

November 2016							December 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 <i>Dwtwn 8 am</i>	2 Mixer	3 Flagger Training	4 First Friday	5					1 Holiday Social	2 First Friday	3
6	7 <i>RT 6pm</i>	8 <i>WN 8 am WN 8:45</i>	9	10 <i>Funfest 6:30 pm</i>	11 <i>COG 8am</i>	12	4	5 <i>RT 6pm</i>	6 <i>Dwtwn 8 am</i>	7	8 Women's Holiday Social	9 <i>COG 8am</i>	10
13	14 <i>Board 4 pm</i>	15 <i>Red Carpet Breakfast CA 8 am</i>	16	17	18 SBDC Penguins Game	19	11	12	13	14	15 Mixer Funfest 6:30pm	16	17
20	21	22	23	24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29 <i>CP 8:15 am Women's Lunch</i>	30				25	26 CLOSED	27	28	29	30	31

**Italicized font indicates committee meetings*

Do you have a community event you would like to add to our online calendar? If so email information to lfallabel@hazletonchamber.org

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Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce

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Chamber
Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce

Greater Hazleton’s Business Connection

hazletonchamber.org

chamberconnect

November/December 2016 Vol. 18 No. 5

Contact Us

p (570) 455-1509
f (570) 450-2013

Citiscap
20 W. Broad Street
Hazleton, PA 18201

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Affiliates

- G.H.A. Civic Partnership
- Mt. Council of Governments
- Leadership Hazleton
- Downtown Hazleton Alliance for Progress

Winners Announced for 2016 Business & Community Awards

In an attempt to help promote October as “Chamber of Commerce” month, the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce has announced the winners of the 2016 Business & Community Awards. A special awards luncheon, sponsored by **Luzerne County Community College** was held to recognize the winners.

Small Business of the Year Award

sponsored by Comfort Keepers
Eckley Miners Village AND
Fyzical Therapy & Balance Ctr

Large Business of the Year Award

sponsored by Gottstein Corporation
Berger Family Dealerships

Pride of Place Award

sponsored by Kavlick Enterprises/McDonalds
Heritage Hill Senior Community

Green Business of the Year Award

sponsored by George J. Hayden Inc
American Eagle Outfitters
Hazleton Distribution Center

Volunteer of the Year Award

sponsored by M&T Bank
Joseph Clark

Young Entrepreneur of the Year

sponsored by CAN BE, Inc
Matthew Nause, Nause Landscaping

Healthy Workplace of the Year Award

sponsored by Highmark Blue Cross in cooperation with ChamberChoice
Gonnella Frozen Products

Anniversary Celebration Held for Long-Time Members



The Chamber kicked off October as Chamber of Commerce Month by holding an event, which recognized several long-standing members who celebrated a special anniversary with the us in 2016. The 2nd Annual Anniversary Membership Celebration took place on Thursday, October 6th and was sponsored by Residence Inn by Marriott, Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn & Suites and Bemis Company Inc. The event was hosted by Camren’s Country Inn & Gardens in Drums.



In addition to the businesses pictured, other Chamber Member Businesses celebrating a special anniversary in 2016 included: 50 years: Butler Enterprises, Fairway Motors, Bemis Company, A to S Metals, Highway Equipment & Supply Co, Benjamin Real Estate; 45 years: PQ Express, Bognet Inc; 40 years: Fellin’s Jewelers, Thomas Kitchens, Zenier’s Automotive, Rosenn Jenkins & Greenwald LLP, McDonald’s, Pelly Dental, United American Security; 35 years: Ehrlich, Century 21 Bernstein Real Estate; 30 years: Citizen Publishing, Mountain View Real Estate, Lehigh Valley Hospital - Hazleton, Luzerne County Community College-Hazleton; 25 years: D’Angelo Dental, Visintainer Nursery, Jack Williams Tire & Auto, Banyas Dental, Fritztingertown Senior Living, Sign Spot, Mtn City Health & Rehabilitation Center, Greater Hazleton Philharmonic Society; 20 years: Hutchison Construction, Singley Welding & Fabricating, Giant Food Stores, John Diana Insurance, Bonanza Steakhouse, PenTeleData, Hazleton Careerlink, BB&T, T J McGeehan Sales & Service.



Thank you to ALL of our Chamber members!

Pictured at the top is Snyder & Clemente, LLC who celebrated 70 years of membership; Pictured in the middle is CAN DO, Inc who celebrated 60 years of membership and pictured at the bottom is Lloyd & Associates LLC who celebrated 55 years of membership.

