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Welcome New Members! Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings! Williamsport

Williamsport Welcomes the World!







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Williamsport





A COOPERATIVE EFFORT OF THE WILLIAMSPORT/LYCOMING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE WILLIAMSPORT SUN-GAZETTE

From Jason's Desk

Jason Fink, President/CEO

Williamsport Sun-Gazette, August 2021

August is finally here, and yes, there will be a Little League World Series. Yeah, I get it that it's not what we all want. but given everything going on in the world, I'll take it, and be happy for getting something over nothing like we had last year. Very excited to be partnering with the team of the City of Williamsport in doing Williamsport Welcomes the World. We've had to adjust along the way given that we're still not fully out of the pandemic. However, very excited to say that it's taking place in downtown Williamsport on August 20 and that we've got Hall of Fame Left Fielder and top 5 all-time base stealer. Tim Raines. In addition to Raines coming in, we're excited to share that **Reggie Jackson is making** a return appearance on August 21.

Beyond Little League, if you haven't gotten a chance to follow any of our FB postings, you probably missed the visit of relatives from local royalty last month. We were pleased to see that the great, great, great grandson of **Prince Farrington** came to Lycoming County in July to enjoy our Prince Farrington Bootlegger's Tour. If you haven't checked this out. go online and learn more about the tour

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and how you can get your passport to enjoy it. We've got some great breweries, wineries and distilleries here in the area and are happy to be partnering with them for this tour.

In the local job market, it's good to see that our unemployment numbers continue to drop. Last month, we saw it drop to 5.9% which is below the state's average. That's good to see, however, it's still challenging for businesses that are looking to fill positions.

The Chamber recently did a listening session with roughly 15 local business representatives and officials from Labor and Industry, and DCED, to discuss these challenges. We were pleased to receive a willing ear to see what can be done by businesses that are facing these challenges. All had

multiple positions available that paid over \$10/hr with the bulk of them over \$15/hr with solid benefits. These employers cited that they spent significantly on recruiting with online, radio, billboards and newspaper being outlets where they've advertised. Additionally, they offered incentives to current employees that provide leads for people to hire. Unfortunately, they're just not getting people that want to work at this point. While the state officials didn't see the additional \$300 of unemployment as a main reason for these challenges, the employers did, citing that it's just not all that people are receiving. There's also the stimulus checks. rent and utility assistance, additional SNAP money for food, along with the child tax credit that has

> come into play. The Sun Gazette ran an editorial recently that noted that one can receive up to \$50,000 in annual assistance right now. In talking to employers, they realize the challenge in telling someone to come to work when you can stay home and receive this level of funding without going to work. The good thing is that the extra \$300 for unemployment should be coming to an end next month. As with states that ended their's earlier, we'll

hopefully see more motivation for people to get out there and take on these good family, sustaining jobs that are here in Lycoming County.

Before closing out, I need to take a moment to recognize someone who recently passed that had a great influence on my life in high school. Those of you that may recall, I went to Montgomery Area School District and was fortunate enough to have Gus Spizzirri as a teacher and coach. Gus taught at Montgomery for several decades and was involved with athletics here in the region as a football ref and track coach. He actually started the track and field program in Montgomery back in the early 70's. After retiring, he worked part-time at White Deer Golf Course and was on the Montgomery School Board for many years.

He was passionate about kids and found

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value in everyone. I got to know him as a teacher but more as my track coach. Gus could be gruff, but most of the time it was just to push you to be better and put more effort into whatever he wanted vou to do. He was like that in the classroom too. You may not have always agreed, but, he showed you the respect of your opinion, and I have always appreciated learning that from him. Hopefully, that's something that we all find again because it seems to be lost at this time. To Gus's family, thank you for sharing him with me and with many others. Hopefully you've enjoyed reading the various stories on line, (especially those driver's ed ones that we all have at least one to remember) and how he positively impacted everyone's life who walked the halls at Montgomery High.

