

## Together We Thrive Virtual Awards Ceremony: A Celebration of Resiliency and Innovation

The Chamber's Annual Awards Ceremony, held as a live gala event for the past 60 years, was turned into a virtual event that celebrated the contributions of member companies to pandemic efforts in a year unlike any other.



Held on November 12th via Zoom, Together We Thrive was emceed by local comedian, motivational speaker and Chamber member Theresa Hummel-Krallinger of High-Five Performance.

Each of the awardees was recognized for pivoting during the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 to fill a need that marked a quick and distinct departure from their usual business initiatives.

Boardroom Spirits, a Lansdale-based local microdistillery, responded to the sudden high



Marat Mamedov, Co-Owner  
Boardroom Spirits

demand for hand sanitizer. They figured out how to make ethanol, a by-product of the distilling process, into hand sanitizer and

then produced and made it available for free. As of November, 2020, they had given away 1,000 gallons of the new product. Co-owner Marat Mamedov accepted the award on behalf of the company.

When faced with the shutdown of the hospitality industry in the first quarter of 2020, A to Z Party Rental switched from providing equipment for the area's events and



Melani Kodikian, President  
A to Z Party Rental

celebrations to providing tents for the community's COVID-19 testing sites. They also provided tents to businesses that needed outdoor screening capabilities, and to those hosting outdoor gatherings including drive-through funerals. Melani Kodikian, President of A to Z Party Rental, accepted the award.

Annie International, a global beauty supply company, used their experience in manufacturing, global demand, and the ability to manage logistics to manufacture and distribute face masks as the pandemic surged.



Kevin Shinn, President  
Annie International

They created a Medical PPE Division to serve corporate, institutional, and retail medical needs throughout the U.S. and the world. As of November, 2020, they were providing more than 45 million masks weekly. President Kevin Shinn and Executive Director of Sales and Operations Steven Miller accepted the award.

David Zellers, Director of Commerce, Montgomery County, was presented with The Chamber's first Partnership Award. The

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## PROSPECTOR

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### Chamber Satellite Office

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



What a year it has been. At the writing of this message, a vaccine is enroute to local hospitals for a virus that was unknown to us one year ago.

Nine months after Covid-19 began spreading throughout Montgomery County several businesses have been forced to close, others are still struggling, yet many have found ways to pivot to meet the needs of the community.

Throughout this pandemic, the Chamber has continued to participate in advocacy initiatives with local and state officials and provide information on the changing guidelines and mandates. In addition, we have become a distribution center for PPE kits provided through the Montgomery County Commerce and Health Departments.

We are very much looking forward to 2021 and the ability to once again get together for live events. In the meantime, we remain committed to being the voice of business and a resource to keep you informed and prepared to move forward.

Wishing you peace & joy throughout this holiday season.

Best,  
Pam

## CHAMBER STAFF

Wendy Custer, Member Relations Manager

Linda Ryan, Program Manager

Carol Schultz, Events Assistant

## THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL SPONSORS



## 5th Annual Municipal Managers Updates Succeed as Virtual Meetings

This year The Chamber's popular Annual Municipal Managers Updates were split into two sessions and held via Zoom on October 28, and November 19, 2020.

Managers from the region shared updates on new and ongoing construction and infrastructure projects, including new and proposed apartments and housing developments, warehouses, repurposed buildings, road and bridge improvements, traffic light installations, new schools and a

library, and renovation projects.

A number of managers reported on pandemic-related concerns such as the decrease in retail business revenues, uncertainty regarding school openings and closures, and the cancellation of popular and well-attended community events throughout the summer and fall. Several commented that the reduced activity on the roads gave them the opportunity to make infrastructure improvements with less impact on township residents.

Participating municipalities included Ambler Township, Chalfont Borough, Franconia Township, Hatfield Borough, Hatfield Township, Horsham Township, Lower Gwynedd Township, Lower Salford Township, Montgomery Township, New Britain Township, North Wales Borough, Plymouth Township, Skippack Township, Souderton Borough, Telford Borough, Towamencin Township, Upper Dublin Township, Upper Gwynedd Township, Whitmarsh Township, Whippany Township and Worcester Township.

The Municipal Managers Updates were sponsored by Kreischer Miller and McMahon Associates and hosted by Chamber board member and Government Affairs committee member Dan Reavy of McMahon Associates.

