

Chamber Connections

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April 2023

CORNERSTONE MEMBERS



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TEAM Dover Takes Over on the Green!



If you believe that the CDCC Mini-Masters Golf tournament is competitive, exciting, and collaborative, then just wait till Thursday, May, 11, for the CDCC's Annual Bluesuiters Golf Tournament, hosted by our friends at

Jonathan's Landing in Magnolia (1309 Ponderosa Drive)!

This event, prepared by the CDCC's Military Affairs Committee, is designed to help maintain and strengthen the positive and supportive relationship the CDCC is proud to have with the Dover Air Force Base (DAFB). This full-sized golf tournament event has done an incredible job of fostering our civilian community and Dover Air Force Base relationship for over a decade. The CDCC anticipates, with your A-Game, this year will be even better! The

CDCC is proud to bring this event to its members of the community because of the fun and fellowship that resonates long after every team finishes the course.

The Bluesuiters Golf Tournament pairs two civilians with two DAFB airmen or women to form teams of four, exemplifying TEAM Dover! Now is the time to begin reaching out to prospective teammates who you think have the winning swing – or just someone

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Top-Notch Nominees for Excellence in Business!



The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) will make and take any opportunity we can to shine a light on our members who are doing extraordinary things for their businesses and their community. That is why we take great honor in celebrating those who are going above and beyond in their professional lives to continue to make Central Delaware the place to live, work, and play! The CDCC would like to highlight the final nine nominees for this year's Excellence in Business Awards!

While the CDCC facilitates the Awards ceremony and nomination process, the CDCC does not choose any winners. This

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Putt-Putt This Month: The CDCC's Mini Masters 2023!



The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce will be holding a fun and exciting mini golf tournament and networking event this month on Wednesday, April 26, at Tre Sorelle Dolce Ice Cream & Mini Golf in Wyoming, Del., from 4 to 7 p.m. This event will bring together local business owners, professionals, and community members for a day of friendly competition, networking, and entertainment. This tournament and mixer will be a moment you don't want to miss in Central Delaware!

Show your team's or company's pride by coordinating creative t-shirts or costumes as you putt-putt your way through a labyrinth of mini-golf. The CDCC can't wait to see what creative costumes you and your team of four create and model this year! Now is the time to start gathering your friends, family, or coworkers to form your winning team, competing for the coveted Blue Jacket and bragging rights! Don't

Continued on Page 11

Dina's Digest



PRESIDENT
Dina Vendetti

Central Delaware Promises Progress

As you may know, I spent many years working the education industry. In that world, progress is at the center of everything. Administrators, educators, and parents all work together to create a setting conducive to measurable progress for every student. Progress reports are issued in a systematic way that highlight areas of success, as well as areas that could use a little more attention. Consistent progress signals growth – and growth gets everyone closer to the goal of raising successful people.

Progress, by definition, means to move forward or upward, to advance. The perception created by the word progress includes the idea of improvement, making something better than it was before. There's definite action there, and every indication is that progress involves work and collaboration.

Your Chamber is always interested in progress. We want our member businesses to constantly find themselves moving forward towards success and growth. We are honored to be given the opportunity to be your essential resource on that journey. We strive to provide ways for our business leaders to learn and implement new ideas. We work hard to ensure that the legislation created at the General Assembly remains business-friendly, providing a climate and environment that assists the business community. We take great pride in helping to tell the stories of our businesses and bragging about the amazing innovations we see from them every day. And we thrive on bringing people together to make connections, form partnerships, and create opportunities for great collaboration. All of these activities are designed to keep our community perpetually moving forward ... progressing.

In recent years, our progress was threatened by a global pandemic. Those days were dark and difficult. While many in our business community are still reeling from the after-effects of that time, we are beginning to

see the promise that businesses will emerge and begin, once again, to move forward. Many used those days to create something new within their companies, others spent that time learning new things. And now, people are anxious to get back in the business of improving and growing. There it is again – progress!

At your Chamber, we have seen a sharp increase in attendance at events and activities. We are thrilled to see members' excitement and enthusiasm for coming back out to spend in-person time together again. So far this year, our gatherings have seemed like grand reunions! We are also seeing a slow, but certain movement towards adding members to our mix. That's progress!

For the past several months, your Chamber has been significantly involved in the efforts underway to revitalize Downtown Dover, a process spearheaded by our partner, the Downtown Dover Partnership. The Master Plan, created by Mosaic Development Partners, has been completed and steps towards implementation have already begun. The need to revitalize the capital of our First State is obvious and many have, in their own way, taken steps towards this in the past, but that activity has mostly taken place in silos. Now, we have an opportunity to follow a cohesive road map that not only promises to bring a renaissance to the downtown, but will also unify our efforts across the board. The Master Plan will provide us with a path forward and we are excited for what is to come. Again ... progress!

Just as signs of Spring are all around us, so are the signs of growth and success here in the heart of if all. We see movement and action, growth and innovation, collaboration and a strong community. As members of this Chamber, you are in the middle of the action – and you are who we see when we proclaim that "Central Delaware Promises Progress!"

