



TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM OF LYCOMING COUNTY

Leadership Lycoming Class of 2019 Enjoys Opening Retreat at Gray's Run

**Check out our upcoming events:
the Harvest Jamboree, PM
Exchanges & Ribbon Cuttings**

**The 29th Annual ChamberLinks
Golf Outing was a Great Success**



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The Chamber View



Vincent J. Matteo, President/CEO

It is officially fall. Another season under our belts and the summer was great (except for the excess rain, of course). When you read this, it will be just three short months until I am officially retired. It is truly hard to believe. But, I have three more months to work and I will remain committed to this organization and its goals until the end.

It is anticipated that before the month is out, my replacement will be selected and announced. I know many folks are interested, since I get questions every day on who it is going to be. I think it is a good thing there is such interest. It shows many people, especially our volunteers and members, care about who will take over because they care about this organization and the community and our collective future. I am hoping that in my November column, in addition to some day before election discussions, I will be able to comment on who was selected. Whoever it is, I can guarantee you the Search Committee has worked diligently to find someone who can lead this organization into the future. Well, more about that next month.

What a month. The national news is simply chaotic. I am not going to go into the national news but suffice it

to say, American Democracy as conducted in Washington has not distinguished itself of late. This edition of the Chamber Connection is scheduled to come out on October 1, 2018. That evening, I will be attending the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry's Annual Dinner in Hershey. The event is always interesting and attendance is somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,500 with not only business leaders, but also government leaders as well. This year should be very interesting since the highlight will be the debate between Governor Tom Wolf and Senator Scott Wagner. The debate moderator chosen certainly adds celebrity to the event. Alex Trebek, long time host of Jeopardy will serve in that capacity. As a fan of the show, I have to wonder if Mr. Trebek will have the participants answer in the form of a question! Just kidding of course, but I can hear it now. Trebek asks Senator Wagner "Why doesn't Pennsylvania have a tax on natural gas companies?" And Senator Wagner responds "What is Pennsylvania does have a tax on the natural gas industry, it is called an Impact Fee?" Of course that won't happen, but it would be funny. What is interesting and very concerning to some, is that this will be the only debate between the two unless Governor Wolf relents and agrees to more. I understand the thinking behind an in-

cumbent not wanting to have debates – why give his/her challenger any face time with them and the opportunity to look Gubernatorial, Presidential, Senatorial etc. I get it, but I don't agree with the idea. I believe there should be three debates televised statewide. I believe one should be solely on the economy, one on health care and education and a third on any topic. In this way, citizens can see firsthand what the candidates think instead of relying almost exclusively on television and radio ads. It would also allow a candidate to answer accusations made by his opponent in an ad. Again, while I understand Governor Wolf's strategy, in this regard I respectfully disagree. It is more important for the people to have as much information as possible when they make such a big decision.

Another big election set for November is the race for U.S. Senator between incumbent Bob Casey, Jr. and Congressman Lou Barletta. Two very contrasting styles and two very different philosophies. Senator Casey is an opponent of President Trump and his policies, while Congressman Barletta is a strong supporter of the President and his policies. While I do not believe any election race between two candidates is a referendum on another, this one comes close. However, Senator Casey and Congressman Barletta both have their own records to run on and that should really be the basis for how someone votes. As

far as debates, I am not aware of any planned debates, but I am hopeful there will be. I think it is important to see the two candidates side by side.

On the economic/job front, Williamsport/Lycoming County unemployment continues to drop. In July, 2008 it stood at 4.6% according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. It is slightly higher than the state average, but that is normal for our area. What is not normal is the rate being this low. It is the lowest in many years and certainly the lowest I can ever remember for our Metropolitan Statistical Area. The rate of job creation is truly record setting. Now, some may ask why our rate seems to usually lag behind the State average and argue it should be lower. I believe it can be lower, but right now, our area employers are having a difficult time

finding qualified employees to fill positions. Every morning on the radio you hear ads running and many of the companies have been running them for months. In my discussions with local employers, many of them tell me they are struggling to find the right, qualified people. I believe, working together with all levels of our schools, with groups like the Workforce Development Board and, to be frank about it, with rehabilitation organizations, we can fill the jobs, but it will not be easy. We have people, we need to make sure they are equipped for the jobs available.

Our region is doing well and enjoying some of its best times. Not everyone is prospering, but more than ever, people and businesses have the opportunity to succeed. And, that's the Chamber View.

Get Connected With Your Chamber!

www.williamsport.org

e-mail: chamber@williamsport.org

Phone: 570-326-1971

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The Emerson Project to enter Third Year

New Applicants Sought!



**ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY
GROWTH CORPORATION**

October, 2018

Dear Applicant:

The Economic and Community Growth Corporation, a 501c3 affiliate of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, is proud to present the third year of "The Emerson Project" - a senior level mentor program named in honor of the legendary mentorship relationship between Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau. We believe that for a community to thrive it must have a progression of strong community oriented leaders who are committed to the future and to develop the next generation of leaders is the responsibility of the current generation.