The sessions are available to view on [The Chamber's YouTube channel](#).



*Christine Hart, North Wales Borough Manager, presented at the Oct. 28th meeting.*

## Leaders On Board Nonprofit Board Training Proves Popular

More than 40 business professionals participated in The Chamber's first "Leaders On Board" program, presented by Liz Vibber of the Catalyst Center for Nonprofit Management in November and December. The program was composed of six hours of virtual

learning which, once completed, earned attendees a



certificate of completion and basic knowledge about how to serve on a nonprofit board. Due to the popularity of the program, which was priced at just \$99 for Chamber members and nonmembers will be scheduled to begin in February, 2021. Details will be available on [The Chamber's website](#) by the end of the year.

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## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS



### BACK TO BUSINESS CELEBRATION

August 13, 2020 Parkside Place Park, Upper Gwynedd.



### NETWALKING

Groups met twice monthly for a socially distanced walk and talk at a local park.

### LOCAL & ON TAP

Local & On Tap gatherings continued throughout the Fall at Stone & Key, Ambler Yards, Stove & Tap and virtually.



### NETWORKING AFTER HOURS

New Chamber member AVE Blue Bell hosted members at their beautiful property in mid-October.



## POWER 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL Your POTENTIAL Montgomery County Women's Conference

October 30, 2020 via zoom

Presenting Sponsor: **MERCK**  
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## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

**65th Annual**  
**CHAMBER GOLF OUTING**  
**THURSDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 17, 2020**  
 Lederach Golf Club, 900 Clubhouse Drive, Harleysville



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### Community Organization Award

### Corporate Citizenship Award

**A**  
**Celebration**  
**OF COMMUNITY**

**December 17, 2020 via Zoom**



Pictured: Carol Bauer, Garden of Health, Souderton, and Lisa Martin from Costco Wholesale, North Wales. Panel at left: Diana Doherty, VNA Foundation of Greater North Penn; April Donahue, QNB Bank; Jack Hoy, Pritchard, Bieler, Gruver & Willison, P.C.; and Lisa Martin (Costco Wholesale).

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### Aqua-Tots

Andrea Sahl

[www.aqua-tots.com/locations/usa/pennsylvania/horsham](http://www.aqua-tots.com/locations/usa/pennsylvania/horsham)

### AVE Blue Bell

Jacqueline Copeland

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

### Big Toe in the Water, LLC\*

Harriet Stein

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

### Budget Blinds of Lansdale\*

Robert Hessler

[www.budgetblinds.com/lansdale-pa](http://www.budgetblinds.com/lansdale-pa)

### Capital One

Danielle Brown

[www.capitalone.com/small-business-bank](http://www.capitalone.com/small-business-bank)

### Compassus Hospice & Palliative Care

Linda Simon

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

### Conway Schadler

Kent Conway

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

### Crystal's Mary Kay Cosmetics

Crystal Lear

[www.marykay.com/crystallear](http://www.marykay.com/crystallear)

### Elemeno Productions

Logan McCurry

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

### Hudson Estates Gracious

Retirement Living

Lee McDougald

[www.seniorlivinginstyle.com/senior-living/pa/lansdale/montgomery-glen-dr](http://www.seniorlivinginstyle.com/senior-living/pa/lansdale/montgomery-glen-dr)

### Kolmac Outpatient Recovery

Jeb Bird

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

### Mid-Atlantic Events Magazine

Jim Cohn

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

### Sandra Lee Photography

Sandra Phifer

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

### St. John Neumann Cemetery

Lisa Mattox

[www.philadelphiacatholiccemeteries.com/cemeteries/st-john-neumann-cemetery](http://www.philadelphiacatholiccemeteries.com/cemeteries/st-john-neumann-cemetery)

### Staples - North Wales

Larry Lukas

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

### Vytal Options

(PA Options for Wellness, Inc.)\*

Robert Ribic

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

### Whitemarsh Township

Thomas Blomstrom

[www.whitemarshwp.org](http://www.whitemarshwp.org)

\*Visionary Members

## Together We Thrive

-Continued from cover



David Zellers, Director of Commerce, Montgomery Co.

award recognized Zellers' commitment to providing chambers and small businesses with resources and support throughout the pandemic.

