



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

**Chamber Celebrates 136th
Annual Meeting &
Awards Banquet**
Thank you to our
renewing Members
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**Family business in
Jersey Shore serves
the community**



From Jason's Desk

Jason Fink, President/CEO

I just finished reading, before sitting down to write this month's column, a ranking of all 50 states based upon their baseball backgrounds by FOX Sports. Whenever there's this type of list published, I'm always curious to see where Pennsylvania falls on it. For this one, I was going to be disappointed if I didn't see us within the Top 10 and was pleased to see us ranked at 7. One of the main reasons cited for us being ranked so high was they noted us due in part to being one of their "favorite places on earth: Williamsport, home of the Little League World Series and one of the most magical baseball spaces imaginable." Isn't it great to know that we live in a community that is so highly regarded by so many across the country and around the world? It always makes the day better when I get a chance to read stories like this one. One other quick note from that piece which I learned about PA, is that we have the most Division III college baseball programs, currently at 55. I say that because come spring of 2023, we'll see that number grow to 56 when Lycoming College adds back their baseball program. Now, the only thing I'm waiting for is to hear when we'll see spring training and the announced start of the MLB season.

Turning to other things on the local front, it was very disappointing to see that the State Supreme Court selected a Congressional map that did so much to adversely affect Lycoming County. The Chamber took a position on the mapping and supported the one that was approved by the redistricting committee and legislature. We joined

the Greater Central Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce to file an amicus briefing in support of the initial map that was approved by the legislature, but vetoed by the Governor. Both of our Chambers had a significant interest in the outcome of this case. Our combined membership was over 1,600 businesses that employ tens of thousands of Pennsylvania voters who live and work in Lycoming, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, and Montour counties. The new configuration of congressional districts fractures the communities of interest that comprise our region and will undermine our effectiveness by requiring us to coordinate on regional issues with multiple members of Congress. Just two examples of this are the levee and airport's air services issue. Having the full attention of one congressman that advocates for our issues has shown to be more effective historically for a county like ours than to be split as we are now. Lycoming County was split back in the 00's when John Peterson had about one-third of the county in the western end and Don Sherwood picked up the remaining area. The western end of the county was on the tail-end of Peterson's district. It covered a massive area, similar to what they've done this time. There was no local office for the residents to contact. While this wasn't the case for Sherwood, it will be interesting to see what occurs this time around for the county. The split is almost dead-center through our area. Will we see either of the congressmen place an office here to serve constituents of the county with how the lines are

drawn? Only time will tell and I would strongly encourage everyone to contact those running to ask that question.

Another item that not only has local impact but obvious national and global affects is what Russia is doing with their war actions against Ukraine. It appears that Putin wants to take Russia back into the pre-90's Soviet bloc of nations with Belarus aiding with their efforts. The unified response against their attack will hopefully see this favorably and quickly resolved for the Ukraine's and Europe. We here in the US are seeing the fallout from this crisis with the primary effect being on gas and energy prices. This is so frustrating to see occur in light of the amount of US oil and gas that has been pushed aside the past few years. Our country should be looking for better, cleaner and more efficient ways to produce energy. However, it shouldn't be done at the expense of the one that we currently rely upon so heavily for items from vehicles to power plants. Oil prices are now approaching \$100 a barrel and my guess is that it will go above that in the next day or two. We're reliant upon other countries at this point to step up their production because we've devalued and heavily regulated that industry here in the US. This also is where we're at with the natural gas industry. Europe is heavily reliant on Russia for natural gas and what's even sadder is just not too long ago, we saw states like Massachusetts importing Russian gas when it easily could have been provided here in the US. The problem is that we just can't flip a switch and fix this

problem overnight. We, as Americans, need to advocate to our legislators for a more balanced energy approach, especially one that is more dependent on energy assets and resources based here in our country. It's maddening to see that we've entered into an inflationary phase in our economy that is only seeing additional pressures placed upon it based upon a factor that we could actually control if we just continued to utilize our own energy resources. While wages have risen, the quality of life is still remaining the same for many because of inflation and now we've added another factor that will impact so many who can ill-afford to be paying more for goods and services.

