

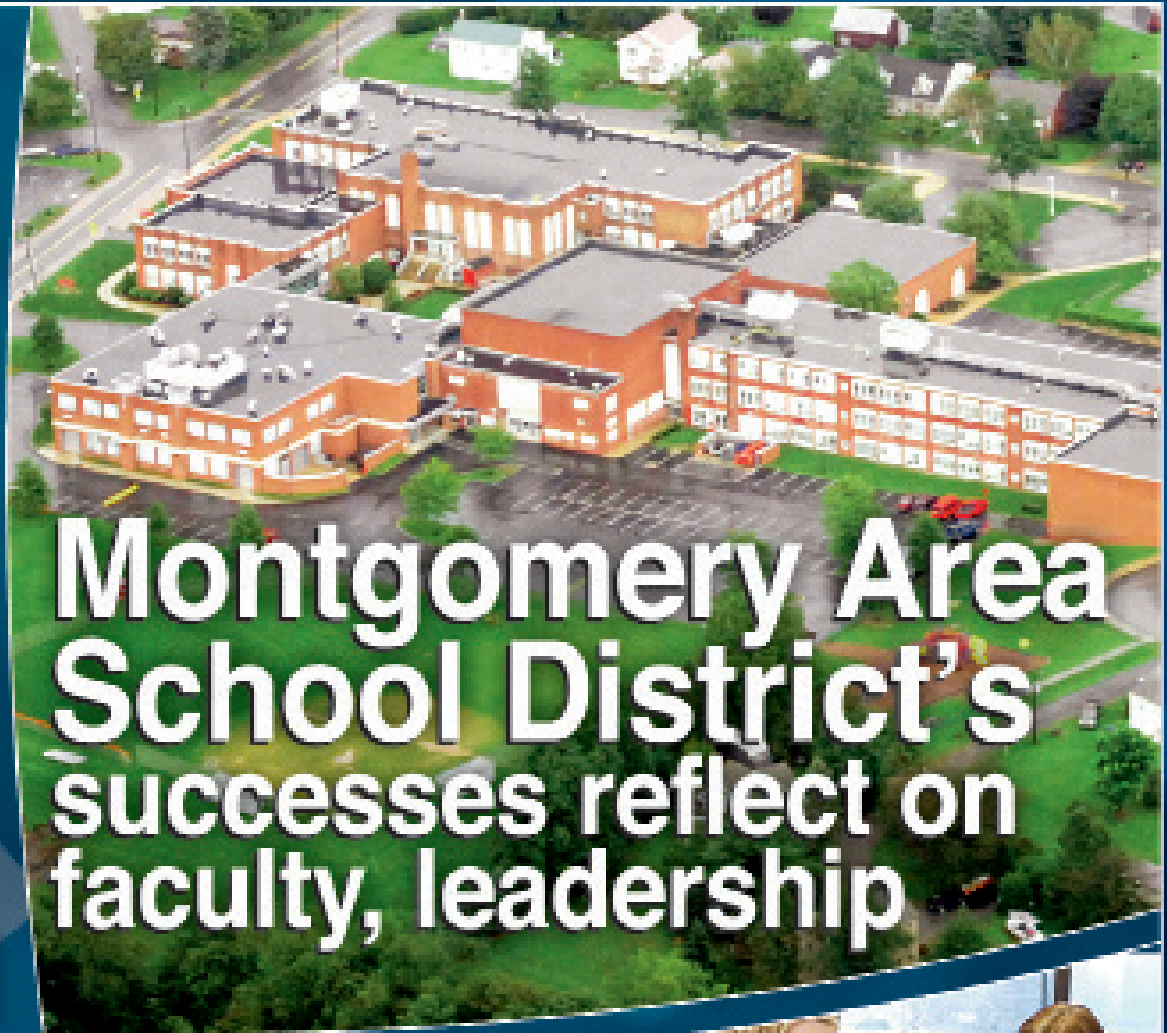


TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM OF LYCOMING COUNTY

Chamber Celebrates education

HURRY! Leadership Lycoming Class of 2024

**Applications due April 14
Grand Slam Parade date set**



Montgomery Area School District's successes reflect on faculty, leadership



From Jason's Desk

Jason Fink, President/CEO

April is here and we're now officially into Spring. It's a fun weather month, if you enjoy the great variety we see during it. One day it can be average temps in the 50s and 60s, the next pushing 80, and then followed by a day in the 40s. I'll take it all, because you can get out and enjoy hiking, biking, baseball, softball, track and field and all the other outdoor activities this time of year.

My first weekend of April was spent in Pittsburgh visiting my youngest daughter who is a sophomore at Pitt. We ended up visiting the Strip District that, in my year living there and numerous visits over the decades, I had never experienced. What a great vibe there and definitely a place you should get to while in Pittsburgh. While I was walking, a gentleman noted the Therapy Brewing shirt I had on and said he'd been there and it was a great small brewery. He also noted the other great breweries in the area as we passed by. I would have loved to talk more with him, but had promised not to get into lengthy conversations with strangers about our community. Anyways,

it was great to see the recognition that we get for our breweries here in the county.

I had the opportunity to talk with representatives of a new manufacturer that will be setting up operations here later this year. We engaged with them through the Office of International Business Development (OIBD), that falls under the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) back in January. They are a Canadian owned company based about 2 hours north of Quebec City, and are in a niche sector of the plastics industry utilizing roto-molders to produce septic tanks for residential uses. It is a global manufacturer operating in 12 countries that has separate business divisions producing other products. There are divisions here in the US, however, this is a new division entry for them here in the states. The product is currently being manufactured outside of Montreal.

