

# CHAMBER CONNECTION

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

Welcome New Members

Busy month for ribbon cuttings

Leadership Lycoming Class of 2022 Closing Session... and Graduation!



## Marriott

offers top-notch lodging in city



# From Jason's Desk

Jason Fink, President/CEO

In a blink of an eye, it seems that we are already more than half way through 2022. It seems like just a couple months ago we were still cold and it was snowing. Actually, it was, now that I think about it, we had our last snow on April 19. The good thing is that it's hopefully several months away so we can enjoy the warm summer weather.

Anyone forget that we had gypsy moths in our area? It had been several years since I had even thought of them. This year was a very unpleasant reminder of just how bad and destructive they can be to our forests. Let's hope we don't see a repeat of them next year or we will see significant losses in our mountains.

Meanwhile, as I'm writing this, the state budget hasn't been passed, which is not that unusual, but it looks like by the end of the week it should be. One of the key sticking points between the legislature and Governor, is the amount of state spending being allocated towards education. This can be a very divisive issue, especially given how Pennsylvania's primary source of education funding comes at the local level through property taxes.

Going to school board meetings at every district in the county over the

past many years, I can tell you that not one time have I heard a local resident get up and ask for a millage rate increase. If the subject comes up, it is a resident addressing the board about what they're being charged and citing millage rates, which are the highest on any tax bill received.

Pennsylvania's system for the primary funding of education is at the local level. While it's not uncommon to have local property taxes used to pay for education, it isn't prevalent to have them be the sole local option utilized to generate that revenue.

The most recent report that was published in October 2021 for 2019, shows that Pennsylvania ranks 6th out of the 50 states and DC in the amount of total revenue allocated towards education. Those ahead of us in rank order is DC, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont. Pennsylvania's revenue, according to the report, is \$21,206. Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont are just ahead of us with no more than \$3,400 on education funding.

The report breaks the information down further by looking at the amount of federal, state and local funding by each state. We are 15th in the amount of federal fund-

ing received and 19th in state funding. The local level of education funding comes in at 6th. One thing that stuck out to me in reviewing this report, was how Vermont, which sits at 5th in overall revenue dedicated to education funding at \$22,424, is 1st in state funding and 50th in local funding.

While I appreciate the desire by the Governor to see more funding put to education, I struggle to see why, given what our total revenue being put towards it ranks against other states. There are things that can be done outside of the budget to have a better distribution of state funding to the 500+ school districts here in PA. The Governor and legislature would be better served addressing that than putting more funding into an already well-funded education system.

I do need to recognize the work that was done to help our community land the plant expansion by West Pharmaceuticals that broke ground in June. We had two great partners that worked with us to secure this commitment by West that will be investing roughly \$35m into the Williamsport plant along with creating upwards of 50 new jobs. The Gov-

ernor's Action Team and Senator Gene Yaw were key to helping us secure this expansion instead of it landing in either of the two other states being considered for it. When we reached out to the Governor's Action Team, they responded with a very competitive offer. That, coupled with a grant that we were able to secure through the work of Senator Yaw, were key in helping us to land this expansion.

You may have read in the paper that West is looking at another expansion that is being considered for its Jersey Shore plant or one in North Carolina. They

are looking to invest roughly \$65m - \$70m and create another 125 jobs in the selected community. We're working with the local taxing bodies to approve a LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance) zone that will provide a period of tax abatement on just the expansion of the plant. It is our intent to get this finalized for them this month as they will be announcing which site is selected in mid to late July. We'll hopefully have more good news to talk about in next month's column beyond it being August and the start of the 75th Little League World Series.

## Missed a Chamber Connection newsletter?

You can visit our website, [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org) and click on the Chamber Connection box.

Or you can search for the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce on Facebook and look in our albums. There you will find past Chamber Connections.

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# Welcome New Chamber Members!

## Cabinetworks

Kelly Varner

100 Industrial Highway  
Mifflinburg, PA 17844  
(570) 966-6716

[www.cabinetworksgroup.com](http://www.cabinetworksgroup.com)

Furniture - Retail/Commercial/Design

## Clover Crown Boutique

Katelyn Wasson

256 Allegheny Street  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
(570) 337-8129

<http://www.clovercrownboutique.com>

Retail Shopping

## Davie Jane Gilmour

Montoursville PA, 17754

(570) 220-6131

[dgilmour@pct.edu](mailto:dgilmour@pct.edu)

Consultants

## Kollective Wellness

Abdul-Malik Walker

1307 Park Avenue, Ste 9-210s  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
(570) 360-8188

[www.KollectiveWellness.com](http://www.KollectiveWellness.com)

Workforce Development  
Health & Wellness Products

## Lesko Photographic Studio

Robert Lesko

43 Pine Run Road  
Hughesville, PA 17737  
(800) 216-6239

<https://leskostudio.com/>

Photographers

## Superior Plus Propane

John Schmalhofer

112 Broad Street  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
(570) 368-8611

<https://www.superiorpluspropane.com/>

Fuel - Commercial/Residential  
HVAC

## The Locker Room Bar & Grill

Brad Gardner

1130 Broad Street  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
(272) 202-2929

<http://www.thelockerroompa.com>

Restaurants/Cafes/Taverns

## Traditional Home Care

Raechel Hess

562 Hepburn Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
(570) 560-6825

[www.traditionalhomehealthcare.com](http://www.traditionalhomehealthcare.com)