I would encourage you all to act and speak to your federal officials about this as they do hear you. In mid-February, I got a chance to be with Congressman Keller for a tour of Williamsport High School's phenomenal Career & Technical Education program. It was his first chance to see it and talking to him during it, I know he was impressed with what they were doing there to prepare kids for jobs in our community upon graduation from high school or college. I also was able to be with

Senator Casey towards the end of February over at Bald Birds Brewing Company in Jersey Shore. We were joined by Commissioner Mirabito, local press outlets and a reporter and photographer from the Washington Post here for a story on the air services challenges at our airport. This was Senator Casey's first visit to Bald Birds and he got a chance to see what Joe Feerrar has done in taking the former Woolrich warehouse and converting it to a multi-faceted local and regional attraction as a brewery/distillery/restaurant/event center. As mentioned, there was a reporter from the Washington Post there and he spoke to her about his efforts to assist the Williamsport Regional Airport in re-establishing air service to our community. We all need to keep engaging our elected officials whenever we can. While they represent others, they also represent us here. We need to be telling them where we not only disagree with them but equally important, communicating with them about what we do support that they're doing for us. They too have a role in helping our community advance and grow and we need to continue engaging them wherever possible.

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Taryn Mueller

Chamber Holds 136th Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet

The Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce celebrated their 136th Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet on February 24 at the Williamsport Country Club. Attendees showed their appreciation by recognizing local companies as awards were presented to well-deserving members for their community accomplishments, innovation and overall volunteering within the Chamber and community.

The Phillips/Plankenhorn Small Business of the Year Award was given to Alabaster Coffee Roaster & Tea Co. for their educational and community involvement. Accepting the award was Karl Fisher and his wife Bethany. This award was sponsored by The Muncy Bank & Trust Company, Susquehanna Community Bank, Riverview Bank, Woodlands Bank, C&N Bank, Jersey Shore State Bank, First National Bank, Fulton Bank



Congratulations to the Emerging Business of the Year Award winner, Priority Bicycles. Pictured (l to r); Rob Glunk, Chair of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, David Weiner and Patrick Sparks, Priority Bicycles, and Tim Keohane, Penn State Small Business Development Center.



Congratulations to the Staiman's Family Large Business of the Year Award winner, PMF Industries. Pictured (l to r); Rob Glunk, Chair of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, Renee Flock, M&T Bank, John Perrotto and Ken Healy, PMF Industries.

and First Commonwealth Bank.

The Emerging Business Award was presented to Priority Bicycles for their dedication to making cycling easy for recreational riders and easy to buy accessories. The award was presented by Tim Keohane, Penn State Small Business Development Center who also sponsored the award.

The Staiman's Family Large Business of the Year Award was presented to PMF Industries by Thad Will, M&T Bank. PMF Industries has a wonderful partnership with local schools and colleges to work in finding skilled laborers. M&T Bank sponsored the Large Business Award.

One last appreciation was presented to Larry Allison, Jr. for service as outgoing Chairman of the Board and Executive Committee Chair and for his dedication and support to the community and the Chamber.

Congratulations to all the award winners!



Congratulations to the Phillips/Plankenhorn Small Business of the Year Award winner, Alabaster Coffee Roaster & Tea Co. Pictured (l to r); Rob Glunk, Chair of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, Karl & Bethany Fisher, Alabaster Coffee, and Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.

Welcome New Chamber Members!

Toast'd Bagels

Christian Diggs &
Hannah Summerson
11 W. Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 666-4135
Check us out on Facebook
Bakery/Restaurant

Don Waltman's Market House

Stefanie Allison
701 Northway Road
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 505-3681
<https://www.dwmarkethouse.com/>
Grocery

ProMedica Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation

Matthew Watkins
1008 Thompson Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
(570) 398-4747
<http://promedicaskillednursing.org>
Healthcare - Skilled Nursing
Non-Profit Organization

Member Renewals

Received between January 28, 2022 and February 24, 2022



Thank you to our renewing members!

