lessons along the way that I captured in my book Burn the Plow. Having the right perspective, building relationships, the danger of comparison, and being open to opportunities are examples of a few of the lessons."

Learn more and register by Friday, Sept. 22! centralpachamber.com/events/powerful-women





We offer hundreds of online and on demand classes starting at <u>\$10.[∞]!</u>

Learn more @ centralpachamber.com

<u>Featuring:</u> *Accounting *Marketing *Human Resources *Leadership *Safety *Many More!

Members Recognized

Service 1st Federal Credit Union

DANVILLE - Service 1st Federal Credit Union recently held its Annual Meeting at the Pine Barn Inn, Danville. In addition to celebrating highlights from the past year, including employee and volunteer milestones, the credit union shared newly elected board members and honored retiring President/CEO Bill Lavage.

"I am honored and humbled to have the privilege of working at Service 1st for 42 years," said Lavage, who announced his retirement in February. "Although Service 1st is a financial institution, we are an organization of people not money. I work for an organization that values and appreciates their volunteers and employees. They are a fantastic group of talented people.

"Members, thank you for your continuous support. You are the reason Service 1st exists."

Lavage and Steve Endress, Service 1st Board Chairperson, also introduced Mike Thomas, Chief Financial Officer, as the credit union's new President/CEO. Thomas will fully transition into his role as President/CEO this month, following Lavage's retirement. Newly elected board members were announced and a number of volunteers and employees were honored for their years of service during the event.

Tracy Shirk, Vice Chairperson; Eric Polczynski, Director; and Lori Wilson, Director, were re-elected, each to three-year terms on the Service 1st Board of Directors. Other members of the Service 1st Board include: Endress, Chairperson; David Cutright, Treasurer; Deborah Petretich Templeton, R.



Mike Thomas Tracy Shirk



Eric Polczynski Lori Wilson

Ph., MHA, Secretary; Barbara Criswell, Director; Kathy Linn, Director; Greg Burke, MD, FACP, Director; and Mike Fleming, Supervisory Committee Chair.

Service awards representing a combined 155 years of experience and dedication, were presented to volunteers and employees. Volunteers honored included: Eric Polczynski for 15 years of service and O. Fred Miller for 25 years of service.

Employees honored for five years of service included: Maryann Gonsalez, Member Service Representative II, Lewisburg Office; Jack Pegg, Facilities & Maintenance Specialist; and Tina Cupp, Assistant Marketing Manager, Loyalsock Office.

Employees honored for 10 years of service included: Coleen Snover, Vice President Training & Development; Matt Gardill, Assistant Vice President Mifflinburg Market; and Ed Moyer, Assistant Vice President Shamokin Dam & Sunbury Markets.

Employees honored for 15 years of service included: Chris Court, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer and Karen Wood, Chief Experience Officer.

Employees honored for 20 years of service included: Jeffrey Balestrini, Chief Lending Officer and Mary Jo Martin, Assistant Vice President Williamsport Market.

In other news, Service 1st recently announced Jeffrey H. McKinnon, CFP, CRC, has joined the Service 1st Retirement & Investment Center team as a Financial Advisor.

"We are excited to welcome Jeff McKinnon to the Service 1st Re-

tirement & Investment Center team," said Linda Brown, Chief Administrative Officer, Service 1st. "His fresh perspective and enthusiasm will benefit our members and our team."

McKinnon brings over 20 years of financial planning experience and looks forward to continuing a long standing tradition of helping members pursue their financial goals.

"I am honored to work with the members, staff and the community in keeping the Service 1st Retirement & Investment Center one of the area's



Jeff McKinnon

top investment organizations," he said. "One of my favorite quotes from Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, a French writer, is, 'A goal without a plan is just a wish.' As a Certified Financial Planner professional, my mission is to help simplify lives, promote prosperity, and instill financial confidence for all Service 1st Federal Credit Union members. We'll work together to help members develop, implement and monitor their personal financial plans to ensure they are staying on track toward their financial goals."

Evangelical Community Hospital

LEWISBURG - Evangelical Community Hospital has been named by U.S. News & World Report to its 2023-2024 Best Hospitals as a High Performing hospital for spinal fusion, hip replacement, knee replacement, and stroke. This is the highest distinction a hospital can earn for U.S. News' Best Hospitals Procedures and Conditions ratings.