Together We Thrive closed with a video montage of images of frontline workers from local hospitals and messages of thanks to these heroes.

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- ☒ Help with homework

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 North Penn Federal Credit Union  
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 Variety - the Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley  
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 Vroom Communications  
 Whitpain Township

\*Visionary Member

## MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

5 Years



10 Years



15 Years



25 Years



30 Years



35 Years



40 Years



55 Years



\*Visionary Member

## MEMBER NEWS

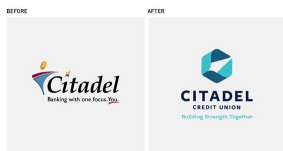
[A3 Media's](#) Micro Market Media® was officially granted and registered as a trademark on September 1, 2020, for its unique strategic media process, from planning to trafficking, by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The Micro Market Media® methodologies provide multi-market companies the strength of national media buys with the control of local market pricing.

[American Heritage Credit Union](#) associates and members collected 12,600 pounds of food during its seventh annual Spirit of Giving Food Drive in October and November, 2020. A total of 14 local food banks and pantries across Montgomery, Philadelphia, Bucks and Camden counties are receiving food as well as a total of \$20,000 in donations.



[Antheil Maslow & MacMinn, LLP](#), is pleased to announce that partner Elizabeth J. Fineman received a Special Achievement Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association at a virtual luncheon on November 19th recognizing her for stepping up to fill a co-editor position of the PBA Family Law Section's Pennsylvania Family Lawyer newsletter, one of the association's largest section publications.

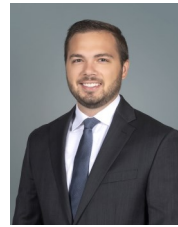
[Baum, Smith, & Clemens, LLP](#), the Harleysville based accounting and business advisory firm, is pleased to announce that Matthew Corning, IV recently joined the firm as a Senior Tax Accountant. Matt is a graduate of LaSalle University where he earned a BS in Accounting. He is currently sitting for the Uniform CPA examination.



[Citadel Credit Union](#) has introduced a new brand identity — complete with a new logo, colors and tagline — “Building Strength Together.” The logo is named the “Dynamic C.” It stands for Citadel, Credit Union and Community, and is meant to invite people in, while giving the feeling of embracing and protecting a shared future.



[Community Chiropractic Center](#) welcomes Dr. Mike Donohoe to their practice. Mike has 24 years of Chiropractic experience in the greater Philadelphia area. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Gwynedd Mercy University where he provides online instruction for students in the Nursing and Health Sciences curriculum.



[DunlapSLK PC](#), the Chalfont, PA-based certified public accounting and consulting firm, announced that Jesse Kolb has joined the firm as a Staff I Accountant in the Accounting Services department. Kolb is a graduate of Grove City College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting.

[Genisys Credit Union](#) held a November, 2020 campaign to raise funds for Lighthouse's annual Thanks & Giving Campaign. The initiative raised \$12,178, which allowed Lighthouse to purchase turkeys for all the families they serve to have a Thanksgiving dinner this year.



[Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin](#) is pleased to announce that the firm has been named a Tier 1 firm in Philadelphia for Land Use and Zoning Law by U.S. News – Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” in 2021. According to U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers®, “firms included in the 2021 Edition of “Best Law Firms” are recognized for professional excellence with persistently impressive ratings from clients and peers.

[Merck Sharp & Dohme Federal Credit Union](#) celebrated its virtual grand opening of their newest branch in Quakertown, PA, on October 3rd. The expansive 3,000 square foot tech-oriented branch offers a complete line of financial services and amenities, including an internet café, video monitor drive-through, and two ATMs.



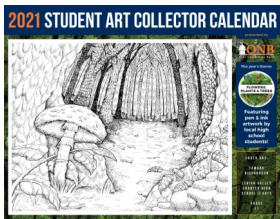
[The Methacton Education Foundation](#) is introducing Methacton Alumni & Friends, a new digital community that grants access to alumni and community members to regular updates about district news, mentorship and volunteer opportunities and events, and includes a useful alumni directory. The site also features a blog and monthly email updates.





[Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center](#), CEO Abbie Newman, was selected as a "Woman on the Move" by Main Line Today for their Power Women 2020 Campaign. Mission Kids' Advocacy Center has helped over 5,000 children since its inception. She has also helped to unify the police departments in Montgomery County, along with children's and youth services, to properly aid victims of child abuse.