Healthcare - Home Health Care

## Tucker's Tasty Treats

Dustin Anello

2703 Euclid Avenue  
Duboisstown, PA 17702  
(570) 505-1399

[www.facebook.com/TuckersTastyTreats570/](http://www.facebook.com/TuckersTastyTreats570/)

Ice Cream & Frozen Desserts

## WAXED Williamsport

Mindy Day

434 William Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
(570) 666-5229

[www.facebook.com/waxedwilliamsport/](http://www.facebook.com/waxedwilliamsport/)

Hairstylists/Salon

## July PM Exchanges...

### National Range & Armory

Thursday, July 7, 2022

5:00 - 7:00 pm

531 Washington Boulevard, Williamsport

You are invited to an exciting PM Exchange. Attendees will tour the facility, learn about the custom, personalized services and products. Complimentary access to our large variety of rental firearms will be provided so attendees may shoot and even take part in a friendly Target Competition on the range. Range officers and training staff will be around to help and ensure everyone is safe and comfortable. Local craft beer and 'Boulevard' sourced food will also be provided when guests are done shooting. We look forward to seeing you at National Range & Armory!



### Fulton Bank

Thursday, July 21, 2022

5:00 - 7:00 pm

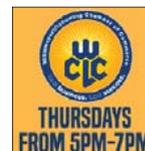
1732 East Third Street, Williamsport

Fulton Bank has been there for their customers as they learned together how to continue moving forward for financial success. Please join them outdoors at their Williamsport office where we can again enjoy talking together socially. Appetizers will be available along with French fries and chips done in the sunflower oil from the Susquehanna Mills Food Truck. Beverages and music will also be offered.

## Fulton Bank

LISTENING IS JUST THE BEGINNING.™

## Upcoming PM Exchanges...



Grampian Hills Apartments - Thursday, September 8

Nippnose Valley Village - Thursday, September 22

Watch for more information!

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

## Chamber Member Discount

*Working to meet the needs of our members*

## WILLIAMSPORT SUN-GAZETTE

### Newspaper Advertising

New Chamber members will receive one (1) free 2" x 5" ad, valued at \$200 or more. With purchase of any one-year Sun-Gazette Brand Builder package, new Chamber members receive one additional ad free each week for the first 13 weeks of the agreement. The ad must be the same size as the signed Brand Builder package; an average value of \$275.

Chamber members who purchase any online advertising package from [www.sungazette.com](http://www.sungazette.com) will receive an additional amount of impressions equal to 25% of the original package purchased.

For more information please contact:

**Sun-Gazette**  
252 West Fourth Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
(570) 326-1551  
[www.sungazette.com](http://www.sungazette.com)

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

For a complete list of upcoming Chamber events, visit [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org)

# June PM Exchanges/Ribbon Cuttings

## Eat & Run Catering & Restaurant Hosts PM Exchange



Thank you to Janet Jackson and Trevor Speaker for hosting a nice PM Exchange with great food for Chamber members. "It was nice to sit, eat, and chat with fellow chamber members in a relaxing atmosphere," said several attendees.

## Genetti Hotel Hosts PM Exchange & Celebrates 100th Anniversary



Congratulations to Genetti Hotel on their 100th year Anniversary celebration and PM Exchange. With antique cars, period costumes, great hors d'oeuvres and beverages, everyone had a great time. Deb Rozycki, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Membership Committee, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Gus Genetti, owner and Kathy Taylor, General Manager.

## Tag's Take Out & Italian Specialty Store Ribbon Cutting

Congratulations to Tag's Take Out & Italian Specialty Store on your ribbon cutting & grand opening celebration! Located at 1116 Market Street, Williamsport, Alivia and Aldo Tagliaferri are pleased to offer Tag's specials and old favorites like the original sauce, meatballs, gnocchi, ravioli, peppers, Aldo Salads & More! Enjoy Tag's Take Out & Italian Specials Store -- The Taste You Remember! (From l to r) Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Lycoming County Commissioner, Scott Metzger; Owners, Alivia & Aldo Tagliaferri; Mike Fitzgerald & John Fitzgerald; Amy Alexander, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Membership Committee.



## Kathy's Cafe Celebrates 20 Years with a Ribbon Cutting

Congratulations to Kathy's Cafe on your 20-year anniversary celebration! Cheers to 20 more years of Home-grown eating at it's best! The community came out to support Tracy and Andy Clayton and the team at Kathy's Cafe.



## PRN Home Health Services Ribbon Cutting

Congratulations PRN Home Health Services on your 20-year anniversary celebration & ribbon cutting! Located at 2134 W. Fourth Street, Williamsport, PRN is a home health agency that provides skilled and non-skilled services to home health clients. (From l to r) James Haywood, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Membership Committee; Jaron Bartholomew, Jeremih Bartholomew, Irenes Bartholomew, Lori Mahaffey, Danielle Smedley, Brion Bartholomew, Janaya Bartholomew (holding sign with picture of Founder and Owner Sulynn Liberti), Lawanda Camphor, Pearl McQuillen, Shawna Bartholomew, Rae Snook; Jason Fink, Williamsport Lycoming Chamber of Commerce. (Absent in the picture, Owner, Doug Liberti, Sulynn Liberti's husband.)



# June Ribbon Cuttings continued

## Tucker's Tasty Treats, a New Business Ribbon Cutting



Tucker's Tasty Treats is the newest ice cream destination in Lycoming County serving only the best, high quality, hand-dipped ice cream from Penn State! Try out their milkshakes, sundaes, floats, splits, ice cream 'sammiches', smoothies, snacks, drinks, and more!! (From l to r) Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Tucker's Tasty Treats staff, Lila Davies, June Craven; Owner, Dustin Anello & his son Tucker; Manager, Beth Lockard; Bethany McDonald, MLO Homestar Financial Corp.