The Emerson Project will match participants one-on-one with proven community leaders from the private, nonprofit and public sectors. The program is designed for mentees who have risen in their organization to a senior level of leadership, have had a significant level of community service, have held volunteer leadership positions, and have goals for professional development and community involvement.

The 2019 mentorship program will be limited in the number of mentees accepted. The program will include nine monthly lunch & learns, an evening orientation session, an educational but fun mid-year dinner with spouses/partners and a closing evening dinner. In addition, it is hoped that a lasting relationship between mentor and mentee is established and they will meet outside of the program.

The mentors are recognized business and/or community leaders committed to a sound future for Lycoming County and its residents. The curriculum centers on you - the executive and leader. While we are preparing you for an even larger role in the community, this program is about you and will be concentrating on developing your skills as a leader.

If you are interested in taking the next step to community leadership, then this program is for you and we hope you will consider applying.

Sincerely,

Vincent J. Matteo
President/CEO

102 West Fourth Street • Williamsport, PA 17701 | Phone: 570-326-1971 | Fax: 570-321-1209



**ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY
GROWTH CORPORATION**

THE EMERSON PROJECT

The Emerson Project is an executive-level mentoring program over a nine-month period beginning January 2019. Your commitment would be:

- Being open to a relationship that could be long term and extend outside the program;
- Attend the opening dinner session January 8, 2019;
- Attend all 9 *Lunch and Learns* the 2nd Tuesday (11:30am - 1pm) of each month beginning in February 2019;
- Experience at least ten contacts outside set program;
- Attend mid-term dinner/social learning opportunity (spouses/partner welcome);
- Attend closing session (spouse/partner welcome) TBD November 2019.

Matching of mentees and mentors will be completed by The Emerson Project Planning Committee.

Full Name: _____ Nickname / Name you prefer: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Personal Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Company Name: _____ Title: _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Email: _____ Office Phone: _____

Contact Preferences:

Mail: ___ Home ___ Office

Phone: ___ Cell ___ Office

Email: ___ Personal ___ Office

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit a resume and cover letter with this application to:

Economic & Community Growth Corporation
102 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, PA 17701
Attention: Vincent Matteo

- Your resume should include both your work and community leadership experiences.
- Your cover letter should be one page and answer the following two questions:
 - What are your goals and aspirations for yourself, your career, and your community?
 - How can a mentor help you accomplish those goals?

The selection committee will base their decisions on the items above, so take care to give thorough and thoughtful answers.

Applications will be accepted until October 15, 2018. Class size will be limited to maintain program quality.

Tuition is \$500 per individual and will be billed in December.

Signature

Date



Interested in joining the Chamber?
For more information, call the office at
(570) 326-1971 or apply online at:
www.williamsport.org

Revolving Loan Fund

To assist businesses with their financial needs for construction, renovations, equipment purchases and working capital.

Information and applications available online:

www.williamsport.org
or call Nancy Eischeid
at 570-326-1971.

Welcome New Chamber Members!

CROMAFLOW Inc.

Mr. Henry Holcomb
143 Lumber Lane
Montoursville, PA 17754
(570) 435-5550
<https://cromaflow.com>
Environmental Contractors

Dave's Pro Auto Service Inc.

Mr. David Bausinger
124 South Market Street
Williamsport, PA 17702
(570) 320-0030
www.davesproautoservice.com
Automobile Parts
and Service

ESS (Education Staffing Solution)

Mr. Andrew Hall
800 Kings Highway North
Suite 405
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
(856) 482-0300
www.ess.com
Education/Employment
Services

Hachiko Asian Cuisine

Ms. Shengnan Sun
210 William Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 666-8088
www.hachikoasiancuisine.com
Restaurants/Cafes/Taverns

Harder Sporting Goods

Mr. Dennis Hosey
2098 Lycoming Creek Road
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 326-1591
www.hardersports.com
Recreation/Sports/Retail
Shopping/Specialty Shops

Kiely Family of Companies

Mr. James Pagano
1 Rader Way
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
(732) 403-8600
www.kielybuilds.com
Construction Equipment
Sales/Service

ManorCare Health Services - Williamsport South

Ms. Kelsey Ecker
101 Leader Drive
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 323-3758
www.heartland-manorcare.com/williamsportsouth
Healthcare - Skilled Nursing

Raymond James

Mr. Brian Pick
1000 Commerce Park Drive
Suite 402
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 979-2000
www.raymondjames.com/pickfoughtadvisors
Financial Services

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Williamsport/Lycoming
Chamber of Commerce

Rolin Janitorial Inc.

