## Communities



**TCACC Mission:** As the primary business advocate, the TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce provides relevant membership services and proactive leadership to enhance economic opportunity and quality of life within our region.

## Table of Contents

President's Message	35
Membership Pages36,	37
Calendar of Events	39
Annual Dinner Recap	40
End of Chamber Section	43
Leadership Tri-County	44

CONNECT WITH YOUR TRICOUNTY AREA CHAMBER:

> 152 E. High St., Suite 360, Pottstown, PA 19464

• TEL: 610.326.2900 • FAX: 610.970.9705

• EMAIL: info@tricountyareachamber.com

Eileen Dautrich, President, eileen@tricountyareachamber.com

Michele Barrett, Events & Marketing Director michele@tricountyareachamber.com

Gregory Glenn, Member Relations Director, gregory@tricountyareachamber.com

Melissa Shainline, Communications and Administrative Director, melissa@tricountyareachamber.com

# TRICOUNTY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The 2019-2020 program year is starting! The Chamber offers many opportunities for Members to create additional exposure and reach a larger audience through various sponsorship and marketing packages. See below for more details!

# CREATE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE CHAMBER

# **Become a Partner!**

**Community Partner** 

## **Connections Partner**

## **Commerce Partner**

These packages include event sponsorship, increased presence within the Chamber, and various marketing opportunities for your business!

> Information sessions being held on Monday, June 10 - 11:30 AM to 1 PM Monday, June 17 - 8:30 to 10 AM

For more information or to register for a session, please contact Michele Barrett at 610.326.2900 or michele@tricountyareachamber.com.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS WHAT WE DO!

## **BENEFITS, NEWS, AND MORE!**

## **WELCOME APPROVED NEW MEMBERS!**

Congratulations to the businesses listed below. Their applications were approved by the Board of Directors in May.

#### Able Masonry & Painting 480 Spruce St. Pottstown, PA 19464 267.455.7904

www.ablemandp.com Masonry Contractors ABLE Masonry & Painting provides quality maintenance and renovation for residential and commercial properties in the tricounty area. Our goal is to create the timeless quality work you deserve. With decades of experience, ABLE Masonry & Painting offers a wide range of services within the masonry and painting industries.

#### All-Time Self Storage 110 Kline Rd. Royersford, PA 19468 484.791.2060 www.alltimeselfstorage.

com

Self-Storage Units At All-Time Self Storage, our storage experts are devoted to making sure that all of your storage needs are fulfilled. From storage units to moving and packing supplies, we have everything you need at our locations. Stop by today to see why we are the answer to all your storage needs!

#### DASH Fitness Studio 211 E. High St. Pottstown, PA 19464 610.220.2123

#### www.dash-fitness.com

Health Clubs / Fitness Centers / Gyms

DASH is a boutique fitness studio that elevates the group workout experience with great instructors and great programming to deliver great results. Smaller class sizes allow our caring and credentialed instructors to treat everyone like a VIP.

#### Dease's Auto & Cycles 51 South Adams St. Pottstown, PA 19464 484.505.6703

Auto Repairs / Services, Motorcycle Sales / Service Kiddie Academy of Phoenixville 10 Chrisevyn Ln. Phoenixville, PA 19460 610.350.9317 www.kiddieacademy.com /phoenixville Day Care Providers – Child,

Schools / Colleges / Education Kiddie Academy gives worldclass care focused on filling your child's days with learning, exploration and fun. Our Life Essentials® educational curriculum is made to excite and enlighten the minds of children. Parents agree — our program offers the crucial ingredients to prepare children for school and for life. Pottstown, PA 19464

#### Kiddie Academy of Royersford 525 N. Lewis Rd. Royersford, PA 19468 610.350.9317

#### www.kiddieacademy.com /royersford

Day Care Providers – Child, Schools / Colleges / Education Kiddie Academy gives worldclass care focused on filling your child's days with learning, exploration and fun. Our Life Essentials® educational curriculum is made to excite and enlighten the minds of children. Parents agree — our program offers the crucial ingredients to prepare children for school and for life.