When they were here in January, they were primarily looking for a building to lease in getting established. Their site search encompassed several counties in cen-

tral PA. We worked in with them a quick introduction and brief tour of the Plastics Innovation and Resource Center (PIRC) at Penn College knowing not only of their plastics manufacturing in general, but more importantly that they utilized roto-molding in their process.

Those here in the community are most likely not aware of the PIRC and what all is involved in the offerings through the college as it relates to plastics. However, if you were to talk to anyone in the industry, Penn College is highly regarded for the curriculum they have there. They not only work with students looking to obtain a degree, but also have continuing education offerings in addition for companies to send employees for training opportunities. The college also works with plastics manufacturers on proof of concepts work before they implement a new product or process into production. This is a gem in our backyard and one that we're pleased to have here in giving us an edge when working to secure new companies to our area.

We're Hiring....Are You Looking to Make An Impact?

The Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, a dynamic organization in Lycoming County, PA, has the unique opportunity for hiring a new *Vice-President of Operations, Marketing and Communications*. We seek a community-minded individual for a position that will provide support to the President and supervise the areas of Leadership Lycoming and Chamber special events. They will be responsible for leading the marketing and communication efforts of the organization that will entail all outside communications in coordinating public relations and communication efforts including the Chamber Connection, electronic communications, the Chamber web site and social media accounts. We plan to have you on board starting no later than June 1st, so apply today by sending your letter of interest and resume to:

Jason Fink
President/CEO
Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
102 West Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

or email jfink@williamsport.org
No phone calls please.



Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Staff Main Office - 570-326-1971

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The Chamber Celebrates Education

The Chamber held its 22nd Annual Education Celebration at the Williamsport Country Club on March 2. The event included awards for the Business Partner in Education, Alumni of the Year, Outstanding Professional Educator and Outstanding Senior.

The Alumni of the Year Award was presented to a graduate from Lycoming College and Pennsylvania College of Technology, who also sponsored this award. This award recognizes individuals who attended college and have stayed in the area. This year's recipients were Joe Feerrar, Class of 2002 from Lycoming College and Andrea Reed, Class of 2007 from Pennsylvania College of Technology.

The Business Partner in Education Award, sponsored by UPMC and ESS, is given to a business that demonstrates how area businesses can partner with schools and students who will one day become our future business leaders. The recipient of this year's award was T-Ross Brothers Construction.

The Outstanding Educator Award, sponsored by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, recognizes educators from each school district who make extraordinary contributions to the education profession.

The Outstanding Senior Award, sponsored by M&T Bank, is awarded to students selected because of their performances in academics, leadership, activities, and community service. Each student is interviewed by a committee which selects one senior as the grand prize winner. Andrée Phillips, Chair of the Education Committee and on the interviewing committee, shared some of the information given during the interviews. The students received a gift bag from the Lycoming County United Way to promote their LIVE UNITED in Educa-

tion sponsorship.

This year's Outstanding Senior award was presented to Benjamin Manetta, Williamsport Area High School. Ben received a \$250 cash award from M&T Bank and a college textbook scholarship for \$500 sponsored by the Williamsport Sun-Gazette.

Thank you to all of the sponsors, school districts, and friends and family, for supporting our outstanding seniors and educators!



Outstanding Students, front row from left, Emma Strickland, Loyalsock Township High School, Jadyne McGinley, Hughesville High School, Ruby Muse, Montoursville Area High School, and Benjamin Manetta, Williamsport Area High School. Back row from left, Kailyn Woltz, Montgomery Area High School, Alaina Brelsford, Muncy High School, Benjamin Manning, South Williamsport Area High School, Elijah Bower, Jersey Shore Area High School and John Brann, St. John Neumann Regional Academy.



Alumnus of the Year Award was presented to Joe Feerrar, Lycoming College Class of 2002 by Provost & Dean, Dr. Philip Sprunger.



Alumna of the Year Award was presented to Andrea Reed, Pennsylvania College of Technology Class of 2007 by President, Michael Reed.



The Business Partner in Education Award, sponsored by UPMC and ESS, was presented to T-Ross Brothers Construction, from left, Cody Ross, Tom Ross, Karen Wastler, UPMC, Sandy Berry, Todd Ross, Ginnetta Reed, Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.



Outstanding Educators, front row from left, Kim Sauers, Montoursville Area School District, Kaylene Francis, Loyalsock Township School District, Alexis Warf, East Lycoming School District, Jodi Bohart, Muncy School District. Back row from left, Kelly Shearer, South Williamsport Area School District, Erin Bonsell, Jersey Shore Area School District, Bess Lowry, Montgomery Area School District and Patricia Bower, Williamsport Area School District. Not pictured is Christine Litchfield, St. John Neumann Regional Academy.

Welcome New Chamber Members!

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Hairstylists/Salon

Exotic Luxury Chauffeur Driven LLC

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1936 Frey Avenue
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(570) 880-2777
<https://exoticchauffeurcar.com>
Chauffeur Services

Fish Consulting

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1868 E. Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 337-7142
daria@fishconsultingllc.com
Consultants

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2205 Hiawatha Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 220-0528
<https://ridehiawatha.com>
Entertainment/Arts/Amusements

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State College, PA 16801
(814) 278-1325
<http://pabusinesscentral.com>
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Uptown Music Collective

Jared Mondell
144 West Third Street, Suite 201
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(570) 329-0888
www.uptownmusic.org
Non-Profit Organization
Music/Instruments/Voice

Interested in joining the Chamber?