Ms. Linda Shultz
40 Hillcrest Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754
(570) 433-3164
www.rolinjanitorial.com
Janitorial Services/Supplies/
General Cleaning

The Sawhorse Cafe

Mr. Jesse Darrow
303 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 666-3803
www.sawhorsecafe.com
Restaurants/Cafes/Taverns

Schoonover Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Mr. Eric Schoonover
1309 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 673-5123
www.schoonover-hvac.com
HVAC/
Contractors-Mechanical

VFW Post #7863

Mr. Mike Seitzer
150 Shaffer Street
Williamsport, PA 17702
www.vfw.org
Non-Profit Organization

Waste Management

Mr. Mike Wimer
782 Antrim Road
Wellsboro, PA 16901
(800) 963-4776
www.wmsolutions.com/locations/details/id/214
Waste Management

Chamber Members...

Do you have a new business, location or special occasion for your company?

Are you interested in a ribbon cutting or open house?

Contact Taryn Mueller for more information at 570-326-1971.

Upcoming PM Exchanges...

Farrington Place

Thursday, October 11, 2018

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

416 West Third Street, Williamsport

Come celebrate their 5th anniversary! Taste their amazing food, enjoy cocktails, a photo booth, music, entertainment and more! See their new party & shuttle service buses and find out why they were awarded Best in Business! They have all your needs in one place, Farrington Place! Celebrating 5 years in business!

Farrington Place

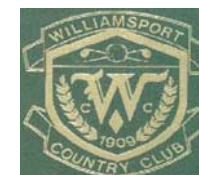
Williamsport Country Club

Thursday, October 25, 2018

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

800 Country Club Drive, Williamsport

Join us at the Williamsport Country Club for a fun-filled evening of socializing and networking. Renowned Executive Chef Matthew Wood will have his culinary masterpieces on display for sampling while you enjoy a complimentary beverage and a tour of the newly renovated Clubhouse. WCC is host to the area's largest events from golf outings and seminars to corporate fundraisers and wedding receptions. Come see what many refer to as Williamsport's best kept secret.



Call the Chamber of Commerce today at (570) 326-1971 or visit www.williamsport.org to make your reservations.

For a complete list of upcoming Chamber events, visit www.williamsport.org.

PM Exchanges

Lakeview Apartments/Berger Rental Communities
Hosts PM Exchange



Thank you to Lakeview Apartments and Berger Rental Communities for providing tours of their beautiful apartments during the PM Exchange. Attendees enjoyed walking the grounds and grabbing a bite to eat in the Lakehouse. From L to R: Katherine Smith, Lynn Hansel & Erin Schulte of Berger Rental Communities accepted a Certificate of Appreciation from Kirk Fisher, Membership Development & Retention Committee.

Interested in joining the Chamber?
For more information, call the office at
(570) 326-1971 or apply online at: www.williamsport.org

Riverview Bank Hosts PM Exchange



Thank you to Riverview Bank for hosting a PM Exchange. The very light rain didn't deter members from networking. Presenting a Certificate of Appreciation is Eric Winters, Membership Development & Retention Committee; to Peter Bower, Regional President of Riverview Bank; with Tania Miller, Branch Manager; Kate Baker, Assistant Manager; Lisa Michael, Teller II; Karen Wilson, Teller. Thanks for a great evening!

Ribbon Cuttings & Open Houses

Backhouse Cafe' Coffee & Tea Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to June & Ron Wright on the grand opening of Backhouse Cafe' Coffee & Tea, located at 901 West Fourth Street, Williamsport. In attendance was Coleman Funk, Randy Allison, Vince Matteo, President/CEO of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Ron Wright, June Wright, Donna Smeak, Melanie Huggins, Betty Funk & Linda Dieffenbach-Lundy. Stop in and enjoy Italian style espresso based drinks, coffee, teas & locally made baked goods. Rooms are available to rent for meetings & special events.

Susquehanna Oral & Facial Surgery & Dental Implant Center's Prestige Medical Esthetics Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to Susquehanna Oral & Facial Surgery & Dental Implant Center's opening of Prestige Medical Esthetics, located at 1701 Four Mile Drive, Williamsport. In attendance was Jason Fink, Executive Vice President of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Tatiana Bittner, Angie Alexander, Alechia Hause, Bobbie Lamey, Dr. Marc Rosenthal, Valerie Lundy, Kathy Sholder, Lisa Lettiere and Reina Rosario. Prestige Medical Esthetics offers injectable services including Botox and dermal fillers for lips and facial plumping; micro-needling, PRP hair loss restorative treatment and skin regeneration services, and state-of-the-art BBL and laser services for hair reduction, acne, sun spots, age spots, rosacea/flushing, fine lines, wrinkles, melasma, and much more.

(Ribbon cuttings continued on p. 7)

LEGACY MEMBER

M&T Bank: A major institution with a localized feel

By Barbara Cioffi
Sun-Gazette Correspondent

M&T Bank, with more than 750 branches across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the country, has a decidedly hometown feel.

"We try to be very local," Phil Johnson, regional president, said.



JOHNSON

From his sixth floor office at the bank's administrative headquarters, at 103 West Third Street, Johnson has an expansive view to the north, where sometimes an approaching weather system can be seen rolling through the hills of Vallamont and heading into the city of Williamsport.