#### KPInterface 477 N. Lewis Rd. Suite 210 Limerick, PA 19468 610.994.9800

www.kpinterface.com Computer Consultants / Support Services

KPInterface helps clients utilize technology in a unique way to make their business more productive and profitable. We utilize a proprietary system of services and tools to identify the specific business challenges caused by technology, develop a strategic plan and roadmap, and implement solutions and best practices to solve those challenges.

#### The Landing of Collegeville 1421 S. Collegeville Rd. Collegeville, PA 19426 484.854.1600

#### www.thelandingofcollegeville.com

Retirement Communities The Landing of Collegeville offers personal care and memory care services in Collegeville, Pennsylvania. Our senior care services are holistic and personcentered, delivered in a community with a culture that has "a whole lotta heart". You will notice it from your first visit with us. Our residents and staff members live intentionally, living every day with a whole lotta purpose, fun, and heart. More than our motto, a whole lotta heart is the way we go through life. It's a promise to our residents, their families, and each other

Rambo Home Inspections 1477 Sunset Dr. Pottstown, PA 19464 610.389.8620 www.facebook.com/rambohomeinspections Home Inspections / Real Estate uas/Drone photography, Radon Testing,

raphy, Radon Testing, Commercial Real Estate and Home Inspections. Rambo Home Inspections is the solution to all your home inspection needs. We take great pride in our extreme professionalism, timeliness, and superior customer service on every job. We make sure to develop a lasting relationship, so that the next time service is needed, there will be no question on who to call. Satisfaction guaranteed!

United Real Estate/ Rebecca Rambo 1477 Sunset Dr. Pottstown, PA 19464 215.356.6813 www.ramborealestate1. com

Real Estate – Commercial / Industrial, Real Estate -Residential

Uptown Flavors LLC 16 S. High Keim St. Pottstown, PA 19464 484.300.3716 Caterers / Banquet Services, Food Products – Specialty, Restaurants / Clubs

#### Valley Lock and Door Corporation 334 Washington St. East Greenville, PA 18041 267.923.5759 www.valleylockanddoor.com

Window / Door Contractors Valley Lock & Door provides repairs, service work and installations in residential and commercial settings on garage doors and openers, entry doors and storm doors, along with providing locksmith services including lockouts.

#### You Evolving Now LLC 939 Baywood Ave. Wernersville, PA 19565 610.406.1852 www.youevolvingnow.

com Public Speaking Consultants, Coaching – Business / Life A life-enrichment company enhancing work/life harmony and leadership on-site for Employees, Teams, and Students; allowing an EVOLUTION in their 4 P's: as People, Partners, Parents, and Professionals!

## CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

(ACCORDING TO TCACC RECORDS) Happy Anniversary to the following Members:

About All Floors

Amy's Upcycles, LLC

Member Renewals

Thank you to the following Members who renewed

their commitment to make your Chamber a PRIORITY!

NAMI PA

Montgomery County

Patriot Environmental

Management, LLC

PECO

Penn Foundation, Inc.

**Pottstown Cluster of** 

**Religious Communities** 

**RE/MAX Achievers Inc.** 

**Rhoads Limousine** 

Service, Inc.

Richard A. Zuber Realty

Schuylkill Holdings

Spring Ford Country Club

Tompkins Insurance

Translogistics, Inc.

Ultraflex Systems, Inc.

Valley Forge Tourism &

**Convention Board** 

West Pottsgrove

Township

Wings of Victory Outreach Corporation

#### 40 YEARS

McDonald's – Pottstown

Sawchuk's Garage, Inc. 30 YEARS

Hickory Valley Golf Club 12 YEARS

H & H Systems, Inc. Jacquet Mid Atlantic, Inc.

1 YEAR Seedcopa

SOS Group Inc."