The annual Procedures and Conditions ratings are designed to assist patients and their doctors in making informed decisions about where to receive care for challenging health conditions or elective procedures.

"This report affirms our reputation for excellence at Evangelical," said Kendra Aucker, President and CEO. "Our providers and staff strive for exceptional care and experience in the orthopaedics and stroke programs and it shows, not only in patient outcomes, but in the way those patients feel about the care they are receiving, while they are receiving it. Every patient, every interaction, everyday matters—it's the attention to detail that takes care to the highest level possible."

U.S. News evaluated more than 4,500 hospitals across 15 specialties and 21 procedures and conditions. Hospitals awarded a "Best" designation excelled at factors such as clinical outcomes, level of nursing care and patient experience.

"For 34 years, U.S. News has provided data-informed rankings to help patients and their doctors find the best hospital to treat their illness or condition," said Ben Harder, chief of health analysis and managing editor at U.S. News. "Fewer than half of evaluated hospitals earned any High Performing rating. Hospitals that are High Performing have excelled in providing high quality care in specific procedures and/or conditions."

In other news, Surgical Services at Evangelical Community Hospital recently presented its ORchid Award for outstanding performance to staff.

The quarterly award is designed to recognize staff members who are vital to a successful operating room experience but are often not seen because what they do is done while the patient is sedated or asleep or takes place prior to or after surgery.

The award is presented in front of their nominator, the executive leadership team, and members of the surgical team with whom they work. Awardees receive an orchid that symbolizes the award (purple orchids represent dignity, respect, and admiration), a pin,

September 2023

and a pizza party for the team they work with.

Kolbie Straub, Operating Room Assistant, was presented the award at the beginning of the year and was the very first recipient of the honor. She was nominated for her dedication and willingness to go above and beyond every day to assist any staff requests. She does so without



Kolbie Straub

Carlos Sura

complaint, is always pleasant, and strives very hard to do everything with excellence.

Carlos Sura, Certified Surgical Technologist, was presented the award in July. He was nominated for his excellent work ethic, being a team player, his positive attitude through the workday, and his team-building attitude, often bringing in authentic Mexican food for the team.

And, Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) International has announced that Donna Schuck, Associate Vice President of Philanthropy and Donor Relations at Evangelical Community Hospital,

has been recertified as a CRFE. Schuck is one of over 7,700 professionals around the world holding the designation, one she has

held since 2017. Individuals granted the CFRE Credential have met a series of standards set by CFRE International which include tenure in the profession, education, and demonstration of fundraising



achievement. They have also passed a rigorous exam that tests the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for a fundraising executive, and have

Donna Schuck

agreed to uphold Accountability Standards and the Donor Bill of Rights.

CFRE recipients are awarded certification for a three-year period. To maintain certification status, they must demonstrate on-going fundraising employment and fundraising results and continue with their professional education. Employers and donors who work with CFREs know they are getting a professional who is committed to the best outcomes for their organization and has the requisite knowledge and skills.

Bowen Agency Realtors

SUNBURY - Bowen Agency Realtors has recently added Larissa Savitsky of Northumberland to their sales team in their Sunbury office.

Savitsky, a graduate of both Shikellamy High School and Bloomsburg University, is a lifelong resident of the Central Susquehanna Valley. She brings to the Bowen Agency years of real estate sales experience and a passion for helping clients achieve their real estate goals. She believes



Larissa Savitsky

"home is where the heart is" and when she's not helping clients, you can find her at home with her family enjoying time with her children, cooking, baking and crafting.

President of Bowen Agency Realtors, Larry Johnson, said, "We are so happy to have Larissa on the Bowen Agency team. Her past experience in the real estate industry and her strong ties to the local community will make her a stand-out Realtor in the local market."

The Coup Agency

MILTON - The Coup Agency in Milton recently welcomed two new employees - Stephanie Krolikowski and Christine Bennett. A lifelong resident of the Central Susquehanna Valley, Krolikowski began her real estate career and has never looked back. She graduated from Milton Area High School in 1993 and has an Associates of Science degree from Pennsylvania College of Technology. She completed her real estate education at the Greater Harrisburg Association of Realtors.

