

# Chamber Connection

September 2025 www.williamsport.org



**Otto Bookstore** 



FEATURE MEMBER
Hillside Senior Living





NEW MEMBER
UnitedGoals USA

Welcome New Chamber Members!

Upcoming PM Exchanges

**Leadership Lycoming** 

**Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings** 

**Member Renewals** 



**SMALL BUSINESS Centered Earth** 

### From Jason Fink's Desk - President/CEO of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

Congratulations to you, our community, for stepping up to support the programming that we had here this August. We started the month with Drum Corps International (DCI) and finished it with the Little League® World Series. The feedback that we had from visitors for both of those events has been very positive, and you should be proud.

The Corps competition came back to Williamsport with a whole new format following the merger of Drum Corps Associates (DCA) and Drum Corps International. We hosted the DCA Championships prior to the pandemic. Following the pandemic, the two organizations merged and reformatted the competition for the all-age corps, which comprised DCA.

DCI wanted to come back to Williamsport and hold a competition. We obviously weren't in a position to host their world championship competition, which takes place in Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. However, our area is able to hold one of their events, and they slotted us to host a key one, which occurred less than a week from their world championships.

The Friday before their local competition, a series of corps performed in an exhibition during Williamsport First Friday. They were blown away by the community's support with a crowd coming to see them perform. The feedback they gave us was overwhelmingly positive, and they indicated that they are already looking to next year, seeing what they can do to make this event even bigger.

Those who didn't make it up to the stadium that Saturday missed out on a great set of performances by the corps. One thing I noted when pulling into the parking lot was the series of license plates in front of me. There was a row of 12 cars, and all of them were from out of state, representing eight different states. While walking into the stadium, I noticed another half dozen with the furthest away being from Wyoming.

We received equally enthusiastic feedback about this year's community support of the players, coaches, parents and general visitors for the Little League® World Series. The team at Little League® does a great job in organizing the tournament and the overall experience. Many newcomers to the area have noted that the local residents are wonderful to visitors.

Over the years, you may have noticed us and other area businesses sharing snaps and videos of the teams and their families on our social media pages. This year was no different. We had the opportunity to share the team from Australia's experience visiting Chick-fil-A while in Williamsport. I learned there are no Chick fil-A restaurants in Australia, so the team wanted to see what it was all about.

We also had the chance to share memories from the Pennsylvania team's visit to Batter-Up Bakery Sweets & Scoops. The owners, Rachael and Ben Thomas, treated the kids and coaches to a courtesy ice cream. The parents were very appreciative of the generosity shown to their children.

A friend forwarded me an online newsletter, which shared the experience of a writer who came to this year's Little League® World Series. One of the coolest things that I noted from the article was his experience at Williamsport Welcomes the World.

After Williamsport Welcomes the World, the writer's son was invited by players from the 2024 World Championship team from Lake Mary to join them in a game of whiffle ball in the street outside their hotel. In particular, the writer described how the Williamsport Streets and Parks staff member continued blocking off the street, so the kids could play whiffle ball past the time when the road could have been reopened.

There are many other stories to tell that have been shared with me or viewed on social media that make me so proud of all of you in the community. You did a great job as usual in making people feel warm and welcome throughout August. Thank you for helping us in showcasing why we're a great place to visit but also a prime location to move to and set-up a business.



Pennsylvania baseball players and their families stopped at Batter-Up Bakery Sweets & Scoops during their time in Lycoming County for a delicious scoop of ice cream.



### **Member Renewals**

### **First-Year Renewals**

Art of Kathleen B Bonnell Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Northeastern Pennsylvania EuroOptic, Ltd. Members 1st Federal Credit Union SocialWeb Summer Clean LLC West Branch Valley Association of Realtors

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

### Are you interested in joining the Chamber?

Call Taryn Hartle at 570-320-4209 or apply online at www.williamsport.org

### **Welcome New Chamber Members!**

### **WellSpan Health**

### **Bob Reilly**

45 Monument Road York, PA 17403 (717) 850-1505 https://www.wellspan.org/ *Hospitals* 

### **Tiny Trails Realty**

### **Chris Pardee**

127 Woodward Avenue Lock Haven, PA 17745 (570) 672-5180 http://tinytrailsrealty.com Real Estate Agencies

### **JAC'S Produce & Food Service**

### **Gregg & Lisa Anthony**

260 Charles Street South Williamsport, PA 17702 (570) 329-3115 http://jacsproduce.com Wholesalers/Distributors

### The Village Baker

### Angela Knight

21 South Main Street Muncy, PA 17756 (570) 935-0017 www.villagebaker.shop Bakery/Restaurant

### **The District Cinema**

### Jordan Musheno

965 Lycoming Mall Circle
Pennsdale, PA 17756
(570) 260-3000
http://thedistrict.dipsontheatres.com
Entertainment/Arts/Amusements