Are you Celebrating 25, 50, 75 Years? If your Chamber Member company is celebrating a significant anniversary then the Chamber needs to know! The Chamber strives to recognize their Members for their success. Contact **Michele Barrett at** 610.326.2900 or **michele@tricountyarea chamber.com** 

#### ARCpoint Labs of Limerick Bally Spring Inn Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. Bause Catered Events Blatt Construction The Body-Borneman <u>Companies</u> Boenning & Scattergood, Inc. Carroll Engineering <u>Corporation</u> Chester County Food Bank Cinecore Media Community Health & Dental Care C. Raymond Davis & Sons, Inc. Frantz, P. Richard, A.I.A., Architect Erseer Advanced

Fraser Advanced Information Systems Fulton Bank GNG All Holiday Decorators

KenCrest EmployNet Moyer-Drabick & Associates, Ltd. Wrigley's Business Products and Services Yucha Medical Pain Management & Chiropractic Rehabilitation



## TRICOUNTY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

When purchasing goods and services, please keep these businesses as well as other TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce Members in mind while you **Always Buy Chamber!** 

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS WHAT WE DO!



## **BENEFITS, NEWS, AND MORE!**



# PODCAST GUIDE

## **UPCOMING GUESTS**

- June 4 Len Gieseler of Evans, Hauseman & Richard, Inc.
- June 11 Dennis Gehman of Gehman Design Remodeling
- June 18 Terese Brittingham of Keller Williams Realty Group
- June 25 Gina Spease of Once Upon A Time Consignment Boutique

## HOW DO I LISTEN?

1. Search for any of the following FREE podcast streaming apps below in your smartphone's app store and download the app

2. In the app, search "TriCounty Chamber Chat"

3. Listen and enjoy!



## CAN I BE A PODCAST GUEST?

We welcome all Chamber Members to be featured on Chamber Chat! This is a great opportunity to create additional exposure for your business and share your story with others.

For all inquiries, please contact podcast@tricountyareachamber.com

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS WHAT WE DO!







## LEADERCAST 2019

On May 10, Members gathered at New Hanover United Methodist Church for a live simulcast of Leadercast: Leading Healthy Teams. This special conference, featuring nine leadership experts, gave Members the opportunity to master the art and science of developing and leading healthy teams in just one day.

Thank you to our sponsor for this event:





Food for this event was courtesy of our Member, Bause Catered Events.

## **FRESHMEN FORUM**

On April 23, U.S. Representatives Chrissy Houlahan and Madeleine Dean shared their time with Chamber Members to discuss committee/subcommittee assignments, caucuses and legislative priorities for 2019. Ken Johnson, executive director of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Sam Denisco, Vice President of the PA Chamber of Business & Industry also shared brief overviews of their 2019 priorities.





Thank you to all who dedicated their time to this special event, and thank you to Montgomery County Community College for serving as the TriCounty Chamber's Advocacy Sponsor and for hosting the event in the Innovation Hub space.