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9th Annual Tastes of Greater Hazleton Featured Local Restaurants & Businesses



The 9th Annual Tastes of Greater Hazleton was held on Sunday, October 16th at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton. This event showcased 19 restaurants and businesses from throughout Greater Hazleton. Those participating included: Booty's Place, Brass Buckle Restaurant, Carmen's Bakery & Deli, Carmen's Country Inn & Gardens, Cinema & Drafthouse, Coffee Service, Edgewood by Sand Springs, Genetti Catering, Giant Food Store, McDonalds, Sand Springs Country Club, Simply Homebrew, T. Verrastro Beer Distributor, The Pines Eatery & Spirits, Theodora's Restaurant, Top of the 80s Restaurant, Valley Country Club, Victoria's Candies and Whipped Sweet Shoppe.

In addition, cooking demonstrations were provided by Jerry Seiwel and Chef Steve Foley of **Brass Buckle**, Sous Chef Jeffrey Wallace of **Sand Springs Country Club** and Chef Jeff Keller of **Top of the 80s Restaurant** (pictured right).



Attendees had the opportunity to win tons of doorprizes, which included gift certificates donated by various participating businesses, as well the grand prize, which was a blue booth/cooler/ottoman donated by **T. Verrastro Beer Distributor** and Heineken.



Thank you to our Chamber' Community Awareness committee who organized this event. Pictured on the left are committee members standing from left is Pat Verrastro, T. Verrastro Beer Distributor; Linda Mantush, Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce; Steve Peterson, CTC Manufacturing; Al Onuschak and Gary Danish, Video by UVP. Sitting from left is Donna Barna, Billig-Helmes Insurance, Chamber Chairwoman; Barbara Hunsinger, Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton event location host/sponsor and Anna Jean Onuschak, Top of the 80's Restaurant, Chamber Community Awareness Committee Chairwoman. Missing from the photo was Florie McNelis, PPL; Jim Dino, Standard Speaker and Leann Fallabel, Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce Community Awareness Committee Coordinator.

A very special thank you to Michael Kemchinsky, Director of Plant Operations for Lehigh Valley Health Network - Hazleton for all his time and assistance with the coordination of the event and Gerry Gallagher and the cadets (pictured below) from the Hazleton Campus at Lackawanna College Police Academy for assisting throughout the weekend.



~THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS~



Upcoming Chamber Events

DATE
Wednesday, November 2nd

TIME
5 pm to 7 pm

LOCATION
FNCB
340 W. Broad Street
Downtown Hazleton

COST
Free to attend!

Networking Mixer

Chamber members, employees, co-workers & guests are invited to enjoy a casual, after-hours event, networking with the business community! This is an exclusive opportunity to network with members from the Hispanic Business Association! The Downtown Hazleton Alliance for Progress will also be recognizing all new businesses who have entered the downtown in the last year. Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres & beverages!



DATE
Thursday, November 3rd

TIME
8:30 am to 11:30 am

LOCATION
Chamber Office
20 W. Broad Street
Hazleton

COST
\$50 members
\$60 non members

Roadway Flagger Training/Recertification

PennDOT requires that all individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC must be certified. This training is for individuals who are performing work such as maintenance/construction activities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC including: roadmasters, foreman, and street superintendents. Others who would benefit from this course include safety coordinators, law enforcement personnel and municipal engineers/managers.



DATE
Friday, November 4th

LOCATION
Downtown Hazleton

Downtown Hazleton First Friday

Soap making workshop, live music, ballroom dance class, dinner with Poe, story and craft time and ghostly tours for kids, dark art exhibit, meet the artist exhibits, gigi's sip, paint & gogh & much more!



DATE
Tuesday, November 15th

TIME
7:45 am to 9 am

LOCATION
3 Bobby D's
789 N. Locust Street
Hazleton

COST
\$20 members
\$25 non members

Red Carpet Breakfast

A presentation by Pennsylvania Department of Transportation officials providing an overview of approved upcoming projects for the Greater Hazleton area.



DATE
Tuesday, November 29th

TIME
12 noon to 1 pm

LOCATION
Top of the 80s Restaurant
3 Top of the 80s Road
Hazleton

COST
\$18 in advance
\$20 at the door

Women's Luncheon

Guest speaker will be Cathy Kutchi from Carmen's Country Inn & Gardens and Carmen's Bakery & Deli. She will be providing a hands on demonstration on How to Prepare a Holiday Tablescape. Lunch, 50/50 drawing, doorprize drawings and a business resource table.