A former dental hygienist, she compares her real estate approach to a treatment plan - providing her clients with all possible options and outcomes, and allowing them to make an informed



Stephanie Krolikowsk

decision when purchasing or selling one of the biggest investments of their lives. She believes her role as a Realtor is to guide you through the buying and/or the selling process, and really taking the time to make sure you understand the transaction.

With at least seven generations of her family born and raised in the Milton area, she is very familiar with the local communities that make up the Central Susquehanna Valley and her in-depth knowledge of the market can help you make the informed decisions. She remains involved in her local community as the secretary of the booster club for the Milton Area High School. Forming deep, lasting, personal connections with people while helping them navigate the home buying or selling process is one of her favorite aspects of real estate. She and her husband have been DIYers for decades, which gives her a keen eye for finding those hidden details when showing a home or performing a market analysis for her clients. When she's not working to find someone their perfect home, she

enjoys hiking, gardening, fishing, camping, and spending time with her family.

Bennett said she is excited to start her career as a new Realtor with The Coup Agency.

She is a Milton native and 1996 graduate of Milton Area High School. Bennett has a strong knowledge of the local communities and what they have to offer and is thrilled to serve as a guide to those looking to buy or sell in Milton and surrounding communities.



Christine Bennett

She completed her real estate education through The CE Shop via online courses. Although new to the world of real estate, she worked a number of years on the backend of healthcare in an insurance setting handling confidential information, interpreting and relaying contract verbiage and building strong

relationships with providers and their staff. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors kayaking, paddle boarding, hiking, going to the beach and spending time with her family.

Bennett looks forward to making long lasting, personal connections with clients. Her primary focus is to provide a personalized approach to best meet the unique needs of each of client whether they are in the market for buying or selling.

Health By Design Wellness Center

LEWISBURG - Health By Design Wellness Center welcomes two new estheticians to its team - Debra Lamey and Kyrah Ortega. Lamey graduated from the Esthetician program at Central Pennsylvania Institute of Technology in November 2022. Her interest in the field of skin care started when she was employed by Lancôme and saw the benefits of the products used by the clientele. Working as an esthetician, she is able to offer help to those with skin issues and allow them to feel more confident about themselves. Lamey enjoys being able to enhance one's natural beauty. Ortega started her journey as an esthetician a year ago at Metro Beauty Academy, and it wasn't until three years prior that she



CML summer camp concludes

MIFFLINBURG - Camp Mount Luther recently ended its summer camping season. Around 388 participants took part in programs during the eight-week session.

This summer, 191 campers enjoyed on-site programs, including mini, day, traditional and family camps. Campers got to do crafts, go swimming, play games, camp out, hike, and sing during their time at Mount Luther.

This year's theme was "Holy Trinity, Wholly Love." Campers and staff enter into the wonder and truth of the Trinity in order to know God more fully and know ourselves more wholly. They learned about God, the provider; Jesus, the rescuer; the Holy Spirit, the ignitor; and how we are invited into the dance of the Trinity and should invite others into it, too. Through the camp's method of studying the Bible, called "GROW Time," staff helped campers (Gather and Reflect On the Word) throughout their day, culminating in an evening worship service.

Some highlights from this summer included: a bicycle trip on the Union County Rails to Trails, Servant and Leadership Training and X-Teen camp for senior high students, and "Tracks" allowing elementary and middle schoolers to spend more time in a specialty area during their week. A family camp was also held for participants of all ages. The adult Bible studies were led by Revs. Gary and Stina Schaeffer of Selinsgrove.

Again, this summer, there were several off-site camps at local churches, led by Mount Luther staff. This year, 197 campers were able to experience camp through these off-site opportunities.

For more information, visit www.campmountluther.org.



Many thanks to Roupp Funeral Home, Mifflinburg, for hosting the 'What is the Central PA Chamber?' seminar in August! This newer addition to the Chamber's Seminar & Training Series is designed to educate prospective, new and long-time members alike about what the Central PA Chamber in particular has to offer businesses and organizations of all sizes and scopes. Questions were answered, and time was also spent networking and delivering 'elevator speeches'. Thank you to everyone who could join us! Leading the seminar was Jessica Beaver, Finance & Membership Director. Feel free to talk to her about benefits anytime! Call 570-742-7341 and visit: www.centralpachamber.com/membership/benefits.