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 $\frac{1}{8:30 - 10}$  AM

### NETWODVING

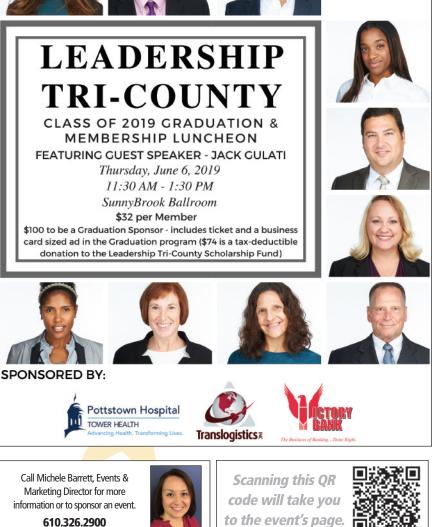
٦٢ <sup>*</sup> * Mark Yo		
NETWORKING		
Thurs., June 6	Membership Luncheon: Leadership Tri-County	
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	SunnyBrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Rd., Pottstown, PA 19464 Join us to see the Leadership Tri-County Class of 2019 present the projects that they have been working on diligently since October, and then celebrate graduation! The projects and the local non-profit organizations they are benefiting are listed below:	
Guest Speaker: Jack Gulati	<ul> <li>An Event/Funding Plan that "Works" – for Pottstown Works</li> <li>On the Rise – for Greater Pottstown Tennis &amp; Learning</li> <li>Pay No Attention to the Organization Behind the Curtain – for TriCounty Community Network</li> <li>Developing our Youth – Leadership Tri-County</li> <li>H.R. Practices – Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities</li> <li>\$26 per Member (prepaid on or before 5/30); \$32 per Member (invoiced or after 5/30); \$50 per non-Member</li> <li>\$100 – Congratulate the Class of 2019 and promote your business Includes a business card-sized advertisement in the Graduation program and lunch. \$74 is a tax-deductible donation to the Leadership Tri-County Scholarship Fund.</li> </ul>	
	Sponsors: Pottstown Hospital Tower Health; The Victory Bank Translogistics, Inc.	
Mon., June 10 11:30 AM – 1 PM	<b>Create Business Opportunities Through the Chamber</b> <i>TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce, 152 E. High St., Suite 360,</i> <i>Pottstown, PA 19464</i> Attend this luncheon session to network with TCACC members in good standing and to learn more about creating business opportunities through the TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce. Michele Barrett, Events & Marketing Director, Eileen Dautrich, President, and Jennifer O'Donnell Director of Leadership Tri-County will provide an overview of the 2019 2020 program year and discuss opportunities for you to expand and improve your exposure through the Chamber. There will also be smal group discussion and Q&A to help guide you in your marketing decisions Please only choose one session to attend (6/10 or 6/17). <b>No Charge. Limited to 30 Members in Good Standing. Complimentary meal</b>	
Tues., June 11	Chamber Eats and Greets	
11:30 AM – 1 PM	<b>TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce</b> , 152 E. High St., Suite 360, Pottstown, PA 19464 Interact with both new and established Members at this special luncheon. Pitch your 30 second "commercial" about your business, learn about various pro- grams, committees, and volunteer opportunities, and meet the Chamber staff No Charge; Members Only.	
Mon., June 17 8:30 – 10 AM	Create Business Opportunities Through the Chamber TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce, 152 E. High St., Suite 360, Pottstown, PA 19464 Attend this luncheon session to network with TCACC members in good standing and to learn more about creating business opportunities through the TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce. Michele Barrett, Events & Marketing Director, Eileen Dautrich, President, and Jennifer O'Donnell Director of Leadership Tri-County will provide an overview of the 2019 2020 program year and discuss opportunities for you to expand and improve your exposure through the Chamber. There will also be smal group discussion and Q&A to help guide you in your marketing decisions Please only choose one session to attend (6/10 or 6/17). No Charge. Limited to 30 Members in Good Standing. Complimentary meal	
Thurs., June 20	Pottstown Progress Luncheon	
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM	<ul> <li>SunnyBrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Rd., Pottstown 19464</li> <li>This special event will feature:</li> <li>Pioneers of the Good Life who chose Pottstown over the past decades</li> <li>Panel presentation reflecting on Pottstown's History and Progress</li> <li>Highlight of the future of Pottstown</li> <li>Expo showcasing Pottstown businesses</li> <li>\$45 per Member; \$300 per Member table of 8; \$60 per non-Member</li> <li>Presenting Sponsor: Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc.</li> <li>Platinum Sponsors: CEDARVILLE Engineering Group, LLC; Montgomery</li> <li>County Community College; Pottstown Hospital Tower Health; The Victory Bank</li> <li>Gold Sponsors: O'Donnell, Weiss &amp; Mattei, P.C.; Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.; Tompkins VIST Bank</li> <li>Silver Sponsors: Citadel Federal Credit Union; Diamond Credit Union, Hobart's Run</li> <li>Additional Sponsorship Opportunities Available</li> </ul>	

Marketing LLC. Attendees will discover an emerging technology that helps businesses to better connect and engage with current and potential customers. In short, automated bots have the potential to completely revolutionize the face of customer service, marketing and sales as we know it -- and for the better. No Charge; Members Only. Tues., June 25 **Business Card Exchange** Diamond Credit Union, 100 Diamond Way, Suite 101, Royersford, 5-7 PM PA 19468 A Fun in the Sun networking event! Finger foods, beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages will be offered. Guests are invited to tour the facility. Door prizes will be drawn! Giveaways and entertainment provided. No Charge; Members Only. Tues., July 16 LEYP into Camp Son-Shine 10 AM - 12 PM St. Paul's UCC, 927 N. Franklin Street, Pottstown, PA 19464 We will assist with morning preparation and packing lunches for the camp kids. Lunch is served at 12:00. Please wear closed-toe shoes. Hairnets and gloves will be provided at the venue. Seeking 5-6 volunteers. No Charge. LEADERSHIP TRI-COUNT