### **Phoebe & Co Boutique**

### Chenelle Thomas

2727 Route 405 Highway
Muncy, PA 17756
(570) 560-3160
https://phoebe-co-boutique.square.site
Retail Shopping

### **Double D Disposal LLC**

### **Tim Hummer**

118 Elm Street
Beech Creek, PA 16822
(570) 660-9902
Check us out on Facebook!
Waste Management

### CCSI, Inc.

### Pat Snyder

1059 John Brady Drive Muncy, PA 17756 (570) 412-2582 Boiler Repair/Building

### La Petite Sylouette LLC

### **Christina Sulcer**

Pajama Factory 1307 Park Ave, Suite 7-247E Williamsport, PA 17701 (607) 377-0679 https://la-petite-sylouette.square.site/ Beauty Studio

### **Bush House Estate**

### Jon Jahanshahi

231 South Lycoming Mall Road Muncy, PA 17756 (570) 546-3003 www.bushhouseestate.com Wedding & Event Venue

### **EnerStar Solutions**

### Jarrad Turner

3327 State Route 14
Trout Run, PA 17771
(570) 567-4237
www.enerstarsolutions.com
Communications Services
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### **Real Property Management Apollo**

### **Marshall Winters**

5316 Lycoming Mall Drive Montoursville, PA 17754 (570) 980-1001 www.rpm-apollo.com Real Estate - Property Management

### **UMI Noodles**

#### Zena Koen

317 Pine Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 929-8888
Check us out on Facebook!
Restaurants/Cafes/Taverns

### **Retro Rack LLC**

#### Karen & Tom Kunkle

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Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 560-0856
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Retail Shopping - Specialty Shops

### Rachael Thomas

**Batter-Up Bakery Sweets & Scoops** 

2098 Lycoming Creek Road Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 692-2357 Check us out on Facebook! Ice Cream & Frozen Desserts Bakery/Restaurant

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Coffee Roasting - Retail and Wholesale
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Opening Soon!

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#### Maame Badu

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### **ROOFX**

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2121 Marydale Avenue Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 218-5949 https://roofx.com/locations/ williamsport-pa-roofing Contractors - Roofing

### **Every Event & Tent**

### Jerry Clark

256 Allegheny Street Jersey Shore, PA 17740 (570) 494-6188 www.everyeventandtent.com Rentals/Party Supplies/Tents

Are you interested in being featured in an upcoming Chamber Connection?

Reach out to Julia Mertes at jmertes@williamsport.org to learn more!



# Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

102 W 4th St, Williamsport, PA 17701 Main Office - 570-326-1971

President/CEO	Jason Fink
570-320-4213 - jfink@williamsport.org	
Vice President & Chief Financial Officer	Bo Hornberger
570-320-4206 - bhornberger@williamsport.org	
Tourism & Group Tour Director	Gina Edwards
570-320-4208 - gedwards@williamsport.org	
Accounting Clerk/Executive Assistant	Cindy Robbins
570-320-4201 - crobbins@williamsport.org	
Membership Director	Taryn Hartle
570-320-4209 - thartle@williamsport.org	
Director of Marketing and Communications	Julia Mertes
570-320-4202 - jmertes@williamsport.org	
Director of Leadership Lycoming/Special Events	Taylor Chrisenberry
570-320-4216 - tchrisenberry@williamsport.org	
Administrative Assistant	Trisha Dauenbaugh
570-320-4200 - tdauenbaugh@williamsport.org	

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# FEATURE MEMBER

# Hillside Senior Living strives to 'exceed expectations'

### By MATTHEW COURTER

mcourter@sungazette.com

Hillside Senior Living, 2725 Four Mile Drive, Montoursville, has had a unique history in the assisted living industry, beginning life as Hillside Restaurant before its 1999 transition.

Today, the restaurant's original dining room continues to serve in that capacity for the facility's residents.

"I love what I do. I love seeing the residents smile, and knowing they're getting top notch care that makes them feel at home," said Sales and Marketing Coordinator Kelly Smith, who has a background in skilled nursing and came aboard in October 2024.

Smith previously worked at another facility as a medical records coordinator, before helping out in the admissions department at the insistence of an interim administrator.

"I loved meeting the families, assuring them everything would be okay and be taken care of. And I knew that's what I wanted to be doing," she said.

Hillside comprises two options with one being an assisted living area, where most residents still live independently, with the other one housing those afflicted with conditions such as Alzheimer's and dementia.

"Assisted living is for if you need assistance with your daily activities, like bathing, grooming, mobility or other needs," Smith explained.

The facility offers five levels of care ranging from those that do everything on their own to residents who are bed-bound.

"We do have an in-house therapy department with physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy," Smith said.