Calendar of Events

APRIL

- Tuesday, April 4**
21st Annual 55+ Expo
9 am - 3 pm
Bally's Dover Casino Resort
- Thursday, April 6**
Leadership Central Delaware
8 am - 5 pm
Health and Human Services Day
- Thursday, April 6**
Kent County Open for Business
8:30 - 10 am
Kent County Levy Court
- Friday, April 7**
Good Friday Office Closed
- Tuesday, April 11**
CDCC Board Meeting
7:30 - 8:30 am
Faw Casson
- Wednesday, April 12**
Coffee Coaching
8 - 9 am
via Zoom
- Wednesday, April 12**
Marketing Committee Meeting
10 - 11 am
CDCC Conference Room & via Zoom
- Thursday, April 13**
Member Orientation
8:30 - 10 am
via Zoom
- Tuesday, April 18**
LCD Steering Committee Meeting
12:30 - 1:30 pm
CDCC Conference Room
- Wednesday, April 26**
Ambassador Committee Meeting
3:30 pm
Tre Sorelle Dolce Ice Cream & Mini Golf
- Wednesday, April 26**
The Chamber Mini Masters / Sunset Business Mixer
4 - 7 pm
Tre Sorelle Dolce Ice Cream & Mini Golf
- Thursday, April 20**
LCD Class of 2023 Invitational
5 - 7 pm
Burwood Estates (home of the Lessard family)

MAY

- Thursday, May 4**
Leadership Central Delaware
8 am - 5 pm
Economic Development Day
- Thursday, May 4**
Kent County Open for Business
8:30 - 10 am
Kent County Levy Court
- Tuesday, May 9**
CDCC Board Meeting
7:30 - 8:30 am
Faw Casson
- Tuesday, May 9**
Professional Power-Up LIVE! (YPS)
12 - 1 pm
Biggs Museum of American Art
- Wednesday, May 10**
Coffee Coaching
8 - 9 am
via Zoom
- Wednesday, May 10**
Marketing Committee Meeting
10 - 11 am
CDCC Conference Room & via Zoom
- Thursday, May 11**
Bluesuiters Golf Tournament
10 am Reg.; 11 am Start
Jonathan's Landing
- Thursday, May 11**
Member Orientation
12 - 1:30 pm
via Zoom
- Tuesday, May 16**
LCD Steering Committee Meeting
12:30 - 1:30 pm
CDCC Conference Room
- Monday, May 22**
CDCC Executive Committee Meeting
8 - 10 am
CDCC Conference Room
- Monday, May 29**
Memorial Day Office Closed
- Wednesday, May 31**
Ambassador Committee Meeting
4:30 pm
Stone Nation
- Wednesday, May 31**
Sunset Business Mixer
5 - 7 pm
Stone Nation

Published monthly by the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce, the first accredited Chamber of Commerce in Delaware. We represent the interests of the small business community. Over 800 businesses support CDCC.

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G. Fedale reminds about roof safety

Preservation of the structural components of your home is essential to the health of your home. When it comes to roofs, the team at G. Fedale Roofing & Siding recommends a thorough inspection every three-to-five years if the roof isn't old, and every year or two if the roof was installed over 15 years ago.

The View from Above

A roof inspection is an important identifier of current problems, but it also helps you plan ahead financially for your next installation project. While drone technology has enabled a bird's eye view, a thorough roof inspection entails a professional climb to the top of the roof – as long as it's safe to do so. An attic check provides telltale signs of roof leakage, either past or present. Senior Project Consultant Brad Houston reminds us that water stains on an



upper ceiling could be indicative of a leak that is years old.

Inspection Revelations

What do we look for when inspecting a roof? A G. Fedale roof inspection covers a range of both materials and workmanship and assesses deterioration according to the age of the roof. Specifically, what materials were used? Are there starter shingles? If the shingles are architectural, was the required stagger of 11 and 17 inches used? A misalignment could cause premature failure. How is the flashing, and what about the pipe collar or boot? At about 20 years, boots tend to dry rot due to sun exposure. A subpar installer may

simply caulk around the chimney flashing, but that caulk will shrink over time.

What's On Top Is Only as Good as What's Underneath

Issues that may arise are typically less a result of the materials used – that is, if the roof is still within its expected lifespan – and more a result of the workmanship. The lifespan is largely based on sturdier composition and what's underneath the shingles.

At G. Fedale, we install an ice/water shield and a synthetic underlayment, making for a 100% waterproof roof. Likewise, nail pops, once an entry



1. Leak Barrier
2. Roof Deck Protection
3. Starter Strip
4. Shingles
5. Ventilation
6. Ridge Cap Shingles

Layers of the Roof

point for water, are no longer a vulnerability. A roof inspection can help determine the integrity of these various components.

If you're ready to get your roof inspection underway, contact them for an estimate today. For more information about G. Fedale Roofing & Siding please visit www.gfedaleroof.com or call (302) 518-1781.

Kraft Heinz Partners with Wyss Institute to Make Sugar Healthier

Kraft Heinz is passionate about feeding the world and inviting everyone to the table to live life more deliciously. As part of the mission to provide consumers with food that is not only delicious, but that they feel good about, the company has set environmental, social and governance goals. One of those goals is to reduce the total sugar in food products by more than 60 million pounds by 2025.

“Together with the Wyss Institute, we're developing new approaches to help us meet this goal,” said John Topinka, research strategy lead at Kraft Heinz. “We are passionate about feeding the world, and we take that responsibility seriously.”

The challenge: reducing the sugar content in foods can make them healthier, but it also creates the obstacle of trying to find alternate ways to replicate all those other qualities of sugar. How can we reduce the amount of sugar (specifically fructose) used

without sacrificing sugar's other beneficial properties? Topinka, plus Head of Technology Discovery and Development Judith Moca, and their team brought this conundrum to the Wyss Institute at Harvard University.

“We thought we'd come to the Wyss with an impossible problem, and they turned it on its head to present an even crazier idea to solve it. We assembled a diverse team of some of the smartest people I've ever met to see if they could do it,” shared Moca, in Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering's article, released in December 2022.

The Wyss Institute researched a way for to use sugar but mitigate its negative effects on health. After months of experimentation, they engineered an enzyme product that could theoretically be added to foods without modifying their sugar content, and then would convert the sugar into fiber once they reached the human gut. Not only could this technique reduce the

amount of sugar absorbed into the bloodstream, but it could also produce gut-healthy prebiotic fiber.