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

First Year Renewals

Applied Industrial Technologies
Basil Wood Fired Kitchen & Lounge
Junior Achievement NEPA
Kitchen Repose
McConnell's Country Store
Montoursville Rotary Club 5314
RegScan Inc.

Susquehanna Mills
Verilife (PharmaCann)

W.B. Konkle Memorial Library

Members 2 - 5 Years

Central PA Tennis Center
Clear Sphere Yoga
Dadant and Sons

Edward Jones, Stuart T. Hague
H3 Care, Inc.

Henry's Bar-B-Q

Houseknecht's Machine & Tool Company

Keystone Wood Products Association

LG Settlement Services, LLC

M & M Asphalt Corp.

McCarl's Inc.

MCPS of Central PA

Opening the Book

Recovery Community Connection, Inc.

South Williamsport Borough

The Barn at Greystone Farm

Veterans Multi-Service Center

Williamsport Wood Floors

Wine & Design

Members 6 - 10 Years

AC Cruz State Farm Agency

Albright Studio Photography

Fairfield Home Heating Service

Hamilton Patriot LLC

Hoopla's Family Fun & Longshots Grill

Ken's Lawn Care

Penn Valley Railroad, LLC

Postage Pros Plus

Residence Inn

Sunshine 6-Packs & Subs

TGI Fridays

The Sticky Elbow

U-Haul Company of Northeast Pennsylvania

Williamsport Area School District Education

Foundation

Members 11 - 20 Years

Anesthesia Associates of Williamsport

Best Line Equipment

Bostley's Preschool Learning Center Inc.

Boy Scouts of America-Susquehanna Council

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank - Williamsport

Branch

Elery W. Nau, Inc.

Glass & Burns Inc. DBA Catherine Burns

Insurance Services

Happy Acres Resort

Holiday Inn Express

Hutchinson Realty Development, LLC

Ichiban - Japanese Cuisine

J & M Construction Specialty, Inc.

Jiffy Lube

Loyalsock Animal Hospital

PHOENIX Rehabilitation and Health Services-

Jersey Shore

Presbyterian Home at Williamsport

RDF Tax Services, LLC

Service 1st Federal Credit Union

Sordoni Construction Services, Inc.

The WorkCenter

Williamsport Electric, Inc.

Members 21 - 30 Years

21st Century Signs

American Cancer Society

Fisher Mining Company

Industrial Piping Systems

Mericle Commercial Real Estate Group, Inc.

Penn State Small Business Development

Center (SBDC)

TurnKey Construction, Inc.

Walmart

Members 31 - 40 Years

Anthony H. Visco, Jr. Architects

Arxada, LLC

Faxon Cleaners, Inc.

Golden Business Machines

Keystone Data Systems & Promotional

Specialists

Larson Design Group

Loyalsock Township Board of Supervisors

Radiant Steel Products Company

Woodlands Bank

Members 41 - 60 Years

Central Equipment Company

Koppers Inc.

McDonald's Restaurants

Williamsport Moving Company, Inc.

Members 66 Years

Knight-Confer Funeral Home, Inc.

PPL Electric Utilities

SPARTRONICS

Pajama Factory - Clearstory Hosts PM Exchange



Thank you to the Pajama Factory and their event venue, Clearstory, for hosting a PM Exchange. Attendees were treated to tours of the Pajama Factory and wonderful Celtic music. Accepting a Certificate of Appreciation is Mark Winkelmann, owner, and his crew. Thanks for a great PM Exchange.

Upcoming PM Exchange...

Holiday Inn Express

Downtown Williamsport

Thursday, March 24, 2022

5:00 - 7:00 pm

90 Pine Street, Williamsport



The Holiday Inn Express Downtown Williamsport completed a full renovation in 2021. Join us for award winning food and beverages from The James Restaurant and tour the beautifully appointed guest rooms, meeting room and lobby.

Leadership Lycoming's Local & State Government Day

5

Williamsport Sun-Gazette, March 2022

The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2022 had their fifth Program Day; Local and State Government, beginning at The Holiday Inn Express, Downtown Williamsport. Hosts Mary Jo Westbrook, Class of 2020 and Harry Rogers, Class of 2004, welcomed the class and gave a little background of themselves to then introducing the first presentation; City Council Overview with Mayor Derek Slaughter and Councilmen Adam Yoder and Randy Allison.