"Our activities aid and activities director, Aimee Reed, creates a monthly schedule and then they work with the residents on their fine and gross motor skills, and more," she explained.

"With memory care, you need to have more understanding of what is happening,



### Administrators and staff for Hillside Senior Living on Four Mile Drive.

like being aware of their disease and their cognitive impairment, so it's pretty much pro- ities, and they're also getting therapy daily, said. viding them a safe and nurturing environment as well," Smith said, stressing that Hillside because of the different stages of dementia or strives to make the memory care residents Alzheimers," she said.

Although they may have some difficulties, ence as possible. Smith stressed that memory care residents are included in all activities at the facility.

involved with the residents that are upstairs in personal care and assisted living. They still do activities together," she said, adding that they are able to go for rides and even picnics utilizing Hillside's transportation vehicles.

"We have a gated walkway. It's secured, but they're able to walk down a little walkway, and during the summer, they have a garden out there, and there's flowers they can water," Smith said.

feel as though they have as much independ- your home." Smith said.

with memory and cognitive impairments, sideseniorliving.com, or reach out to them at "We're one big family here. So they're still Hillside takes extraordinary steps to ensure 570-322-4436.

the safety of their memory care residents.

"Each resident wears a necklace, like a medical alert button, so we know where they're at, or if they fall, they just hit their button and we will find them," Smith said.

Additionally, each door in and out of the area is fixed with an alarm that goes off if anyone attempts to open them without entering a passcode.

Smith said that the dedication to meeting the specific needs of their residents sets Hillside apart from many other assisted living centers.

"We understand the profound challenges and understand the level of trust and responsibility because it's placed on us, not just by our residents and the families," she said.

"We really do strive here to meet and exceed the expectations of our residents," Smith said, adding, "our residents are truly great here."

"This is their home, and we want to keep it feeling like that for them," she said.

"We went to see a potential resident at their home in Laporte, and they just kept thanking us, and that's what we're here for." Smith said.

"I want you to feel at home and know that "So, we keep them busy with many activ- we care. That's truly what it's all about," she

> "Hillside is a place where you can live to the fullest without sacrificing the comforts of

For more information on Hillside Senior Due to the unique challenges associated Living, please visit their website at www.hill-



# LEGACY MEMBER

# 'Magical' Otto Bookstore offers something for everyone

**Bv MATTHEW COURTER** 

mcourter@sungazette.com

Situated in the center of downtown Williamsport lies a haven for those that seek adventure from the safety of a comfy chair or park bench, a haven that has not only stood the test of time, but one that continues to embrace innovation to deliver for their customers.

At its inception in 1841, Otto's Bookstore, 107 W. Fourth St., looked very different than it does today, as it opened under the name A.D. Lundy and Co.

"At that time, book selling was what we would call a sideline," said Manager John Shableski, noting that the store originally sold wallpaper and similar items.

With the evolution of American publishing companies and reading became more affordable, devoted book stores became more plentiful.

Eight years ago, the store was young adult books," Shableski said. ter children's interest in reading, passes five counties, he said. purchased by Isak Sidenbladh and Kathryn Nassberg, with Shableski coming aboard last year, having pretion and as a consultant for several authors and publishers for 25 years.

the San Diego area, Shableski fell in love with Otto's immediately.

It's a great notion to celebrate being morrow's parents," he stressed. one of the oldest indie bookstores in the country," Shableski said.

"It shows you that we have lon- Maas and Rebecca Yarros. gevity and it shows you that these things are possible," he added.

place to get books as grandparents for grandchildren. But now when natural sense of progression from early early childhood literacy to sto- Shableski said. ry books, middle grade readers and



MATTHEW COURTER/Sun-Gazette

### Otto Bookstore on West Fourth Street near the intersection with Pine Street.

stock, ranging from romantic fantanew books per day, with children Pittsburgh Steelers for 30 years. accounting for 20% of the store's Although he is originally from sales, according to Shableski.

in here that see this as their store, as the book lovers paradise in the on their own to buy, it's really im-

> Their inventory includes TikTok said. famous authors such as Sarah J.

opments in the community, like the "Historically, it was a beautiful rail trail conversation. We provide titles that fit into the outdoor lifestyles, like hunting, fishing, crossyou walk in here, there's actually a bows and everything that aligns with operation. who we are in the PA Wilds project,"

Today, Otto's regularly carries an Otto's regularly participates in street inventory of roughly 21,000 titles in festivals and hosts national-level au- fore the baby's born, and there are an algorithm. It really is a personal thors, one of the most recent being viously worked in library distribu- sy to horror, and receives about 250 Jim Wexell, who has covered the foster the joy of reading, versus just help you find what works," he said.

Although the store focuses on them to read it," Shableski said. physical books, they do not turn a "We see a lot more kids coming blind eye to advancing technology.