Johnson's region, which he has served for 18 years, covers northeast Pennsylvania and points west to State College and east to East Stroudsburg. With branch offices in Loyalsock Township, at 405 River Avenue; Newberry, at 2001 West Fourth Street; and Montoursville, at 450 Broad Street, M&T customers have access to full-service banking which even includes "sophisticated wealth management" through M&T's Wilmington Trust subsidiary, Johnson said.

"Because we're a big bank, we can do almost anything that is needed," he emphasized.

In an effort to reach and retain millennial consumers, Johnson said the bank is always looking to upgrade technology to satisfy "a generation that does everything on a phone."

M&T Bank, founded in 1856 as Manufacturers and Traders Bank, according to its corporate website, is headquartered in Buffalo, New York. M&T arrived on the local scene with the acquisition of Keystone Financial, Inc., in 2000, which two years earlier had acquired Northern Central Bank. Johnson cited Northern Central and its predecessors to note the historical lineage of M&T Bank in the local area.

Part of being a local bank with a big name means an emphasis on giving back to the community. Nationally, M&T has been recognized by Business Week as one of the



©2018 M&T Bank. Member FDIC. A Bank Built for Life M&T Bank

most charitable in the country, Johnson said, and his region is a leader in the company.

Financially, his office gives away about 3/4 of \$1 million yearly across the geography of the region to deserving charities and organizations like UPMC Susquehanna, Penn College, Lycoming College, the Uptown Music Collective and the Community Alliance for Progressive Action, known as CAPP, to name a few, said the regional president. Johnson pointed out the charitable outreach involves every employee of the company. The bank gives all employees five days off each year to provide community service in areas of their choosing.

Johnson himself is actively involved locally, serving on the executive committee of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce since 2000. He also serves as treasurer on the boards of UPMC Susquehanna and the Penn College Foundation.

Emphasizing the important local relationships M&T Bank highly values, Johnson noted, "We're only as strong as the community we serve."



PHOTOS PROVIDED

At top, a promotional photo M&T Bank released showcasing their commitment to their clients and what they have to offer. Above, M&T employees and volunteers clean up their community. Although a major bank, M&T pushes efforts that give back to the regions they call home. This effort gives the bank a local feel.

River Valley Regional YMCA - Eastern Lycoming 10 Year Rededication Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to the River Valley Regional YMCA Branch Eastern Lycoming on the 10 year anniversary of their facility at 50 Fitness Drive, Muncy.

(Front, left to right): Park Allen; Annie Bell; Marie Bell.

(Back left to right): Kim Dempsey; Elisa Allen; Heather Graham, Branch Executive of the Eastern Lycoming YMCA; Dominique Gardner; Amanda Phlegar; Chad Eberhart, CEO of the River Valley Regional YMCA; Jack McKernan, Lycoming County Commissioner; Jason Fink, Executive Vice



(Left to Right) Gerry McLaughlin, Superintendent Loyalsock Township School District; Todd Lorson, Technical Education, Loyalsock Township School District; Patti Cross, Superintendent of Sullivan County School District; Brooke Beiter, BLaST IU17; Daphne Bowers, Superintendent of Montgomery Area School District; Mike Pawlik, Superintendent of East Lycoming School District; Kathleen Kaufman, teacher at St. John Neumann Regional Academy; Jason Fink, Executive Vice President of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.

Montoursville Chamber of Commerce holds End of Summer Picnic

The Montoursville Chamber of Commerce held their End of Summer Picnic on the patio at Johnson's Café on Tuesday, September 21. The rain held off and the sun came out and everyone enjoyed some appetizers and great networking.

Thank you to our sponsors, Representative Garth Everett and Valley View Rehab & Nursing Center, and everyone who attended the picnic.

2018 Montoursville Chamber of Commerce End of Summer Picnic

Thank you to our Picnic Sponsors!




Superintendents and Teachers' Industry Tour with Chamber Member Williams Transco

Williams Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company hosted on September 5 superintendents and teachers from the school districts here in our area. At their Salladasburg location, Williams operates (4) large diameter gas pipelines (24-42"), moving gas to/from storage/production and their market areas. They currently use (5) reciprocating engines/compressors and (4) gas turbine with centrifugal compressors, for a station total of 71,000 horsepower. The Leidy section of the Transco line is roughly 204 miles long. They have (2) underground storage areas in the Clinton and Potter County areas for use when demand surges in both winter and summer. The entire Transco line measures 10,500 miles and moves 3.5 trillion cubic feet (99×109 m³) per year.

John Roberto and Steve Lovell provided an overview of the type of skills required for the various positions required at the site. While Williams is a large corporation, the Salladasburg facility employs 31 people. When hiring they look for people that embrace safety and environmental compliance as a number one priority. It is also important that they demonstrate the ability to work on their own and trust in making their own decisions without fear of repercussion. Great observation and troubleshooting skills along with a mechanical aptitude are key. Ability to learn and or have knowledge of natural gas equipment is fundamental. Soft skills such as good verbal and writing skills to accurately complete records, reports that are done mostly on PC are essential. Successful candidates must be great TEAM players working with co-workers in a team setting.