DATE
Thursday, December 1st

TIME
5 pm to 7 pm

LOCATION
The Pines Eatery & Spirits
8 W. Broad Street
Downtown Hazleton

COST
Free to attend!

Downtown Holiday Social

Chamber members, employees, co-workers & guests are invited to join in the holiday spirit with their fellow members! Our sponsor, the Standard Speaker, will also be celebrating 150 years in business at this special event!



DATE
Thursday, December 8th

TIME
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

LOCATION
Edgewood by Sand Springs
22 Edgewood Lane
Drums

COST
\$5 members
\$7 non members

Women's Holiday Social

Open to ALL women from throughout Greater Hazleton! Decorating contest winners will be announced with the Grand Prize winner being voted on that evening. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar! Business Resource Table, tricky trays, 50/50 raffle, DJ entertainment by Tony Pacelli & holiday favors!



DATE
Thursday, December 15th

TIME
5 pm to 7 pm

LOCATION
Fyzical Therapy & Balance Center
1324 N. Church Street
Hazle Township

COST
Free to attend!

Networking Mixer

Chamber members, employees, co-workers & guests are invited to enjoy a casual, after-hours event, networking with the business community with one last hurrah before the holidays! Meet the staff at Fyzical Therapy & Balance Center and hear about all of the services they have to offer that you, your businesses and employees! Enjoy an array of complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cocktails!



Downtown Hazleton Alliance for Progress

Retailers wanted! On December 2nd from 5 to 9 pm the Downtown Hazleton Alliance for Progress will be hosting a Wassailfest, which honors a yuletide tradition of going door to door, singing Christmas carols, sharing drinks, and spreading cheer. In this case participants will go from store to store to sample holiday cocktails, while shopping for gifts from over twenty guest retailers and their host downtown merchants. Carolers will be walking around singing songs and encouraging others to join in. If you are an artisan, crafter, photographer, baker, or other small scale retail business that would like to participate in this event, contact Krista Schneider at 570-455-1509 or kschneider@downtownhazleton.org. We will try to match you up with a host.



Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership



The Greater Hazleton Civic Partnership and the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails committee will be hosting the Quarterly NEPA Trails Forum on November 7th. This meeting will be held at The Pines Eatery & Spirits in Downtown Hazleton. It will include a round table and presentations on the current status of many trails in the region. After the meeting, the attendees will be touring the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails on a hike or a bike ride lead by the Civic Partnership staff.

PA DEP will be holding a media presentation on November 4th at 11am at Eckley Miners Village concerning the recent announcement of AML funding that will facilitate the connection of The Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails into Eckley Miners Village. Representatives from several of the groups involved in these projects will be speaking to the media about the future of this project and the funding involved.

Representatives from the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails attended the 2016 Eastern PA Greenways Summit on September 14 and 15 in Bethlehem, PA. The summit is an annual event that allows trails groups to share ideas and hear about the successes of other groups. We were able to bring a lot of good information back with us.



Leadership Hazleton



Web.com hosted the 2016/2017 Junior Leadership Hazleton Students for the session on local economics. The students had a tour of the facility, and listened to a presentation on the history of Web.com and what it takes to be part of the Web.com team. Pictured is Human Resource Manager, Jennifer Shoemaker, who spoke to the class about some interview do's and don'ts which could be used for the job market or college interviews.



Mountain Council of Governments

The Mountain Council of Governments held their annual Municipal Surplus Auction on Saturday, September 17, 2016. MCOG Members sold surplus vehicles, kitchen appliances, chairs and numerous other items. The auction netted the COG a total of \$2,264.20 profit. The proceeds will be used for running the day-to-day affairs of the COG. Please add to the article: Atlantic Packaging Company donated some items to the auction and gave the proceeds to MCOG as good will gesture.

Please Welcome & Support Our Newest Members!

Easton Coach Company

Mr. Charles V. Palmeri
5071 Airport Road, Hazle Township PA 18202
P: (570) 497-4610
CPalmeri@EastonCoach.com
EastonCoach.com

Hansen Solutions LLC

Ms. Heather Santos (Regional)
Mr. Matthew Metrick (Local)
106 Maplewood Drive, Hazle Township PA 18202
P: (570) 861-0204
Heather.Santos@hsntech.com
HsnTech.com

Hazleton Custom Cleaners

Mr. Timothy Lutzko
1091 North Church Street, Hazle Township PA 18202
(570) 455-6211
HazletonCustomCleaners@gmail.com

TheraBloom Inc.