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Interested in joining the Chamber? Call Taryn Mueller at 570-320-4209 or apply online at: www.williamsport.org

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July PM Exchange/Ribbon Cuttings/Ground Breaking

Ciocca BMW of Williamsport PM Exchange



Thank you to Ciocca BMW of Williamsport for their hospitality to Chamber members and for hosting a PM Exchange. Attendees had the opportunity to view several BMW cars, talk to the staff and enjoy beverages and hors d'oeuvres from Hillside Catering. Presenting a Certificate of Appreciation is Kirk Fisher, Membership Development and Retention Committee to General Manager, Raf Amzayan, Marcus Klees, Finance Manager, and Kyle Remigio, Service Manager. Thank you for a great evening!

Jolinda Chamberlain State Farm Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to Jolinda Chamberlain State Farm Agency on her ribbon cutting and summer picnic. Jolinda and her staff specialize in auto, home, life, and disability insurance. Those in attendance at the event enjoyed tasty treats from Batter-Up Bakery and Bruster's Real Ice Cream. Everyone who received an insurance quote helped donate to Ally's Monkey Movement. (From l to r) Taryn Mueller, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Crystal Harriman, Jolinda Chamberlain and Michael Dicello of Jolinda Chamberlain State Farm Agency.

One-Focus Property Management Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to One Focus Property Management on their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Grand Opening of the new office located at 414 W. 4th Street, Williamsport. Those who stopped by took a turn tossing a hatchet with The Hatchet House and enjoyed appetizers from Kitchen Repose and a sweet treat from Sprinkled Sweet. (From L to R) Kristin Leet, Chelsie Van-Gorder, Nick Occhino, Jennifer Rippey, Jessica Phillips, Justin Wanner, Jennifer Ruelens, Ryan Neece, Travis Reynolds, David Mostoller, Jessica Ruelens.

Ground Breaking for Digger Specialties



The Ground Breaking for Digger Specialties along Route 15 in Brady Township took place mid-July. The company makes vinyl fencing, aluminum for outdoor lighting, aluminum railings and other products. The new facility will bring approximately 150 jobs to our County. Completion of the building is projected for the first quarter of 2022. Thank you to Loren "Digger" Graber and his staff from Digger Specialties Inc., the Lycoming County Commissioners, State Representatives and the Chamber of Commerce for participating. Welcome Digger Specialties!

Welcome New Chamber Members!

C.A. Barlock Sales, LLC Charlotte Barlock-Dady 9751 North Rt. 220 Hwy. Jersey Shore, PA 17740 (570) 398-4570 *Check us out on Facebook* Automobile Parts and Service Automotive Repair Automotive Dealership

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Williamsport Sun-Gazette, August 2021

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Canyon Aero LLC Craig Musser 580 South Loyalsock Ave. Montoursville, PA 17754 (570) 368-1330 http://canyonaerollc.com Aviation Services Phil-It-Up Drive In Julie Bowes 190 Tomb Avenue Jersey Shore, PA 17740 (570) 295-5687 Check us out on Facebook Restaurants/Cafes/Taverns Ice Cream & Frozen Desserts

Williamsport South Rehabilitation Center - Bedrock Communities Kelsey Ecker 101 Leader Dr. Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 323-3758 https://bedrockcare.com/williams-

port-south Healthcare - Skilled Nursing

September PM Exchanges... Nippenose Valley Village

Thursday, September 9, 2021 5:00 - 7:00 pm 7190 South State Route 44, Williamsport

Located in the heart of Nippenose Valley, our Senior Living Community boasts a warm, country setting mixed with a modern facility. Please join us as we showcase how our residents Embrace a Vibrant Life at our

NIPPENOSE — Walley Willage A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

Senior Living Community.

Susquehanna Community Bank

Thursday, September 23, 2021 5:00 - 7:00 pm 2409 East Third Street, Williamsport

Susquehanna Community Bank welcomes you to their PM Exchange.



Come celebrate their 2-year anniversary and get to know their staff. Light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

Williamsport Welcomes the World Friday, August 20, 2021 – 5 PM - 9 PM

Join baseball fans and the community as we welcome Little League families and visitors to downtown Williamsport for the 11th Williamsport Welcomes the World.

The street festival will have a variety of programs including live music, kids zones full of fun and free activities, along with various food and merchandise vendors.