To learn more about this innovative collaboration, visit <https://wyss.harvard.edu/news/kraft-heinz-partners-with-wyss-institute-to-make-sugar-healthier>.

Kraft Heinz





LCD '23 has Safety on Lockdown

The expression “there’s no place like home” means to have an affinity for your homestead over all other places on earth. You can be referring to your country of origin, home state, city, or house – but it’s where you feel safest. A safe home and community can help individuals and families feel supported and respected. Communities thrive when everyone has a safe home.

On Thursday, March 3, our Leadership Central Delaware Class (LCD) of 2023 had the opportunity to examine what it means for a leader to be data-driven, discerning and a goal setter – all through the lens of Public Safety and Criminal Justice. As they listened to the presenters and worked through the day’s exercises, certain themes surfaced throughout the day: the importance of collaboration and transparency; the welfare of those who serve; and the art of clear and widespread communication. They met various public servants and visited several public safety agencies to discuss various aspects of securing our community.

Stephen Burgess (LCD Class of 2021, co-chair of the day) and Fireside Partners, Inc., hosted the morning learning session. First on the agenda was a panel discussion on “Law Enforcement Issues of Today.” Participating on the panel were Chief Torrie James of Dover Police Department; Capt. Joshua Bushweller, DIAC Director, Delaware State Police; Chief Michael Hertzfeld, Delaware Capital Police; Maj. David Ratte, 436th SFS/CC Commander, DAFB; and Officer Justin Viens, 436th SFS, Primary Liaison, DAFB.

The panel explored several topics, including police recruitment and retention – one of the biggest challenges facing law enforcement at the moment. The profession has taken a hard hit from the negative stigma arising in recent years. Agencies have reported that recruiting is more difficult than in the past. Another significant concern was accountability. Every law enforcement agency seeks to build trust between officers and the community. Law enforcement leaders shared how they strive to develop cultures of accountability within their agencies, including aligning agency values with community values, and simply leading by example.

Considering where law enforcement is headed, embracing technology is another key challenge, as innovations are happening quickly. The concept of using data in law enforcement is not new, but ongoing advancements in computing power can help this strategy become more viable for police departments. As the power of big data and its potential applications in law enforcement grow every year, criminal-justice decision makers will continue to face the challenges of balancing citizen concerns with deploying new crime prevention strategies.

Next, LCD class members received an all-too-real Violent Intruder Preparedness and Response (VIPR) training from Det. Daniel Blomquist, DE State Police, Homeland Security Section, and Terrorism Liaison Officer. Organizations frequently request law enforcement agencies to provide guidance on how to effectively

prepare for active shooter events. The VIPR training program is designed for unarmed citizens and built on the “Run, Hide, Fight” strategy that has been recognized as an industry standard. The VIPR objectives are simple yet effective: to 1) increase situational awareness of active shooter events; 2) encourage organizations to have emergency action plans that are shared with employees and rehearsed; 3) provide practical examples of barricading confined spaces and consideration for utilizing self-defense options; and 4) demonstrate basic emergency casualty care tactics for the injured. Through a steadfast commitment to help Delawareans enhance readiness levels against mass violence, the VIPR training program provides immeasurable benefits against violent threats. Det. Blomquist captivated the class with his delivery alone, but a swatch of real-life school lockdown during the time of his

presentation really hit home.

Stephen Burgess, Emergency Operations Center manager at Fireside Partners, Inc., introduced the class to the work of this a crisis management consulting firm. The Dover company provides a range of services to help organizations prepare for, respond to, and recover from crisis situations, including the design and management of Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). The company has crisis management professionals who are available 24/7 to support clients in the event of a crisis around the world, including natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and aviation incidents (the class received a tour of where this action happens). They work with a variety of clients, including businesses, governments, healthcare organizations, and educational institutions. Fireside Partners’ EOC consulting services typically include a comprehensive assessment of client’s emergency

capabilities, the development of detailed plans and procedures, and the provision of ongoing training.

Burgess stressed the importance of all businesses, no matter the size, having frequently updated emergency procedures and equipment on site. Overall, Fireside Partners, plays an important role in helping organizations to prepare for crisis situations – a true hidden gem of Central Delaware.

Next on the day's agenda was a visit to the Delaware Information & Analysis Center (DIAC), with a tour of the fusion center by Lt. David Hake, Deputy Director, Intelligence Center & Homeland Security, DIAC, DE State Police. The Center was created to enhance communication and collaboration between law enforcement agencies, the private sector, and the public. DIAC provides intelligence and analysis to assist in the prevention and response to criminal and terrorist activity. Overall, the DIACC plays an important role in enhancing public safety in Delaware by providing critical analysis to support law enforcement

and other public safety efforts, exemplified by Lt. Hake and his team.

The LCD Class of 2023 re-boarded the bus and traveled to the Delaware State Fire School (DSFS) where Tucker Dempsey, Training Administrative, explained the purpose of the school, tips for fire prevention and took the class on an outdoor tour of the facility, accompanied by a blazing house-fire demonstration conducted by his team. The DSFS provides training and education to firefighters and other emergency responders within the state of Delaware. Since 1921, it has since grown into one of the region's leading fire training facilities. They offer a wide range of programs for emergency responders at all levels, from basic training to new recruits to advanced courses for experienced professionals. DSFS plays a critical role in ensuring that firefighters and emergency responders within the state are well-trained and equipped to respond to a wide range of emergencies and disasters. Through its training programs and other services, the DSFS helps to protect the safety and well-being of

Delaware's citizens a guests.

Dempsey emphasized that recruitment is a debilitating challenge, and the force is in critical need of volunteer and paid firefighters.