On Aug. 15, Camp Koala hosted a group of first year students from Lycoming College, volunteering at the non-profit's Mifflinburg location. It was part of the Third Annual First Year Summer Service Experience (FYSSE).

The program was created to allow first-year students to settle into campus prior to orientation,

explore Williamsport and the surrounding areas through service projects, and find a deeper sense of belonging to the college, their peers, and the Central PA community through this week-long program. In 2021, students had the opportunity to serve with Camp Koala during spring break, and it was such a wonderful experience for the students and their leaders.

Camp Koala was very thankful they came back, again!



Central Pa Chamber of Commerce-15

'Small Business Issues' on deck

WATSONTOWN - State Rep. David Rowe (R-85) will speak on small business issues at the Central PA Chamber's next Legislative Event.

Specifically, Rowe will inform attendees and provide his perspective of recent bills passed, aimed to support small business. He will also discuss pending bills, both those that could help, or perhaps, hurt the small business community.

Hear for yourself by attending from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 15, in the Moon Room of the Watson Inn, Watsontown.

The cost to attend is \$20 for members of Central PA Chamber and \$25 for nonmembers and the general public. It includes a breakfast buffet as well as informational material from the event sponsor, Service 1st Federal Credit Union.

To register, click on the flyer at the right, or visit www.centralpachamber.com/events.

It is common that several additional elected officials at the local, state, and even federal level, are in attendance at these popular events, providing a great opportunity to meet them and have your questions answered. Rowe, currently a resident of East Buffalo Township in Union County, has served his local community in Snyder, Juniata, Mifflin, and Union counties through numerous roles for more than a decade while being involved with multiple charitable organizations. For over a decade, he also owned and operated a local small business, employed several local residents, and he continues to be a tireless advocate for the local small business community.

On Sept. 17, 2019, Rowe began representing Pennsylvania's 85th District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives after a special election victory. He was elected to his third term on Nov. 8, 2022.

For the 2023-24 Legislative Session, he has been appointed to serve on the House Judiciary, Health, Labor and Industry, and Insurance committees.

The district is comprised of Snyder, Juniata, Mifflin, and Union counties, including McAlisterville, McClure, Middleburg, Selinsgrove, Burnham and Winfield.

Learn more at www.repdavidrowe.com.



"Members Recognized" (from page 13)

started struggling with her own skin. She had developed painful cystic acne and had no idea how to handle it. Looking into what could help her own skin is what really created Ortega's passion for skin and skin care.

Learning about why she was having flare-ups or what ingredients in products would help her own skin to feel confident is what really inspired her to join this field.

As an esthetician, Ortega hopes to help everyone who steps in the room feel comfortable, confident and, most importantly, beautiful in their own skin.

Along with the new hires, Health By Design Wellness Center announces they are offering new services, including facial and micro needling and Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP).

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



The Milton High School class of 1971 recently donated \$1,200 to the Milton Public Library for its 100th anniversary. Class President Lois Smith said she expects to donate more and is challenging other classes to do the same. From left: Amy Rearick, MPL Board Member; Jay Mabus, Class VP; Smith; and Kris LaVanish, Library Director.



Business & Education

Golf Ball Drop! winners



Congratulations to the winners of the Central PA Business & Education Association's Golf Ball Drop!, which was sponsored by Service 1st Federal Credit Union, and held just prior to the start of the B&E Golf Tournament on July 28 at Bucknell Golf Club! At left, taking first place (\$682.50) was Andy Long, Dealer Principal of W&L Subaru, who immediately returned the winnings to further support B&E! Thank you, Andy! Second place (\$273) went to Lynda Heddings of Fabtex. The Chamber staff was unable to meet up with Heddings, so the check was mailed. Right photo, third place (\$136.50) was presented to Erika Bower, a new agent for Lawton Insurance Agency. She had a wonderful reaction to winning! Presenting the checks is Ryan Workman, Business & Education Coordinator. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets, as well as T-Ross Brothers Construction, for providing the crane and basket to drop the golf balls from!