The class then had the opportunity to experience de-escalation training by Della Watson, Advanced Clinical Education Specialist, Inpatient Rehabilitation, UPMC; followed by an overview of

SEDA-COG by Executive Director Kim Wheeler. Before lunch, the class met with Jersey Shore Borough Manager, Cody Hoover and Kristen McLaughlin, Senior Program Analyst, Community Development Program, SEDA-COG, on the relationship between county boroughs and SEDA-COG.

Lunch was hosted by The James and the class had the opportunity to have lunch and a discussion with state leaders, State Representatives Joe Hamm and Jeff Wheeland and State Senator Gene Yaw.

The afternoon continued at the Executive Plaza in the Commissioners Board Room with a presentation by Charley Hall, Class of 1996,

Legislative Analyst/Community Outreach Coordinator, American Kennel Club, on Understanding Political Campaigns. The day ended with a discussion with Lycoming County Commissioners Scott Metzger, Tony Muscare, and Rick Mirabito.

Thank you to our **Tier 2 Sponsor, Leadership Lycoming Class of 2015!** Thank you to hosts Mary Jo Westbrook and Harry Rogers. And thank you to the class reporters, Emily Drick, River Valley Health & Dental Center and Carolyn Lakis, Hope Enterprises.



The class had the opportunity to meet with Williamsport Mayor Derek Slaughter.



The class had lunch and discussions with Representative Jeff Wheeland, Senator Gene Yaw and Representative Joe Hamm who talked on state and local issues.



www.leadershiplycoming.org

Kim Wheeler, Executive Director for SEDA-COG, presented an overview to the class on what they do for the county.



Want to get ahead as a professional in Lycoming County?

LEADERSHIP LYCOMING

Is now taking applications for the Class of 2023

An immersive opportunity to learn about the businesses, organizations, agencies, and history of Lycoming County in a way no other program offers.

- Network with area business and political leaders
 - Learn leadership skills
- Gain a better perspective on the county
- Discover the needs of vital non-profit organizations
- Work with classmates on local community volunteer projects

Want to be a part of leading Lycoming County to a bright and prosperous future?

Apply today!

For more information or for an application, call 570-326-1971 Or visit www.leadershiplycoming.org for a downloadable form.

Application deadline is April 15, 2022

A program of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce



Class members Josh Wrench, Pennsylvania College of Technology and Zach Mihalov, Lycoming Engines, presented their project on political campaigns.

CHAMBER connection

FEATURE MEMBER

Family business in Jersey Shore serves the community

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

It was President Day and the three brothers who own and operate Buttorff's Hardware were busy, waiting on customers, answering phones, and taking care of the many tasks that needed done.

Keith Buttorff stood behind the counter of the store as a man came through the front door.

"Can I help you?" he asked.

"Yeah. I need hardwood pellets," the man said.

A few minutes later, Buttorff spotted another man getting out of his truck outside the store.

"This guy needs propane," he said to no one in particular.

Buttorff's Hardware is that kind of place: a small town store where the faces are familiar and the brothers know what the customers want.

It's a place where many people from Jersey Shore and the surrounding area come for their many home furnishings, lawn and garden, tools and equipment, and repair needs.

"We pretty much have what everybody wants," Keith said.

Keith, at 65, is the oldest among the brothers, all of whom have been working in the business since they were teenagers.

Their grandfather, Warren Buttorff, started the business in 1941.

"I'm the youngest brother," Ken Buttorff said. "My dad used to drag me around here. I would be hanging on his pants pocket."

The brothers share the many duties and tasks of the store, and claim — with smiles — they pretty much get along.

"We are all very knowledgeable," Rich Buttorff said. "If someone needs something, we can help them."

The brothers agree the store's spot along busy 111 Bridge St. just off the Thomas Street off-ramp of Route 220 is a good location with plenty of traffic passing by.

The ample parking in front of the store is also a plus.

"We are pretty much busy every day," Keith said.