The day ended at Delaware State Police Headquarters with their K-9 Unit Demo. The demonstrations involve the canines and their handlers performing various exercises and simulations of their training and skills. The class saw firsthand the skills, training, and relationship needed in a successful K-9 partnership. These four-legged units are trained to detect a wide range of illegal substances, explosives, and other materials that may pose a threat to public safety. The canines are also trained in tracking and apprehension techniques, making them valuable assets to seek missing persons or pursue suspects. Overall, the K-9 Unit of the Delaware State Police is a highly skilled and valuable asset in ensuring public safety, and their demonstrations can be a great way for members of the public to learn about their capabilities and the important work they do.

The CDCC wishes to thank our public service officials for taking the time out of their busy day to be with the class. The CDCC would like to thank Co-chairs Denise Vendrick of Faw Casson and Stephen Burgess for their instrumental work in the success of the Public Safety Day. The CDCC would like to extend our thanks to Fireside Partners, Inc. for the donuts and coffee, and the Bavarian Bakery & Deli for the delicious sandwiches, salad, and pastries that fueled everyone for another successful day!

The class members left with a renewed understanding of what it takes to maintain a safe community. They learned a great deal about collaboration, setting goals, discernment, and the use of data in making decisions. Many important skills and information were added to their leadership portfolios, and most essentially, they learned that every person is part of the team that keeps the public safe. At any time, we may called upon in an emergency to be part of the resolution – as citizens, as residents, and especially as leaders.





CDCC Members Enjoyed Their Stay at the Hampton Inn Milford!

The Sunset Business Mixer brought smiles, laughs, and great connections to the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce's extended membership on Wednesday, March 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. Guests enjoyed their brief stay with the CDCC and their community at the Hampton Inn Milford – our wonderful hosts for the evening!

CDCC Members savored the great food, drinks, ambiance, and encounters brought to them by the beautiful and cozy Hampton Inn Milford. Door prizes, 50/50 raffle cash, and business cards were shared with happy, communicative, engaged, and cheerful guests!

Thank you to the team at the Hampton Inn Milford for making room for their community to meet, mix, and mingle together for the betterment of Central Delaware. In our busy adult lives, free time can be hard to come by,

so the CDCC doesn't take it lightly that you took the time to spend your time with us to grow Central Delaware, build upon a strong community, and network with like-minded individuals. The CDCC always has a great time facilitating the Sunset Business Mixer because of members (some of whom you see pictured here) who bring the room to life! Our members make every event worthwhile and the CDCC thanks you for spending your evening with us.

Remember – CDCC Sunset Business Mixers are a FREE member benefit extended to all of your employees within your company! Share the news and invite them to represent your company alongside you!

To register for our April special Mixer and Mini Master's Tournament, visit www.cdcc.net or call 302-734-7513 to join the fun!



BLUESUITERS

Continued from Page 1

you'd like to get to know better or someone you'd like to join you for a fun golf outing. The Bluesuiters Golf Tournament is an amazing way to build camaraderie, meet new people, and learn about the DAFB mission and the service men and women who carry it out. This golf tournament is open to golfers of all skill levels – the CDCC does not judge your par score (but your team might)!

Golfers and spectators can look forward to pre-game time on the driving range, a hole-in-one contest with an amazing prize, and an exciting golf ball drop 50/50 raffle. Although the CDCC understands there can only be one winning scorecard, everyone is a winner in our hearts at this special event. Each golfer will receive an opportunity to win a unique door prize and a goody bag. Delicious snacks and beverages provided by generous CDCC member businesses will be placed along the course to keep golfers performing and feeling their best. Once everyone has completed the course, all golfers are invited to a complete dinner in Jonathan's Landing Clubhouse, where the winning team will be announced, and guests will receive their prizes!

Begin practicing and spreading the word! Cross your fingers for a comfortable, partly sunny, spring day, perfect for seeing down the green, enjoying a walk, and the peaceful nature of Jonathan Landing at the CDCC's 2023 Bluesuiters Golf Tournament.

The CDCC would like to extend a special thank you to our Tournament



Sponsor, Homeside Financial. The CDCC would also like to thank our sponsors (as of 3/28): Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DEMEC), Dover Federal Credit Union, First Command, Independent Metal Strap Company Inc., Leander Lakes, NKS Distributors, Inc., Pike Creek Mortgage Services, Inc., and Wilmington University.

The tournament cost is \$80 per golfer. Perhaps consider thanking a Dover Air Force Base airman or woman for their service by sponsoring their golf for the price of \$80 as well. This kind gesture goes a long way to show your gratitude.

If you would like to participate in the tournament by golfing, sponsoring, or donating a door prize (great ways to showcase your business) please contact Cristal at the CDCC Office at 302-734-7513 or by email cbrenneman@cdcc.net. The CDCC is excited to see you on May 11 to see TEAM Dover take over the green. Check-in time is 10 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 11 a.m.



Join the Celebration!

Be a part of the special Dover Days Festival anniversary with your ad in the official event publication.



This exclusive publication will include a festival map, schedule, parade route, photos and feature stories.


This "must have" for all event goers will be distributed in the Delaware State News, online at BayToBayNews.com and throughout the festival grounds.

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The 1st Professional Power-Up of Many!

As you've probably heard through the grapevine, the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) has refreshed and rebranded its successful learning program, formerly known as the Young Professional's Social. The CDCC introduced its first Professional Power-Up LIVE on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at the Biggs Museum of American Art during the lunch hour, and it was an amazing in-person success!

All ages are now welcome. The CDCC has removed the YP's confining age bracket of 21-35, with the intention of opening this monthly program to more eager learners – and it was very successful!