"Otto's has always been known and when you've got kids coming in format that they enjoy. They may be V Brown, and I said, 'we need to covery in a physical sense," Shablestrictly audio book readers or listen- be partners," Shableski explained, ski said. heart of downtown Williamsport. portant to us, because those are to- ers. They may enjoy ebooks, and we hoping to dispel the myth that book-

> "Everybody has their way of ensible," he stressed.

Along with Otto's modernization efforts, Shableski has made com- you for your education and the time able to bring it all here, it's a wonmunity outreach a focal point of the you put in with our kids," Shableski derful chance of a lifetime, and we

"We are doing more to help establish a literacy ecosystem within nerships really starting to take root

"Literacy begins six months beprograms in development that help handing a child a book and telling

had with anybody in the communi-"We recognize that people have a ty was with Amy Resh at the James that we're supposed to enjoy. Its dissell all of those formats," Shableski stores and libraries have adversarial more grateful to have the chance to relationships.

"We're also working on that with an inspirational place. joying a story, and it's our job to do the school districts, so that teachers "We are also cognizant of devel- everything we can to make that pos- know they get a huge discount when is, and coming from the outside and they come in here," he said.

In an attempt to continue to fos- our community," which now encom- as we see more teachers coming in he said.

and parents coming in. We've got people coming through the door who haven't been here in 30 years," he added.

Even with the hard work Shableski and his team have put in, there exists an existential allure to stores such as Otto's, he said.

"There's something very tangible and tactile about walking into a bookstore and not only finding what you were looking for, but discovering other things and meeting other people who are like you," Shableski said, stressing the personalized experience of visiting such a store, as opposed to a large retailer or online store.

"And when you have people behind the counter who love what they do just as much as the reason that brought you through the doors, we cherish that," he said, referring to his staff as "book whisperers."

"Personalization is really the biggest key," Shableski said.

"How do we help you find that book that you need? Well, it's not experience where we talk to you and

"And once you find what you're looking for, you might start looking, "One of the first conversations I and see, 'oh, this author looks interesting.' That's the human algorithm

> Shableski said he could not be reintroduce the community to such

"I know just how magical this having worked in the industry for 25 "It's our way of saying, 'thank years at the national level, and being have great owners who are willing "It's wonderful to see these part- to do whatever it takes to make this place the best possible experience,"

# NEW MEMBER

### Sportsmanship, character matter to UnitedGoals USA

By MARK MARONEY

mcourter@sungazette.com

A youth soccer organization in Lycoming County has several goals in mind.

UnitedGoals USA is not only getting youngsters into competitive matches but raising awareness for a variety of great causes.

It is a relatively new organization founded by Colin Gorini of Montoursville.

"In 2024, our first year, 26 teams participated, and we donated to Laura's Hope Rescue and Haven to Home Canine Rescue, both organizations that my family has adopted from," he said.

"This year, 53 teams joined us, and we contributed to the Pet Pantry of Lycoming County and Arthur's Pet Pantry in Milton," he added.

will help feed around 1,000 pets for values," Gorini said. the year," Gorini observed.

energizing and reflects the strong years. appetite for quality, community-focused soccer events in the region, he four, and I'm now 23, so I'm enternoted.

"Rescue dogs have given so much to my family, and this tourna-fluence," he said. ment is our way of giving back to them and the organizations that sup- and my sister growing up and has port them," Gorini said.

USA's annual 4v4 youth soccer mom, Amy, has always been my mat," Gorini said. tournament held every July at Mc-Call Middle School in Montoursville.

local animal nonprofits, and it has years. grown into a true community tradition that supports pets and families leadership experience of his life. across our region," he said.

done is rooted in the belief that sports, especially youth sports, have he said.



PHOTO PROVIDED

### Youngsters play soccer with UnitedGoals USA.

the power to bring communities tolasting impact. "Soccer is just our "Based on their data, that support vehicle for delivering those deeper minutes depending on the format.

That kind of local growth is started his game play in his early

"I've played soccer since I was ing year 20 of my career," he said.

"My dad, Vic, coached both me coached the Montoursville Girls Kicks 4 Canines is UnitedGoals Soccer program for 12 years. My biggest fan."

At Robert Morris University, Gorini played club soccer and with formats designed to give every "We started it to raise funds for served as club president for two age group meaningful opportunity

"UnitedGoals USA grew out of my the matches are local. At UnitedGoals USA everything love for the game and my desire to give kids those same opportunities,"

gether, develop character, and create locally in popularity among youths. Haven to Berwick and beyond.

Games run between 20 and 50

"We follow an inclement weath-No stranger to the game, Gorini er policy, but our priority is always player safety and clear communication with coaches and families," Gorini said.

widely known, but what makes this "My parents were my biggest in- organization's events unique is the fields," Gorini said. flexibility of formats offered.