Following the discussion with John and Steve, the educators were provided a tour of the Salladasburg site. Those attending were provided the opportunity to see what type of equipment Williams team members worked on. It was noted by many how clean an operation was run by Williams at the Salladasburg facility. Many thanks to John, Steve and the team at Williams for sharing their time with us. Any industry looking to provide a similar tour opportunity to the superintendents and educators can contact Jason Fink, jfink@williamsport.org or call 570.320.4213.

FEATURE MEMBER

Serious commercial photography and video here at home

By **PAT CROSSLEY**
pcrossley@sungazette.com

Eric Stashak Commercial Photography and Video Production has been in the Williamsport area since 1993, providing photography and video services for businesses and institutions.

A native of Lock Haven, Stashak is a member of the American Society of Media Photographers with 25 years of experience in the field. His studio is on the first floor of 328 Government Place.

"We always focused on industries, business and institutional photography," Stashak said.

"It's what I went to school for and all the photographers that I assisted after school in New York and Philadelphia as a freelance assistant, that's what interested me—getting into the commercial end of it," he added.

Stashak and his assistant of almost 10 years, Geneffer Moore, do a lot of work locally as well as travel to New York and other areas in the state. At one time they travelled quite a bit for work in the healthcare industry, but Stashak admitted that he's glad that isn't the case now because of having to deal with the restrictions with camera equipment and air travel today.

"I'm thankful to a lot of the local businesses what have been incredibly loyal to us through the years. Shop-Vac has been with us for almost 20 years," he said. Other clients include Jersey Shore State Bank, Larson Design Group and a local jeweler, Anne (See SERIOUS, Page D-9)



PHOTO PROVIDED

Eric Stashak and his assistant, Geneffer Moore, in their studio at 328 Government Place. Stashak and Moore have been working together for nearly 10 years.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Stashak, at left, films a client for a video. The duo saw the need for video production services and added it to the creative and professional services they offer.

Please join us for
the 4th Annual
Family Promise

*Homes for
All, Blue
Jean Ball*

Sat., November 3, 2018
Farrington Place
416 W. Third St.
Williamsport, PA




Plan Your Party with us!

- Company Parties
- Team Bowling Outings
- Themed Birthday Parties
- "Cool" Indoor Bowling Picnic

HOURS:
Monday - Saturday
10:00 am to Close
Sunday
Noon to Close

Faxon Lanes
Let us entertain you!



1225 River Ave. Williamsport • faxonbowling.com 323-0273

FEATURE MEMBER

Serious commercial photography and video here at home

From Page D-8
McKay.

"We do a lot of product photography," he said.

One thing Stashak wants people to know is that they're not just a photo studio, but they also do video work.

"We're a video production company and have been for seven years. We made the transition into video and we've been doing a lot of video work, probably as much video as still (photography)," he noted.

The videos made for companies are primarily used on websites.

"We did a couple of video ads for Shop-Vac. It was for Lowe's. We did a five-minute video for Textron

Lycoming Engines," he said.

Stashak also is certified to use a drone for his work. He noted it was much easier to work with a drone for aerial photography rather than trying to coordinate airplane and pilot schedules and the weather.

"It's kind of revolutionized the way we do things. It's become another tool in the tool box," he said. "A very useful tool. We haven't rented an airplane in a couple of years. We don't have the need for it now."

He said working with a drone is much more efficient and cost-effective.

For hours and contact information Stashak is online at: <https://www.eric-stashak.com/architecture>



PHOTO PROVIDED

A recent photo by Stashak of the Trade and Transit Centre II in downtown Williamsport. Below left, one of Stashak's photos on a journal.



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Leadership Lycoming Welcomes the Class of 2019 at Opening Retreat


The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2019 would like to thank the following for making their opening retreat at Gray's Run a great bonding experience; Donna & Mike Bastian; Gray's Run staff; Bill Carlucci, Esq.; Dr. John Piper; Matt Baranoski, UPMC Susquehanna, the class sponsors and everyone who attended the dinner. A special Thank You to Bastian Tire & Auto Centers for sponsoring the opening retreat. The class is excited to begin their Leadership Lycoming program year.

Thank you Rachel Planas, McCormick Law Firm; Holly Chapman, Community Services Group; and Alex Johnson, UPMC Susquehanna for being class reporters.