## West Pharmaceutical Services Breaks Ground for Expansion



West Pharmaceutical Services' groundbreaking ceremony took place on Wednesday, June 22. The expansion at Williamsport's industrial park location on Reach Road will house rubber-mixing equipment. The project is an example of efforts by the city to bring more jobs and businesses to the community. (From l to r) Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Lycoming County Commissioner, Scott Metzger; Jernae Drummond, Assistant Director, Community and Economic Development, City of Williamsport; David Lanzer, West Pharmaceutical Services Williamsport Director of Operations; Bernard Birkett, West Pharmaceutical Services Senior Vice President, Chief Financial and Operations Officer; Tom Gribbin, West Pharmaceutical Services Vice President of Operations; State Senator, Gene Yaw, R-Loyalsock Township; Brent Vernon, Executive Director, Governor's Action Team; and Dara Bostic, Project Manager, Governor's Action Team.

## Plankenhorn Stationery Grand Re-Opening and Ribbon Cutting



Plankenhorn Stationery Co. celebrated their Grand Re-Opening & Ribbon Cutting during July's, First Friday in downtown Williamsport. Congratulations to Dennis Hosey and the team. Be sure to stop by and see the new renovations, located at 144 W. 4th Street, Williamsport.

## WAXED Celebrates Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting



WAXED Williamsport celebrated their grand opening and ribbon cutting on July 2, 2022. Mindy Day and her team provide a Full Body Waxing & Lash Bar in the heart of downtown Williamsport at 434 William Street. Schedule your appointment by booking online or calling (570) 666-5229. (From l to r) Jason Fink, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce; Waxed Williamsport's Katlin Mantle, Owner Mindy Day, Aundrea Lazar, Jennifer Allis; and Mayor Derek Slaughter.

# FEATURE MEMBER

## Marriott offers top-notch lodging in city

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

More than 10 years ago, downtown Williamsport was all but devoid of hotels for out-of-town travelers and others looking for lodging.

But since that time, fueled in part by a natural gas boom, a number of hotels went up in the city including TownPlace Suites at Marriott.

Dina Makar, general manager, said the hotel remains busy from a decade ago.

Located at 10 W. Church St., the hotel is strategically located near restaurants, night life, businesses, and other attractions of center city.

"It's very convenient for those who want to use the river walk," she said. "You don't need a car. It's an excellent location."

In fact, the hotel is just a stone's throw from the Susquehanna River in the shadow of the Market Street Bridge.

She pointed to a wall map off the lobby of the hotel that lays out city and how to get to different nearby places.

Hotel guests, she said, love the downtown.

It perhaps goes without saying that Little League World Series week in late August is the busiest time for the hotel, but the Marriott finds many of its more than 80 rooms reserved much of the time.

"We are often filled," she said.

Makar points to the hotel's amenities.

"What sets us apart is it's extended-stay," she said. "We are geared to that. We do a lot of group stays."

Many of the rooms offer fully equipped efficiency kitchens.

Guests can choose to purchase groceries at the nearby Wegman's or other food markets and bring back food to cook in their rooms.

"We have a party patio," Makar said. "They can grill outside."

The hotel's lending program allows



MIKE REUTHER/  
Sun-Gazette  
**Dina Makar, above, general manager of TownPlace Suites at Marriott, sits in the spacious downstairs patio. Among the amenities at TownPlace Suites is the pool on the first floor for guests to enjoy.**

(See MARRIOTT, Page 7)

# FEATURE MEMBER

## Marriott offers top-notch lodging in city

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guests to borrow appliances for use too.

Guests can enjoy a swim in the pool or soak in the spa on the hotel's first floor, or get a workout in the equipment-rich gym.

Extended stay guests have use of a laundry area, too.

Each morning, a hot breakfast is served.

"We are award-winning for customer service," Makar said.

The hotel was renovated in March 2019.

"Every seven years we are required to do a soft goods renovation," she said.

That means replacing carpeting, drapes, mattresses, and furniture.

COVID-19 posed its share of challenges for the hotel businesses, and the Marriott was no exception.

"We actually closed for three months in 2020," Makar said.

But like many businesses, the Marriott has emerged from the pandemic and is poised to continue to be a viable player in the area hotel market.

"Williamsport is a good location," Makar said.

The Marriott is pet friendly and convenient for the busy professional, according to its website.

Many attractions and tourist sites in the region as well as the many outdoors activities of central Pennsylvania make the Marriott a perfect place to stay for families and vacationers.



MIKE REUTHER/Sun-Gazette

Rooms of the Marriott include fully equipped efficiency kitchens and small work areas.



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# LEGACY MEMBER

## Distributing piping systems for customers is top priority

By **MARK MARONEY**  
mmaroney@sungazette.com

Whether for food processing, pharmaceutical or mechanical businesses, Industrial Piping Systems, which has a shipping facility in Williamsport, has been distributing these products for 40 years.

Industrial Piping Systems (IPS) is this month's Legacy Business choice as a member of the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce for the Chamber Connection and company president, Christine R. Wardrop could not be more pleased.

IPS was founded in 1982 by her father, Stuart H. Raub Jr., and three friends who saw a need for a pipe, valve and fitting distributor.

It would need to be one that would specialize in the unique product and service requirements of the industrial marketplace.