> small-sided 4v4 to full-sided 11v11. with roster sizes between seven and

"Our tournaments typically serve He called it the most impactful we'd love to expand even further."

For the local events, players

Soccer is growing exponentially township and community from Lock West Virginia, Maryland, Northern

The group's tournaments in said. Western Pennsylvania and Northern Virginia draw from a much wider scope of players across multiple Is sportsmanship taught?

Freedom Cup will take place at the Gorini remarked. Soccer rules and positions are East Lycoming Soccer Complex in Hughesville, which has seven great handle all outcomes with positivity,

Earlier this year, the organiza-"At our events, teams range from tion also hosted a 4v4 tournament at UPMC Field at Pennsylvania College of Technology, "and we're affect kids negatively. 18 players depending on the for- exploring options to return there in 2026," Gorini said.

welcomed teams from as far as Lan- resilience." to compete," he said. "As we grow, ca s ter, Harrisburg, Wilkes-Barre, and throughout the Northern Tier support from our partner programs Another nice aspect is most of including North-Penn Liberty and for some events, like the East Ly-Williamson," he said.

The Pittsburgh and Northern Vircome primarily from the Greater ginia events pull from across West-Susquehanna Valley - nearly every er n Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio,

Virginia, and Washington, D.C., he

How do the coaches handle the emotions of the winning and losing?

"Sports are wonderful because "Our upcoming Veteran's Day they bring out real, raw emotions,"

> "M o st coaches and programs which rubs off on their players and keeps the focus on their effort and gr o wth," he said, adding "others struggle with adversity, and that can

"We work hard to create an environment where competition and " Events hosted locally draw sportsmanship coexist - where kids youth players ages 7 through 16, te a ms mostly from the Greater are learning the game but also learn-Susquehanna Valley, though we've in g life lessons about respect and

> "We rely heavily on volunteer co m ing Soccer Association and

> > (See SPORTSMANSHIP, Page 10)

# SMALL BUSINESS

# Centered Earth offers creative outlet for all

### By MATTHEW **COURTER**

mcourter@sungazette.com

Area residents looking to express their artistic creativity need look no further than Centered Earth, 21 Kristi Road, Muncy.

The clay and art teaching studio has been in the business of helping everyone from the novice to the experienced create their own unique pieces for the past 11 years, according to Managing Member Melissa Jenkins.

Founded in the summer of 2014 by Kathy Görg, the reins of Centered Earth were passed onto Jenkins, who holds a Penn West Edinburgh, the same degree.

business, Narrow House kins said. Metals, and I taught jewwhen she had a change in added. her direction, we didn't want to see the communi- range of functional to decty lose the studio because orative art," Jenkins said. it's really a special place, her," Jenkins explained.

number of different crafts, glass sun catcher, or tels," she said. including wheel throwing wearable silver jewelry, silver jewelry, watercolor painting," she explained. painting, fused glass and stained glass and basket tered Earth features afweaving.

ic glazing paint your during the school year. own pottery as a walk-in



PHOTO PROVIDED

bachelor of fine arts from Hands work at a pottery wheel at Centered Eart, 21 Kristi Road, Muncv.

where she met her hus- off the shelves, choose 18, which will be kicking invite local artists into the and then we film, fire it explained. "I had my own jewelry and return it to you," Jen-

elry classes for Kathy, and young as age four," she the classes, which con-cialist in their media or

"We run the whole said.

so we stepped in and pur- es where you may make loves clay, print making she explained. chased the business from a mug or a serving tray and in a clay class, and there said. The studio hosts a num- are other classes where

Additionally, ter-school and homeschool "We also have ceram- clubs that meet weekly all teen and adult classes and approachable to peo-

"We have one group project during our open for ages six to seven, two Earth's website. hours, where people can groups for ages eight to 12

band, James, who holds your glaze colors, paint it, off in October," Jenkins space to teach," Jenkins

Participants can sign up for two months at a in, you're working with "And that starts as time or for the length of someone who is a speclude in April, Jenkins in their craft. So if you're

jects with them, obviously you're taking a jewelry "There are some class- clay, because everybody class, it's with a jeweler," painting," Jenkins

ber of classes focusing on a you might make a stained art history, and we do pas- ing it with people," Jen-

The after-school classes and hand building clay, or a watercolor or acrylic meet around 4 p.m., while comes people of all skills the homeschool class- and abilities, Jenkins Cen- es are held on Thursday stressed. mornings.

> are available for registration through Centered background is, no matter

"Because we like to she said. just come in, pick a piece and a group for ages 13 to support local artists, we

said.

"Every time you come taking the glass class, "We do all kinds of pro- it's with a glass artist, if

"Everyone really knows their craft thoroughly and "We also touch on some they're very good at sharkins said.