At the first 12 p.m. lunch event, Dr. Eunice Gwanmesia, recently published author of "The Power of Your Identity: A Cultural Landscape for Children," shared her heartfelt story of finding herself, helping others find themselves, and how we all need to see the beauty in our differences. She presented a wonderful lesson about her life, her passionate work for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and how we can all bring our unique talents, perspectives, and experiences to any table we are sitting. She connected with all individuals in the room by speaking from her heart. Everyone left motivated, energized, and inspired by her to be their best selves. This was the perfect reintroduction of the Power-Up program!

Please note another change – to increase the accessibility of this program, the CDCC is also offering Professional Power-Up sessions via Zoom every other month. On Tuesday, April 11, the CDCC will host a Professional Power-Up online, solely taking place virtually via Zoom. You won't want to

miss Judy Diogo (former CDCC President, Lobbyist, & Consultant) present "Your Voice Matters." Learn about how you can make a difference, impact, and create a lasting legacy by using your voice on the Legislative floor. She will be challenging your limiting beliefs about how you can get involved in local legislation and the power your voice has on the checkered, marble, lawmaking floor of Legislative Hall in Dover. Register today for this FREE event at www.cdcc.net!

As stated, the Professional Power-Up LIVE and Professional Power-Up ONLINE will alternate each month. The April session with Judy Diogo will be completely virtual (FREE). May's session will switch back to LIVE, in-person with our wonderful friends at the Biggs Museum of American Art. Lunch will be provided (\$5 for members, \$15 for non-members). The months and speakers will continue to alternate in this fashion for the remainder of the year.

Employers – please spread the word about this program to your employees. Show them you want to invest in their education, networking capabilities, and their personal and professional development. Share the flyer with them, share why you think this could be useful to them, and allow them the space to be involved. Remember, your company's membership includes benefits for all your employees.

For more information or to register for upcoming Professional Power-Up LIVE & ONLINE sessions, please visit www.cdcc.net or call 302-734-7513. The CDCC can't wait to keep learning and growing with you through this program – let's keep powering up, professionals!



IS YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL THE BEST OF THE BEST?

Deadline for Nominations is Wednesday, April 19th at Noon.
Award winners will be notified on Administrative Professionals Day, Wednesday, April 26th.
Help the CDCC celebrate Administrative Professionals Day on Wednesday, April 26th by nominating him/her for one of these great prizes, donated by Chamber Members! You will find the nomination form on the back of this flyer and at cdcc.net/adminprof.

- Floral Arrangement for each winner donated by Jen-Mor Florist
- Gift Basket donated by Filer's Farm Store & Kitchen
- Scentay Gift Bag donated by Mary Ann Curry, Independent Scentay Consultant
- Gift Bag donated by Special Touch Card Creations
- One bag of gourmet popcorn from Bea Delightful for each winner
- One gift certificate to the House of Coffi for each winner

CDCC
Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce
ACCREDITED

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EXCELLENCE

Continued from Page 1

is a membership-based voted award event, where we let CDCC members speak on behalf of the amazing leaders serving and working around you every day. It's a process that takes months to come to fruition, and for good reason. The nominations were sent in earlier this year and the top nine finalists (three in each category) are chosen by the Awards for Excellence in Business Committee, comprised of previous award winners. After swimming through a deep pool of local talent, these nine finalists excelling in business are presented to the CDCC general membership for a final vote.

Nominees are chosen based upon their professionalism, performance, leadership capabilities, and their willingness to learn and grow. Colleagues take into consideration how their nominees respond to daily challenging situations and unprecedented societal circumstances, such as recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDCC looks for nominees to be kind, driven, and community-minded. Nominees are heavily involved in the community and know all about proper business practices here in Central Delaware. To be nominated means to be among the best of the best. This prestigious process is highly revered throughout the community, and the CDCC wants everyone to know that it is a tremendous honor to be nominated.

Thank you to everyone who nominated someone special – we rely on your commitment to excellence!

However, the hard part isn't over! We need YOUR help in awarding our winners in each category: Large Employer of the Year, Small Business of the Year, and Young Professional of the Year. It's time to begin reflecting on the leadership actions of each of the three nominees for these three categories. Who will get your prized vote?

Voting will begin in May. In the May issue of the Chamber Connections, readers will see biographical and business information for nominees. It is important to have a good understanding of who you are voting for and what it is that they do. Take some time to study and be ready to vote!

Official ballots will be mailed to our CDCC members at the end of April, at which time our members are invited to cast one vote for each category and return them to us no later than May 27. REMEMBER: each member business can only submit ONE vote in each of the three categories. All nine nominees will be acknowledged and honored at our Annual Excellence in Business Awards Dinner in June where the winner will be announced. Thank you in advance for your participation, your vote matters. We look forward to celebrating with you on June 28 at Bally's Dover Casino Resort!

DRUM ROLL PLEASE...

Small Business of the Year Nominees

Pressley Ridge



Sambo's Tavern



The ICE House:
Wellness & Community



Large Employer of the Year Nominees

Bally's Dover
Casino Resort



Kraft Heinz
Company



POLYTECH
Adult Education



Young Professional of the Year Award Nominees

Stephen Burgess,
EOC Manager,
Fireside Partners



Ryne Johnson,
Account Manager,
Advantech Incorporated



Lauren Webb,
Director of Operations,
Dedicated to Women



Dedicated
to Women

Last Year's Winners



Young Professional of the Year Award

Matt Bacon,
Roma Italian Restaurant



Large Employer of the Year

Dover Federal Credit Union



Small Business of the Year

Mike & Becky Marasco,
**Tre Sorelle Dolce Ice Cream
& Mini Golf**



Legislators, Luncheon, Lawmakers, Local Leaders, Listening and Learning

On Thursday, March 23, YOUR Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) was proud to host over 220 guests at the elegant Bally's Dover Casino Resort – Rollins Center for our 21st Annual Legislative Luncheon! Local leaders gathered for an afternoon of learning, legislative matters, and listening about pertinent business and governmental activity in the State of Delaware.