Wardrop became company president in 2000 and, in 2006, she became sole owner.

Originally serving south central Pennsylvania, a bastion of food processing industries, the company has grown to include five locations serving central Pennsylvania.

Today, IPS is one of the largest wholesale distributors of industrial pipe, value and fitting and related products in all of central Pennsylvania and northern Maryland.

"We are problem-solvers, and work with all kinds of customers," Wardrop said.

The family-owned and operated business specializes in delivery of products for businesses that transfer steam.

Customers include but are not limited to West Pharmaceutical, Susquehanna Nuclear, K.C. Lar-

son and Nicholas Meat Packing, and those in government sectors, such as authorities that manage water and sanitary waste, she said.

Distributing pipes, valves and fittings was not a job that could be stopped during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our culture is that we take care of our employees and they take care of us," Wardrop said.

One of those employees has been with the business for 20-plus years, with the remainder averaging six to 10 years or longer.

IPS has facilities on Commerce Park Drive in Williamsport and York - where deliveries and warehousing are located and facilities in Lancaster and State College where pickups take place.

In all, 36 employees make up the workforce, with eight employed in Williamsport.

"We also work with contractors doing new builds," Wardrop said.

"Our goal is to provide excellent service, quality products, value-added services and technical expertise to our valued business partners," Wardrop said.

The team comprises experienced, motivated, dedicated employees who take pride in delivering superior customer service.

Each employee understands they play a vital role in creating a positive customer experience.

IPS carries extensive inventories at York and Williamsport shipping branches.

The business continually evaluates and modifies processes and procedures to ensure it always is providing the most efficient, effective customer service possible.

Advanced technology enables the industry systems to benefit



PHOTOS PROVIDED

**Above, an Industrial Piping Solutions employee shows examples of the plastic pipe product line. Pictured at right is Christine Wardrop, president of Industrial Piping Systems, at her office.**

customers with efficient online ordering, customized reporting, quick turnaround on quotes and easy access to contract and inventory data.

The latest technology is used to help customers achieve their goals. A remote wireless access system allows IPS account managers to quickly respond to customer inquiries from any location.



## The Crazy Tomato: a family and a community

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a special one-time article contributed to the Chamber Connection.)

By Aria Meixel

It all began in a rural convenience store.

It was 1999, and past the aisles of junk food, the fridges of soda, and the selection of cigarettes and lottery tickets for sale, a small area at the back of the Oval Country Store in Oval, Pennsylvania offered fresh-made sandwiches and subs for customers who wanted something more substantial than chips or candy while stopping for a gas tank refill.

Brothers Duane and Darren Meixel hadn't had much experience in making food for paying customers, but the previous owner of the store had set a precedent of fresh sandwiches at the store, and the locals expected the brothers to continue. And just how did their food compare to what had come before them?

"We did it better," Duane says.

Eventually, despite the store's location in the Pennsylvania countryside, their food started to attract people from thirty, even forty miles away. The dedication to quality and excellent flavors and ingredients brought hungry customers who wanted to stop for longer than the time it took to fill up their tanks. The brothers were getting tired of dealing with the gas, cigarette, and convenience side of the business, so they turned their attention to what they were truly passionate about: the food and the customers.

After tossing around a few name ideas, the Crazy Tomato was the one that stuck. The name, along with the "Tomato with its tongue out" logo designed by another Williamsport local was a humorous

combination that struck those who the brothers showed as unique and memorable.

Finding their first location on what is known in Williamsport as the "Golden Strip," a road lined with fast food chains and strip malls, was another stroke of luck. This area, so different from the rural convenience store that started it all, brought plenty of customers—way more than what they had expected, and they had to learn fast in order to keep up with the rapidly-increasing demand for their food.

And it really is the food that keeps bringing people back—the Crazy Tomato describes their subs as "Meixel-style," which means it has as much to do with the preparation and presentation as it does with how it tastes. It starts with baking their rolls fresh every morning, then the order and proportion in which the ingredients are placed on the bread—meat and cheese on the bottom, veggies and finishing touches on the top—and even how it ends up looking on the plate. To the Meixels, the visuals are just as important as the flavor.

And when it comes to flavor, that's just another aspect of the Crazy Tomato that keeps customers coming back. It's no surprise that some of their more popular dishes are the ones that are more distinctive in terms of ingredients. One popular menu item is their Crazy Turkey sandwich; with just the addition of homemade coleslaw to a classic turkey-and-cheese sandwich, they're able to present a new twist on an old favorite.

For those who want something a bit more complex, the Crazy Club is another option that shocks most who see it; a tower of a sandwich that includes ham, turkey, bacon,



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Crazy Tomato is located at 857 W. Third St. and has outdoor seating, shown above.

their homemade coleslaw, French fries, American cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, mustard, and mayonnaise, all stacked between their fresh Italian bread. And this sandwich is just another example of the Meixels' commitment to presentation along with flavor.

When it comes to creating new recipes, the family decides on what they're tired of eating and how they can combine ingredients to make these new and interesting dishes. Oftentimes, new menu items have evolved from something someone will come up with one day in the kitchen; for example, the Turkey Basil wrap, which includes basil pesto as one of the main ingredients, was an experiment that succeeded and made its way to the menu.

This is what makes the Crazy Tomato stand out among other family-owned restaurants in the Williamsport area. "It does make a difference," Duane says about their attention not just to taste, but to the food's preparation as well. And since family-owned businesses are so important, the Crazy Tomato is

a vital cog in Williamsport's economic machine.