Ms. Lori van Hoekelen
220 S Hancock St, McAdoo PA 18237
P: (570) 430-8485 F: (570) 929-2151
LoriV@VHGreenhouses.com
AlexV@VHGreenhouses.com
TheraBloomInc.com

Tri-Mountain Ventures LLC

Mr. Neal DeAngelo III
8 West Broad Street, Suite 1000, Hazleton PA 18201
(570) 491-8101
neal3@TMVHazleton.com

Advertise Your Business With the Chamber

2 options for excellent exposure!

1.) Newsletter Advertising

Provide us with 825 flyers, fold, stuff and mail them along with this bi-monthly newsletter.

Marketing Investment \$250

Contact Linda to secure your space

2.) Website Advertising

Showcase your company logo, information & link to your website on our Chamber Homepage

Marketing Investment

3 months \$200; 6 months \$350; 1 year \$600

Contact Leann to secure your space

Happy Anniversary to these Chamber Members!

November 2016 Anniversaries

40 YEARS

United American Security

25 YEARS

Mountain City Health & Rehabilitation Center

20 YEARS

Hazleton CareerLink

15 YEARS

Richard E Moore
Hometown Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

10 YEARS

Edward Jones

1 YEAR

The Gardens at Butler
Telekaribe LLC
Deborah J Mistal DO

December 2016 Anniversaries

25 YEARS

Greater Hazleton Philharmonic Society

20 YEARS

BB&T
T J McGeehan Sales & Services

15 YEARS

Kitty's Auto Parts

5 YEARS

Dickie McCamey & Chilcote
Creative Business Interiors

1 YEAR

Expressions
Antonia's Jewelry & Repair
Super Gomas
Cinema & Drafthouse Inc
Kass Logistics
Mature Worker Program

WOULD YOU LIKE TO OFFER A DISCOUNT TO YOUR FELLOW CHAMBER MEMBERS?



Take advantage of this FREE advertising opportunity! Exclusive Offers to Members from Members

DEADLINE to be included on discount card - Friday, December 11th

Discounts MUST be valid for a one-year period
Additional discounts added throughout the year

We promote these discounts throughout the year as follows:

~ Advertise to our membership via email and newsletter ~

~ Listed on our website ~

~ Mailed to our membership ~

~ Members are provided with a discount card ~
up to 10 cards for their employees

Participating businesses are listed on the back of the discount card

Keep your online business listing current!

Visit our website
hazletonchamber.org

Click on
"business directory"

Search for your
business listing,
either by name or
category

If any updates
need to be made,
please contact
Linda

Do you receive our Chamber news via email?

If not, contact
Leann to be added
to our database

OR

Visit our website
hazletonchamber.org
and sign up at
the bottom of our
homepage

**Contact Leann to add your discount
(570) 455-1509 or
lfalabel@hazletonchamber.org**

Holiday Promotion to Highlight Downtown Businesses



The holiday season is just around the corner, and the Downtown Committee of the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce is planning to make this holiday season, in center-city, one of the best in years with their **"Downtown Bucks" Prize Give-away!**

The 2016 Downtown Hazleton holiday promotion began on Wednesday, November 23rd with a special kick-off event at Chaskin Jewelers on Wyoming Street. **The promotion will continue for three weeks.**

How Does the Promotion Work? Participating downtown businesses each contribute \$10, which collectively creates four fifty dollar prizes. The fifty dollar prizes will be "downtown bucks" certificates, which may be redeemed at the participating downtown businesses. Businesses will provide a drop box for patrons to enter to win (no purchase is necessary to enter).

Winners will be chosen, by random draw from all entries collected, on December 14th at Chaskin Jewelers on Wyoming Street.

Businesses will receive information in early November with information on how to participate or you may contact Linda.

Does your business decorate for the holidays?
If so, then enter our women's networking committee...

12th Annual Holiday Decorating Contest



Grand Prize Winner Receives...

Commercial production for spot to be used exclusively on WYLN TV 35 and one month Late Edition commercial package - \$800 value!!!

Grand Prize winner will be chosen by YOUR votes collected at the Women's Holiday Social on Thurs, Dec 8th



Judges Choice Prizes Include...