Customers come for different reasons, (See FAMILY, Page 7)



The Buttorff brothers, above, are longtime owners of Buttorff's Hardware, 111 Bridge St, Jersey Shore. From left are Keith, Phil and Ken.

MIKE REUTHER/Sun-Gazette

FEATURE MEMBER

Family business in Jersey Shore serves the community

(From Page 6)

including help for home improvement projects.

The store's shelves amidst the narrow aisles seem to overflow with all manner of tools, equipment, parts and accessories, nuts and bolts, and just about anything else to be found in a hardware store.

"Our customers know where stuff is," Keith said. "Others who don't know, we can help."

For someone entering the store, signs just beneath the ceiling can lead them to the different sections: Lawn and Garden, Plumbing, Fasteners, Paint Sundries, Electrical, Housewares.

"We fix windows," Keith said. "We fix appliances. We sell appliances."

Prices, he added, are kept "as low as we can."

But perhaps what sets the family-owned business apart from the big box or franchise hardware stores is the personalized customer service.

"We have the experience to help anyone who doesn't know what they want," Keith said. "We can actually help people."

COVID-19, as it did with most businesses, posed its share of challenges for the store, especially with ordering supplies.

"We are doing the best we can," Keith said, while acknowledging it's an issue, along with rising prices and high inflation that everyone seems to be dealing with.

Asked about the biggest challenge of running the business, he said, "Maybe just paying the bills."



MIKE REUTHER/
Sun-Gazette
The sign stands
out front of But-
torff's Hardware
in Jersey Shore.

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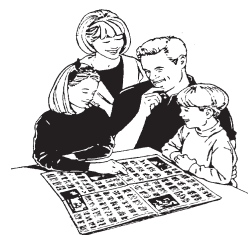
MIKE REUTHER/Sun-Gazette

Keith Buttorff works the front counter of the store.

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LEGACY MEMBER

Lycoming County United Way to celebrate 100 years of service

From Staff Reports

In April, the Lycoming County United Way celebrates its 100th anniversary.

“It all began in 1922 with what was known as the Board of Trade, now the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce,” said Ron Frick, president of the Lycoming County United Way.

In a brief history outline in archives, the Board of Trade passed a formal resolution to establish a Community Chest. At that time, it was called the Williamsport Welfare Corp. The official date of the anniversary is April 14, and the United Way will be planning activities around the centennial.

Some of the early United Way documents are in the Lycoming County Historical Society archives, and the Chamber’s archived minutes contain some of those earlier meetings. The local United Way celebrates its anniversary with some current events and potentially one or two new ones.

Now a century in existence, the Lycoming County United Way is looking toward 2022 with a renewed vigor of service to the community and neighbors helping each other.

According to early documents, the local Community Chest organized in response to the demand that all significant health and welfare organizations’ appeals be combined into one federated fundraising campaign. The spirit of federation debuted in Lycoming County in 1922, originally established as the Williamsport Welfare Corporation.

For almost a century, this federated effort has involved thousands, enriching the quality of life in the county. It has taken on many names — Hughesville Community

Chest, Jersey Shore Community Chest, Montgomery Community Chest, Montoursville Community Chest, Lycoming United Fund, and Lycoming United Way.

The West Branch Manufacturer’s Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and organized labor and professional groups began developing a “United Fund” in the mid-1950s. After careful study, the Association unanimously endorsed and adopted the United Fund concept in 1956. The Association broadened the representation of the development group to include other citizens in the drafting of by-laws and nomination of directors and officers.

On May 23, 1956, the courts granted a charter, and the Lycoming United Fund became a reality. The community declared that it chose to support private human services through federation, permitting the United Way to solicit funds for this purpose. The community granted no other human service organization such explicit license. The broad community organized the United Way to serve the community.

In May of 1974 the Lycoming United Fund became the Lycoming United Way.

The Lycoming United Way evolved over the decades from raising funds to assessing community needs, and directing funds where most needed.

In April 2000, the Lycoming United Way became Lycoming County United Way. With their services used yearly by county residents, the new name more accurately describes both who they are and whom they serve.

