## FOR THE PERF ITS YOUR BUSINESS www.centralpachamber.com

# 2025 Green Business Award Winner, pg. 4

## PA Attorney General Addresses Chamber,

pg.3



### **Board of Directors**

Genie Bausinger - Chair Milton Regional Sewer Authority Alison Hall - 1st Vice Chair **Re/Max Bridges** Jeff Comitz Thermal Product Solutions Rachael Herb Service 1st Federal Credit Union **Noelle Long** SEDA Council of Governments **Ron Mackley Community Member** Lauren McDonald The Wealth Factory Michael Medlev Michael Medley Goup Life Insurance

Sheri Marshall - 2nd Vice Chair Edward Jones **Ashley Parrish - Treasurer** First Commonwealth Bank **Michael Porter** Pennsylvania College of Technology **Brandon Schemery** Casale, Bonner, Hillman & Southard **Paul Smith Sync Solutions Peter Swift Camp Susque Tina Welch** Welch Performance Consulting James Baldwin - Solicitor **Baldwin & Baldwin** 

### Staff

Tea Jay Aikey - President & CEO tjaikey@centralpachamber.com Jessica Beaver - Finance & Membership Director jbeaver@centralpachamber.com Ryan Workman - Communications Director rworkman@centralpachamber.com

### The Inside Scoop

Welcome to your May issue of IYB!

May is probably my favorite month of the year. The weather is just right, graduations, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day celebrations will take place, and Raising the Board returns to the Central PA Chamber!



**IT'S YOUR BUSINESS** 

I truly enjoy working with the subject matter experts and meeting the course participants who come to Raising the Board, passionate to learn how to help their non-profit organization. The next class will take place on Wednesday, May 21, and will include a luncheon provided by McAlister's Deli. If you would like to attend, please sign-up ASAP. There are just a few days left to sign-up for the May class, and the October 2025 class will likely reach capacity.

It was a joy to celebrate Earth Day with the Weis Center for the Performing Arts last week. The Weis Center deservedly won the Central PA Chamber's Green Business of the Year Award. Be sure to attend a performance and take a look at the beautiful award created by fellow Chamber member, Thomas Beall-Ellersieck of HandyCrafts, LLC.

Finally, did you know the Central PA Chamber is 120 years old this month? Whether you joined the Central PA Chamber yesterday or decades ago, thanks for being a part of the Central PA Chamber family! We look forward to serving you for many years to come.

Happy reading!

Hyan

Ryan Workman, Editor Communications Director rworkman@centralpachamber.com

### <u>IYB Deadlines</u>

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.* 

> June Digital Issue News & Ads due by May 16

Summer Print Issue\* (released early July) Ads & Flyers due by June 6

> July Digital Issue News & Ads due by June 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

Thank you, 2025 Members! (Committed as of publishing.)

Asbury Riverwoods **CSIU** The Coup Agency **Decal Dynasty Eight Days a Week Studios Evergreen Wealth Solutions** First Commonwealth Bank **Fulton Bank** Heritage Springs Memory Care **Hosterman Creative** Hot Frog Media iHeart Media Intrada Technologies Jersey Shore State Bank **Keystone Advertising** Lawton Insurance Agency

LIVIC Civil **MC Federal Credit Union Meixell-Diehl Insurance** Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Company **Milton Savings Bank** North Central Sight Services North Shore Railroad Company Payroc Pennsylvania American Water **PenTeleData Purdy Insurance Agency Real IT Care Riverfront Financial Services** Roto-Rooter / Sorg Inc. Service 1st Federal Credit Union Service Electric Cablevision

Stahl Sheaffer Engineering The Standard Journal Sunbury Broadcasting Corp. Susquehanna Fire Protection Co. Susquehanna Valley Limousine Swift Kennedy & Associates Sync Solutions T-Ross Brothers Construction United Plate Glass UPMC The UPS Store The Wealth Factory WellSpan Evangelical Community Hospital

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.

## AG Sunday speaks on the power of community colleges



Originally printed in The Standard Journal

BY GAWHARA ABOU-EID April 25, 2025

WATSONTOWN – To the packed room of attendees at the Watson Inn Friday morning, State Attorney General Dave Sunday delved into a reflection on hard beginnings, second chances and his belief in the power of community colleges to rewrite life stories. His career path has taken him from working the night shift at UPS to becoming the state's top law enforcement officer.

"If it wasn't for community college, I have no idea where I would be," Sunday said. "They gave me a chance. They gave me an opportunity."

Friday's forum also featured Luzerne County Community College President John Yudichak, who delivered a detailed overview of Luzerne's evolving role in workforce development. The college was a sponsor of the breakfast.