Centered Earth wel-

"Our whole purpose Both clubs, along with is to make art accessible ple, no matter what their what their skill level is,"

The staff is always will-

would like.

somebody is struggling you made," she said. to center their clay, our instructor can help them terested in just dipping center that, so they can their toes in the water kins said.

"Nearly all of our ness hours. classes are beginner leveverything you need for in and talk to us anytime," your project. So your class she said. fee covers your materials, kiln firing," Jenkins said.

and then we take care of Jenkins explained. everything," she said.

their creativity.

"Often people will come thing that you might like and they say, 'the teach- to pursue," she said. in and they say, 'the teacher is going to hate me,' one, she made me come,' believe I actually made ways open," Jenkins said. this by myself," Jenkins said.

saying they're not an art-visit their website at www. ist, we're like, you're al- centeredearth.com.

ing to help as much, or as ready my favorite person little as the participant tonight, because you're just gonna turn around, "For instance, in a and leave feeling so good wheel throwing class, if and so happy with what

For anyone who is inmove on to the next part before taking a class, Jenand have a fun time," Jen-kins suggests stopping in during their regular busi-

"If people just need to el, and when you come get a feel for the studio, in for a class, we provide they're welcome to come

"Another good way is to instructor, studio time and stop in for pottery painting, because that's a walk-"You just sign up, in project, with no resercome in for your class, vation or wait required,"

"Through that, you can Jenkins said even for get to know our staff a litthe uninitiated, one visit the bit. You can chat with to the studio can awaken us, get a feel for the studio, and decide if it's some-

"Even if you're not buy-'my friend is the crafty ing anything, just walk in and see what the studio and then by the time they looks like and ask us some leave, they're like, 'I can't questions. Our door is al-

For more information on Centered Earth or to "When people come in register for a class, please



# Sportsmanship, character matter to UnitedGoals USA

(From Page 8)

the Montoursville Lady Warriors," Gorini stressed.

"I am very blessed with my support system— including my parents and girlfriend, letic trainer. Safety is non-negotiable for us," by participating in our tournaments, sponsorwho volunteer alongside our partner programs Gorini said. at events," he said.

Paid staff include referees, athletic trainers, upper levels? and event photographers, ensuring professionalism where it matters most.

There are concessions.

"Our partnered soccer programs run a concession as part of their fundraising component from the event, and we collaborate to ensure region and beyond is undeniable, and we ful- 2026 schedule this fall," Gorini said. the menu is fun and appealing for everyone," Gorini said.

"We also bring in food trucks and local vendors to make it a family-friendly experi- vember, scheduled around youth league seaence," he said.

Past favorites include Divine Creations. Faddie's Pizza & Subs, and Kona Ice - which ally parents or coaches carpooling." has become a staple," he added.

grams run a concession as part of their fundraising component from the event.

"We collaborate to ensure the menu is fun

and appealing for everyone," Gorini said.

"We also bring in food trucks and local ven- actively involved. dors to make it a family-friendly experience."

"Every event is staffed with a certified ath-

Have any players gone on to compete at

"We're still young as an organization founded in 2024 - so we haven't had enough introducing us to those that share our passion time to see our alumni rise to new levels yet," Gorini said.

"But the amount of talent we've seen in this ly expect to see many of these kids playing in college and beyond," he said.

sons so we complement, not compete, with

"The support from parents has been tre-Additionally, the partnered soccer pro- mendous, whether it's through coaching, volsaid.

Events are designed to be family-friendly

because youth sports thrive when parents are Month

How can people help the organization?

"The biggest way people can support us is ing events, or volunteering," Gorini said.

"That fuels everything we do. Beyond that, social media, signing up for our newsletter, or for youth soccer & impacting our community helps us grow and reach more families."

"We'll be finalizing and announcing our cause," Gorini said.

"We expect to run three tournaments in Lycoming County next year, along with events "We run tournaments March through No- throughout Western Pennsylvania, Northern together," he said. Virginia, and beyond."

In 2026, the organization aims to host three them. Teams get themselves to events — usu- youth tournaments in Lycoming County, in addition to multiple events in the Pittsburgh and keeping community impact at the heart of Northern Virginia regions.

"The goal is to keep expanding affordable, unteering or cheering on the sidelines," Gorini high-quality playing opportunities for youth it's registering a team, sponsoring, or volunacross the Mid-Atlantic," Gorini said.

As a side note: September is Youth Soccer tion's website: www.unitedgoalsusa.com.

Veterans Day Freedom Cup is the next local tournament, happening Nov. 8-9 in Hughesville. "We're partnering with the East Lycoming Soccer Association, and proceeds will benefit PA Wounded Warriors," Gorini said.