If you are interested in being a vendor, please visit <u>https://visitlycomingcounty.com/little-league/williamsport-welcomes-the-</u> <u>world/</u> Deadline for applications is August 13.

Member Renewals Received between July 1 and July 28



Thank you to our renewing members!

We do appreciate your membership and involvement in the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce!

First Year Renewal Mark Updegraff Trucking Inc. Rigmaids LLC

Members 2 - 5 Years Backhouse Cafe' Coffee & Tea **ClearView Asset Protection LLC** Creative Benefits Inc. Dolly's Diner First Choice Business Solutions LHB Ventures Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board Programs NCPA Media LLC/DBA NorthcentralPA.com New Trail Brewing Company Park Pizza Pine Ridge Construction Management PJ Beiter Coins Roger's Lemonade Schaedler Yesco Distribution, Inc. The Bridge Tavern The Hatchet House Therapy Brewing UPMC Health Plan Weaver Wireless Consultants LLC

Weigle Trucking Company Welliver Your CBD Store Montoursville

Members 6 - 10 Years

Chef Hosch & Ann Catering, Inc. Dohl General Construction, LLC Family Promise of Lycoming County Fischer Insurance Agency RETTEW Associates, Inc. The Brickyard Restaurant & Ale House Water Tower Square, LLC

> **Members 11 - 20 Years** Barrel 135 Comfort Inn of Williamsport Hotel Manor

Members 26 Years Orelli Supply, Inc. Members 39 Years Pace Analytical Services, LLC -Williamsport, PA

> Member 65 Years ANDRITZ Inc.



Janet Jackson (570) 505-2256 1000 Commerce Park Drive Suite 107 Williamsport, PA 17701

Chamber Presents Bonus Check

On March 31, 2021, the Chamber of Commerce held a Job Fair at the Liberty Arena to help area companies fill the many open job positions they have after the effects of COVID-19. As an extra incentive, the Chamber promoted a drawing for a hiring bonus for anyone who attended the job fair, secured a job with one of the participating companies, and were still employed with that company at the end of June. We were very delighted to choose Connor Oldt who secured a job with J.B. Gibbons Construction as Project Manager/Estimator. Below, Jason Fink, President of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, presents Connor Oldt with a \$1,000 hiring bonus. Congratulations Connor!





Join Us For A **19th Hole Mixer**

In Conjunction with the 32nd Annual ChamberLinks Golf Outing

Friday, September 17, 2021 1:30 - 4:00 pm White Deer Golf Course 352 Allenwood Camp Lane Montgomery, PA 17752

Are you not a golfer or can't participate in the 32nd Annual ChamberLinks Golf Outing, but still want to enjoy a chance to network with participating members? Join us for a 19th Hole Mixer upon conclusion of the outing! Cheer on your colleagues as the tournament winners are announced, while enjoying light hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Have a chance to win prizes with games and giveaways. Hope to see you there!

*Note: Members participating in ChamberLinks Golf Outing do not need to register for the 19th Hole Mixer. Entrance is included for each golfer.

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Interested in sponsoring the 19th Hole Mixer? See 32nd Annual ChamberLinks Golf Outing Flyer for Details or call 570-326-1971



\$250

\$500

\$125

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Includes a professional sign with your company name on the course.



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FEATURE MEMBER Montoursville comes alive in the summer

By BETHANY BARRETT bbarrett@sungazette.com

New and returning events are being held this summer in Montoursville Borough.

Some of these activities include local band performances in the park, movies in the park and a new disc golf course available to the public.

Indian Park in Montoursville is the spot for most of these summer happenings.

With 18 baskets in total, the new disc golf course is bringing newcomers to the park.

"People travel from different areas to come to it, it might bring some more people into Montoursville borough who wouldn't be here before," said Mayor of Montoursville Borough, Steve Bagwell.

The disc golf course is free to the public to play.

"It gives people of all ages an exciting new activity to participate in. ...It's lovely and uses many areas of the park that have previously gone unused," said Bagwell on Facebook.

(See MONTOURSVILLE, Page 7)





JASON HAHN/Sun-Gazette The pond at Indian Park in Montoursville, above, has been a popular spot for people to catch fish. The Nature Trail wraps around the ponds and is a good way for residents to get outside and into nature.