Yudichak said community colleges are essential to addressing workforce shortages across the commonwealth, specifically in





ensuring that students graduate debt free, stay local and contribute to the regional economy across various fields.

In his speech, Sunday agreed, recounting his decision to enlist in the military at 18 - a decision made while walking past recruiting stations in a mall – before returning home to pursue higher education beginning at Harrisburg Area Community College.

"I walked right past the Marine recruiter," Sunday said. "And that is how I joined the Navy."

Deployed for most of his service aboard a missile frigate, Sunday participated in operations ranging from Desert Strike in the Persian Gulf to counter-narcotics missions in Latin America. Upon returning home, he struggled to reintegrate into civilian life, and it was Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) that gave him his footing.

"I walked in and asked them if they would give me a chance. And they did," Sunday said. "I went to HACC full time during the day and worked at UPS all night. Then I went to Penn State Harrisburg, and eventually to law school. I worked at UPS for eight years through college and law school."

Sunday described the pressure of working to pay for school while navigating life as a returning veteran and first-generation law student.

He recounted the skepticism he faced when he first expressed interest in law school.

("Attorney General" continues on page 16)





LEWISBURG - Congratulations to the Weis Center for the Performing Arts named the 2025 Green Business of the Year by the Central PA Chamber of Commerce.

Each year, on Earth Day, the Chamber names a recipient of the award, based on the green business recognition applications received through its web site over the prior 12 months. All Central PA Chamber members that complete the form are eligible to win.

Applicants are given a score based on their "green" efforts. The Weis Center scored high in many of the program's categories, including: Solid Waste Prevention, Recycling, Purchasing and Energy & Water Conservation. These scores are then combined with an essay section that provides more details about "green" efforts. Specifically, the Weis Center has installed a new HVAC system, energy efficient lighting and water bottle-filling stations throughout the venue, moved from paper to digital programs for patrons, engages in





sustainable purchasing methods and recycling measures.

Working with the Weis Center, behind-the-scenes, the Central PA Chamber was able to surprise Lisa Leighton, Marketing and Outreach Director, with a custom, hand-made Tree of Life from fellow Chamber member, Thomas Beall-Ellersieck of HandyCrafts, LLC. Each year, Beall-Ellersieck creates a personalized award for the winner. We were also glad to be joined by Alec Engleman of Phoenix Filtration and Plumbing, the sponsor for this year's Green Business Award.

Learn more about this year's winner at www.bucknell.edu/weiscenter, order tickets at www.bucknell.edu/BoxOffice and find them on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

The Central PA Chamber thanks all members who completed the Green Business Recognition Application. The Chamber staff's decision is never easy because of the extensive conservation measures being taken by so many applicants. For those who haven't completed the form, visit www.centralpachamber.com, click the "Membership" tab and open the Green Business Recognition page. Who knows, you may be next year's winner!

Green Business is good business! In addition to helping the environment, it can save your business money, and your customers and employees will value your efforts.

### THE SIGMUND AND CLAIRE WEIS CENTER for the Performing Arts



# Lackawanna COLLEGE

Angela Ciucci, **Center Director** 570-988-1931 ciuccia@lackawanna.edu 

1145 North 4th Street Sunbury, PA

www.lackawanna.edu

How long has your organization existed?

Lackawanna College in Sunbury has been in business since 2017.

What makes your organization unique in your industry (i.e. a service people wouldn't think you provide)? The Sunbury Center provides highquality education for students or adult learners located in Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties. We offer a wide range of 

Laura Shrawder-Miles, Owner 570-286-8346 Laura@RiverfrontFinancial.net

How long has your business existed? **Riverfront Financial Services was** originally established as Shrawder Financial Services in July 2005. In 2016, I decided to rebrand the company to better reflect our growth, vision and location, leading to the name change to **Riverfront Financial Services.** 



How long has your business existed? 12 years, but Timberhaven's team of experts has an employee average of 30 years of industry experience

associate degrees and certificate programs here. Students who attend the Lackawanna College Sunbury Center can earn their degree completely in Sunbury for many majors.

#### Why are you a member of the Central **PA Chamber of Commerce?**

We want to gain access to networking opportunities, business resources, and advocacy for local businesses, all of which can help our educational institution grow and thrive.

in

www.riverfrontfinancial.net 204 N. Front Street Sunbury, PA

What makes your business unique in your industry (i.e. a service people wouldn't think you provide)?

With 37 years of experience in the financial services industry and a strong commitment to continuing my career for at least another 20 years, I am proud to offer clients a depth of knowledge that spans nearly six decades. By the time I retire in 2044. I will have

> **Bobbi** Landis, **Marketing Director** 570-765-7293 info@timberhavenloghomes.com

> > .....