"4 Skip" One month digital billboard advertising package on Routes 93 and 309 (\$600 value)



1 month personal training with Brad (\$400 value)



1/3 page ad in Panorama Magazine



Up to 5 complimentary women's networking luncheon passes for 2016

Women's Luncheon



Women from throughout Greater Hazleton attended our September Women's Luncheon at the Keystone Job Corps Center. The culinary students at the center provided lunch to all who attended. Our guest speakers were Cal Herring from the Job Corps who provided information on the centers internship program and Cathy Colangelo from Partners In Education who discussed how businesses can partner with area school students and educators through Partners in Education in programs such as Career Awareness Day, Project SAGE, Attendance Matters Program and Job Shadowing opportunities.

Seminars & Trainings



Several seminars and trainings were held over the last two months. Pictured is Zee Medical providing a session on the Facts and Myths of Identity Theft & the Impacts on your Business. Also presented was a session on Harnessing the Power of Mobile Marketing provided by NEPA Score.

Check out the upcoming events section of this newsletter for a Roadway Flagger Training/Certification happening in early November.

Funfest 2016 Wrapup



and the week of the event in planning, logistics and coordinating. We hope you enjoyed the event and welcome your feedback and ideas for next year, by emailing jferry@hazletonchamber.org

A new addition to Funfest 2016 was our mum sale, made possible through generous donation and partnership with van Hoekelen Greenhouse, Inc. Our 2-day event held the weekend after the Labor Day holiday is the start of the fall season, and what better way to kick off fall, then purchasing a mum, fresh picked from van Hoekelen Greenhouses. The proceeds from the sale actually act as the start of fundraising for Funfest 2017. Pictured is Alex van Hoekelen, assisted by a Lackawanna College Policy Academy Cadet when dropping off the mums the day before Funfest began. Thanks to all that made the successful addition possible.

The funfest parade stepped off in high style on Sunday afternoon. New to the lineup this year was the Black Diamond bag pipe band from New York and a colorful new, award-winning mummies band, the Avalon String Band. Local groups, and in particular, the Cadets from the Lackawanna College Police Academy at the Hazleton Center are a highlight for the hometown crowd. The Cadets were a key part of Funfest 2016's success, through their volunteer manpower and muscle for multitude of tasks throughout the weekend. We also appreciate the cooperation of both the Borough of West Hazleton and the City of Hazleton for their police and street departments which make the safety and coordination of the parade possible. Another partner deserving a special thanks are our friends at WYLN TV 35, who taped the parade for the folks at home. New parade anchors in 2016 were Gary Perna and Abbey Piskel from the WYLN TV 35 team who brought the parade to life with their commentary.

Funfest Parade Results:

Outstanding Use of Theme: 1. All That Dancin'; 2. La Casa Dominicana de Hazleton, Inc.; 3. Cub Scout Pack #17
Outstanding School Band: 1. Hazleton Area High School
Outstanding Independent Band: 1. Quaker City String Band; 2. Belverdes Brass Ensemble; 3. Avalon String-Band
Outstanding Float: 1. All That Dancin'; 2. Cub Scout Pack #17; 3. Brandon's Forever Home
Outstanding Marching Group Junior School Organization: West Hazleton Middle School
Outstanding Marching Group Senior School Organization: Hazleton Area High School
Outstanding Marching Group Non School (not a float): Hazleton Latin Festival
Outstanding Drum Major: Hazleton Area High School
Outstanding Percussion: Hazleton Area High School
Outstanding Parade Participant: Renzokukai Wado Ryu Karate Do
Best Appearing Emergency Unit: Hazleton Fire Department
Rocco Colangelo Senior Memorial Award (Funfest Committee Choice): West Hazleton Fire Department - A&S Kinard Trucking (Jeff Miller, driver).



Hope Center and Pastor Edwin Meisis of Good News Church.

The 27th Annual Funfest Car Show displayed over 30 cars from as far away as Williamsport PA. Kris Paulschock, Car Show Committee Chair also added a new element with the display of different race car teams from EVERGREEN Raceway. The combination of the car show and the race track teams made for an automotive dream on Broad street. Mr. Dale Lehman was the hands down winner for Best In Show and, pictured right, proudly stands by his 1970 Plymouth.



Legislative Trip to Harrisburg



Members of our Chamber visited our State Capitol in late September. State Representative Tarah Toohil hosted our members and provided a series of meetings with officials of the Wolf Administration. Pictured from the left is Mary Malone, Chamber President; Donna Barna, Billig-Helmes Insurance and Chamber Chairwoman; Wayne Jefferson, Solospaceman Photo Studios; Jim Dino, Standard Speaker; Joe Lettiere, CAN DO, Inc; Fran Calarco, Hazle Township; Dan Guydish, Chamber Membership Director; Patti Lenahan and Marla Doddo, Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board.