Pottstown, PA 19464

TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce, 152 E. High St., Suite 360,

Presented by Drew Griffin, Co-Founder and Developer of Delicious



Register today; connect tomorrow. Visit tricountyareachamber.com or call 610.326.2900.



422business.com and 422bizmag.com

610.326.2900

**ROUTE 422 BUSINESS ADVISOR** 



# **ANNUAL DINNER 2019**



# Develop Your Winning Edge

The TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce hosted its 2019 Annual Dinner on April 17 at RiverCrest Golf Club & Preserve, Phoenixville.

Members mingled and networked while enjoying delicious appetizers before dinner.

The Chamber presented several awards to recognize outstanding Members, and we congratulate the winners:

Start-Up Business: E.G. Pottstown, LLC – Dan Glennon and Stephen Everett

Small Business: **Pottstown United Brewing Company – Adam and Erin Burke** 







Community Based Organization: GreenAllies – Michael Lance

Volunteer of The Year : Bill Vitiello of The Victory Bank

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Chamber Champion: The Victory Bank

Best Places to Work Recognition -

The following Members were recognized by Best Companies Group as some of the best places to work in Pennsylvania:

> <u>Diamond Credit Union</u> Gateway Ticketing <u>Systems, Inc.</u> <u>Sealstrip Corporation</u> Traffic Planning and <u>Design, Inc.</u>

Following the presentation of the awards, keynote speaker Shawn Harper shared his amazing story with attendees. A former NFL player and current author and business owner, Shawn overcame many obstacles and adversity to reach success. His story left attendees feeling encouraged and inspired. After dinner, additional networking and a dessert buffet were enjoyed during the closing reception. The Chamber then selected the winners of the many raffle prizes generously donated by our Members.

Thank you to **Don Carrick, Studio 413**, for taking pictures during the event. To view additional pictures from the evening, please visit the Photo Gallery on the Chamber's website – tricountyareachamber.com. *All photos on this page and the website are credit of Don Carrick.* 

The Chamber would like to thank the sponsors, raffle prize donors, and attendees for making this event a success.

Shawn Harper

# *Thank you to our sponsors for this event:*

### **PLATINUM SPONSORS**



### **GOLD SPONSORS**





SILVER SPONSORS









O'Donnell, Weiss & Mattei, P.C.





TOMPKINS VIST Bank

## PATRON SPONSORS

Generation.

Exelon

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 Citadel Federal Credit Union

 Courtyard by Marriott Collegeville

 Courtyard by Marriott Collegeville

 Fraser Advanced

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 Frederick Living

 Global Advanced Metals

 Greater Pottstown Tennis &

 Learning

 The Hill School

 Keller Williams Realty Group

 Longstreth Sporting Goods, LLC

 RiverCrest Golf Club & Preserve

 Sealstrip Corporation

 Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.

 Valley Forge Tourism &

 Convention Board

## Thank you to the companies who donated raffle prizes:

American Heritage Federal Credit Union Attract, Engage, Inspire, LLC Barbara Hayman Designs/ Decorating Den Interiors Beverly's Pastry Shop CEDARVILLE Engineering Group, LLC Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust Gracie's 21st Century Café & Catering Greater Pottstown Tennis & Learning Keller Williams Realty Group Lisa's Ultimate Image Longstreth Sporting Goods, LLC O'Donnell, Weiss & Mattei, P.C. Once Upon A Time Consignment Boutique RiverCrest Golf Club & Preserve Rolfing by Robert Toporek Schultz Technology Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area Sealstrip Corporation Steel River Playhouse Swamp Door Antiques & Curiosities, LLC The Copperfield Inn at Lakeside The Victory Bank Translogistics, Inc.