With the dawning of a new century new initiatives were developed to address emerging needs of Lycoming County residents. The



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pictured from left are Betsy Reichenbach, administrative manager, Ron Frick, president, and JanAnn Todd, director of community impact.

organization’s Community Assessment surveys identified a housing shortage and homelessness as concerns. Partnerships with YWCA, New Covenant United Church of Christ and the American Rescue Workers created the establishment of Liberty House (2002), Journey House (2007) and Saving Grace (2011). The programs provide both temporary shelter and case managements assistance to assist individuals with the tools to reach self-sufficiency.

In 2007 the concept of Community Impact funding was established. Recipients of funding were required to serve an identified community need and report how their efforts were impacting lives. The funding model emphasized the requirement that LCUW funds are directed to specific human service programs rather than as general funding to one particular agency.

In 2011 LCUW spearheaded the establishment of a 24-hour, 7-day a week 211 human service hotline in Lycoming County to assist residents in obtaining human service

program assistance. Trained individuals staffed the toll-free service to respond to human service needs. The system is now part of the nationwide 211 referral system. The same year LCUW introduced an electronic online allocation system enabling human service programs to process reports and requests for funding efficiently.

In 2013, LCUW began procedures to assist Tioga and Sullivan counties in raising human service funding for programs in their areas.

In 2017, long-time Executive Director Scott Lowery retired, and Ron Frick took the helm. A former commercial relationship manager with M&T Bank, Frick started his United Way journey as a loaned executive from the former Northern Central Bank. After chairing numerous divisions of the annual campaign and serving as a campaign chair and leadership giving chair, Frick was no stranger to the United Way and was a good fit for an organization preparing for its next century of service. During

the last five years of his tenure, the United Way has enhanced its position as a convener in the community, improved its relationships with community partners, forged new partnerships with others, and improved its reach and visibility with a robust media presence. The organization began its strategic planning process in 2019 and postponed completion to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following year, amid the pandemic, over \$750,000 was granted to community organizations through the COVID-19 United Community Funds in partnership with the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania.

While the Lycoming County United Way continues to depend on support from local businesses and their employees for resource development efforts, the expansion of the Peter Herdic Society (leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more) and the Tocqueville Society (leadership gifts of \$10,000 or more) have helped bolster fundraising efforts. Special fundraising events have also enhanced the overall revenue and reach of the organization. Partnerships with local businesses has enhanced the overall revenue reach of the organization. None of this would be possible without supportive volunteers, an engaged board of directors, dedicated employees and a caring community. Living United is not just a catchy phrase, and it defines communities. The Lycoming County United Way will continue to fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community.

Their mission has been to serve our communities for the last century of service, and we look forward to an even more significant impact in the next 100 years.

M and S Contracting honors co-founder's legacy

From Staff Reports

M and S Contracting, LLC in Williamsport is a full-service contracting business that continues to grow in the area.

The family-owned and operated business provides a host of services for residential and commercial projects, both large and small.

Jamal and Melodie Shaw officially began M and S Contracting, LLC in 2018.

They have worked on a number of commercial projects, including projects for Dollar Tree stores, Family Dollar, Dollar General, and FNB. The commercial projects consist of vanilla box construction and complete store fixture set ups.

The business also does residential projects including remodels of bathrooms and kitchens, flooring installation, drywall/finishing, interior and exterior painting and more.

Last year, the business experienced a devastating blow when Melodie's husband, Jamal, passed away unexpectedly on Christmas Day.

"We intend to keep our business relevant and thriving in his honor. Now more than ever, it is important that my husband's legacy lives on through the business that he poured his blood, sweat and tears into," Carter-Shaw said.

Jamal had over 25 years of experience in the construction field, much of which he attributed to his uncle's tutelage as a young man learning the trade.

"Family was and will always be very important to Jamal and I — our family has always had something to do with moving our business forward. Family is still involved, including his son JJ; his uncle Bertdell Shaw; his father, Jeff Mitchell; his brother, Jerome Shaw; and his mother, Pamela Mitchell. Everyone who has worked with us, we consider family," Carter-Shaw said.