Schmooze a' Palooza



We held a Schmooze a' Palooza event at El Pilon Restaurant on Broad Street in Downtown Hazleton in early September. Those who attended included, sitting from left: De Ann Miller, Hawk Mtn Labs; Nicolene Evans, FNCB; Valerie White, Pregnancy Resource Center of Greater Hazleton and Dan Guydish, Mountain Council of Governments. Standing from left: Hillary Rodriguez, El Pilon Restaurant; Alice Vaccaro and Sarah Cannella, Web.com; Keith Deisenroth, Rapid Results Background Checks; Kristen Corcoran, Penn State Hazleton; Celeste Samec, YMCA/YWCA and Fred Reck, Innoteck Computer Consulting.

Bemis Celebrates 50 Years



Chamber President, Mary Malone presents a certificate of recognition to Bob Caccese and Andre Kralj from Bemis Company Inc in celebration of doing business for 50 years in Valmont Industrial Park. Bemis Hazleton serves the bakery market with packaging for bread, rolls, buns, bagels and sandwich thins. Over 400 loyal employees help with the production of plate making, extruded film, printed film and bag converting to produce over 2.5 billion bread bags annually. The facility has operated in West Hazleton for 50 years under the names of Pollack Paper, St Regis, Princeton Packaging and became a Bemis Facility in 1993.

Club Pub at Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza



An exclusive full-service bar is now available for Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza's Club Seat ticket holders. The Luzerne County Convention Center Authority along with the SMG-management staff at Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre Township officially unveiled the new "Club Pub" for its Club Seat Season Ticket Members located inside the venue at Center Ice. The Club Pub is part of a renovation project to the venue concourse which also included the relocation of the venue's most popular concessions stand, Chickie's & Pete's, to the West Gate Entrance. For information on Full Season and Partial Season Club Seat Memberships, call Mohegan Sun Arena at 570.970.3506 or email premium@mohegansunarenapa.com.

Pictured from left is Jim Petch and Steve Poremba from Mohegan Sun at Casey Plaza; Lindsay Bezick and Ben Eaton from the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce and Leann Fallabel from the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce.

Rachel V. Leskosky, DC



A ribbon cutting ceremony took place to honor opening of Rachel V. Leskosky, DC. Her chiropractic office is located inside Life Expression Wellness Center in Sugarloaf. Picture left to right: Donna Barna, Billig-Helmes Insurance, Chamber Chairwoman; Rikki Lapinsky, De Jesus Family Chiropractic; Dan Guydish, Chamber Membership Director; Myla Bellard, Dr. Denise Karpowicz and Dr. Rowena De Jesus, De Jesus Family Chiropractic; Lisa Scallion; Dr. John Degenhart; Dr. Rachel V. Leskosky; Joanne Gallagher, RCST; Jeff Leskosky; Suzanne Leskosky; Emily Martonik; Emily Degenhart, Grandmother; Nick Bechtel; and Father Ric Polmounter, St. John Bosco Church.

Networking Mixers



Several networking mixers were held recently. Mixers are free to attend for our Chamber members, their employees and guests and provide you with an opportunity to visit the hosting businesses and network with new contacts from throughout our business community.

Pictured left, Heritage Hill Senior Community hosted a mixer at their facility in Weatherly. Pictured from the left is from Heritage Hill Senior Community, Toni Englehart, Denise Langman and Rachel Kapes. Far right is Linda Mantush from the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce.

Pictured in the center, Lewith & Freeman Real Estate hosted a mixer at the Valley View Townhomes, which are located off the Airport Road in Hazleton. Pictured is the team at Lewith & Freeman Real Estate, from the left, Gina Petronio, Cheryl Roman, Joyce Rowlands, Anita Reber, Chelsea Sidari, Jerry Palermo, Donna Santoroski and sitting, Pat Genetti.

And on the right, Providence Place Senior Living hosted a mixer at their facility in Drums. Pictured from the left is Ann Marie Pfeil, Stephanie Miller and Christine Yurchak.

Now is the time to plan a mixer for 2017!

Limited space is available for mixer sponsorships in 2017
Filled on a first-come-first-served basis

Contact Leann for details!

Laurel Mall Celebrates New Businesses



A lot of great additions and changes have been taking place at the Laurel Mall recently.