Call Taryn Hartle at (570) 326-4209
or apply online at www.williamsport.org

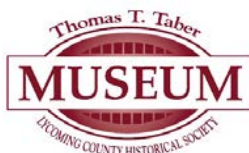
Upcoming PM Exchanges...

Thomas T. Taber Museum

Thursday, April 13, 2023
5:00 - 7:00 pm

858 West Fourth Street, Williamsport

Our PM Exchange at the Taber Museum of the Lycoming County Historical Society, will include tempting finger foods, drinks, and a door prize! You'll also have an opportunity to stroll through the museum and enjoy our local historical exhibits, meet our Board members, and a rare opportunity to see what lies beneath the museum in our vast storage areas that house Lycoming County's treasures from the past.



Family Promise of Lycoming County

Thursday, April 27, 2023
5:00 - 7:00 pm

635 Hepburn Street, Williamsport

Come tour Family Promise of Lycoming County. Learn how we are re-purposing donated items to assist the community, housing homeless families and our fantastic homeless prevention program. Enjoy light fare and learn more about our efforts as we are Breaking the Cycle of homelessness.



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

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- ◆ 20% off Computer Repair Service. — Applies to Chamber member businesses and their employees.
(Discount for employees applies to walk-ins only.)

For more information please contact:

KVS Computers

71 West Water Street
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Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce - 102 West Fourth Street - Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 326-1971 - www.williamsport.org

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

Park Place PM Exchange



Thank you Park Place for hosting a great PM Exchange. Attendees entered into the Grand Gallery and were treated to hors d'oeuvres by Farrington Place. Just down the hall in the Peter Herdic Room, attendees could watch a presentation of the history and refurbishing of the building and awesome desserts. Tony Visco talked to everyone about the history of Park Place. Amy Alexander, Chamber Membership Committee, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to owner Bill Brown, Kristina Goss, Event Coordinator and Amie Penfield, Property Manager. Thank you for a wonderful evening!

Camp Susque Ribbon Cutting



Camp Susque, in Trout Run, gathered to celebrate a kitchen expansion project including a new dish washing room and walk-in cooler and freezer. (from l to r): Garrett Sanner, Jersey Shore State Bank; Phil Johnson, M&T Bank; Dr. Tim Bryant, Camp Susque Board Chairman; Madra Clay, Central Regional Director PA DCED; Justin Howard, Horizon Federal Credit Union; Jon Conklin, Woodlands Bank; and Deanna Boehret, C.H. Waltz & Sons.

Exotic Luxury Chauffeur Driven Ribbon Cutting

Congratulations Exotic Luxury Chauffeur Driven LLC on your grand opening & ribbon cutting ceremony! Located off the Lycoming Creek Road at 1936 Frey Avenue, Williamsport. Gavin Gordon and his team invite you to sit back, relax and enjoy an exotic, luxury, chauffeur-driven experience in one of their beautiful cars! Call them to book your reservation today at (570) 880-2777. (from l to r) Jennifer Rempe, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Membership Development and Retention Committee; Kerry Anthony, Maintenance Personnel, Exotic Luxury Chauffeur Driven LLC; Gavin Gordon, Owner, Exotic Luxury Chauffeur Driven LLC; Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Bethany McDonald, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Membership Development and Retention Committee.



Universal Settlement Services of PA Ribbon Cutting

Universal Settlement Services of PA, LLC, located at 23 S. Main Street in Muncy, hosted their grand opening & ribbon cutting on a beautiful spring morning. Those in attendance met the friendly staff and enjoyed a coffee bar, a yummy grazing table by The Hillside Catering, refreshments from Big Spring Spirits, and desserts from Rose Valley Sauces & Sweets. Stop by or give them a call at (814) 689-1741 for your real estate settlement needs. (From l to r) Bethany McDonald, Michelle Lawson, Matt Beltz of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Membership Committee; KateLynn Luzier, Cory Stump, Jade Peacock, Brandy McAulay, and Angie Hane of Universal Settlement Services of PA; Janenne Goliash, Legislative Assistant to Senator Gene Yaw; Sarah Stockton, Alyssa Winters, and Jonas Holderman of Universal Settlement Services of PA.



FEATURE MEMBER



SUN-GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

Montgomery Area Jr./Sr. High School sits atop a hill in Montgomery borough in this aerial photograph.

Montgomery Area School District's successes reflect on faculty, leadership

From Staff Reports

Montgomery Area School District and its students have earned some impressive accolades the past several years — a reflection on the quality of the district's faculty and leadership.

The girls' softball team won a state title in 2022. The high school's marching band was selected to perform at President Donald Trump's 2017 inaugural events. The high school also was

a national "top 10" school in the Stock Market Game "Capitol Hill Challenge" in 2016.

The district serves the borough of Montgomery, Clinton Township, Brady Township, and Washington Township — an area encompassing about 87 square miles, according to the district's website.

According to 2000 federal census data, it serves a resident population of about 7,700. Montgomery Area School District operates 2 public schools: Montgomery Area Jr/Sr High School

and Montgomery Elementary School.

"We pride ourselves on 'doing whatever it takes' for all of our students to reach their full potential academically, athletically and artistically," Superintendent Daphne Bowers said on the district's website. "Our staff focuses on meeting individualized needs of our students with the goal of preparing them for college, career, or mili-

(See MONTGOMERY, Page 7)

FEATURE MEMBER



Members of the 2022 Montgomery Area High School softball team celebrate their state championship.

SUN-GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

Montgomery Area School District's successes reflect on faculty, leadership

(From Page 6)

tary service upon graduation from the Montgomery Senior High School."