Jamal was said to have a strong work ethic and a variety of skills and experience that he passed onto Melodie, his employees, and to other subcontractors.

He taught Melodie finishing work,

which she now specializes in, while also running the business.

"He taught me so much. I still marvel at the fact that he had mastered so much while still such a young man. He was a man on a mission — always learning and bettering himself. He instilled that in us. This is a part of his legacy that lives on in each of us," Carter-Shaw said.

M and S have built a strong customer base with returning clients, which helped the business survive the pandemic and economic uncertainty.

Melodie ensured that the business will continue to maintain high standards for all present and future projects.

"My philosophy is we always go above and beyond and we only do projects that we can be proud of. No project is complete unless our customers are satisfied. I am committed to keeping things safe, orderly, neat, and clean and everyone that works with unknowns and adheres to these standards. We say what we are going to do and then do it — Integrity is so important," Carter-Shaw said.

As a minority-owned business, the challenges they face have also continued to make the business stronger.

"We face challenges breaking into the local market and expanding our network. Now we are a double minority owned business. We have to be even better; we have to work even harder and will always go above and beyond — providing that extra level of service. This sets us apart from our competitors. It's an asset that we will continue to build on," Carter-Shaw said.

As M and S Contracting continues to grow, Melodie looks forward to the ways in which they hope to expand.

"It's been my dream to put together an all women's crew. I've had several women who have worked for us throughout the years. I would always tell Jamal, I'm gonna have an all women's crew that can do everything we can do, they will call us Mally's Angels. We would laugh — now it's a real prospect," Carter-Shaw said.

Another facet of expanding their busi-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Family owned and operated, the M and S Contracting crew poses for a photo. From left are Bertdell Shaw, Gerome Shaw, Melodie Carter-Shaw, the late Jamal Shaw and Jeff Mitchell.

ness includes helping hard-to-employ individuals and those transitioning from prison to learn new and sustainable skills and trades.

"Our apprenticeship would provide on-the-job training that would assist people bettering themselves and contributing to the community. We are working to realize the vision that Jamal and I shared," Carter-Shaw said.

"I am confident that we now have an

angel to keep us on task and moving forward," Carter-Shaw said.

M and S Contracting is open and available for your next residential or commercial project.

Spring is coming so get a free estimate for any interior or exterior painting or dry-wall projects, when you refer to this article.

For more information regarding our services email mandscontracting570@gmail.com or call 570-772-1591.

NEW MEMBER

Haywoods Bar and Grill offers community-oriented service

By **JONATHAN BERGMUELLER**

jbergmueller@sungazette.com

Haywoods Bar and Grill, Muncy's must-stop location for a Pittsburgh cuisine experience, is approaching its 20-year anniversary of business.

The restaurant and bar, located at 113 W. Water St., Muncy, is famous for its Steelers and local athlete memorabilia, according to Kim Walker, owner.

"We are a Steelers bar and we feature local athletes—all kinds of memorabilia," Walker said. "We are very community oriented and we celebrate local athletes. Our menu is named after local coaches."

Haywoods is also known for its Pittsburgh-styled sandwiches, its large portions, its homemade ciabatta bread with homemade coleslaw and fries—on the sandwich.

Walker said you can think of the Primanti Brothers' from Pittsburgh, except "... you get less bread with us, and more meat. We're known for our wings... all our wing sauce is made in-house."

"We try to make as much of our own product in house as possible," Walker said. "It's nothing fancy, but everything is good and is the best quality we can buy."

Haywoods' repertoire extends far beyond just sandwiches and wings, however. They make their own black diamond steaks, mac and cheese and more. Additionally, they feature around 10 craft beers on a rotating basis.

However, Haywoods' reputation as a Central Pennsylvanian portmanteau of Pittsburgh culture attracts some attention, too. Rocky Bleier, Robin Cole, Dan

Kreider and Andy Russell have all passed through to try what Haywoods has to offer.

"You never know, when you come in—you might run into a Steeler," Walker said.

Haywoods got its start in 2002 when Walker and his business partner bought the property to renovate it and sell it.