SVCEP takes a field trip to Erie

ERIE - Leaders from the Central PA region toured America's newest community college located in Erie on Aug. 9.

Erie County Community College (EC3) was chartered on July 8, 2020, and held its first commencement for 28 students in June 2023. Cheryl Rush Dix, Chair of the Board of Trustees, welcomed the group and was joined by several other representatives.

Opening remarks were from Erie County Executive Brenton Davis, who is Chairman of the International Economic Development Task Force under the National Association of Counties. He is the Vice Chairman of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania Economic Development Committee.

Davis recounted that he was staunchly opposed to the establishment of EC3 and used personal funds to sue Erie County to prevent the founding. He held that another post-secondary entity would duplicate the options that already existed. Once elected, he met with Dr. Chris Gray, the founding president of EC3 and was made aware of the unique mission of the community college to provide open access to post-secondary education that prepares workforce for regional employers. He saw that the community college would offer programs in welding, computerized numerical control machining, fiber optics and allied health programs specifically for the local employers who are desperately seeking skilled workers.

Davis converted his position to strongest advocate for EC3 that included county funding. He witnessed that EC3 positively changed the economic trajectory of learners who were dependent on county assistance and those in ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained but Employed) households.

Dr. Lenaire Ahlum, Executive Director of the Susquehanna Valley Community Education Project (SVCEP), described EC3 as a standalone startup community college with anticipated candidacy for independent accreditation beginning in spring 2024. SVCEP has



Central PA Chamber President & CEO Tea Jay Aikey (second row, on the left and in the pink shirt) was among special guests to join representatives of Susquehanna Valley Community Education Project for the tour of EC3.

secured a university partner, Marywood University, that will provide accreditation to students prior to its candidate status. Their business plan identified that in Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties, nearly 40 percent of the population is ALICE households or at federal poverty level.

"To become self-reliant, these families need an affordable, open access comprehensive community college, with student supports, dedicated faculty, staff, administration, and a devoted Board of Trustees," Ahlum said.

For more information, visit www.newcommunitycollege.org.

Rotary hosts students



The Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary Club recently hosted RYLA students, which whom they sponsor. They participated in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards summer event, which is a one-week leadership camp in Sharpsburg, Md. It brings together students from around the northeast U.S. Activities included team building games, making international foods and engaging in Ted Talk subjects. Pictured, from left, are: Marica Murray, Rotarian; students Riley Gulden-Luthi, Rubi Valle-Torres and Esmerelda Valle-Torres; and Becky Perez, Rotarian.



Raising the Board is designed to build the skills and confidence of current and future members of non-profit and corporate boards.



already serve on a board or are interested in serving a board, I found the courses to be very helpful. It has everything you would need to know to serve and to serve well!"

Whether you

- Corey Mowrey, RtB Graduate

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<u>Act</u> Ethics, Servant Leadership, Personal Why Statements and Serving on Committees

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<u>NEXT CLASS:</u> 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, September 20 @ the Central PA Chamber of Commerce, 30 Lawton Lane, <u>Milton</u>

Cost: \$99.00 Includes Lunch Provided By:



Contact Ryan Workman @ rworkman@centralpachamber.com or 570-742-7341 / Register: www.centralpachamber.com/rtb Raising the Board is a program of the Central PA Chamber of Commerce.

Ryan's Writings

What a great day!

I still find myself reflecting on the 22nd Annual B&E Golf Tournament that was held July 28 at Bucknell Golf Club.

There were about 150 golfers, volunteers and vendors on-site throughout the day for the

event. I cannot express how thankful I am to each of you for helping make this tournament a smashing success for the Central PA Business & Education Association. You see, this was not just my first time facilitating the golf tournament, it was also my first time attending the tournament. Not knowing entirely what to expect, you all left me with the best possible first impression!