DAVE KENNEDY/Sun-Gazette The TWA Flight 800 memorial statue, left, is located at the Montoursville Area High School.

Sun-Gazette, August 2021

FEATURE MEMBER Montoursville comes alive in the summer

(From Page 6)

There is a cellphone app called UDisc Disc Golf that is available for anyone wanting to interact with others in the community who play disc golf at Indian Park, as well as a Facebook page.

As the Montoursville population gets back into the swing of summer events, local businesses are also said to be thriving, just as they always have.

"Montoursville is returning to normal activities, everything is good. ...Our restaurants are busy, our businesses are booming, school is returning in a normal fashion, I think everything is going over very well," said Bagwell.

Members of the Montoursville Borough community are said to be very generous and willing to help one another out.

"We've always been a tight-knit community, and we remain that way.

Everyone has always been happy to work together. ...People give freely, they're very generous" said Bagwell.

For updates on Montoursville Borough events, visit https://www.facebook.com/Borough-of-Montoursville-115527978553086.



JASON HAHN/Sun-Gazette

Above, players take to the softball field at Indian park on Sunday. This basket at right is part of the new 18 hole disc golf course added to Indian Park where disc golfers make their way around the park trying to get their discs into the baskets.



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LEGACY MEMBER Dixon A.C. & R keeps people cool since 1946

By BETHANY BARRETT bbarrett@sungazette.com

Dixon AC & R corporation is an experienced heating and air conditioning service that has been serving their customers since 1946.

John Dixon, founder of the company, moved the company from the original location in Blairsville to Williamsport in 1956.

Currently serving the greater Williamsport area and beyond, the traveling service does installation of heating, ventilation and air conditioning for residential, commercial and industrial structures.

"We are a full service mechanical contractor. We do air conditioning and heating for residential, commercial, and industrial clients," said Lee Miller, current owner and president of Dixon AC & R corporation.

Family owned and operated, Lee Miller is the grandson of John Dixon, founder of Dixon AC &R. Ryan Miller, the fourth generation currently working for the company, is Lee Miller's son and the current vice president of the operation.

The company also works with refrigeration, boiler repair and installation, boiler cleaning, ductwork design and installation, duct cleaning, furnace cleaning, production chillers, air compressor systems, and indoor air quality.

With the variety of services the company offers, they have a service truck which can come to the home or business to do installations and repairs.

"We have a service truck, when we get a call we go out to the home or business," said Miller.

To learn more about the operation, visit AC & R's Facebook at https:// www.facebook.com/DixonACRcorp or their website at http://www.dixonacr. com/ for more information.





PHOTOS PROVIDED Above is one of the many Dixon A.C. & R vans used to meet customers where their needs are, whether that's residential or businesses. At left, is one of the residential air conditioning units that Dixon A.C & R works with.



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SMALL BUSINESS The Bald Eagle Art League keeps art alive

By MARTY WEAVER news@sungazette.com

The Bald Eagle Art League is still flying high nearly 50 years after its inception.

The league was formed Oct. 12, 1972, according to a document written by former secretary Jean Dunkleberger, which is currently in the possession of the Thomas T. Taber Museum.

The structure of the league is based on the Huntingdon Long Island Art League, according to the document.

"The Art League's mission statement is to foster excellence, diversity and vitality in the visual arts of North Central Pennsylvania through a combination of art education, community outreach and service sponsorship," according to the league's website, TheBaldEagleArtLeague.weebly.com.

Current League President Don Kline said that the group keeps busy with shows throughout the year.

The Bald Eagle Art League is in charge of the Way's Garden Art Show, which is held in June at Way's Garden on West Fourth Street. This year's show saw Bald Eagle Art bition at the Pajama Factory. At right, League members selling their works and a Bald Eagle Art League member Tim concert by the Repasz Band.

The Best of the Bald Eagle Art League is a show held every November in the Taber meetings September through May at the Museum, and the league also hosts combi- Taber Museum," Kline said. nation shows in the spring with the Station Gallery in Lock Haven, which is part of the the month at 7 p.m. Guest artists are invit-Clinton County Arts Council.