This event is important to the community and entire state of Delaware because of the relaxed, yet informative, opportunity it presents for everyone in attendance. It allows us to use our small but mighty state to our advantage as local business leaders can directly meet, hear from, and ask questions of their lawmakers. The CDCC's 2023 Legislative Luncheon was a huge success because of the impactful connections made that continued to break down the barriers of communication

long after everyone went back to work.

Topics highlighted by the Chamber's Legislative Affairs Committee during this year's Legislative Luncheon included: "Ready in Six" (improving business permitting), Tax reductions or incentives to protect small businesses, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), professional license reciprocity for Dover Air Force Base military personnel, and The Homeless Bill of Rights. Our panel of legislators gave reasoning and evidence to back their stances on such topics, and the audience received the information with open ears. The CDCC is sure that this event left much to mull over, and will encourage our local business leaders to remain vigilant, engaged, and optimistic for the future of our beloved state and its residents. The CDCC's goal is to orchestrate a safe space for open dialogue that benefits the business community, and thanks to all who attended, this

goal was accomplished!

The CDCC would like to thank the state legislators who took the time out of their busy schedules to be with us: Sen. Eric Buckson, Rep. Kerri Evelyn Harris, Sen. Kyra L. Hoffner, Sen. Dave G. Lawson, Sen. W. Charles (Trey) Paradee, Rep. Charles S. Postles, Rep. Jeffrey Spiegelman, and Rep. Lyndon Yearick.

Thank you to B.I.G. Investment Services, our signature sponsor, for making this event possible. Additionally, the CDCC would like to thank our generous General Assembly Sponsors: Allen Insurance Group / Benefits Connection, Artesian Water Company, Inc., BBSI, C.S. Kidner Associates/Capitol Strategies, Delaware Association of Realtors, Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DEMEC), Delaware State News, Delmarva Power, Del-One Federal Credit Union, Dover Motor Speedway,

Dowding Resource Group, George & Lynch, Inc., Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware, Parkowski, Guerke & Swayze, P.A., Pepsi Bottling Ventures of Delmarva, Shore United Bank, The Malmberg Firm, LLC, The Willis Group, LLC, and Wilmington University.

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors: Century Engineering, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, Dover Federal Credit Union, Harrington Raceway & Casino, KraftHeinz, PAM Rehabilitation Hospital of Dover, Pratt Insurance, and R & R Commercial Realty. Thank you to Bally's Dover Casino Resort for graciously hosting all of our attendees and to Royal Prime Events for perfectly executing our delicious lunch!

The CDCC can't wait to see new and familiar faces next year for the 22nd consecutive year of this special event!



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MINI MASTERS

Continued from Page 1

delay – registration is now open! The CDCC is excited to offer slots for more teams this year with two rounds of competition.

Don't forget that this is also a CDCC Sunset Business Mixer – the premier networking event of the CDCC. Always on the last Wednesday of the month, the Sunset Business Mixer is fun on a regular occasion, but coupled with THE Mini Masters Tournament, all attendees are in for a sweet treat at Tre Sorelle Dolce Ice Cream & Mini Golf. Attendees can expect regular CDCC mixer-style activities such as amazing networking opportunities, 50/50 cash raffle, door prizes, and important CDCC announcements by President Dr. Dina Vendetti! The CDCC's Mixers are the number one consistent way to meet new like-minded individuals, connect with your local community, and have fun while doing it!



That's not all – the CDCC will have food trucks, beverages, yard games, a cornhole tournament, music, and of course,

ice cream from Tre Sorelle Dolce. It is completely free to view the tournament and attend the mixer, so take advantage of this good time with your Central Delaware community as we welcome spring and grow together! Take the opportunity to connect with each other, learn about other's businesses and organizations, and form valuable connections that you can use in your professional and personal life.

The CDCC would like to thank this year's sponsors (as of 3/26): Bally's Dover Casino Resort, BBSI, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, Dover Pools, Fifer Farm Store & Kitchen, i.g. Burton Auto Group, Kent County Tourism Corporation, Lakeview Realty, Inc., Pike Creek Mortgage Services, and Sam's Club. Thank you for your generous support of this event and bringing joyful connections and memories to the community! For more information on sponsorship opportunities, such as sponsor tees on the course to proudly showcase your business, contact Cindy today by emailing at cfriese@cdcc.net.

For more information about the 2023 Mini Masters Tournament and to register your team of four today, please visit www.cdcc.net or give the office a call at 302-734-7513. The CDCC can't wait to watch you sink a hole-in-one on the green at Tre Sorelle Dolce Ice Cream & Mini Golf this upcoming Wednesday, April 26, from 4 to 7 p.m.!



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All you need to know about the CDCC's 55+ Expo on April 4!



April 4th: 9 am – 3 pm FREE to Attend Bally's Dover Casino Resort
Wellness Section * Caregiver's Support Resources * A variety of Exhibitors and more!

ATTENTION: All of Central Delaware and beyond! YOU are invited to attend the CDCC's 22nd Annual FREE 55+ Expo on April 4, at Bally's Dover Casino Resort – Rollins Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.!

The CDCC is proud to offer this event for the community for the 22nd year because of the connection it brings. This event allows the populace to receive in-person information from friendly and knowledgeable faces that are more than ready to serve their local community directly. The CDCC specifically curated local businesses that share a community-focused mission with relevant products and services that will fit the needs of our area's seniors and those who care for them. The CDCC prioritizes the need for ease of access and convenience in building strong networks for the community, as well as

securing economic development for our businesses working hard right here in Central Delaware.