[Nappen & Associates](#) is expanding its portfolio with its latest Quakertown addition. Located at 2525 Milford Square Pike in Quakertown, this 125,000 square foot state-of-the-art warehouse is quickly nearing completion. Featuring 33'6" high ceilings, 16 tailgates with levelers, 4 drive-in doors, the building also provides an ESFR sprinkler system and a 290-space parking lot.



[QNB Bank](#) has unveiled their 2021 Student Art Collector Calendar. A total of 33 entries from 9 different high schools were received. This year's theme was "Flowers, Plants and Trees." Copies can be picked up for free at QNB Bank locations while supplies last.

[St. Clair CPAs, P.C.](#) was recently ranked in Entrepreneur magazine's third annual list of the Top Franchise Suppliers. This list recognizes top companies that provide services and support to franchisors and franchisees in ten categories and St. Clair CPAs was ranked #13 nationally in the accounting category. St. Clair CPAs' position on the ranking illustrates its position as a trusted service provider in the franchise community.

[Univest Financial](#) is hosting its ninth annual Caring for Community Giveaway which will award a \$5,000 donation to a local, nonprofit organization. Individuals may nominate a local, nonprofit organization on Univest's Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn page or Tweeting the name of a nonprofit to @UnivestCorp using #CaringForCommunity. Deadline: Thursday, December 31, 2020. Complete rules listed at: [www.univest.net/caringforcommunity](http://www.univest.net/caringforcommunity).

[Wisler Pearlstine, LLP](#) is pleased to announce that the firm has been named a Tier 1 firm in Philadelphia for Family Law, Municipal Law, and Land Use & Zoning Law by U.S. News – Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" in 2021. According to U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers®, "firms included in the 2021 Edition of "Best Law Firms" are recognized for professional excellence with persistently impressive ratings from clients and peers.

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- Open job positions shared on chamber social media
- One Facebook Live promotion session
- Enhanced website positioning and increased webpage content
- Two free event tickets (value of \$40 or less)
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## Member Spotlight: DunlapSKL

When the world rang in a New Year and a new decade with the arrival of 2020, DunlapSLK was celebrating their one year anniversary as one firm. The merger between two long-time Chamber members – Dunlap & Associates and Seitz, Leatherman & Kolb – took place on January 2, 2019, with the firm bringing its 50+ team members under one roof at 1300 Horizon Drive in Chalfont.

Moving an entire firm from one location to another – in tax season – presented quite a challenge. But that was nothing compared to what was coming with the 2020 tax season. No one could have predicted how the world would change after COVID-19 hit our shores.

As Governor Wolf mandated business closures throughout Pennsylvania, the firm made the transition to working remotely. And as the nation continues to grapple with the virus, and legislators continue passing new laws aimed at helping struggling businesses, DunlapSLK is staying on top of the changes and getting information out as quickly as possible to clients and community members via email blasts, webinars, and their website's COVID-19 Resource Center at [www.dunlapslk.com](http://www.dunlapslk.com).

A service DunlapSLK offers which has been popular in the current COVID-19 environment is virtual bookkeeping. We

pay the bills, record receipts, track cash balances and send you financial reports on a monthly basis, and you have access to all of your bookkeeping information anywhere and at any time – even on a mobile device.



*DunlapSLK Team Members at 2019 Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) food packing event.*

Business advisory services are also in high demand as we help with everything from PPP loan forgiveness to budgeting, cash flow, meeting with you monthly to review financial reports, and fourth quarter tax planning aimed at helping you minimize your 2020 tax liability.

According to Lon Seitz, one of the firm's shareholders and past Board Chair of the Chamber, "Our team has performed extremely well in the face of adversity, really stepping up to the plate and doing what's necessary to continue providing exceptional service for our clients.

And we are truly grateful for those clients, who have been so supportive and adapted so well to working in this new remote environment.

We're all looking forward to the day when we'll be able to greet clients and friends in person again." To reach Lon or a member of the DunlapSLK team, please email [cpas@dunlapslk.com](mailto:cpas@dunlapslk.com).



**Put Your News on Our Home Page!**

**Member News can be submitted online:**

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