Pictured left Bath Fitter has relocated into a store front in the Dunham's wing of the mall. Pictured left to right is Tyler Breznitsky, representing US Congressman Lou Barletta; Lisa Arruzzo, Laurel Mall; Bryan Boote, Bath Fitter; Donna Barna, Billig-Helmes Insurance and Chamber Chairwoman; Rocco Arruzzo, Laurel Mall and Debra Reznick, representing PA State Representative Tarah Toohil.

Pictured on the right is the new BEAM Interactive Game, which is also located in the Dunham's wing. Pictured left to right is Debra Reznick, representing PA State Rep. Tarah Toohil; Rocco Arruzzo, Laurel Mall; Peyton O'Brien; Lisa Arruzzo, Laurel Mall; Mary Malone, Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce; Donna Barna, Billig-Helmes Insurance and Chamber Chairwoman and Tyler Breznitsky, representing US Congressman Lou Barletta.

The Laurel Mall also celebrated additional ribbon cutting ceremonies for new businesses located in the mall including Reviello Insurance Agency, CookFella's Kitchen and the new location of GNC.

Spotlight On Members

DO YOU HAVE “NEWSWORTHY” INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS? If so, email it to jjerry@hazletonchamber.org

The **Northeast Regional Cancer Center** held their Annual Cancer Survivors Day on September 24th at McDade Park in Scranton.

The **Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance** held their Annual Dinner on Wednesday, September 28th Mohegan Sun Pocono. The dinner was well attended by over 350 business and community leaders from around the region reaching a milestone in attendance. This year’s keynote speaker was David T. Feinberg, M.D., MBA-president and CEO of Geisinger Health System.

Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)—Hazleton News: Since becoming a Level IV Trauma Center on November 1st, 2015, the trauma program at has continued to provide optimal care and reduce the likelihood of death or disability to injured patients who enter their emergency department. Because of the continued efforts of incessantly being prepared to treat the most serious life-threatening and disabling injuries, the PA Systems Trauma Foundation has re-accredited LVH–Hazleton as a Level IV Trauma Center for the next three years. This is the maximum number of years for which a trauma center may be accredited. Lehigh Valley Physician Group Hazleton recently welcomed Shakuntala Varhade, M.D., to its medical group. Varhade will be practicing pediatrics at LVPG Pediatrics Hazleton Shopping Center location and Brookhill Plaza locations.

FNCB News: First National Community Bancorp, Inc., the parent company of Dunmore-based FNCB Bank, announced that effective October 17th, the corporate name will change to FNCB Bancorp, Inc. This corresponding holding company name change better reflects the new identity of the holding company’s subsidiary – FNCB Bank.

Criterium-Peters Engineers, Inc. now offers Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), which are increasingly the go to method in commercial insurance inspections and building inspections, particularly for property review and inspection.

McNealis Insurance Service, Inc., Allstate Insurance Company relocated its Tamaqua Agency. McNealis Insurance Services is now located at 220 Claremont Ave. Ste. 4 Tamaqua, PA. 18252. They are also located at 1000 N. Sherman Ct. Hazleton, PA 18201.

American Eagle Outfitters Foundation donated \$5,000 to the **United Way of Greater Hazleton**, which was divided among five programs serving youths in the Hazleton area. Recipients included: Freeland YMCA, Minsi Trails Boy Scout Council, Helping Hands Society, Brandon’s Forever Home and the Hazleton Integration Project.

The **Helping Hands Society** received a \$25k grant the First Federal Charitable Foundation of Hazleton. The grant will be used for an educational therapy room.

George J. Hayden, Inc. is helping two scouts from Girl Scout Troop 30358 to earn their Bronze Award for implementing a sustainable project that benefits their community. The girls have placed recycling bins throughout the Hayden facility to collect plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper, newspaper and cardboard for recycling.

The **Greater Hazleton Senior Citizens Services Center** was awarded a \$10,000 grant by the First Federal Charitable Foundation of Hazleton. The center will use the grant to install security cameras at the property.

Customers of **Giant Food Stores** and Martin’s Food Markets donated \$588,075 during the Bag Hunger campaign held in September in all stores to support local and regional food banks in four states.

Fairway Subaru is taking part in the Subaru Loves Learning book donation event and donated 125 books to Freeland Elementary/Middle School.

The **Wilkes-Barre/Scranton RailRiders** made a donation of \$655 to Brandon’s Forever Home from a Pierogie Night fundraiser held at the stadium to raise awareness regarding foster children and adoption.