O

What makes your organization unique in your industry (i.e. a service people wouldn't think you provide)? Premium-Grade Engineered Logs & Timbers, Unparalleled customer service, team of professionals with an

What benefit/opportunity from your Chamber membership do you utilize or want to utilize?

We utilize the opportunities that help our students and our center grow and network with the partners in the Central PA region.



accumulated a total of 57 years in the field—an unparalleled level of expertise that truly sets me apart.

#### Why are you a member of the Central **PA Chamber of Commerce?**

I became a member of the Central PA Chamber to connect my business with valuable local resources. At this stage in my career, I am also focused on giving back to the community by supporting and collaborating with other businesses.

> www.TimberhavenLogHomes.com **1081 Salem Church Road** Middleburg, PA

employee average of 30 years of industry experience

Why are you a member of the Central **PA Chamber of Commerce?** Visibility, Networking, Credibility

6-Central PA Chamber of Commerce

## What's Happening

### WASHINGTONVILLE VOL. FIRE COMPANY **CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT**

May 4th, 2025 Registration begins at 12:00 pm Bags fly at 1:00 pm

#### \$50 ENTRY FEE/BRING YOUR OWN PARTNER PRE-REGISTRATION AVAILABLE ON SCOREHOLIO\*APP







121<sup>+</sup>Strawberry Ridge Rd. Danville, PA 17821

#### SOCIAL & COMPETITIVE DIVISONS \$1500 PAYOUT

**Concessions Available** 50/50 **Raffle Baskets** Air Mail Challenge

#### ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT WASHINGTONVILLE VOL. FIRE COMPANY

NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED



#### June 9th - August 15th

Ages: 5 - 12 Kindergarten - 5th Grade **IUST** have completed Kindergarten

Mon-Fri 7:30am - 6pm \$200/week \$50 per day \$40 half day

#### Activities Include:

- Arts & Crafts

AM & PM SNACK PROVIDED BY DACC - CAMPER BRINGS LUNCH

**Registration : danvilleacc.com** 570-275-3001

MANDATORY PARENT MEETING May 13th (Tue) or 29th (Thur) @ 6pm Parents MUST attend a Meeting

**Registration Fee** 

**Special Features:** 

25

May 18th at 1PM **Doors** open at 12:30pm



Meet one of the original Rosie the Riveters and hear her inspiring life story! From building B17s Flying Fortresses

and B29s Flying Superfortresses at 17 years old for Boeing in 1942, to being a pillar of strength and advocate for women of all ages at 99 years young!

> Ms. Krier received the Congressional Medal of Honor and petitioned for acknowledgement of women on the home front and her fellow Rosie the Riveters.

Lecture, Meet & Greet with Reception, and photo and autograph opportunities!

Autographed bandanas and posters will be available for purchase.

### Mae Krier One of the original "Rosie the Riveters"

ADMISSION: "Pay what you wish" 413 Market Street \* Lewisburg PA

**PROGRAM DATES:** 

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th

There will be 2 course time options

to select from:

Daytime course: 12:00-3:00

Evening Course: 4:00-7:00

FREE TO PARTICIPANTS

### **SEDA- COG & SUN TECH** CUSTOMIZED TRAINING

UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE

JOIN THIS <u>FREE</u>, PERSONALIZED TRADES TRAINING PROGRAM AND START BUILDING YOUR PATH TO SUCCESS!

#### PROGRAMS OF TRAINING INCLUDE:



Learn the basics of general home construction and weatherization techniques through hands-on trai

**ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS** Gain foundational knowledge of electrical systems, including switch wiring, running electrical wire, and more.

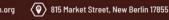
#### HVAC AND PLUMBING

Learn techniques including PVC and ductwork installation, detecting and fixing duct leaks, bo me energy efficiency with proper sealing and more





570-966-1031 x 125 aeichner@sun-tech.org



May 2025



9 to 12:00 p.m.

2 to 3:00 p.m.

\$189.00

Free

Understanding Costs and

Profits for Manufacturing

Supervisors CMMC Compliance Made

Affordable: Budgeting & Enclaving Tips

5/15/2025

5/15/2025

155 North 15th St.,

Lewisburg, PA

Webinar

Lauri Moon Manager, Outreach & Special Projects 570-329-3200

www.imcpa.com/events

## **New Members**

Chris Kenawell State Farm 110 South Market Street Selinsgrove, PA 17870 Phone: 570-374-8121

For the past 25 years it has been Chris's privilege to serve the auto and home insurance needs of Selinsgrove, Middleburg, Winfield, Sunbury, Paxinos, Shamokin Dam, Mount Pleasant Mills, Mifflinburg, New Berlin, and the surrounding communities. Him and his team members are dedicated to taking care of customers who have become like family to them. Contact for a free auto insurance quote, offering discounts for auto and homeowners' insurance. Chris has been a State Farm Insurance Agent since 2000. He has earned his CHFC designation (Chartered Financial Consultant), to better serve his customers.