The CDCC's 55+ Expo has been operating strongly for two decades – thanks to attendees like you. The purpose of this event is to connect local businesses that support and cater to the needs of Delaware's fastest growing population (the 55+ demographic), with those who need and enjoy their services. This event has been a strong pillar in facilitating care for the needs of Delaware's cherished community, in a fun, engaging, and grand way. This event also provides an opportunity for businesses throughout the state of Delaware and nearby states to introduce, market, and showcase their goods and services to the 55+ population (the prominent sector of our population) and their caregivers. The CDCC invites caregivers and family to urge people not to

wait until they reach 55+ to start planning to be 55+.

The CDCC could not offer this accommodating event without generous support from our sponsors! A Special thank you to them for supporting their local community and for their hand in making this event happen. Thank you to our sponsors: Bayhealth, Bally's Dover Casino Resort, Delaware Medicare Assistance Bureau, Dover Post, Eden Hill Medical Center, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware, United Healthcare and Westside Family Healthcare. Without their generous support, this event would not be possible.

The CDCC is so excited to see you and your loved ones at the 22nd Annual 55+ Expo at Bally's Dover Casino Resort – Rollins Center on Tuesday, April 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please see the program below for more information on the day's festivities.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:50 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for the **55+ Expo's Opening** with the Posting of the Colors by the Noble's Pond Veterans and the National Anthem by the Noble's Pond Choir.

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Wellness Center, sponsored by **Bayhealth Medical Center**, can be easily found in the main ballroom. Information and health assessments on topics including orthopaedics, respiratory navigators and more will be available. Visit the Wellness Center to learn more up-to-date information that can help you improve your health and well-being!

Throughout the Rollins Center some exhibitors will have a special **Caregiver's Support Exhibitor** sign. Visit them to gather the tools and resources you need to take care of your loved ones. There will be valuable information and guidance on how to handle stress and solve common problems that caregivers face when providing for those in their lives that need extra help.

9:00 a.m. – ?

Visit **The Master Gardeners** in the Rollins Center. They will be giving away marigolds, while supplies last!



9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Have back pain? Feeling tight? **With Stretch Therapy, CNU Fit can help. Join their demonstration in front of the stage in the main ballroom to learn more!**

Stretch Therapy is a form of bodywork that aims to improve flexibility, range of motion, and reduce muscle tension. CNU Fit will demonstrate how it can help you get out of pain and feel like you again.

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

"Medicare 101" Join Delaware Department of Insurance's Lakia Turner, Director of Delaware Medicare Assistance Bureau (DMAB) in the main ballroom to learn the ins and outs of Medicare. Medicare is complicated and costs can add up. In this seminar, you will learn how to sign up for Medicare, what's covered and when to take next steps. She will also discuss Medicare Advantage plans which you see commercialized on television daily. DMAB can help you figure it all out and see what cost assistance programs you may be eligible for. DMAB provides free, unbiased information and counseling to people covered by Medicare. Many people who join Medicare have questions



Photo Caption: **Lakia Turner, Director of Delaware Medicare Assistance Bureau**

and concerns about their new, different type of health insurance. You can receive one-on-one counseling with our staff and learn Medicare benefits, supplement insurance policies, Medicare Advantage plans and prescription drug coverage.

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m.

"Insurance and the Marketplace" Health insurance can be confusing to navigate. Delaware's largest community health center **Westside Family Healthcare** is here to help! By attending this important learning opportunity in the main ballroom, you will walk out knowing where to get help with your questions, what actions you can take right now, and connect with experts.



Tina Bravo



Nadege Dorleans



Michael Pugh

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

"Let's Make Colorectal Cancer History" Bayhealth Colorectal Surgeon Assar Rather, MC, and Adrienne Fisher, NP, see firsthand the impact of colorectal cancer. They are passionate about heightening awareness in Delaware. One alarming fact is that the rates of colon and rectal cancer continue to climb among younger adults. About 30% of patients currently diagnosed with colorectal cancer are under the age of 55. Now for the good news

– colorectal cancer is highly preventable with screening. Often there are no signs or symptoms of colon or rectal cancer, even in the later stages. That makes screening even more vital for prevention and early detection. Join the Bayhealth team in the main ballroom while they share the importance of screenings and how to connect you to resources for screenings.

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Muscles, not momentum, drive this low-impact, dance-based cardio, and strength training **fitness demo on stage in the Rollins Center. Glenenise from Dover Jazzercise** will show you how to get a total-body workout without the impact on your joints. Perfect for all fitness levels!

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Steppin' Seniors of the Modern Maturity Center will perform several dance routines **in front of the stage in the Rollins Center.** They are the unofficial ambassadors for the Modern Maturity Center in Dover and promote line dancing as a fun way to stay active and healthy by performing throughout the community. The Steppin' Seniors repertoire includes more than 100 pieces of music with a different dance for each.