Kline said.

The league hosts artists in the Genet- work. ti's lower level in the former Taphouse, a restaurant that recently underwent renova- 60 to 70 people, encompassing "novices to tions and will reopen soon under the name professionals." Windows on 4th. The artists typically stick around to showcase their work and talk to members and learn," Kline said. visitors on First Fridays.

the first since renovations began - is bers," Dunkleberger wrote. "In succeeding Chastety Starr, whose work revolves around years, membership would rise to nearly 200 the theme "the color blue," as all pieces and, due to renown of some of its artists... contain blue somewhere.

"In addition... we have our monthly the United States."



PHOTOS PROVIDED

At top, the Bald Eagle Art League hosts the 2015 Spring Still Life Exhi-Healey displays his work at June's Homemade Days in Brandon Park.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of ed to show their work and talk to members "We also provide things for the Genetti," about art education, give demonstrations and espouse advice on how to market art-

Kline estimates membership to be around

"Students are encouraged to become

"In the beginning there were eight... In The next Genetti featured artist - and a few months, there were 92 charter memthe league would be known in many parts of



NEW MEMBER The Barn Fabric Center 'a stable and reliable source'

By MARTY WEAVER news@sungazette.com

The Barn Fabric Center is celebrating nearly three-quarters of a century in business.

Located in a former horse stable off of Williamsport's Millionaires' Row, The Barn is "the largest independent fabric retailer/ wholesaler in Central Pennsylvania," according to its website, BarnFabricCenter.com.

"We're a retail store that specializes in upholstery," owner Gary Golbitz said.

The Barn does quite a bit of custom work, including but not limited to drapery, window treatments, upholstery, bedspreads, blinds, pillows, bed skirts and foam rubber products, according to its website.

The Barn boasts a 100-mile work radius.

"People travel to see us because we're unique with what we do," Golbitz said.

The Barn was opened in 1950 by Jake Golbitz, Gary's father, and Gary took over in 1981, according to the website.

Golbitz said that The Barn operates through retail, wholesale and internet sales. Clientele include hospitals, nursing homes, colleges and decorators, along with members of the surrounding communities.

Fabrics can be viewed and even purchased online through The Barn's website.

The Barn also recently rejoined the Lycoming County Chamber of Commerce.

The building is positively stuffed with rows upon rows of fabrics of all shapes and sizes, neatly organized by type and color. Visitors to the store can sometimes find newly upholstered furniture ready to be picked up, showcasing the business' craftsmanship and skill.

"The original inventory for the business began through the acquisition of textile remnants from local furniture companies, drapery workrooms and clothing manufactures," per The Barn's website. "Today, they still purchase from furniture companies but mostly from the top names in the upholstery and drapery industries..."

"The product lines consist of tapestries, brocades, velvets, olefins, chenille, jacquards, cottons, sheer, micro-suedes, sunbrella types and remnants. All products are below market prices."

The Barn is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sundays and evenings by appointment.

The Barn Fabric Center is located at 1108 Vine Ave. and can be reached at 570-322-6419.

"We are a stable and reliable source with a proud history," the website reads. "Our mission is to provide our customers with the best products at the best prices with the most genuine and sincere quality service."





MARTY WEAVER/Sun-Gazette The above photo shows just a few of the many fabrics and patterns offered at The Barn Fabric Center on 1108 Vine Ave. At left, Gary Golbitz, owner of The Barn Fabric Center, stands in front of the business. The store has a 100-mile work radius and also has a website where items can be purchased.



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Williamsport Sun-Gazette, August 2021

Leadership Lycoming Announces Class of 2022 and Operating Committee

The Selection Committee of Leadership Lycoming chose 28 participants to represent the Class of 2022. The Leadership Lycoming Operating Committee (LLOC) is proud to announce the following will begin the program year with an Opening Retreat in September.