The school district has a presence on social media, including Facebook, where parents, students and community members can learn about scholarship opportunities, what the district's athletic teams and other extracurricular organizations are doing and other topics.

"Developing relationships with our students

as well as the community is our strength," Bowers continued on the district's website. "We care about the welfare of our students and of each other. Our Montgomery 'Family' is well articulated as we strive to make connections across the community. A strong community-school connection is vital to the success of our district. We encourage you to take advantage of the many events that showcase our students and their tremendous talents. Art shows, musical events, plays and athletic

events are just a few ways to become connected with the Montgomery Area School District."

"This is a wonderful place to be from," Steven Sampsell, director of Strategic Communications at Penn State University and a member of Montgomery's Class of 1986 told the Montgomery Area High School 2022 commencement. "This is a special place. You should embrace it."

"Be nice, be hardworking and be proud of where you come from," he said.

LEGACY MEMBER

BLaST Intermediate Unit 17 meets the needs of students, families, communities

By **MIKE REUTHER**
Sun-Gazette correspondent

BLaST Intermediate Unit 17 provides student services, educational planning, as well as technology and management needs for 19 public and other schools across Lycoming, Tioga, Sullivan, and Bradford counties.

"IUS were created to prevent inequities in the state," Executive Director Christina Steinbacher-Reed said. "Our vision is transforming lives and communities through educational services."

She oversees a staff of more than 300 people charged with helping bring schools and their students the educational support they need.

"Our greatest asset at the IU is our people," she said.

Their mission calls for focus and but also versatility to meet the changing and often complex demands in education.

"I like working with students and families to identify needs and working toward building services and programs to meet those needs," Brooke Beiter, assistant executive director, said.

Steinbacher-Reed noted that many people perhaps have a vague notion of what specifically an Intermediate Unit does.

The state Legislature gave birth to IUs in 1971 to serve as liaisons between local schools and the Department of Education. Through the years, the IUs have expanded services to focus on the unique needs of communities.

"The IU started predominantly as a special education services provider," Steinbacher-Reed said.

Special education remains a big part of the IU mission, through early intervention, alternative education, and itinerant services which focuses on students with specific disabilities.

The IU's education planning focus includes training for workforce development, removing barriers for learning, as well as professional and career training opportunities.

The IU provides technology services for support and development of custom-designed software applications and network services for local school districts carried out by IT specialists who work out of a large room of the BLaST IU 17 headquarters at 2400 Read Road, Williamsport.

The IU has stepped up to fill the growing demand over the years for state-of-the-art technology services, according to Steinbacher-Reed.

"Cyber security is one of our growing needs we see for school districts," she said.



MIKE REUTHER/Sun-Gazette Correspondent

Brooke Beiter, assistant executive director of BLaST IU 17, left, and Christina Steinbacher-Reed, executive director, go over plans.

BLaST offers internet filtering and security solutions, monitoring, outage notification, and utilization reporting.

"We host their data on our server," she said.

The IU also brings technological consultation and expertise, website design and hosting solutions as well as social media integration needs.

"We provide whatever school districts can't," she said.

Steinbacher-Reed noted that special education services have expanded to help many students with both short-term and long-term disability demands.

"Our goal is that when a family comes up against something they need, we can try to come up with solution," she said. "If we can't solve it, we will find another IU."

Early intervention, she noted, can be the key to helping a child in need of special educational services become successful in the classroom.

"We can develop an individual educational plan with the family," she said. "We have our own specialized class-

rooms for a child who needs more intensive services."

Steinbacher-Reed feels that students have benefitted from the IU because "we put them on the path to success."

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, BLaST has been called upon to meet more challenges facing school districts.

Behavioral issues, for one, have become rising problem across school settings.

"Although we weren't started to provide mental health services, this is where we need to grow," she said.

The IU's first Partial Hospitalization Program opened in Bradford County several years ago with a satellite program opening later in Lycoming County.

The program provides three hours each of education and mental health treatment for children and adolescents experiencing behavioral or emotional needs that impede day-to-functioning.

The program, Steinbacher-Reed said, is invaluable in helping students transition back to school.

SMALL BUSINESS

South Williamsport's municipal government 'has one goal'

By MARK MARONEY

mmaroney@sungazette.com

South Williamsport Borough Council and the Borough Administration work together to improve the borough's outcomes.

"Our borough council has been good at defining our strengths and weaknesses and finding solutions to make our community better," Council President David Geise said.

"We look at each problem and discuss them thoroughly to ensure the best possible decision is made."

Council works seamlessly, even though its members are given time for their individual contributions and thoughts, for the betterment of the borough.

"Everyone on council has one goal, to make Southside the best it can be," Geise said.

Each council meeting is a chance for the council members, who themselves are members and taxpayers of the community, to look at expenses and revenues and how to increase revenues and limit costs.

"We take seriously every tax dollar spent," Geise said.

Every effort in local government is made to find the means of improving the living and working conditions for the 6,000 or so residents.

"We are always looking at ways to improve our borough and will take the needed steps to achieve those goals," Geise said.

The council works with the administration in unison no matter political affiliation.

"It's a team effort," Geise said.

The borough has an increasingly growing and trained police force, public works employees that respond to street and utility emergencies, such as snow plowing and picking up leaves, repairing signage and the like, and office staff that are efficient and friendly.

"We are blessed with wonderful workers, the police force, public workers and office staff are all very



SUN-GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

The South Williamsport Police Station and Borough Building, where borough council meets monthly.

friendly, professional and have pride in our borough," Geise said.