However, as the restaurant grew, it came time for them to move locations. As lucky as they were to have started on the Golden Strip, where many people were happy to find a small, local business among countless fast-food franchises, the franchises started to grow into too much competition. At the very end of April 2021, after finding a new building to move to, the Crazy Tomato shut its first set of doors to relocate and renovate its new location.

For eight months, the people of Williamsport eagerly (and impatiently) waited for the Crazy Tomato's grand reopening. Throughout that time, the owners and family members were getting questions nearly everywhere they went: Where are you moving to? When are you reopening? How much longer will we have to wait to eat our favorite pizzas and sandwiches again?

When the Crazy Tomato at last returned at the beginning of January 2022, in a building almost three

times the size of its first location, the response was overwhelming. For the first few weeks, there was hardly a moment for the employees to breathe — Williamsport was so excited to have them back, and even with the unrelenting wave of customers, it was heartening proof of how much Williamsport and surrounding towns loved their food.

The Meixels know how lucky they are to not only have so much support from their community, but to be able to build this business with their family. With the Meixels, everyone is on board with how much work goes into every aspect of the restaurant. "When it's family, everyone cares a little more," Duane says.

"Our family has been blessed," he insists, because of how much love they've received for their food for the past 23 years.

And they work hard to put all that love right back into their food, as thanks for everyone who's supported them and will continue to support them as long as their doors remain open and ovens remain on.

# NEW MEMBER

## Baltimore Life Insurance is built on community

**BETHANY BARRETT**  
bbarrett@sungazette.com

Baltimore Life Insurance, located at 245 Broad St., Montoursville, is a branch location to one of the oldest insurance companies in the United States.

Founded in 1882, the company has been around through the Great Depression, several recessions and two world wars, according to their website.

“These events have left their mark on Baltimore Life and our policyholders. But through it all, we’ve survived, grown stronger and prospered,” stated on the Baltimore Life Insurance Website.

Today, the company provides Life Insurance, as well as insurance for the workplace and retirement for more than 300,000 individuals, families and businesses throughout The United States.

The local branch is community oriented, often hosting local events with giveaways, raffles, child IDs, pet IDs, public safety information and more.

“We are trying to be present to the community we love while also being relevant for the needs of what we offer. We want to generate business but cultivate long term relationships with people we live next door to,” Jamie Snyder, agency manager for the Susquehanna Valley Region said.

The company also takes part in charity events — raising money and providing local needs.

Recently, Snyder was nominated for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Woman of the Year Campaign

Spreading awareness and raising money for Leukemia became important to Snyder when her daughter was diagnosed with the disease.

“We decided as a team, absolutely, we are doing this — Everyone from the local office to the home office got on board with it and we did everything we could to raise funds. We raised money by hosting fundraising events including a community safety event, which included a state trooper to educate, a



PHOTOS PROVIDED  
Pictured above, from left, are Jamie Snyder, standing, Mikayla Bryant and Virginia Weigle working in the Baltimore Life Insurance office. At right, Bryant gives a face painting at one of the company's local events.

food truck, face painting and free child ID's. And, so much more, we gave away free trinkets and fun stuff like that,” Snyder said.

In 10 weeks, they raised almost \$10,000.

“Our agency said this is important, we all want to get together and do some good — to raise money and do the best we can do,” Snyder said.

As the agency expands, it continues to look for new team members. Caring for the individual is an integral part of the company's services.

“You don't have to have experience, anyone who is willing to learn can do this — but you have to have that heart and that understanding of why life insurance is so important and relevant and why it's important to have.” Snyder said.

Team members understand the significance of life insurance, and why it's important to be prepared.

“Everyone needs life insurance. There are reasons why you would need life in-



surance — You could be going through the most tragic time in your life and thinking how am I going to pay my bills this month. Life insurance is to avoid this. I'm looking for those agents who care about that and who want to genuinely help people” Snyder said.

“Our work environment is light. It's not always serious, we laugh a lot, we all really enjoy working with each other. We all get along great.” Snyder said.

This summer the agency hopes to host a back to school event for their local community. The event will include face painting, backpack giveaways for back to school and free child IDs, some great food and more.

To learn more about the services that Baltimore Life Insurance provides, visit [www.baltlife.com](http://www.baltlife.com) or contact Jamie Snyder at 570-506-8321. Services are available by phone or flexible appointments.

# Leadership Lycoming's Closing Session & Graduation

The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2022 had their Closing Session, hosted by Leadership Lycoming Operating Committee Chair, Brian McClintock, Senior Communications Executive at Little League International. The morning started with a skills training by Dr. Davie Gilmour, former President, Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Stephen Keener, Chief Executive Officer, Little League International, welcomed the class and gave networking tips while sharing stories from many great years of Little League World Series games and events.

The class then had the opportunity to discuss their Leadership Lycoming year with a panel of committee chairs; Brittany Fischer, Curriculum Committee Chair, Brian McClintock Operating Committee Chair, Emilie Ertel, Marketing Committee Chair, Karen Retorick, Alumni Engagement Committee Chair, and Rob Dunkleberger, Volunteer Projects Committee Chair. This also gave the class members the chance to learn about opportunities to join different committees as a Leadership Lycoming alumni.

Lunch was provided by Don Waltman's Market House and was a hit by the class.

The afternoon wrapped up with a tour of the Little League Museum by Adam Thompson, Director of Little League Museum; and a behind-the-scenes complex tour by Brian McClintock.