"The event will include a veteran presence simply spreading the word — following us on on-site and an online apparel fundraiser to support the cause. We expect over 40 teams to par-

> "I want to give a special thank you to Bob Hall and his team for welcoming us into this

"We're always looking to partner with local businesses and nonprofits who share our mission of using sports to bring communities

"Our long-term vision is to keep expanding affordable, high-quality playing opportunities for youth across the Mid-Atlantic, while everything we do."

If anyone wants to get involved, whether teering the best place to start is the organiza-



### LAMSPORT SUN-GAZETT LOCAL NEWS LOCAL SPORTS



### **Upcoming PM Exchanges**



### Montoursville Chamber of Commerce @ IPT

Thursday, September 18, 2025 from 5-7pm Williamsport Regional Airport 724 Airport Road Montoursville, PA 17754

The Montoursville Chamber of Commerce invites you to join them for a PM Exchange. Visit with Montoursville Chamber member businesses, network with Chamber members, and enjoy great food and drinks.

Visit each display booth to collect a passport stamp & be entered to win the grand prize!



### **River Valley Transit**

*Thursday, September 25, 2025 from 5-7pm*River Valley Transit
1500 West Third Street, Williamsport

Take a seat and let us Get You There as we showcase our cutting-edge vehicles, state-of-the-art garage facilities, and user-friendly apps that will enhance your commuting experience: MyRide and Token Transit. We invite you to be surprised by the modern, efficient, and reliable River Valley Transit public transportation system. Expect nothing less than a smooth, seamless ride.

Food: Catered by DiSalvo's

**Beverages:** Assortment of beverages provided by RVTA and the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce through Pepsi Co.

What To Expect: Please be sure to catch your bus at one of our five Departure Times for a guided tour around our state-of-the-art facility. Make sure to get off at each bus stop for a chance to win multiple prize packages – details available at the WLCC Greeters' Table. We hope to see you on board!





### **PM Exchange Schedule**

Thursdays from 5-7pm

- September 18: Montoursville Chamber of Commerce
- September 25: River Valley Transit
- October 9: UPMC
- October 23: Innovative Manufacturers' Center/Tasseron Sensors
- November 6: Bush House Estate
- **November 20:** Traditional Home Health Care
- December 4: The District Cinema
- **December 18:** Miele Manufacturing

\$10 for Chamber Members and their Employees \$25 for Non-Members

### **August Business Spotlights**

Ribbon Cutting

### **PM EXCHANGE HOSTS**

### **River Valley Health**



Williamsport, PA 17701

### **Comfort Keepers** 25th Anniversary Ribbon Cutting



1323 East 3rd Street Williamsport, PA 17701

### **Members 1st Federal Credit** Union, Willard's Saddlery, and **GIANT Food Stores**



Willard's Saddlery 825 Westminster Drive Williamsport, PA 17701

**Chamber Member** Employees can attend PM Exchanges at the membership rate

**Non-Chamber** members

of \$10.

have a \$25 registration rate.

on Cutting



### **Grand Slam Parade**





## Thank you to everyone who helped make these events a success!





















**Williamsport Welcomes the World** 

### Welcome to the Chamber team!



### TAYLOR CHRISENBERRY

### Director of Leadership Lycoming/ **Special Events**

Taylor Chrisenberry is a recent graduate of Lycoming College, where she studied Business Administration and Corporate Communications.

In her position as Director of Leadership Lycoming and Special Events for the Chamber, Taylor looks forward to combining her love for event planning with her dedication to the community. She is eager to help the Leadership Lycoming program continue growing and to create events that bring people together in lasting and impactful ways. Building meaningful connections has always been at the heart of what Taylor does, and she's excited to bring that same passion and positivity into her new role.

"I fell in love with Williamsport not only for its beautiful mountain views, but also for the way the community feels like home. As a Pittsburgh native, it was an adjustment moving away, but Williamsport's welcoming nature made the transition easy. I'm excited to serve this community, meet new people, and help facilitate exciting programs and events that bring the community together."

When she isn't working, Taylor enjoys walking her dogs, going on hikes, exercising, baking, crafting, and spending time with friends and family.

### **GUPPORT. CONNECT. PROMOTE.**

SPONSORING LEADERSHIP LYCOMING HELPS SUPPOR T THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERS IN OUR LYCOMING COUNTY COMMUNITY, PROVIDES DIRECT EXPOSURE OF YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION WITH A CURRICULUM DAY CLOSELY TIED TO YOUR AREA OF EXPERTISE, AND GIVES YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERACT WITH THE FUTURE LEADERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.



#### LEADERSHIP LYCOMING ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE \$2,000

- LOGO ON ALL PROGRAM DAY MATERIALS, INCLUDING SOCIAL MEDIA, AND 1 PROGRAM DAY PRESENTATION
- FULL PAGE FL YER, THE MONTH OF YOUR CHOOSING, IN THE WLCC E-MARKETPLACE
- FINAL 3 TABLE SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP IS LIMITED-DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2025.