Casey Stahl, Account Manager 570-374-8121 CASEY@CHRISKENAWELL.COM

Sunbury Generation LP 2384 North Old Trail Road Shamokin Dam, PA 17876 Phone: 570-884-1213

1) Electric Generator 2) Lessor to other industrial manufacturing tenants

Jeffrey Specht, VP & CFO 570-884-1213 jeff.specht@sunburygen.com

DTAC 600 Arch Street Sunbury, PA 17801 Phone: 570-524-0307

Diversified Treatment Alternative Centers (DTAC) has been providing award-winning, specialized residential and outpatient treatment programs for children, adolescents, and their families since 1991. Our residential treatment and outpatient programs in Central Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Delaware offer safe, welcoming environments for our innovative treatments. Through our intensive, solutionfocused treatment processes, we help those who have experienced trauma stemming from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, as well as those who exhibit behavioral problems which require intervention.

Lisa Strobel, CEO lstrobel@dtacenters.com Backyard Broadcasting 1685 Four Mile Drive Williamsport, PA 17701 Phone: 570-323-8200

Broadcast radio, advertising and digital advertising.

Van Michael, General Manager 570-323-8200 vmichael@backyardbroadcasting.com

TCC Verizon Wireless - Lewisburg 7431 Westbranch Hwy Suite 2 Lewisburg, PA 17837 Phone: 570-317-7623

TCC is a Verizon Authorized retailer with over 1400 stores Nation Wide. Our mission is to "Make a Difference in the Lives of others and the communities we serve."

Sean Morgan, Regional Director 570-317-7623 semorgan@tccrocks.com

Kriner Associates, LLC 33 Mountain Top Road Liberty, PA 16930 Phone: 570-916-1347

Governmental and Community Relations.

Gerald (Arnie) Kriner, Owner 570-916-1347 gkriner@epix.net

Members 1st Federal Credit Union 5000 Marketplace Way Enola, PA 17025 Phone: 800-283-2328

Members 1st Federal Credit Union is a member-owned, community-focused credit union offering a wide range of products and services to nearly 600,000 consumer and business members worldwide. With a focus on building strong, meaningful relationships, Members 1st is dedicated to serving and empowering its members, associates and communities.

Jeff Balestrini, Chief Lending Officer 717-795-4811 balestrinij@members1st.org

## New Members / Membership Renewals

#### Liberty Basement Systems 205 Airport Road Selinsgrove, PA 17870 Phone: 570-998-4540

Basement Waterproofing, Foundation Inspections, Foundation Repair, Basement Crack Repair, Crawl Space Repair, Crawl Space Encapsulation.

Amanda Walter, Marketing Coordinator 570-998-4540 customerservice@libertybasement.com

Paralegal Assist 98 N Main Street Picture Rocks, PA 17762 Phone: 570-312-0617

Work for attorney's to prepare estate taxes.

Stefanie Bennett, Owner 570-312-0617 stef@paralegalassistonline.com

Moore Power Sales 3900 Industrial Park Drive Suite 7 Altoona, PA 16602 Phone: 814-944-0828 Fax: 814-946-0157

Moore Power Sales is passionate about helping our client partners to reach their vision worldwide and yet enjoy the quality of life they desire. We are Sales Development Specialists helping organizations reach their revenue goals and still keep their values and professionalism.

John Moore, Owner 814-329-2774 john@moorepowersales.com



(As of April 24, 2025)

Fairfield Inn & Suites Lewisburg Setebaid Services, Inc. Family Care for Children and Youth, Inc. **Terrapin Care Stations** Sunsational Family Campground Unbound Physical Therapy LLC Tammy Rupert - Thrivent Primerica - Milton Sustainable Energy Fund Century 21 Mertz & Associates, Inc. The Squeeze-In Danville Area Community Center MaxWorx (A Division of Hope Enterprises, Inc.) Unico Sealing, Inc. Rivers Edge Landscapes LLC 4 Paws Sake PA Jasmine-Aire Boutique Evergreen Cleaning Co. **Evergreen Exteriors** Steve's Power Washing Roupp Funeral Home, Inc. Gold Leaf Frame Shoppe, LLC Nesco Resource (DePasquale Staffing Services) Milton Historical Society Country Vale Alpacas W & L Subaru W & L Mazda W & L Nissan W & L Collision Center HandUp Foundation Feast of Flavor Catering Donald L. Heiter Community Center W&W Residential Services, Inc. Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort at Milton United Plate Glass Company United Plate Glass Company - Fabrication Center Weis Center for the Performing Arts Lewisburg Downtown Partnership Gregory Katherman