Thank you to our sponsors, Little League International and Community Services Group.



*Leadership Lycoming is pleased to present the Class of 2022!*

*(Front row l to r) Mikayla Arnold, Little League International; Kaylee Caruso, Larson Design Group; Kevin Renahan, James V. Brown Library; Audriana Empet, Pennsylvania College of Technology; Brandy Moon, North Central Sight Services; Renee Peluso, BLAST IU 17; Carolyn Lakis, Hope Enterprises; Alyssa Black, Camp Susque; Emily Ebersole, PALCO Federal Credit Union; Amber Roudabush, UPMC; Heather Reeder, YWCA; Angelique Labadie-Chihanowyz, Sojourner Truth Ministries; Olivia Lopatofsky, Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority; Mike McCullen, Geisinger; Zach Mihalov, Lycoming Engines; Emily Helm, Lycoming Engines; (Back row l to r) Chris Erdman, UPMC; Matt Martin, UPMC; Josh Wrench, Pennsylvania College of Technology; Herbert "Trip" Kemp, Restek; Shameka Grey, Transitional Living Centers, Inc.; Heather Wood, Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board Program; Emily Drick, River Valley Health & Dental; Jae Ellison, Lycoming College; Drew Boyles, Lycoming College; Kevin Newman, The Muncy Bank & Trust Company; Nicole Bower, American Rescue Workers; Marisa Rau, International Development Corporation.*



*Dr. John Piper received the Donna Bastian Community Service Award*

The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2022 Graduated on June 9, 2022 at Herman and Luther's in Montoursville.

The morning started with brunch and a welcoming of class members and attendees by Brian McClintock, Senior Communications Executive, Little League International; followed by remarks by Jason Fink, President and CEO, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.

Each class member then received their Leadership Lycoming Class of 2022 plaque and Leadership Lycoming pin, presented to them by Brian McClintock, Operating Committee Chair, David Boyle, Operating Committee Vice Chair, and Leadership Lycoming Program Coordinator, Meghan Quinn.

Class speaker, Carolyn Lakis, gave a remarkable speech reflecting the year and encouraging the class of 2022 to get involved in the community where they feel passionate.

The Donna Bastian Community Service Award was presented to Dr. John Piper, Jr for extensive service to our historical community.

Thank you to our sponsors High Steel Structures, UPMC, The Kiessling Group of Janney Montgomery Scott, The Hartman Group, and the Class of 2017. Special thank you to Herman and Luther's staff for putting together such a great event. Thank you to Keystone Advertising for the graduation plaques and the Donna Bastian Community Service Award. Congratulations to the Leadership Class of 2022! Best Class Ever!

*Thank you to our Closing Session and Graduation Sponsors!*

COMMUNITY SERVICES



The Kiessling Group of Janney Montgomery Scott



The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2017



*Above, Davie Jane Gilmour discusses business etiquette with the class.*

Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

# Grand Slam Breakfast

# UPMC HEALTH PLAN

Presented by:

## with HOF Pitcher Mariano Rivera

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Bald Birds Brewery, Jersey Shore

Breakfast 8:00 AM • Program begins at 8:30 AM

The Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce and its Lycoming County Visitors Bureau invite you to join us as we mark the opening day of the Little League World Series® with our annual *Grand Slam Breakfast*. This event culminates in a highly engaging question and answer session with Grand Slam Parade Grand Marshal, Hall of Fame and New York Yankees Pitcher **Mariano Rivera**.



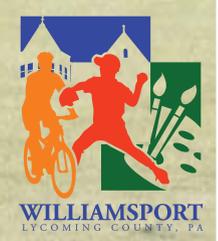
Williamsport Crosscutters Gabe Sinicropi will be emceeing the event.

WBRE will also be there covering the breakfast for broadcasts later that day. Time permitting, questions from the audience will be fielded.

\*Note that any autographs are at the discretion of Mariano Rivera and requests may not be fulfilled by him.



<b>Legends Suite Seating for 8:</b>	<b>Chamber Member \$150</b>	<b>Other \$200</b>
<b>Dugout Box Seating for 4:</b>	<b>Chamber Member \$90</b>	<b>Other \$110</b>
<b>General Admission Seating:</b>	<b>Chamber Member \$25</b>	<b>Other \$30</b>



Game Day Sponsors



# UPMC

Register by calling 570-326-1971 or online at [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org)

Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

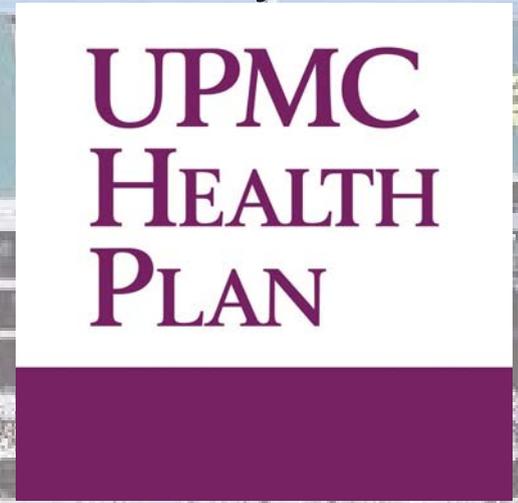
Presented by:



# Championship Luncheon



with HOF Outfielder



# Rickey Henderson

Friday, August 26, 2022

Genetti Hotel, Williamsport

**Picnic Lunch 12:00 PM-Program begins at 12:30 PM**

Join the Chamber and Visitors Bureau as we herald in Championship Weekend for the 75<sup>th</sup> Little League® World Series with the *Championship Luncheon*. Enjoy a highly engaging question and answer session with 2009 National Baseball Hall of Fame Left Fielder and All-time base stealer Rickey Henderson, emceed by Williamsport Crosscutters Gabe Sinicropi. Audience questions, time permitting.