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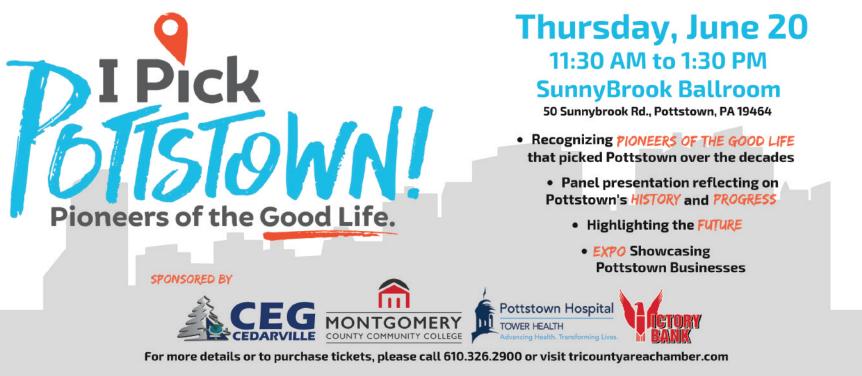




PRESENTED BY :

TRICOUNTY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





## **E-CYCLING**

On April 22, Members celebrated Earth Day by participating in E-Cycling. Made possible by **The Lewis Group** and Beacon Container Corp., this event allowed Members to safely discard of unwanted business equipment and electronics. A total of 10,742 lbs. of equipment and electronics were recycled!

ENVIRO

800-2

www.lewise

Large office printers were among the many items accepted for recycling.

This event was a great way to dispose of old phones and miscellaneous electronics that can otherwise be difficult to get rid of.





E NVIRONMENTAL

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## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

June's Business Card Exchange is at Diamond Credit Union. Learn more about them at the event on Tuesday, June 25 from 5 – 7 PM, located at 100 Diamond Way, Suite 101, Royersford, PA 19468.





Diamond Credit Union is the 16th largest credit union in Pennsylvania and is headquartered in Pottstown, Pa., with five additional branches, including one in Royersford. Diamond serves 60,000 members in Berks County and the Tri-County Region.

When you join Diamond Credit Union, it means more than just opening a new bank account. You become part of a unique financial institution that measures profits by your success. You're a

That's younity.

part of younity! Known for exceptional service, Diamond offers a full array of financial services from checking and savings, auto loans, mortgages, business services, and excellent online and mobile account tools

For more information about Diamond Credit Union, please visit diamondcu.org.

#### 2018 - 2019 TCACC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **& BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD** 

#### Baran Schultz, CEO, Schultz Technology

**CHAIR ELECT** 

Rich Newell, CEO, Pottstown Hospital Tower Health

TREASURER April Barkasi, President & CEO, CEDARVILLE Engineering Group, LLC

**IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN** 

Richard Graver, Chief Lending Officer, The Victory Bank SOLICITOR

Joseph K. Koury, O'Donnell, Weiss & Mattei, P.C.

SECRETARY Eileen Dautrich, President, TCACC

**JUNE 2019** 

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Bill Breslawski, Maillie LLP Sean Deviney, The Body-Borneman Companies

Twila Fisher. The Hill School

Peggy Lee-Clark, Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc. Lee Levengood, Everything Printing

Rick Libra, Exelon Lisa Lightcap, Tompkins VIST Bank

Eric Phillips, Dana Incorporated Greg Richardson, Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.

Elaine Schaeffer, Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area Dr. William Shirk, Pottsgrove School District

Michael Stevens, BB&T

## **RIBBON CUTTING**

Kiki Vodka Bar, 300 E. High St., Pottstown, PA 19464



Celebrate your new business or new location by hosting a Ribbon Cutting/Grand Opening. The TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce provides this complimentary service to ALL businesses in the tri-county region.

For more details or to schedule your Ribbon Cutting, please contact Michele Barrett, Events & Marketing Director, at 610.326.2900 or michele@tricountyareachamber.com.