The borough has become a gem of a community and is directly across the West Branch of the Susquehanna River from Williamsport.

Each year hundreds of thousands visit and billions tune in to the coverage of the Little League Baseball World Series at the International Complex.

Each fall, thousands line the streets to watch the Mummers Parade and the loyal "Mounties" fans attend sports and entertainment

by students from South Williamsport Area School District.

The local government consists of a mayor and a nine-member borough council with three members from each ward. The borough has a manager/public safety director.

The first ward extends from the border of Armstrong Township on the east to the east side of Market Street. The second ward begins at the western line of Market Street to the east line of Clinton Street and the third ward extends from the west line of Clinton Street to

the Duboistown Borough line.

The Borough is located in the 83rd State Representative District, the 23rd State Senatorial District and the 15th U.S. Congressional District.

The Williamsport Sun-Gazette is printed on newsprint which contains recycled material



NEW MEMBER

Get a workout at the Fitness Factory on Hughes Street

By **MIKE REUTHER**
Sun-Gazette Correspondent

One peek inside the Fitness Factory and one cannot help but be struck by the rows of numerous and different types of work-out equipment.

It's safe to say, perhaps, that this gym located at 330 Hughes St., Williamsport, has something for anyone looking to become stronger or more fit in any of a variety of ways.

"I like to bring pieces of equipment no one else has," Fitness Factory owner Ryan Troutman said.

For those looking to add muscle, the gym offers various free weights and weight machines. For those wanting a more aerobic workout, there is no shortage of equipment either, from treadmills to elliptical apparatus.

But that's not all.

The Fitness Factory has on hand trainers who can offer expertise and customize workouts for those launching some type of exercise regimen.

It also has a reputation for helping serious powerlifters and bodybuilders prepare for competitions.

Troutman, 40, is himself a serious bodybuilder, successfully competing in events and most recently becoming the top overall winner in the Big Cat Classic event in Allentown.

He's been interested in working out since he was kid and has long been passionate about fitness.

He's a trainer and no stranger to the Fitness Factory, having worked out there for many years before deciding to purchase it in 2021.

These days, he seems to have no regrets.

Business is good, he said with plenty of people exercising there, from young kids and college students to senior citizens.

Troutman said many people looking to become more fit shouldn't feel intimidated about coming to the Fitness Factory to work out or get started on an exercise regimen.

"It's a family type atmosphere," he said. "People will help each other."

That's a big reason Ava Persun, of South Williamsport, keeps coming back.

"I like the people here," she said.

She said she comes to the Fitness Factory just to work out and get stronger.

Jared Rose, 27, of South Williamsport, said the Fitness Factory offers everything a serious powerlifter like himself needs.

"It's definitely the best gym in the area," he said.



MIKE REUTHER/Sun-Gazette

A member lifts weights at Fitness Factory on Hughes Street, near the intersection of Penn Street and Washington Boulevard.

Troutman, for his part, refers to the Fitness Factory as "a no-judgment zone," a place for people to realize their individual goals.

The business, he noted, is growing and he hopes to expand.

He plans to hold training competitions just outside the Fitness Factory as community events.

"Most people hear about us from other people," Michaela Henne, Fitness Factory administrator, said.

It's not uncommon, she said, for people to be waiting outside the Fitness Factory early in the morning before it opens to come in and start their workouts.

"We have a good group of college kids who come in every day," Troutman added.

The COVID-19 pandemic might have helped the business, with more people otherwise stuck in homes looking to escape and find a place to work out.

The Williamsport location allows the Fitness Factory to draw from a wide population from the city and beyond.

For Troutman, operating a gym is a passion. "I feel like you have to love this to be in it," he said. "As long as you are open to change and trends you shouldn't have trouble."

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Leadership Lycoming's Business & Economic Development Day

11

Williamsport Sun-Gazette, April 2023

The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2023 had their sixth Program Day; Business and Economic Development, beginning at Lycoming College, Trogner Presentation Room, Krapf Gateway Center. Hosts Lauri Moon, Class of 2004 and Heather Allison, Class of 2003, welcomed the class and gave a little background of themselves, and then introduced the first presentation; Overview of Krapf Gateway Center/Lycoming College by Dr. Chip Edmonds, Executive Vice President, Lycoming College, Dr. Phillip Sprunger, Provost and Dean of the Faculty, Lycoming College, and Dr. Susan Ross, Dean of the College, Lycoming College. Following was an Economic Development Update presented by Jason Fink, President/CEO of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.

The class then moved on to a tour and presentation of PMF Industries by Sam Shea, Human Resource Manager. From Reach Road to Jersey Shore, the class had lunch from Gunzey's at Bald Birds Brewing Company, followed by a leadership discussion and workshop with Keith Kuzio, Principal, Intentional AdVennTures, Class of 1995. The afternoon continued with a presentation from Jennifer Ruelens, Broker/Owner, and Cara Burch, Business Development Manager, One Focus Property Management.

The class then met in the Tap Room at Bald Birds Brewing Company for a Small Business Panel. Panelist Lance Thomas, Owner/Founder, Clearview Asset Protection, Carnie Datres, RDN, Owner, Kitchen Repose, Heather Newhart, Vice President/Co-Owner, Natural Waterscapes, and Karl Fisher, Owner, Alabaster Coffee Roaster and Tea Co. shared their journey as business owners, how they came to where they are today, and stories on success and struggles; moderated by Jason Fink, President/CEO, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.