Thank you to our sponsor:



Leadership Lycoming Class of 2019. (Seated) Samantha Mahaffey, Little League International and Daryl Yount, McNerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall (1st row) Anthony Pace, Pennsylvania College of Technology; Jason Smith, Hope/Max Worx; Sebastian Peipher, BLAST IU17; Erin Shelinski, UPMC Susquehanna; Danielle Bailey, Roche Financial, (2nd row) James Haywood, CareerLink; Mackenzie Howe, Hope Enterprises; Holly Chapman, Community Services Group; Molly Kirby, Transitional Living Centers; Matt Frick, Larson Design Group; (3rd row) Eric Sechrist, McTish, Kunkel, & Associates; Alex Johnson, UPMC Susquehanna; Jamie Sanders, Camp Susque; Kristin Caringi, James V. Brown Library; Rachel Planas, McCormick Law Firm; (back row) Valerie Fessler, American Rescue Workers; Lori Lyons, Lycoming College; Becky Yeagle, Herman & Luthers; Marla Kramer, Lycoming College; Deb Wescott, Pennsylvania College of Technology; Stacey Russell, The Muncy Bank & Trust Co. (Not pictured) Kylie Ortity, Lycoming County United Way.




Leadership Lycoming Harvest Jamboree

Friday, October 5, 2018 • 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Herman & Luther's Barn • 787 Rte. 87, Montoursville



A fun, fall event for Leadership alum, friends and family, not to be missed!

Join Leadership Lycoming for another Fall Harvest Jamboree at Herman & Luther's! Come with your Leadership class, friends or bring your family for a great fall evening get-together. Enjoy fun activities and great food! See below for available sponsorships!

Kids Activities, Hayrides, Candy Corn Count, Face Painting, 50/50 Raffles, And More!






Event Sponsors

UPMC HEALTH PLAN

Hayride Sponsor Kids Corner Sponsors Popcorn Sponsor

The Weber Family
 Riley, Christopher & Gabriella Terrano

Leadership Lycoming Harvest Jamboree
Friday, October 5, 2018

Adults \$35/pp — 12 and under \$15/pp — 5 and under FREE

Sponsorships Available: Event Sponsor (\$1,000) — Beverage Sponsor (\$250) — Hayride Sponsor (\$250)
 Kids Corner Sponsor (\$125) — Patron (\$75)

For more information on the sponsorships or to register, call the Chamber at 570-326-1971, or register online at www.williamsport.org before October 3.

Follow Leadership
Lycoming on Facebook!



Bill Carlucci leading the trust fall exercise with assistance from class members Deb Wescott, Matt Frick, Alex Johnson, Eric Sechrist, Jamie Sanders, Jason Smith, Erin Shelinski, and Sam Mahaffey. Anthony Pace, with encouragement from Donna Bastian, prepares to take the plunge while Sharon Jones takes pictures.

ChamberLinks Golf Outing – another good time!

The 29th annual ChamberLinks Golf outing was another great success. Forty-seven foursomes came out to enjoy the day with other Chamber members. Thank you to everyone who golfed, the volunteers and the following sponsors:

Tournament Sponsor

Citizens & Northern Bank

Lunch Sponsor

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Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

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Thank you to the Golf Committee:

Paul Rooney, Steve Sleboda, Sam Aloisio, Donna Bastian, Jeri Demel, George Girio, Paul Nyman, Trey Phillips, Bruce Smithgall, and Jerry Wertz and all the volunteers who helped make this a great day to golf!

Mark your calendar for next year's 30th annual ChamberLinks Golf Outing for Friday, August 30, 2019.

SMALL BUSINESS

Family Promise has a big impact on the community

By **MIKE REUTHER**
mreuther@sungazette.com

Family Promise of Lycoming County helps people get back on their feet, providing shelter, meals and case management for those without homes.

The organization, started in 2010, partners with local churches to help provide much-needed support for individuals and families.

Executive Director Jenny Hull said Family Promise is a privately funded group helping some 500 people annually.

"We don't take government funding," she said.

Many people, she noted, become homeless through no fault of their own.

Those accepted into the program work with case managers to set goals, find jobs, secure childcare and other services.

People are referred to Family Promise often through social service organizations.

The Family Promise headquarters, at 635 Hepburn St., is a day center where individuals and families can dine, socialize and take part in other activities.

"They go to the churches at night and sleep," Hull said. "There are 23 different churches affiliated with us. We have over 900 volunteers



Family Promise staff from left are Megan Riddick, case manager, Jenny Hull, executive director and Becky Hickernell, facilities manager.

with us annually."

Hull said Family Promise is a place for homeless people to get back on the path to life by learning skills that will help them become successful.

Classes include budgeting, life skills, cooking, health and wellness, and child care.

Hull said many people don't realize that Lycoming County has its share of the "hidden homeless."

"You don't see the person living in the box in Williamsport," she said.

Rather, the hidden homeless can be the person who walks around all

day and night and seeks shelter in places such as laundromats.

Hull should know.

She has her own story of homelessness after her husband kicked her and her two children out of the house.

At the time there was

nowhere for homeless people to go in Williamsport.

"Someone loaned me \$500 for an apartment," she recalled.

She eventually worked her way through college, earned her degree and took her first job at

into what homeless people face.

"We are holistic in the recovery of homelessness," she said. "We are available to help people change their lives."

She noted the many volunteers who help Family Promise operate.