## Go Green!



10-Central PA Chamber of Commerce

#### **Renewal, Growth, and Transformation**

Your Chamber, the Central PA Chamber, continues to embark on new territory. The most recent Legislative Event was held last month with the newly elected State Attorney General as the speaker and what an event it was. The record-breaking attendance was exciting just as much as the event being broadcast on Pennsylvania Cable Network television.



Also, in April the Weis Center for the Performing Arts at Bucknell University was awarded the 2025 Green Business of the Year. Shout out to Phoenix Filtration and Plumbing for sponsoring the Award and joining your Central PA Chamber team in surprising Lisa Leighton, Marketing and Outreach Director for the Weis Center with the honor and beautiful award handmade by Thomas Beall-Ellersieck owner of HandyCrafts LLC.

The second annual Re-Entry Awareness event was held April 16, 2025, during Second Chance Awareness month in the Smith Training Room at the Central PA Chamber. This year the attendees had the opportunity to hear from a panel of speakers which included Union County Chief Probation Officer, Scott Kerstetter; Certified Recovery Specialist, Ben Herrold; Reentry Coordinator & Reintegration Coordinator for Susquehanna Valley Mediation, Drew Lahr; and Workforce Development Specialist - Department of Corrections, Dorenda Hamarlund. Those in attendance learned how employers can gain successful employees while assisting re-entry, how employment is related to criminogenic risk, the benefits offered by the Commonwealth for offering those justice involved second chances by offering employment opportunities and most importantly they met two incredible individuals who have been justice involved and are now making a difference to those they serve every day working to gain employment and become contributing members of not only the workforce but their communities.

This is a high level of some of the successful impacts YOUR Chamber has made over the past month.

May is Mental Health Awareness month and just as you would expect YOUR Chamber is hosting an event to educate about Mental Health Awareness in the Workplace. On May 9, 2025, former PA State Representative Jim Gregory will be sharing his personal story to help everyone better understand this sensitive, often ignored topic at the Central PA Chamber in the Smith Training Room.

The Golf Tournament and Golf Ball Drop are currently open for registration and purchase as well as sponsorship. This event is always a beautiful day outdoors at the Bucknell Golf Club. Plan to get out of the office for the day and join us for lots of smiles and sunshine. Visit the website to register your team and call Jessica to make your sponsorship commitments. I'll be in touch soon regarding volunteer recruitment.

Membership is at an all-time high with new members joining weekly and retention in the ninety percentiles. This is a testament to the Board of Directors, Committee Members, internal Team (Jessica and Ryan) and YOU the Members who support the Vision and Mission of YOUR Chamber.

If you are so inclined reach out and ask me how YOU can make YOUR voice heard regarding WHY YOU choose to be a part of the Central PA Chamber family.

Lea Jay

Tea Jay Aikey President & CEO tjaikey@centralpachamber.com









May 2, 2025

Dear Friends of the Central PA Chamber,

We're excited to let you know that the Central PA Chamber is kicking off our strategic planning process and we'd love your input to help guide our next steps and ensure we continue growing in ways that support you even better.

To help us with the important work, we've partnered with <u>Commonweal Consulting Group</u> and <u>StratSimple</u>, who will be leading the process and helping us gather meaningful feedback from our community.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, you'll receive an email from <u>info@stratsimple.com</u> (sender name: *StratSimple Surveys*) with the subject line: "Central PA Chamber Survey Invitation."

Your responses will be kept **completely anonymous and confidential**, and the insights you share will directly influence our future programs, services, and initiatives.

As a small thank you, everyone who completes the survey will be entered into a **PRIZE** drawing.

Please keep an eye out for the survey email starting June  $2^{nd}$ , and just in case it lands there, don't forget to **check your spam or junk folder**. If you don't receive it, no worries just reach out and we'll send you the link directly.

Thanks for being such an important part of the Central PA Chamber community. We truly value your perspective and support!

Make it a great day!

tea Jay

Tea Jay Aikey President & CEO Central PA Chamber of Commerce

"To be the preferred Researce Center fer our members supporting their economic and business development."