#### LEADERSHIP LYCOMING BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP

- LOGO ON PROGRAM DAY AGENDA AND SOC IAL MEDIA
- FEATURED IN GRADUATION PROGRAM SPONSOR RECOGNITION SECTION
- OPPORTUNIT Y TO ATTEND SPONSORED PROGRAM DAY TO SPEAK OR NETWORK DURING LUNCH



- · OPPORTUNIT Y TO JOIN PROGRAM DAY LUNCH
- FEATURED IN GRADUATION PROGRAM SPONSOR RECOGNITION SECTION

- · LISTED ON PROGRAM DAY AGENDA
- · RECOGNIZED ON ALL SOCIAL MEDIA

Please indicate your level of commitment:Tier 1 (\$100)7	ier 2 (\$300)Tier 3 (\$600) Annual Package (\$2,000)
Company Name Contact Name Address Email	
Select Program Day: *We can accept mult	iple sponsors for each program day*
September 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 − <i>Opening Retreat</i> October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 − <i>Leadership &amp; Community Service</i> November 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 − <i>History and the Arts</i> December 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 − <i>Law Enforcement &amp; the Judiciary</i> January 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2026 − <i>Education</i> February 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2026 − <i>Local &amp; State Government</i>	<ul> <li>March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 − Business &amp; Economic Development</li> <li>April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 − Health &amp; Human Services</li> <li>May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 − Environment &amp; Energy</li> <li>June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 − Closing Session</li> <li>June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 − Graduation</li> </ul>
Payment Method: Please Invoice Check Enclosed MasterCard \ Card# Cardholder's Name/Signature Cardholder's Address Cardholder's Email (for receipt ) PLEASE RETURN TO: LEADERSHIP LYCOMING, 102 W FOURTH ST, WILLI	Exp Date/ CVV#
LEADERSHIP LE	ICOMING ()







### The 36th annual

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

### **CHAMBERLINKS GOLF OUTING**

WHITE DEER GOLF COURSE • REGISTRATION: 7:30AM • TEE OFF: 8:30AM

Tournament









**Beverage** 















2025 ChamberLinks Golf Outing Sponsorship Opportunities

Tournament - \$2,000	Two foursomes, premium sign placement, and name on all printed material
Dine Around - \$1,600	One foursome, premium sign placement, and name on all printed material Contribute to the restaurant gift certificates provided to each golfer in lieu of a large meal at the conclusion of the tournament
On Course Business Showcase - \$1,000	While the golfers wait their turn on selected holes, showcase your business with hand-outs, games, and networking. Includes one foursome.
Beverage - \$1,000	One foursome, a professional sign, and name on all printed material
Breakfast - \$1,000	One foursome, a professional sign, and name on all printed material
Contest Hole - \$1,000	One foursome, a professional sign on a contest hole, and name on all printed material Provide a gift from your company for the golfer winning your contest hole
Flag - \$750	One foursome and a flag on a hole with your company name and sponsor year – yours to keep!

A professional sign with your company name on the course Tee - \$250 Foursome Only - \$500 Individuals Only - \$125

**REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR** THE 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHAMBERLINKS GOLF OUTING!





### 2025 Grand Slam Parade Winners



Small Business: Hillside Senior Living Medium/Large Business: Lycoming Engines

Non-profit Organization and Service Clubs: BLaST IU 17

Grand Prize: C&N Bank

Grand Slam: Kingdom Kidz Inc



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### September 2025

### September 3

• Ribbon Cutting: North Central Sight Services

### September 6

• Ribbon Cutting: The Village Baker

### September 9

- Ribbon Cutting: ARW Client Choice Food Pantry
- Open House: Presbyterian Home at Williamsport

### September 11

Jersey Shore Area Chamber of Commerce Summer Picnic

### September 12

• Ribbon Cutting: Good Grace African Market & Diner

### September 13

• Ribbon Cutting: Phoebe & Co. Boutique

### September 18

• PM Exchange: Montoursville Chamber of Commerce

### September 19

• 36th Annual ChamberLinks Golf Outing

### September 20

• Ribbon Cutting: The Potting Bench

### September 25

• PM Exchange: River Valley Transit

### October 2025

#### October 4

• Ribbon Cutting: Ascend Chiropractic & Wellness Center

### October 7

• Ribbon Cutting: CPRS Physical Therapy

### October 9

• PM Exchange: UPMC

#### October 15

• Ribbon Cutting: Ford Custom Renovation

### October 17

Ribbon Cutting: Gustonian Gifts

### October 23

• PM Exchange: Innovative Manufacturers' Center/Tasseron Sensors