Helen Heintzelman volunteers two hours a week at the day center answering phones.

She said it's her way of giving back to the community.

Brenda (who did not give her last name) found herself with Family Promise after being tossed out of her home by a relative.

She said the people she spends time with are what makes Family Promise special.

Plus, she said she has everything she needs there.

"I thought it was just another old shelter," she said.

MIKE REUTHER/Sun-Gazette

Family Promise as a caseworker.

Her own experience gave her valuable insight

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NEW MEMBER

Grassroots effort targets drug addiction

By **MIKE REUTHER**
mreuther@sungazette.com

In the two years since launching her organization targeted toward combatting drug addiction, Carolyn Miele feels as if she has helped make a difference.

"I think it has gone well," Miele said of Saving Lives for Zachary.

A week doesn't go by without someone not reaching out to her for help for themselves or someone else facing a drug addiction problem, she said.

The group meets once a month to discuss addiction, often bringing in speakers, including experts or others who discuss addiction or share stories of those impacted.

"It's a growing problem in our area that people don't understand," she said.

Lycoming County, like many communities across the nation, has not escaped the opioid epidemic which has claimed thousands upon thousands of lives.

Miele's own son died from a heroin overdose in 2016 at the age of 27.

That led her to launch Saving Lives for Zachary.

Miele said removing the stigma of addiction is part of the battle in fighting the drug problem.

"Addiction is so easy," she said. "People take medications for pain and can't get off it."

Simply put, addiction can happen to anyone.

"I just think the most impor-

tant thing is gaining that understanding that this can hit any family," Miele said. "We need to educate ourselves about addiction. We need to be more loving and kind and understanding to each other."

As a mid-wife, she's seen increasing numbers of pregnant women using drugs and tried to get them help.

"A lot of them want help, but won't (seek it) because of the stigma."

The monthly meetings, held at the Trade and Transit Center, in Williamsport, often draw anywhere from 20 to 30 people.

But many more people are reached through the LiveStream of the meetings.

Some of the topics have included women and addiction and how babies are affected.

Miele likes the community support she has received for her group.

"I am going to continue to keep trying to bring education to the community," she said.

She said she wants to focus a lot on preventing addiction with children.

And she looks to push forward to get the word out about the dangers of drugs.

Through her organization she has found it rewarding to help other people.

"We are definitely here to help," she said.

More information on the group and upcoming meetings can be found at <https://savinglivesforzachary.com/>.



Carolyn Miele speaks at the 2nd annual Saving Lives for Zachary event. At left, from left to right, Darin and Dina Wascher, Carolyn Miele, Linda Cochran, Anthony Kaiser, Angela Miele and Chandra Weston at the recent community run held at the South Williamsport Park to fight addiction in September.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Apply Today for the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Small Business & Large Business of the Year Award



Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce PHILLIPS/PLANKENHORN SMALL BUSINESS AWARD

Presented by:



Eligibility Criteria:

To be eligible for this award the following criteria must be met:

- Member in good standing of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce for a minimum of two years.
- Business located in Lycoming County for a minimum of two years.
- Business employs less than one hundred employees in Lycoming County.
- For-profit business

Application Process:

- Interested applicants complete a simple application, which must be submitted to the chamber by **4:00 PM Friday November 2, 2018**. Please note that a copy of this application will be made available on the Chamber's website in a downloadable format for you to edit at www.williamsport.org.
- Completed applications are first verified as meeting the eligibility criteria.
- Eligible applicants are then judged on the following: history of successful business; innovation; leadership; community involvement.

Award:

- The winner is announced at the annual membership meeting held in 2019.
- An inscribed award is presented and a video clip of the winning company will be provided.
- Additional benefits include coverage in the Chamber Connection and Williamsport Sun-Gazette.

Information:

Additional information and an application can be obtained by contacting:

Jason Fink, Executive Vice-President
Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
102 West Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 320-4213

e-mail: jfink@williamsport.org



Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce 2018 LARGE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presented by



Eligibility Criteria:

To be eligible for this award the following criteria must be met:

- Member in good standing of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce for a minimum of two years.
- Business located in Lycoming County for a minimum of two years.
- Business employs minimum one hundred or greater employees in Lycoming County.
- For-profit business

Application Process:

- Interested applicants complete a simple application, which must be submitted to the Chamber by **4:00 PM Friday November 2, 2018**. Please note that a copy of this application will be made available on the Chamber's website in a downloadable format for you to edit at www.williamsport.org.
- Completed applications are first verified as meeting the eligibility criteria.
- Eligible applicants are then judged on the following: history of successful business; innovation; leadership; community involvement.

Award:

- The winner is announced at the annual membership meeting held in 2019.
- An inscribed award is presented to the winning company.
- Additional benefits include coverage in the Chamber Connection and Williamsport Sun-Gazette.