30 Lawton Lane ~ Milton, PA 17847 ~ Phone: 570-742-7341 or 570-768-4900 ~ Fax: 570-742-2008 www.centralpachamber.com

## **Members Recognized**

#### Jason Dugan Named to Forbes' 2025 List of Best-in-State Wealth Advisors

MONTOURSVILLE - Jason

Dugan, President and Private *Real Strategies. Real Possibilities.* Wealth Advisor of Aspire Wealth Group located at 190 Choate Circle, Suite B, Montoursville, Pennsylvania was among the Raymond James-affiliated advisors named to the Forbes list of Top Wealth Advisors Best-in-State. The list, which recognizes advisors from national, regional and independent firms, was released online April 8, 2025 and marks the 5th consecutive year that Dugan has qualified for this prestigious recognition.

Dugan, who joined Raymond James in 2011, has over 17 years of experience in the financial services industry. Aspire Wealth Group offers a wide range of comprehensive financial services including Investment Management, Financial Planning, Retirement Planning, Estate Planning Implementation, and Education Planning.

To contact Jason Dugan and learn more about Aspire Wealth Group, visit AspireWealthGrp.com or call 570-505-1289.



Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy Program Awards 2025 Grants

BERWICK - Youth in Philanthropy, a program of the Community Giving Foundation, empowers high school students across the region as they work together to create visible impact in their schools and communities.



Community Giving

Through educational activities and a hands-on approach to giving and grantmaking, students learn about the meaning of "philanthropy", the local nonprofit sector, and the importance of volunteerism. After surveying their peers to build local needs assessments, each group organized their own grant round to support local youth programs in their communities.

Youth in Philanthropy has experienced tremendous growth over its 21-year history. Since the program's start, more than \$700,000 has been awarded back into the region through student-led grantmaking. Groups from a record 18 school districts participated

this year: Benton, Berwick, Bloomsburg, Central Columbia, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit, Columbia-Montour AVTS, Danville, Lewisburg, Line Mountain, Midd-West, Mifflinburg, Millville, Milton, Northwest, Selinsgrove, Shamokin, Shikellamy, and Warrior Run.

"Youth in Philanthropy is teaching us how to give back to people who need it, making a difference in their lives and in our community. We're excited to keep learning different skills to use our time, talent, treasure, and ties to create a big impact," students shared as they reflected on the program year.

On Tuesday, April 15th, students connected with local nonprofits and community groups to present their final grant awards during a year-end celebration held at Danville High School. This year, students collectively distributed \$90,000 through 103 grants. Funding for these grant opportunities was made possible through the generous support of individuals, businesses, Foundation funds, and other community partners. For more information on the Youth in Philanthropy program and how you can partner with us to support our future community philanthropists, visit csgiving.org/youth-in-philanthropy or contact Alyssa Meyers-Sanonu at ameyers-sanonu@csgiving.org.





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



## What's Happening ctd.

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

### Mental Health Awareness in the Workplace

2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Friday, May 9 In-Person @ the Central PA Chamber Cost: FREE - Register by May 5:



www.centralpachamber.com/events Jim Gregory (former PA State Rep.)



9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 4 In-Person @ the Central PA Chamber Cost: \$10.00 - Register by June 2: www.centralpachamber.com/events





## **Guest Column**

### **Personalize Your Care**

Established in 2011 and located in Milton, PA, we are a locally and family-owned pharmacy serving the entire state of Pennsylvania. We specialize in safe, customized compliance packaging that makes managing medications easier for individuals and care facilities alike. Whether you're a busy parent managing prescriptions, a senior with multiple medications, or a care team supporting complex needs—we're here to simplify the process.

Our multi-dose packaging is tailored to each patient's schedule, grouping pills by date and time. This improves safety, reduces missed or duplicate doses, and brings peace of mind to patients, caregivers, and facility staff. Our packaging is ideal for assisted living communities, group homes, memory care facilities, and anyone who could benefit from extra support.

We proudly offer free delivery to all customers individuals and facilities—so you never have to travel for your medications. From routine refills to urgent needs, our team ensures secure, timely delivery right to your door.

But what truly sets us apart isn't just what we offer—it's how we deliver it. At Custom Care, relationships matter. We take time to get to know our patients and partners. We work closely with providers, caregivers, and family members to coordinate care, offer education, and ensure questions are answered. For facilities, we provide onboarding support, custom reporting, consulting services, and state-certified training resources to keep teams confident and compliant.

As we grow, our mission remains the same: to be the pharmacy that feels more like a partner than a provider. One that adapts to your needs, respects your time, and always puts safety and service first.

We're proud to serve our community and honored to support the patients, families, and care teams who depend on us. If you're looking for a pharmacy that blends innovation with heart—we'd love to connect.

Visit us at CustomCareRX.com or call 570-989-0990 to learn more.