\*Note: Any autographs are at the discretion of Rickey Henderson and requests may not be fulfilled by him.

**A's Suite Seating for 8:**

**Chamber Member \$150**

**Other \$200**

**Dugout Box Seating for 4:**

**Chamber Member \$90**

**Other \$110**

**General Admission Seating:**

**Chamber Member \$25**

**Other \$30**

Game Day Sponsors



Register by calling 570-326-1971 or online at [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org)



# Member Renewals

Received between May 27 and June 30, 2022

## Thank you to our renewing members!

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

### First Year Renewals

Bassett Engineering, Inc.  
Jasper Steel Works LLC  
Karen Retorick  
Miller Environmental Group Inc.

### Members 2 - 5 Years

4G Delivery, Inc.  
B&E Plumbing Corporation dba: PlumbingMasters  
Blessed Beginnings Preschool & Childcare LLC  
Carload Express  
Catherman's Collision Center LLC.  
Creative Benefits Inc.  
Dunkin' Donuts  
International Development Corporation  
Mileto's Sub Shop  
Nomad Distilling Co.  
PennCore Consulting  
State Farm Insurance Agency  
Susquehanna Unlimited Services  
The Bridge Tavern  
Tiadaghton Farm  
Under Pressure Connections LLC  
USI Insurance Services  
Wilson Trophy Company  
Wolfe's General Store/Slate Run Tackle Shop

### Members 6 - 10 Years

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.  
AllOne Health  
Coterra

Enginuity, LLC

Family Practice Center, PC  
Fry's Fire Protection, LLC  
Michael J. Casale, Jr., Esq., LLC  
Ronald McDonald House of Danville, Inc.  
Schon Properties  
Sunrise Real Estate & Management Services  
Vector Security®, Inc.

### Members 11-15 Years

G&M Bandsaw, Inc.  
Orchard Pump & Supply Co., Inc.  
Rogers Uniforms LLC  
Santino's Italian Cuisine  
Squarewood Acres Campground  
Susquehanna Wire Rope & Rigging, Inc.

### Members 16 - 20 Years

Geisinger  
Moore Power Sales Vision  
The Hillside Catering

### Members 21 - 30 Years

DeWald Chiropractic  
DuBoistown Borough  
Palcon, LLC

### Member 35 Years

Ettinger's Landscaping Services and Garden Center

### Member 47 Years

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

## 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.

### APPLICATION CRITERIA

The Revolving Loan Fund is available to:

- Individuals, corporations, limited liability companies and non-profit organizations
- Gross sales less than \$1,000,000 annually or employ less than 50 individuals
- Place of business or significant amount of business in Lycoming County
- Start up enterprises, expansion of existing business or relocation of business to Lycoming County

For more information please contact:

Nancy J. Eischeid, CPA, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer  
Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce  
Phone: (570) 320-4206 Email: neischeid@williamsport.org

## 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](mailto:sjones@williamsport.org) or (570) 320-4202 for more information.

## Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

### Sojourner Truth Ministries

655 Center Street, Williamsport  
Thursday, July 7, 2022 | Ribbon Cutting 1:00 PM

Join us to celebrate the completion of half a duplex to be utilized for the continuation of our mission- to serve neighbors in need. A family from Cuba is moving in, out of program housing and toward independence while saving to bring their other children to the USA.

Enjoy light refreshments compliments of Hillside Catering!

### Ribbon Cutting/Grand Re-Opening

#### Martina Guerra Goldsmith

1102 Allegheny Street, Jersey Shore  
Friday, July 22, 2022 | Ribbon Cutting 4:00 PM  
Open House 4:30-6:00 PM

Handmade Gold & Silver Jewelry.  
Enjoy refreshments while you browse the newly remodeled showroom.

## Chamber Members...

New Business? Have you moved to a new location? Coming up on a business anniversary or have something to celebrate?

Participate in a FREE ribbon cutting ceremony!

Contact Taryn Mueller for more information at 570-320-4209 or [tmueller@williamsport.org](mailto:tmueller@williamsport.org)

## Business Energy-Efficiency Programs

There's never been a more important time to take control of your business' energy bill.

With costs rising due to inflation, everyday things are costing a little bit more each month. And no matter how that impacts your business, now is the perfect time to make a plan to save.

PPL Electric Utilities' Business Energy Efficiency Program aims to give you easy and affordable opportunities to lower your annual energy costs, connect with local energy contractors, save on high-efficiency upgrades and more. Whether your business is small but mighty, large yet local or anywhere in between, we offer a variety of flexible prescriptive and custom incentive options to help you reach your energy efficiency goals.