The afternoon ended with a tour and presentation by Joe Feerrar, Owner, Bald Birds Brewing Company. The class was able to enjoy a beer, brewed in house, during their tour, while Joe shared his story and vision of Bald Birds Brewing Company.

Thank you to our Tier 3 and 2 sponsors, One Focus Property Management and Keller Williams Advantage Realty! Thank you to hosts Lauri Moon and Heather Allison. Special thank you to Gunzey's for a great lunch. And thank you to Jesse Osborne, Susquehanna Community Bank and Emily Parker, Lycoming Engines as class reporters.

Thank you to our Sponsors!



Follow Leadership
Lycoming on Facebook!



Above, the Leadership Lycoming Class tours PMF Industries. Right, the Small Business panel consisted of Lance Thomas, Clearview Asset Protection, Carnie Datres, Kitchen Repose, Heather Newhart, Natural Waterscapes and Karl Fisher, Alabaster Coffee Roaster & Tea Co.



Right, Chip Edmonds, Executive Vice President of Lycoming College, shows the plans for the Lycoming College Gateway project.



Below, the class poses for a group photo after a tour of Bald Birds Brewing Company.



CHAMBER connection

Leadership Lycoming Holds Final 3

Leadership Lycoming's Final 3 Event was another great evening for winners! Attendees were treated to an assortment of hors d'oeuvres from Gunzey's and beverages from Bald Birds Brewing Co., where the event was also hosted. Many walked away with several prizes, either a basket from the Basket Auction or cash from the 50/50. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and attended the event to make it such a success! Congratulations to the Final 3 winners, Andrew Newcomb, Kristie Healy and Christina Scott!

Leadership Lycoming would like to thank Brian McClintock,

Leadership Lycoming Chair, Heather Allison, Leadership Lycoming Events Committee Chair, and Donna Bastian for their tag-team hosting duties!

A special thank you to the following businesses and friends for their donations; Bald Birds Brewing Co., Bastian Tire and Auto Centers, The Liberty Group, Keystone Advertising Specialties, Gaetano and Musheno Families, Roche Financial, Tory Leather, Little League International, Home-watch CareGivers of Williamsport, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Rick Mahonski Goldsmith, Susquehanna Trailways, Williams-

port Crosscutters, UPMC, Community Arts Center, DCYI Golf, Karen Retorick, Sharon Jones, Leadership Lycoming Committees, and Leadership Lycoming Classes of 2022 and 2023.

Thank you to our event sponsors, PMF Industries, The Hartman Group, and Susquehanna Trailways.

A special thank you to all volunteers and the LL Events Committee: Paula Holmes, Kevin Fountain, Heather Allison, Jim Hicklin, Mary Jo Westbrook, Rachel Barto, Jackie Flanagan, Brian McClintock, Tanya Weber, Donna Bastian, Brenda Wiegand, Libby Glunk, and Dan Wrench.



*Final 3 winners!
Andrew Newcomb, Kristie Healy
and Christina Scott.
Congratulations!*



From left, some of our volunteers who helped make the Final 3 a success; Tanya Weber, Paula Holmes, Kevin Fountain, Jackie Flanagan, and Mary Jo Westbrook.



Thank you to the Class of 2023 who volunteered and/or bought a ticket hoping to be one of the Final 3 winners. Front row from left: Rachel Clark, Tye Sheets, Paula Holmes, Markell Kuni-gus, Libby Glunk, Brenda Wiegand, Kevin Fountain. Back row from left; Andrew Newcomb, Rachel Barto, Erica Hoyt, Megan Hazel, Amanda Falls, Chris Gayman, Dan Wrench, Jesse Osborne, and Becky Bauer.

Revolving Loan Fund

The Industrial Properties Corporation, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce and the City of Williamsport are committed to assisting small businesses with their economic development projects. From building renovations, expansion/working capital to equipment purchases, the Revolving Loan Program can provide the finances you need to increase business and ensure economic prosperity.

Information and applications are available online:
www.williamsport.org

For more information please contact:

Bo Hornberger, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
Phone: (570) 320-4206
Email: bhornberger@williamsport.org

Want to get ahead as a professional in Lycoming County?

LEADERSHIP LYCOMING

Is now taking applications for the Class of 2024

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 14, 2023

A program of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce





Member Renewals

Received between February 28, 2023 and March 31, 2023

Thank you to our renewing members!

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

First Year Renewals

Lake Tobias Wildlife Park

Willard's Saddlery

PRN Medical Staffing, Inc dba PRN Home Health Services

Members 2-5 Years

Bald Birds Brewing Company

Basil Wood Fired Kitchen & Lounge

Iron Associates, Inc.

K-Tech Automotive Repair LLC

Miller Environmental Group Inc.

My Self Storage Place

Penn Strategies

Priority Bicycles

RegScan Inc.

Steinbacher Enterprises, Inc./Historic House Salvage

Susquehanna Air Innovation, LLC (DBA) Comfort Specialists

The Ritz Complex

Verilife (PharmaCann)

YCG Inc.

Members 6-10 Years

Accent Lighting Productions

Energy Transfer

Hamilton Patriot LLC

Kilburn Electric, Inc.