To say the task of organizing this event is easy or simple would be a gross understatement. Your entire Central PA Chamber staff dedicate countless hours to ensure the actual event runs seamlessly. I would have been institutionalized without their help! I also cannot overlook the contribution of Tim Hepler, manager of the Bucknell Golf Club, and his entire staff. The Club's availability and flexibility provide us with a real partnership, not just a venue for the tournament. Additionally, I was so impressed by the generosity of our sponsors, volunteers, and donors who contributed so much to maximize the benefit of the tournament for the B&E Association. There are too many to name individually, but you know who you are! Thank you! (The sponsors were listed in the August issue of IYB.) I truly feel blessed to be a part of an organization so dedicated to helping our region grow!

And, as you'll see on page 16, we recognize the winners of the Golf Ball Drop!, which immediately preceeded the golf tournament. It, too, was a wonderful experience. We had a great group of winners. If you want to participate in either event in anyway, please, don't hesitate to reach out to me. I hope to see you on the course!



Ryan Workman Business & Education Coordinator <u>nworkman@centralpachamber.com</u>

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Jessica's Jottings

Fall still has us springing!

Fall begins this month, which means pumpkin spice everything is back, and Christmas ads will start appearing everywhere you turn. Here at the Chamber, we are getting prepped for our biggest

event of the year – the Annual Meeting! Have you registered to attend, and are you one of our sponsors for the event? Keep reading to learn more about this event and why you should get involved!

When I say it's "our biggest event of the year", I mean it. We typically have more than 200 guests in attendance. This provides the biggest opportunity for you to network and meet a good portion of the Central PA Chamber membership. This event is where we celebrate our members and all they have done for the Chamber, community and/or region. If you haven't been able to attend an event with us this year, this is the one you don't want to miss! Go to our website and register yourself and your team you won't regret it!

As the biggest event of the year, that means even more exposure for our event sponsors. There are many levels of sponsorships, including: Meal/Venue, Centerpiece, Favor, Award and Program sponsors. Each has their own unique set of benefits, and the biggest one perhaps is the pre- and post-event advertising you receive. What better way to get your business out in front of thousands of people. We're inviting everyone to attend!

Speaking of this event reminds me that it's the time of year where I am getting ready for the next year. As a Central PA Chamber member, be on the lookout next month for the 2024 Member Benefits & Opportunities Guide, as well as the Sponsorship Opportunities Form. This will have the dates for our 2024 events and how you can get involved.

Remember, many sponsorships are scooped up before the end of the current year, so don't wait to claim yours! If you have questions about any of the sponsorships that will be listed on this form, please, reach out to me by e-mail or phone.

For this month, don't forget to register to attend the many events we have coming up - from off-site and on-site Breakfast Briefings, Seminar & Training Series classes, a Legislative Event, Inside Jobs Tour and ribbon cuttings. Find them all at www.centralpachamber.com/events. I hope to see you soon and Happy Fall!

> Jessica Beaver Finance & Membership Director jbeaver@centralpachamber.com

Make sure to be involved this fall!

Visit: centralpachamber.com/ events





Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Breakfast Briefing on Aug. 18, including our sponsor, Lewisburg Downtown Partnership! Executive Director Ellen Ruby discussed the organization's longstanding and new events that keep people coming back to the borough! To learn more, and support the LDP, visit: www.lewisburgpa.com. As usual, everyone in attendance also gave an 'elevator speech' and networked over a hot breakfast. The Central PA Chamber hosts Breakfast Briefings every month, and you can join us by registering at www.centralpachamber.com/events.



BREAKFAST BRIEFING

7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 22 @ the Central PA Chamber of Commerce 30 Lawton Lane, Milton.

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

Sponsored by: Fulton Bank



Many thanks to the Weis Center for the Performing Arts at Bucknell University for hosting our August Inside Jobs Tour on Aug. 23! Lead by Executive Director Kathryn Maguet, with additional insight from her team, Central PA Chamber members and guests took a behind-the-scenes tour of the 35-year-old venue, which has hosted a myriad of music and dance performances from across the globe! Our group was able to experience the brand new lighting capabilities, in addition to seeing where guest performers rehearse, store equipment and prepare to be on stage! Everyone who attended also received a complimentary voucher for two tickets to catch one of several fall performances! Learn more at: www.bucknell.edu/life-bucknell/arts-performances/weis-center-performing-arts. Register for upcoming Inside Jobs Tours at www.centralpachamber.com/events.

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