Penn State Hazleton News: A Community Day event was held to showcase the campus and community groups. They offered activities at no cost to the public on the 125 acre campus. Jennifer LaRegina as campus health nurse.

CAN DO presented their 9th annual Curb Appeal Awards to their industrial park and corporate center tenants who have beautified and maintained the visual appeal of their properties. Awards were presented to Quad Graphics, Meadow Burke, Tosca Inc, BestCigarPrices.com, and PSI Container.

Lackawanna College has been named one of the Best Places to Work in PA for 2016, its third consecutive honor in the awards program.

The **United Way of Greater Hazleton** kicked off their 2016/17 fundraiser at the Hazleton Regional Airport with a “Top Fun” theme, and homage to the popular “Top Gun” film from 1986.

Employees of **The Hershey Company** presented a \$7,500 donation to Brandon’s Forever Home. The donation was received through Hershey’s corporate office, which once a year recognizes employees and their accomplishments within their communities.

As part of the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of 9/11, **Heritage Hill Senior Community** and some of their veteran residents presented Weather ambulance, firefighters and police with a tray of patriotic decorated cupcakes and balloons.

Comfort Keepers presented the VFW Post 8253, West Hazleton with a \$1,300 donation. The post will use the funds for veterans support and assistance as well as upkeep of the post.

Tony Carlucci has been named the new president and general manager of **Mohegan Sun Pocono**.

The **Hamister Group LLC** recently acquired three local hotels in Hazleton/Hazle Township, the Hampton Inn, Mariott Fairfield Inn and Suites, and Residence Inn by Mariott.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Hazleton Custom Cleaners is located at 1091 North Church Street in the Church Hill Mall and is owned by Timothy Lutzko. Phone: 570-455-6211, email: hazletoncustomcleaners@gmail.com

They wash and fold laundry, provide dry cleaning services, clean wedding dresses, blankets and spreads.

Hansen Solutions LLC is located at 106 Maplewood Drive in Hazle Township. Heather Santos is the HR Generalist/Recruiter. Phone: 570-861-0204, email: heather.santos@hsntech.com, website: hsntech.com

They are a customer care & billing solutions provider that develops, implements & supports proprietary software, and optimizes critical billing & operational processes, allowing customers to realize their potential to grow, evolve and thrive in their markets.

Easton Coach Company is located at 1200 Conroy Place in Easton, PA. Charles V. Palmeri is the Vice President and General Manager. Phone: 610-360-8556, Fax: 610-253-4914, Email: cpalmeri@eastoncoach.com, Website: eastoncoach.com
They are a transportation company providing paratransit vans, luxury motorcoaches and shuttle services.

TheraBloom Inc is located at 220 South Hancock Street in McAdoo. Lori van Hoekelen is the CEO. Phone: 570-430-8485, Fax: 570-929-2151, Email: lori@vhgreenhouses.com, Website: therabloominc.com
They are a grower/processor of medical marijuana. They grow and cultivate the highest quality medicine and assure that quality to its final form (i.e. oils, topicals, tinctures). Doing this all in the most efficient and environmentally friendly greenhouse setting.

DISCLAIMER: The Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce is not responsible for the content of this publication.

Red Carpet Breakfasts



Continuing with our monthly Red Carpet Breakfast programs, in August (pictured left), our program was held at Genetti Catering and sponsored by Billig-Helmes Insurance. The guest speakers were Luzerne County District Attorney Stephanie Salavantis, City of Hazleton Police Chief Jerry Speziale and Borough of West Hazleton Police Chief Brian Buglio.



The September breakfast (pictured center) was held at Top of the 80’s Restaurant and sponsored by Heritage Hill Senior Community. Our guest speaker was State Representative Tarah Toohil.



And then the October breakfast (pictured right) was held at The Pines Eatery & Spirits and sponsored by Coordinated Health. Our guest speaker was Dr. Emil DiIorio, CEO of Coordinated Health.



On September 8th both Mary Malone, Chamber President and Kevin O'Donnell, CAN DO President, participated in a panel discussion of the House Democratic Policy Committee, related to what specific initiatives or policies worked or failed to attract and retain jobs that provide family sustaining wages for the Commonwealth and particularly here in NEPA. The invitation to give testimony came from State Representative Gerald Mullery.

Picture from the left is Rep Mark Longietti; Rep Dom Costa; Rep Gerald Mullery and Rep Eddie Day Pashinski.