Kiwanis Club of Williamsport

Liberty Lodge

Lycoming County Republican Committee

Morrone's Cafe, Lounge & Banquet Room

Patinaz, LLC

Susquehanna Oral & Facial Surgery & Dental Implant Center

The Daily Item

Thompson's Outdoor Power Equipment

X W Construction, LLC

Members 11-15 Years

Gentry Development, LLC

H & K Nursery and Feed Store

Monitronics - Mike Drawbaugh

Providence Engineering Corporation

River Valley Health & Dental Center

Smith's Jewelers/PA Gem Lab

Summers Landscaping

The Liberty Group

Members 16-20 Years

Auto Trakk, LLC

Best Line Equipment

Clinton Country Club

Elery Nau Hardware

Murray Motors

PHOENIX Rehabilitation and Health Services, Inc.-Williamsport

The Muncy Bank & Trust Company

Members 21-30 Years

Franco's Lounge, Restaurant & Music Club

IBG Business

Lycoming Housing Authority

Mericle Commercial Real Estate Group, Inc.

Orelli Supply, Inc.

PA CareerLink - Lycoming County

The Williamsport Home

Vision Max

Walmart

Members 31-40 Years

Bearing & Drive Solutions

Faxon Cleaners, Inc.

Janet's Floral

K.C. Larson, Inc.

Montoursville Area School District

Price Optical Lucas Contact Lens

Members 41-50 Years

Giant Food Store

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

Norcen Industries, Inc.

Williamsport Parking Authority

Members 51-60 Years

Savoy Contract Furniture

Stellant Systems, Inc.

Members 61-67 Years

Bastian Tire and Auto Centers

Chemcoat, Inc.

Fink's Paint Store, Inc.

Lewis Lumber Products, Inc.

Little League International

Lycoming College

SPARTRONICS

W. R. Sims Agency, Inc.

Missed a Chamber Connection newsletter?

You can find past issues on our website at

www.williamsport.org

or

search for the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce on

Facebook and look in our albums.

There you will find 2023 and previous Chamber Connections.

Oh, and don't forget to like us!



Like us on Facebook

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST CHAMBER NEWS





August 14

Applications are now being accepted for the 17th Grand Slam Parade taking place in downtown Williamsport on Monday, August 14. The parade serves as Lycoming County's welcome to the 20 teams playing in the 76th Little League World Series®.

If your business, non-profit or community group wants to participate, now's the time to apply. Applications are due June 1 and can be electronically submitted by going to:
www.grandslamparade.com

Businesses looking to be affiliated with the parade can download sponsorship and advertising information at the website. This year's parade will be broadcast live on WNEP-16. Get your name out to the local and regional community across the television airwaves.



E-Marketplace

Members, place your direct mail Marketplace flyer in our E-Marketplace Email blast for only \$75!

Be viewed by an additional 3100+ subscribers. Fill out the Marketplace registration form in your monthly mailer and email a PDF of your flyer to thartle@williamsport.org.

Questions? Call the Taryn Hartle at (570) 320-4209.

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings/Open Houses

Ribbon Cutting: newly renovated W.B. Konkle Memorial Library

Friday, April 14, 2023 | 1:00 PM

384 Broad Street, Montoursville

W.B. Konkle Memorial Library's renovation project, *Time to Refresh*, is now complete. Join us in celebrating our newly improved facility!

Any questions, call the library at (570) 368-1840

Open House:

Saturday, April 15, 2023 | 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

384 Broad Street, Montoursville

Ice Cream treats will be served after tours of the newly "Refreshed" facility. Come see your NEW Konkle Library.

Ribbon Cutting: Bella Vita Caregiving Services LLC

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 | 4:30 PM

2830 Lycoming Creek Road, Williamsport

A Full service non-medical homecare agency, serving adults 18+ in Lycoming County, PA. Services including, but not restricted to: cooking, light housekeeping, laundry, medicine reminders, bathing, dressing, and attending doctor's visits.

First Friday - Ribbon Cutting & Open House: Arrow & Thread

Friday, May 5, 2023 | 5:00 PM

Open House 5:30 – 7:00 PM

424 William Street, Williamsport

Check out the studio, shop, enjoy some libations and learn more about what we offer! There will be some handmade women's apparel, infant accessories like bibs, burp cloths and blankets and you can check out the overall space where all of the sewing magic happens!

First Friday - Ribbon Cutting & Open House: Embellish Salon Studio - New Location!

Friday, May 5, 2023 | 5:30 PM

140 W. 4th Street, Williamsport

Meet the owners and staff. Enjoy a complimentary glass of Champagne. Highly rated beauty salon, tanning salon, body waxing, lashes, boutique & tuxedos.

Chamber Members...Have Your Business Featured in the Chamber Connection! It's Free!

Showcase your business in our monthly newsletter. It's published inside the Sun-Gazette on the first Wednesday of each month.

To be featured on the cover, we require 10+ years as a member.

To be featured as a Legacy Member, we require 20+ years as a member.

Newer to the Chamber? Our 'New Business' and 'Small Business' features are a great way to promote yourself.

Contact Sharon Jones at sjones@williamsport.org or (570) 320-4202 for more information.

About our Members...

Jeff Stover Retires From SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority After 37 Years

Mr. Jeff Stover was celebrated recently for his dedicated leadership of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority (JRA) as the first Executive Director for the organization. Formed in 1983, the JRA has continually fulfilled its mission to preserve Rail Freight in the Central Susquehanna Valley. Instrumental in the success of the JRA was Jeff Stover and his tireless efforts to preserve, expand, and invest in rail service. Starting in 1983 with the preservation of 2 railroads, what is now the Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad and the North Shore Railroad, the JRA now owns nearly 220 miles of railroad across 9 counties. Jeff was hired in 1985 to lead the fledgling municipal authority. During Stover's tenure, the railroad swelled in size and rail volume. He guided the upgrade of the Nittany Mainline to allow unit trains to traverse the railroad at higher speeds, successfully secured over \$11 million in 2010 for rail expansion during the Marcellus Shale boom, and most recently lead the effort to acquire the Selinsgrove Industrial Track in Snyder County.