Questions:

Questions regarding the criteria or a request for application should be directed to:

Jason Fink, Executive Vice-President
Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
102 West Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 320-4213

e-mail: jfink@williamsport.org

October Ribbon Cutting

Montgomery Area School District's Montgomery Athletic & Community Center

537 Old Rd., Montgomery
Wednesday, October 24, 2018
Please join us for the grand opening
and ribbon cutting ceremony!

Open House from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Ribbon Cutting @ 6:00 pm

November Ribbon Cutting

Schoonover Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

1309 Washington Blvd., Williamsport
Thursday, November 1, 2018
Please join us to celebrate the grand opening of
Schoonover's new Williamsport Showroom!

Open House from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Ribbon Cutting @ 4:00 pm



Montoursville Street Banner Order Form



EARLY BIRD SPECIAL \$25 DISCOUNT EXTENDED

(discount period has been extended through October 31, 2018)

Banner Design Approved

Last Chance for Discount

50 street banners are available for sale.

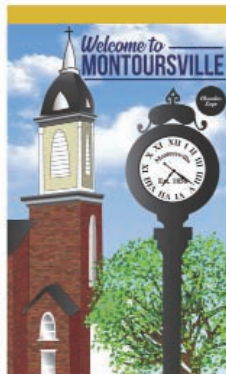
ONLY 20 BANNERS NOW AVAILABLE.

Banners will be hung throughout the Borough.

Here is your last opportunity to purchase a banner at a discount price. The cost includes the option of displaying your company name AND/OR logo.

Logos can be displayed at no additional cost.

Part of the proceeds will go to the Montoursville Art Department in recognition of a student rendition as well as other community projects.



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For more information please contact:

Huffman's Office Equipment
5318 Lycoming Mall Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754
(800) 326-9322

Williamspint Beer Festival Saturday, October 20th, 2018

The first annual "Williamspint Beer Festival", brought to you by the Williamsport Sun-Gazette, will be held at the Lycoming County Fairgrounds in Hughesville, PA on Saturday, October 20 from 1 pm to 5 pm. This inaugural event will feature regional craft beer from 30+ brewers, live music from Central City Orchestra, The Extra Miles and Kimberly Adair along with a variety of food options.

General admission tickets include unlimited beer samples and a souvenir tasting glass. A limited number of VIP tickets also include a specialty VIP beer tasting hour (12pm-1pm) and festival t-shirt. Designated driver tickets are available. Order your tickets today to take advantage of special early-bird pricing.

Visit williamspintbeerfest.com.

Member Renewals

Received between August 30th and September 27th

Thank you to our renewing members.
We do appreciate your membership and involvement in the Chamber!

Members 6-10 Years

Comfort Inn of Williamsport
Inflection Energy, LLC

Members 1-5 Years

Animal Care Sanctuary
Aspire Wealth Group
BNG Aesthetics Skin & Laser Center
Brelsford Motors & Equipment Company
Candlewood Suites
Delta Development Group, Inc.
Evergreen Wealth Solutions
Families United Network, Inc. - FUN Academy Child Care Center
Jersey Mike's Subs
Kilgus Law Offices, LLC
Le Chocolat
Penn Strategies
Susquehanna Community Bank
West Branch Susquehanna Builders Association
YorkHoist, Inc.

Fall Foliage Train Excursions & The Great Pumpkin Express ON THE LYCOMING VALLEY RAILROAD

OCTOBER 26TH, 27TH AND 28TH 2018

Join the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce for the Fall Foliage Train Excursions and The Great Pumpkin Express!

**FRI, OCT
26**

THE GREAT PUMPKIN EXPRESS

Departure Times:
6 pm
8 pm
\$10 per ticket

**SAT, OCT
27** **SUN, OCT
28**

FALL FOLIAGE TRAIN EXCURSIONS

Departure Times:
12 pm (to Muncy)
3:00 pm (to Jersey Shore)
\$15 per ticket

Children 2 and under are free as a lap child for both excursions.

The train will depart and return to the Maynard Street Burger King (exit 28 on I-180). Parking is available at Burger King free of charge. Please plan on arriving approximately 10-15 minutes prior to your excursion departure.

Each excursion can hold 350 passengers. The train will be pulled by a diesel engine with 7 cars and 1 caboose.

***A limited number of tickets will also be made available the day of the excursions.**

The Fall Foliage and Great Pumpkin Express Excursions are brought to you by the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce in partnership with SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, Lycoming Valley Railroad and Penn Valley Railroad.

The Great Pumpkin Express

Travel to the airport in Montoursville and back on an hour excursion.

Fall Foliage Train Excursions

Travel to Muncy and back or Jersey Shore and back on a 1½-2 hour excursion.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting:

**LYCOMING COUNTY
VISITORS CENTER**

102 W. Fourth St. Williamsport, PA

Or call:

**570.327.7700
800.358.9900**

Tickets are non-refundable.



Each paid ticket holder will receive the THIRD in the series of NEW collector's trading pins for the Great Pumpkin Express set. Prior years pins will be available for purchase on the days of the excursions.



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