## **REFRESH FRIDAY**



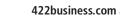
## EMAIL **MARKETING: HOW TO GET BETTER** RESULTS

On May 24, Dawn Wivell of Dawn Wivell Writing Services shared helpful tips for businesses to improve their email marketing and achieve increased response and engagement. Thank you to everyone who attended!

# Rofrosh

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS WHAT WE DO!





# Leadership A Day with Law Enforcement TRICOUNTY and First Responders



#### By Monique Johnson, Inside Sales Manager, Translogistics, Inc.

There are giraffes, tigers and lions out there is something I thought I'd never hear from the inside of prison walls. It was an intense Thursday morning as the Leadership Tri-County group traveled to Berks County Jail (1) located about 10 miles

outside of the inner-city of Reading, Pennsylvania. When we arrived at the jail we stripped our belongings and headed into the staff room where we were greeted by Warden Janine L. Quigley, Captain Michael Castro and Special Operations Guard. We went over the jail's history and I was surprised with how many resources there are in place to help the population in jail overcome mental illnesses. A vast amount of the inmate population at BCJ struggles with mental health. The county judicial system is taking that into consideration and deterring possible inmates away from jail and into programs to help with their mental health instead of sending them directly to jail on their first offense if they are not a threat to themselves or to society. After the history lesson it was time to venture through the jail. Boy, did we get an up-close, in-depth tour! We learned quickly that if we hear a set of keys jingle, to hug the wall.



I didn't realize that we would be walking among the inmates collectively. After we made our way through the women's block and into the classroom, we then made our way into the "hole" which is a temporary solitary confinement wing for inmates who have displayed poor behavior. Nothing differentiated the prisoners from us at that moment, we were all confined together. This is the moment my colleagues and I concluded that we are just one mistake away from being in the same situation as the inmates.

Next stop, a class favorite, Lily's Grill for lunch! There are always interesting conversations happening around the table at Lily's Grill. Once lunch was over, we ironically J-walked over to the Borough of Pottstown Police Department **(2)** for a tour (Captain Long if you're reading, we are sorry!)



As we were engaging on the tour, the Police were detaining a prisoner in the holding cells. It was exciting to see where the Police stored evidence, finger-printed the potential inmates, and scoped out the different patrol vehicles. There were absolutely no dull moments in this session. Next up, was the SWAT range in Berks County (3).

We see shows like S.W.A.T. on TV but to be apart of a demonstration live and in-color is a completely different level of excitement! A day of thrill is exactly what this session entailed. There was no falling asleep for me! Once we arrived at the range we met the entire Chest-Mont Emergency Response Team and even the K9 Response dog Taz. The demonstration of a hostage situation began with a loud boom mimicking that of a grenade that cued the team to rescue the hostage, played by our own group mate, Jeanna. After the enactment we got to see the collection of gadgets they use during active pursuit



and had the opportunity to sit in the S.W.A.T. patrol vehicle that weighs over 65 tons. Try rolling down High Street in that thing! Finally, we made our way over to the Goodwill Steam Fire Company (4) for a presentation and a tour of the firehouse by Chief of EMS, Mike Campeggio and Firefighter Kevin. It was refreshing to see just how much the Goodwill Steam Fire company is involved in the community. Whether it's selling Mother's Day flowers, catering at schools or participating in local parades, the squad is always looking for avenues to raise awareness and funds for the house and to be a part of the community. That to me is what this entire program was about, diving deep in your community, figuring out what is already out there and bridging the gap between the corporate world and the local community. It is simply amazing to be apart of something much bigger than myself! I encourage anyone to be a part of this journey who has the passion and desire to step out of their comfort zones to do something great in the community.



## JOIN THE CLASS OF 2020!

Learn how this ten-month, tuition based, leadership and professional development program can equip you or a member of your organizational staff with the skills and understanding of the problems, opportunities, and resources throughout the tri-county region to effectively serve on a nonprofit board and sustain community participation and involvement. Now enrolling for the Class of 2020. Applications due June 30, 2019. Class starts in September.



jennifer@tricountyareachamber.com.



MAKE AN IMPACT – JOIN THE CLASS OF 2020!