Current JRA Board Chairman, Russ Graham noted, "Jeff's calm demeanor and professionalism have been instrumental in the increased economic development of Central Pennsylvania. He built a foundation of success that will enable our region to continue to grow and prosper."

To honor Stover, a large gathering was held to celebrate his leadership and successes on February 16 at the Rusty Rail Brewing Company. The luncheon celebration included remarks, memorable stories, and accolades. Speakers included, Former Union County Commissioner, former JRA Board Chairman, and current JRA Board Member John Showers, current JRA Board Chairman President Russ Graham, former Lycoming County Planning Director and former JRA Board

Chairman Jerry Walls, Board Solicitor Tom Schreck, former Executive Director of SEDA-COG and current Board Member Bob Hormell and current Executive Director of SEDA-COG Kim Wheeler. The master of ceremonies for the afternoon event was longtime board member representing Clinton County, John Gummo. Gummo introduced newly appointed Executive Director Steven Beattie, Executive Secretary Michelle Ballou and complimented the continuing good work of JRA Property Manager, Kyle Postupack. Gummo further acknowledged the JRA Board of Directors as a cohesive force for positive economic growth throughout our region. The retirement event was sponsored and privately funded by "Friends of Jeff Stover".

Stover officially retired on December 31, 2022, and will continue to consult for the JRA on an as needed basis. During his retirement, Stover plans to catch up on travel to see his children and lifelong friends while continuing to reside in Lock Haven, PA.



WILLIAMSPORT
LYCOMING COUNTY, PA

LYCOMING COUNTY VISITORS CENTER

HOURS
APRIL 1st - NOV. 30th

Monday.....CLOSED
Tuesday.....10AM - 3PM
Wednesday.....10AM - 3PM
Thursday.....10AM - 3PM
Friday.....10AM - 3PM
Saturday.....10AM - 3PM
Sunday.....CLOSED

Lycoming County Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund

The Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) provides low-interest loans to developers and grants to non-profits and local governments for the cleanup of contaminated sites.

RLF Overview

The Lycoming County Revolving Loan Fund Program, funded by an \$800,000 U.S. EPA award, makes loans and grants available for site remediation and subsequent redevelopment. The goal of the program is to return Lycoming County Brownfield sites to productive use. Lycoming County has lead a brownfield program since 2005 and has inventoried over 80 sites and conducted over 30 site assessments through its program.

Acceptable Use of Funds

- Cleanup of hazardous substances and/or the mitigation of threatened release of hazardous substances
- Preparation of Remedial Action Workplans
- Construction of a site's engineered remediation cap which could include foundations/ roadways
- Demolition of structures to the extent that the demolition is integral to accessing contamination
- Site monitoring and data collection

Terms and Conditions

- Grants available for municipal and non-profit entities
- Loans for private entities
- Low interest rates and flexible repayment terms determined on a case-by-case basis
- All sites and work subject to EPA approval and site cleanups overseen by PA DEP Act 2 Program
- Davis Bacon Act wage rates, wage notices, and payroll required
- No-prepayment penalties
- 20% match requirement

Contact

Jenny Picciano/ Community Development / Lead Planner
Lycoming County Department of Planning & Community Development
570-320-2136 • jpicciano@lyco.org

Apply Online/ Information:

<https://www.lyco.org/brownfields>

Growing Outdoor Recreation for PA

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS | SPRING 2023

You're Invited

Join the PA Director of Outdoor Recreation and others for a unique opportunity to learn about the importance of outdoor recreation for Pennsylvania's future. You'll hear about emerging initiatives to support the growing outdoor economy and have a chance to provide input on the mission, scope and priorities of a new PA Office of Outdoor Recreation.

Who Should Attend?

If you support outdoor recreation and want to grow Pennsylvania's outdoor economy, please join us!

We are looking to speak with Pennsylvania leaders from business, community and economic development, tourism, advocacy, healthcare, education, resource management, and more who see a bright and prosperous future for PA through the outdoors.

Outdoor recreation is more than just a walk in the woods or bike ride on a trail. It adds \$14 billion to our economy each year, improves our communities, makes us healthier, and helps the environment.

For these reasons and more, Pennsylvania is working to make outdoor recreation accessible to all. And we have big plans for growing our outdoor recreation economy across the state.

When & Where

Meetings will be held from 9am to 12pm at the following dates and locations. Registration is required. Click on the location boxes below to register.

- Erie**
Tom Ridge Environmental Center
April 27
- Warren**
Conewago Club
April 11
- Williamsport**
Lycoming College
April 12
- Scranton**
Montage Mountain
April 13
- Easton**
Nurture Nature Center
April 6
- Philadelphia**
John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge
April 5
- York**
York College Center for Community Engagement
March 29
- Johnstown**
Bottle Works Ethnic Arts Center
April 26
- Pittsburgh**
Frick Environmental Center
April 25

WILLIAMSPORT
LYCOMING COUNTY, PA

LYCOMING COUNTY

PRINCE FARRINGTON'S
BOOTLEGGER TOUR

LIBATIONS & ADVENTURE AWAIT!

Prince Farrington's Bootlegger Tour is a year-round, self-guided tasting adventure, designed for you to explore at your own pace.

All you need is an official passport and sense of adventure.

\$30/PASSPORT

Visit princefarrington.com to get your passport!

**Passport holders must be 21 years old or older to participate. Only one passport per person is permitted.*