However, as repairs went underway, the project became more and more extensive, Walker said. He said the two decided to launch a restaurant from the property instead—and founded Haywoods Bar and Grill with a menu printed on 8.5x11-inch paper. Both of them were new to restaurants, according to Walker.

"The only experience I've ever had in restaurants is on the other side of the bar," Walker said.

Walker initially acted as a general manager of the restaurant, while his partner handled paperwork. But after around three years, Walker bought Haywoods out in an amicable split between the two.

"Over the years, our customers told us what they enjoyed and we continued that idea," Walker said.

Through that refinement process, Haywoods continued to capitalize on its identity as a local, Steelers-themed bar.

"We celebrate local athletes, and our menu is named after local coaches," Walker said. "We have had a lot of players who went on to play college football. A lot of them brought back memorabilia from their college days. It's a very local, friendly, casual place."

Haywoods, unbeknownst to many, does offer off-premise catering, and can serve 100-500 people at an event, according to Walker. Additionally, Walker said



JONATHAN BERGMUELLER/Sun-Gazette
Maggie Bilger, above, serves up one of Haywoods Bar and Grill's sandwiches with a side of fries. Kim Walker, owner, at right, stands behind the bar.



he wants to get back to having a "bike night," which he said could attract anywhere around 175 motorcycles on a Tuesday.

"It's a motorcycle get-together in the parking lot on the second Tuesday of the month. We set up a display with live entertainment, and we hope to be able to do that again this summer," Walker said.

That kind of event engrains the bar and restaurant as a community-driven location. Walker explained he does very little advertising because his customer base grows from word of mouth.

"It's a real simple story. We say hello when you come in, and we try to thank you when you

leave," Walker said.

There are a lot of options to choose from when dining, and when someone chooses local Haywoods Bar and Grill instead of a corporate-owned chain restaurant, Walker said he tries to thank them and show appreciation for their patronage.

"We want to thank all our patrons for supporting my wife and myself during the pandemic,"

Walker said. "Had it not been for our loyal customers, we might not have made it. We want to let everyone know how thankful Carol and I are for their support then, and our support now."

Walker also gave credence to his staff, who stuck with him through an employment shortage.

"We've been very blessed to have the employees we've had," Walker said.

Chamber Recognizes High School Students

The Education Committee of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize the following students for being chosen as the Student of the 2nd Quarter for their high school and for their hard work and achievements. **Congratulations!**



*Brennah Kennedy
Hughesville High School*



*Kathryn Schluter
Loyalsock High School*



*Gavin Rine
Montgomery High School*



*Kathleen Wentzler
Montoursville High School*



*Travis McNett
Muncy High School*



*Michelle Pierce
St. John Neumann Regional
Academy*



*Bilal Elfayoumi
Williamsport Area High
School*



*Tracy Muckleman
Jersey Shore Area High
School*



*Brock Weaver
South Williamsport
Area High School*

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

Ribbon Cutting & Open House

Keller Williams Advantage Realty

1948 E 3rd St, Williamsport

March 15, 2022 | 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Check out our new location!

~Enjoy complimentary beer & wine while you meet our friendly staff

~Enter to win a basket of goodies - All proceeds are being donated to our friends at the Lycoming County SPCA

The Newsroom Grill & Spirits

454 Pine Street, Lower Level, Williamsport

March 18, 2022 | 4:00 Ribbon Cutting

~The new restaurant at the City Hall Grand Hotel in downtown Williamsport, has the perfect atmosphere, a friendly staff led by Scott Caverly, and a delectable menu sure to please the palate.

Ribbon Cutting & Open House

Don Waltman's Market House Meats & Deli

701 Northway Road Ext, Williamsport

March 23, 2022 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

~Featuring many of Mr. Waltman's original recipes, along with local brands and favorites from past and present.

~Sample our new menu & meet our friendly staff

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Final 3
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220 Shaffer Lane, Jersey Shore PA
Friday, March 25, 2022
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
\$100 per ticket, Admits Two



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MARCH 25, 2022
5:30-7:30 PM
BALD BIRDS BREWING COMPANY
220 SHAFFER LN
JERSEY SHORE, PA

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