Submit @ centralpachamber.com/events

## Members Recognized ctd.

#### First Commonwealth Awards 40 Scholarships as Part of Annual Scholarship Program



INDIANA, PA — A total of 40 High

School seniors in Pennsylvania and Ohio received some great news in form of college scholarships as part of First Commonwealth Bank's annual scholarship program, the bank announced.

A record 1,557 applications throughout First Commonwealth's 125-branch footprint and business banking centers in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and Cleveland, Canton, Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio were submitted. To align with the bank's mission, candidates were asked to share an essay that illustrated their commitment to academics while improving and servicing their community.

Since its inception in 2010, the FCB Scholarship has awarded \$480,000 to area students.

Based on the students' academic achievement and community involvement, the following six high school seniors from the bank's markets in Central and Eastern PA were selected by a committee of First Commonwealth employees to receive the \$1,000 awards:

Camden Kuster, Central High School Kaylee Zuck, Bedford High School Benjamin Forshey, Chestnut Ridge Senior High School Virginia Huntzinger, Lower Dauphin High School Eleana Rijo, Susquehanna Township High School Trinity Maines, Bellwood-Antis Senior High School

#### Focus Central PA Recognizes Longtime Board Member



SELINSGROVE — The Focus Cen-

tral PA Board of Directors recognized and honored longtime Board member and community leader Mr. Larry Eckstine. Jennifer Wakeman, Chair of Focus Central PA shared on behalf of the Board of Directors their profound gratitude for Larry's leadership and dedication to the mission of Focus Central PA to attract investment that cultivates economic growth in Central PA.

Larry was gracious with his time and wisdom, paired with his passion for seeing Central PA be a strong regional economy, in building the impact and effectiveness of the organization.

In addition to his role on the Focus Central PA Board Larry has contributed to the growth and enrichment of the community in many ways and in many different roles in community leadership positions. Larry is the President of Hepco Construction, a leading construction company in the region.

"It is my hope that the Central Pennsylvania region and those beyond continue to create conditions to be competitive and attractive to high impact and sustainable economic growth to benefit all with increased wealth and well-being". said, Larry Eckstine

"We are deeply grateful for the impact Larry's humble leadership,

vision, and unwavering commitment to the mission and region have provided and will continue to provide for many years to come." said, Jennifer Wakeman, DRIVE, Chair of Focus Central PA.





### WELCOME TO OUR NEW LEWISBURG INSURANCE TEAM MEMBER!!





## What's Happening ctd.





Whether you need a creative way to stimulate your business with web, print, apparel, or promotional items, allow the dedicated team at AdOne to help increase your brand awareness! We deliver the project with competitive pricing and fast turn times.



### Attorney General (ctd.)

"I told my mom I wanted to go to law school... She laughed. She literally laughed," Sunday said.

He noted that working in the military and alongside everyday people facing real challenges shaped his perspective and strengthened his resolve.

"It was the exact opposite of a handicap. Working every day with normal people who have to fight for their life – it changed me," he said.

Sunday described how his early work in the York County District Attorney's Office, handling cases from theft to homicide, shaped his approach to public safety. His experience confronting the opioid epidemic, he said, led him to prioritize prevention over punishment.

"I promise you, there's nothing victims want more than for it to have not happened in the first place," Sunday said. "And that is so unbelievably important."

He helped create the York Opioid Collaborative, a nonprofit that supports addiction treatment and prevention efforts, and also spearheaded a mental health crisis response partnership with WellSpan Health.

The program embedded co-responders – mental health professionals – with law enforcement to redirect people in crisis to treatment instead of jail.

"In York, we were able to lower our crime rate by over 46%, prison population by 50%, and homicides by over 80%," Sunday said.

He connected those outcomes to his broader philosophy: "Accountability and redemption."

"You must hold people accountable. At the same time, we have to embrace redemption because 95% of every single person that goes into prison is coming back out," he said. want that group of people to work. I want them to have a job. I want them to have a career job. I want them to take care of their families."

To that end, Sunday described the re-entry coalition he helped form with employers and community groups, connecting former offenders to jobs in skilled trades.

(Continues on page 17)

"It's not easy," he said. "But when you realize you have the power within yourself to change your life – magic happens."

Sunday also walked attendees through the responsibilities of the Attorney General's Office, noting that Pennsylvania's is one of the few in the nation with broad criminal authority.

He described ongoing work across a range of issues – from child exploitation and human trafficking to Medicaid fraud, public corruption, and senior scams, which he said are increasing in sophistication due to artificial intelligence.

"We are the third overall in Medicaid fraud convictions in the entire country," he said. "And for every \$1 spent, we recover \$3.46."