If you're a small business looking for a place to get started, consider scheduling a no-cost energy assessment through our Small Business Direct Install Program. We'll send a trained Energy Technician to complete complimentary product installations at your business and they'll also perform an energy evaluation. These no-cost energy assessments, and the included free upgrades, are available to small business customers with a GS1 or GS3 rate code and a monthly peak demand of 200 kW or

### Business incentives structure\*

Project category	INCENTIVE (per kWh)		INCENTIVE (per kW)	
 Lighting	\$0.075	+	\$215	
 Efficient Equipment	\$0.075	+	\$215	
 Custom	\$0.075	+	\$250	
 CHP/Solar	\$0		\$1,000	
 Direct Discount Program	\$0.16	+	\$250	

kW savings calculation is based on summer coincident peak demand savings, June through August (excluding weekends and holidays) from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

\*Effective February 14, 2022, pre-approval is no longer required on lighting and efficient equipment projects through our standard downstream program. Custom projects and incentives offered through our Direct Discount Program will still require pre-approval prior to construction beginning. Pre-approval means that a project application must be submitted in good order and receive a pre-approval letter before construction begins. All projects must be submitted, with all documentation in good order, within 180 days of the project completion date. Incentives are capped at 50 percent of project cost, up to \$500,000. Incentives for Direct Discount Program are capped at 80 percent.

less.

Our overall Business Energy Efficiency Program is open to all business customers with facilities located in our service territory. We'll help you find the path that's right for you and your business — from prescriptive and custom to Direct Discount, Direct Install and Instant Discounts — so you can start saving energy all year and take control of your energy bill.

To learn more about our various programs, and how to apply, give us a call at 1-866-432-5501 or visit [ppllectricbusinessavings.com](http://ppllectricbusinessavings.com).

# REGISTER NOW

## WITH PROMO CODE

# PARTNER\_22\_WLCC

### FOR \$100 OFF NON-MEMBER RATE



# SHALE INSIGHT

A Shale Coalition Conference

## PA • OH • WV

**BAYFRONT CONVENTION CENTER**  
**ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA**  
**SEPTEMBER 27-29**  
**SHALEINSIGHT.COM**



**FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF LYCOMING COUNTY'S MOST FAMOUS BOOTLEGGERS!**

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

[www.PrinceFarrington.com](http://www.PrinceFarrington.com)



**LYCOMING COUNTY VISITORS CENTER**



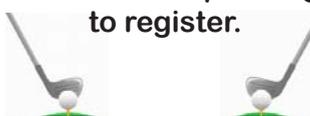
**HOURS**  
JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> - NOV. 30<sup>TH</sup>

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

**Save the Date!**

**33rd ChamberLinks Golf Outing**

Friday, September 16, 2022  
 White Deer Golf Course  
 Watch your mail & E-updates for the sponsor flyer or visit [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org) to register.



# Upcoming Events!

## Jersey Shore Area Chamber of Commerce Picnic Sponsorship & Registration

**Santino's Pine Creek Inn**  
**5:00pm-7:00pm**  
**Thursday, September 1, 2022**  
**5645 North Route 44 Hwy**  
**Jersey Shore, PA 17740**



### Sponsorship Includes:

- 2 complimentary guest passes to the picnic
- Sponsorship signage displayed at the event
- Company logo will appear on all advertising for the event



**Registration Includes:** a delicious buffet and a complimentary drink ticket. (cash bar available)

Contact the Chamber if interested in being a sponsor or registering.  
 Phone: (570) 326-1971 FAX: (570) 321-1209 or Register Online: [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org)

## 2022 Montoursville Chamber of Commerce Summer Picnic Sponsorship & Registration

**Tuesday, August 9, 2022 from 5pm to 7pm**  
 319 Broad Street, Montoursville

Help us make this evening a success with your

### \$200 SPONSORSHIP!

Your sponsorship includes:

- 2 complimentary guest passes to the Summer Picnic
- Your company information will be displayed at the Picnic
- Your company logo will appear on all advertising for the Picnic

**Registration** to attend the event includes a buffet of picnic-style foods & a complimentary drink ticket. (Cash Bar available)

Contact the Chamber if interested in being a sponsor or registering.  
 Phone: (570) 326-1971 FAX: (570) 321-1209 or Register Online: [www.williamsport.org](http://www.williamsport.org)

WILLIAMSPORT LYCOMING COUNTY, PA

## 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](http://princefarrington.com) to get your passport!**

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

## THE 33RD ANNUAL CHAMBERLINKS GOLF OUTING

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022**  
 WHITE DEER GOLF COURSE  
 REGISTRATION 7:30AM - TEE OFF 8:30AM  
RAIN DATE: TBA

Tournament Sponsors:

**Your logo will be placed here!**

Dine Around Sponsors:

2022 CHAMBERLINKS GOLF SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	
\$2000	<b>TOURNAMENT</b> Includes Two foursomes, premium sign placement and name on all printed material
\$1600	<b>DINE AROUND</b> Includes One foursome, premium sign placement and name on all printed material, contribute towards restaurant gift certificates provided to each golfer in lieu of a large meal at the conclusion of the tournament
\$1500	<b>TENT</b> Includes One foursome, premium sign placement and name on all printed material
\$1000	<b>BEVERAGE</b> Includes One foursome, a professional sign and name on all printed material
\$1000	<b>BREAKFAST</b> Includes One foursome, a professional sign and name on all printed material
\$1000	<b>CONTEST HOLE</b> Includes 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.
\$750	<b>FLAG</b> Includes One foursome and a flag on a hole with your company name and sponsor year— Yours to keep!
\$500	<b>ON COURSE BUSINESS SHOWCASE</b> While the golfers wait their turn, on selected holes, showcase your business with hand-outs, games and networking
\$250	<b>TEE</b> Includes a professional sign with your company name on the course.
\$500	<b>FOURSOME ONLY</b>
\$125	<b>INDIVIDUALS ONLY</b>
Registration can be made at <a href="http://www.williamsport.org">www.williamsport.org</a> or call the Chamber at 570-326-1971	