Mikayla Arnold, Ralph S. Alberts Co., Inc. Alyssa Black, Camp Susque Nicole Bower, American Rescue Workers Drew Boyles, Lycoming College Kaylee Caruso, Larson Design Group Emily Drick, River Valley Health & Dental Center Emily Ebersole, PALCO Federal Credit Union Jae Ellison, Lycoming College Audriana Empet, Pennsylvania College of Technology Chris Erdman, UPMC Williamsport Shameka Grey, Transitional Living Centers, Inc. **Emily Helm**, Lycoming Engines Herbert 'Trip' Kemp, Brodart Co. Angelique Labadie-Cihanowyz, Sojourner Truth Ministries Carolyn Lakis, Hope Enterprises, Inc. Olivia Lopatofsky, Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority Matt Martin, UPMC Muncy Mike McCullen, Geisinger Zachary Mihalov, Lycoming Engines Brandy Moon, North Central Sight Services, Inc. Kevin Newman, The Muncy Bank & Trust Company Renee Peluso, BLaST Intermediate Unit 17 Marisa Rau, International Development Corporation Heather Reeder, YWCA of Northcentral PA Kevin Renehan, James V. Brown Library Amber Roudabush, UPMC Williamsport Heather Wood, Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board Programs Josh Wrench, Pennsylvania College of Technology

The Leadership Lycoming Operating Committee begins their new year with new and returning committee members;

Chair – Brian McClintock, Little League International Vice-Chair - David Boyle, Geisinger Eric Beiter, Beiter's Inc. Adam Dincher, M&T Bank Rob Dunkleberger, Lycoming College Emilie Ertel, McCormick Law Firm Brittany Fischer, YWCA of Northcentral PA Chad Greevy, Williamsport Area School District Jim Hicklin, Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board Programs Max Houseknecht, River Valley Health & Dental Center Morgan Madden, McCormick Law Firm Anthony Pace, Pennsylvania College of Technology Sherry Paulhamus, Range Resources Karen Retorick Michele Rozenberg, Community Services Group Jessica Servano, River Valley Regional YMCA

Tanya Weber, Hampton Inn Downtown Kim Wetherhold, The Muncy Bank & Trust Company Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Larry Allison, Jr., Allison Crane & Rigging, Chair, Williamsport/ Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

Windows on 4th Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting: Thursday, August 5th at 3:00 PM Light Refreshments from 3:30-4:30 PM 200 West 4th Street, Williamsport



Williamsport's newest restaurant and bar located inside the Genetti Hotel. Featuring a well-balanced menu offering comfort classics with an eclectic, modern twist appealing to every palate, utilizing produce and meats sourced from local farms.

Julie's Café 25 Year Anniversary Ribbon Cutting: Friday, August 6th at 5:30 PM 33 West 3rd Street, Williamsport



Enjoy Food, Fun & Giveaways!

Julie's is a café located in Williamsport just a short walk from downtown hotels. They offer customers an extensive selection of specialty coffee beverages, teas, iced and frozen drinks. Julie's also serves breakfast and lunch, as well as features during the week.

Whitesel Stained Glass Grand Re-Opening

Ribbon Cutting: Saturday, August 14th at 1:00 PM New Location: 607 Cemetery Street, Williamsport



Offering unique gifts and custom designs; glass, supplies, tools and classes. We also evaluate damaged stained glass items for repairs.

H2 Health of Williamsport

Help Us Celebrate Our New Location! Ribbon Cutting: Wednesday, September 22nd at 3:00 PM Light refreshments & tours of the facility, 3:30–7:00 PM



1948 East 3rd Street, Suite C, Williamsport

RAFFLE BASKETS! Proceeds go to the Alzheimer's Association. High-quality provider of healthcare services.



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This event is brought to you through the partnership of the City of Williamsport and Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

Join us on Friday, August 20th in downtown Williamsport for the 12th Annual Williamsport Welcomes the World street festival. Live bands will be performing throughout the evening along with plenty of kids activities and food vendors. Downtown merchants will all be open throughout the evening offering special discounts with a pin. Only 750 Williamsport Welcomes the World pins will be available that evening with a \$5 purchase from participating merchants.

WELCOMES THE WORLD

2021 Pins







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Contact us for more information Call 570-326-1971 or visit us online at www.williamsport.org

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Williamsport Sun-Gazette, August 2021