He also noted his statutory duty to defend state laws – regardless of personal preference – calling it a cornerstone of democratic governance.

"If I pick and choose what laws to defend, then how can they (lawmakers) do their job?" he asked. "Our laws are the will of the people as exhibited through the ballot box."

Sunday concluded with an appeal to think long-term, especially when tackling entrenched problems like mental health, addiction and crime prevention.

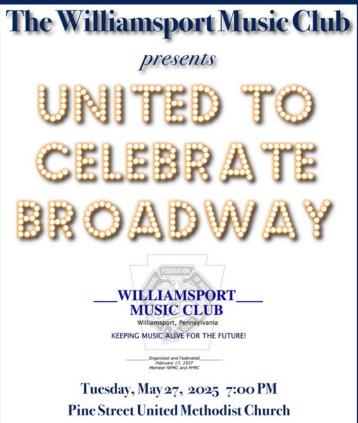
"We can't tweet our way out of these issues," he said. "It takes years, sometimes a decade, to see real results."

His final message – aimed squarely at the students in the room – returned to his journey from Navy recruit to his new career.

"I thought that because I went to community college, because I worked at UPS all through law school, I would forever be handicapped in my career," he said. "But it was the exact opposite."

### Pennsylvania College of Technology

Online Trainings Available from Pennsylvania College of Technology Workforce Development @ www.centralpachamber.com under the "Business & Education" tab!



441 Pine Street Williamsport, PA

www.williamsportmusicclub.com

### Good People Installing Trust On Time

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL GLASS EXPERTS





upgpa.com • 570-286-6791 4762 State Route 890 Sunbury, PA 17801 18-Central PA Chamber of Commerce

## Jessica's Jottings

#### See You On the Course!

It is starting to get warm, and I hope you are outside soaking up those sun rays!

If you need a way to get outside and enjoy a warm day, the Central PA Chamber of Commerce has just the event for you!

On Friday, June 27th we will be hosting our 24th Annual Business & Education Association Golf Tournament at the Bucknell Golf Club. We have different opportunities for you, your team, your friends, and even your family to enjoy this day!

Get a team together and register to golf in this event. You will enjoy a lunch, snacks and drinks provided to you while on the course, prizes and awards, and also a gift to show our appreciation. You do not need to be a chamber member to golf with us and anyone is able to register a team, as stated above. Make this day a family outing, team bonding experience, or even a way to meet new people!

Sponsorships are still available and come with added benefits for your business! Lunch sponsors come with two registrations for a golf team. All sponsorships come with your business name being promoted and shown on the golf course as well as being promoted before and after the event! We also look for donations of items that we will go through that day, including the snacks and drinks that the golfers and volunteers enjoy throughout the day. Be on the lookout for emails from me on how to sign up to be a sponsor for this big day!

This day goes smoothly for us when we have extraordinary volunteers to help us. Volunteers can sign up to be with us for the morning, afternoon, or all day!

Be sure to buy your Golf Ball Drop ticket for this day too! Once you purchase your ticket you are in the running to receive a cash prize! The more tickets we sell the higher the prize for 1st, 2nd, 3rd will be! Right before we start golfing, we will drop the golf balls from a crane and see who the winner is! You are more than welcome to join us and watch this drop happen! You do not need to be present to win and the Chamber staff will surprise the winners with a big check after the tournament! Buy your tickets on our website before June 27th!

We look forward to seeing you on June 27th and be sure to visit: centralpachamber.com to register your team and buy your golf ball drop ticket!



Jessica Beaver Finance & Membership Director jbeaver@centralpachamber.com

*Join us at an upcoming event! Visit: centralpachamber.com/events* 



## **Gearing Up for Golf Tournament**



Spend a day at Bucknell Golf Club with the Central PA Business & Education Association! Our largest fundraiser of the year will be held on Friday, June 27 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Lunch will be held before tee off, beginning at 11 a.m.

Registration Includes: green fees, goodie bag, on-course beverages/snacks, lunch and awards for contest winners.

Immediately before the tournament, as many as 1,000 specially numbered golf balls will be dropped onto the practice green near the clubhouse.



The first three golf balls (in order) to hole out – or be the closest – to the designated hole are the winners! First place receives 25% of the pot/2nd place – 10%/3rd place – 5%.

The cost to take part in the Golf Ball Drop! is \$10 per golf ball, which are specially numbered for the event. You may register here, or see a Central PA Chamber staff member or designated volunteer for tickets.

You do not need to play in the golf tournament or be present to win. Winners will be notified after the contest, and arrangements will be made for check presentations. Visit: www.centralpachamber.com/events for full details.