EXHIBITORS

COMPANY	BOOTH #
AAA Mid-Atlantic	36
AccentCare	22
Aetna	52 & 53
Bayada Hospice	32
Bayhealth Medical Center	4
Biggs Museum of American Art	35
Bob Johnson's Computer Stuff	17
Brandywine Hearing Center featuring Beltone	11
Brookdale Dover	46
Chesapeake Utilities - Sharing Program	37
ClearCaptions	10
CNU Fit	63
Coastal Bath Company	30 & 31
Delaware Department of Insurance Medicare Assistance Bureau	5
Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA)	15
Delaware Senior Medicare Patrol	64
Delaware State Housing Authority	55
Department of Justice - Fraud & Consumer Protection Division (Attorney General's Office)	48
Dover Federal Credit Union	67
Dover Pools	47 & 61
Dover Post	1
Easterseals Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore	40
Edward Jones Investments - Christopher Smith, CFP	29
Emerald City Wash World	58
Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Middletown	28
Evan W. Smith Funeral Services	38
Eye Specialists of Delaware	8
FCCB	14
First State Orthopaedics	16
Five Star Home Foods	50
G. Fedale Roofing & Siding	9
Garner Group Financial, LLC	43
Harmony at Kent	68
HearingLife/Hearing Services of Delaware	25
Highmark Delaware	24
Humana	33 & 34
Ingleside Homes Inc.	56
Kent County Levy Court	60
Law Office of Karen Y. Vicks, LLC	44
LeafFilter Gutter Protection	26
Lean On Me Caregiving	13
Lennar	59
Maple Dale Country Club	45
Master Gardeners	39
Milford Wellness Village	42
Modern Maturity Center	41
NextHome Preferred	18
NovaCare Rehabilitation	19
PACE Your LIFE	27
Pressley Ridge	21
Renewal by Andersen	20
Royal Home Care Services LLC	49
Sam's Club	23
SunWise Family Dermatology & Surgery	57
The Center at Eden Hill	7
TidalHealth Lifeline	12
T-Mobile	62
United Healthcare	2
Westminster Village	51
Westside Family Healthcare	6

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Member News

Feel The Roar at Dover Motor Speedway April 28-30

By Michael Lewis, Manager of Communications Dover Motor Speedway

America's best drivers return to Dover Motor Speedway April 28-30 for another NASCAR tripleheader weekend, including the Würth 400 NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday, April 30.

The Würth 400 is the Monster Mile's 105th NASCAR Cup Series race and comes during NASCAR's 75th anniversary season. Dover Motor Speedway is one of only 10 tracks in the country to have hosted 100 or more NASCAR Cup Series events. Dover's 2023 race schedule includes:

- **Sunday, April 30, 2 p.m.:** Würth 400 NASCAR Cup Series race (FS1, PRN, Sirius NASCAR Radio)
- **Saturday, April 29, 1:30 p.m.:** A-GAME 200 NASCAR Xfinity Series Dash 4 Cash race (FS1, PRN, Sirius NASCAR Radio)
- **Friday, April 28, 5:30 p.m.:** General Tire 125 ARCA Menards Series East race (FloRacing)

Friday and Saturday tickets are free for kids 12 and under (with a paying adult) at the Monster Mile and start at just \$10 on Sunday. Fans can call 800-441-RACE to discuss ticket options with an account representative or visit DoverMotorSpeedway.com for more details.

Big Bounce America

In addition to the action on the World's Fastest One-Mile Oval, the Monster Mile also features the best FanZone entertainment areas in NASCAR, with a wide variety of entertainment options for the whole family.

The FanZone's centerpiece is Big Bounce America, the world's largest bounce house experience, which will be free for all fans during race weekend. Certified by Guinness World Records, Big Bounce America's bounce house, 12,000-plus square feet of colors, inflatables and adventure is the world's largest bounce house. Along with "The Giant," a 900-foot long course containing more than 50 obstacles to pass through, the Big Bounce America experience will be free for race fans before the Würth 400 on Sunday, as well as before and after Dover's races on Friday and Saturday.

Big Bounce America Hours:

- **Friday, April 28:** Noon to dusk
- **Saturday, April 29:** 9 a.m. to dusk
- **Sunday, April 30:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



The Grove Stage (All Weekend)

Amish Outlaws: The popular band will perform their traditional blend of rock, country and pop hits prior to the Würth 400 Sunday NASCAR Cup Series race. Their musical skills and memorable on-stage presence have drawn a large regional following through the years. **SHOWTIME:** Sunday, April 30, 12:30 p.m.

Dirty Deeds, The AC/DC Experience: For more than 20 years, the Boston-based musical group has been touring the U.S. with its high-energy tribute to one of the world's great rock bands and performing all of AC/DC's timeless hits. Dirty Deeds' performance is part of the second annual Monster Mile Bash, which features a cornhole tournament, food vendors, extended FanZone hours and more following the A-GAME 200 NASCAR Xfinity Series Dash 4 Cash race. **SHOWTIME:** Saturday, April 29, 4 p.m.

Triple Rail Turn: With bookings up and down the East Coast, this country-focused group is a fan-favorite with an expansive set list. **SHOWTIME:** Sunday, April 30, 10 a.m.

Party Fowl: Playing Top-40 hits from across the musical spectrum, the group has been one of the region's top cover bands for years. **SHOWTIME:** Friday, April 28, 6:30 p.m.

Monster Bash (Saturday)

Everyone is invited to enjoy live music, drink specials, FanZone attractions, a cornhole tournament, arcade games and more at Dover Motor Speedway's Monster Mile Bash on Saturday, April 29, following the A-GAME 200 NASCAR Xfinity Series Dash 4 Cash race.

The 2nd Annual Monster Mile Cornhole Tournament, presented by Crown Royal, is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Speedway Children's Charities, Dover Motor Speedway chapter, a non-profit

organization that provides funding for underserved children throughout the United States.

Hosted by Delaware Cornhole, registration for the tournament is available now through April 29 at 3:45 p.m., with the boards set up just steps from the famous Monster Monument at Victory Plaza. Additional cornhole boards will be available for non-competitive free-play as well.

The entry fee is \$50 for a two-person team, with a guaranteed prize pool of \$2,500 at stake. All ages and skill levels are welcome to participate. Registration is first-come, first-served, with a limit of 100 teams. Players can sign-up at the link above or in person in the FanZone on Saturday.

The tournament is just a part of the Monster Mile Bash festivities on April 29. Other entertainment options include:

- **Drink specials:** Happy hour drink specials all night long, featuring an assortment of Crown Royal Ready to Drink Cocktails, including Whiskey & Cola, Whiskey Lemonade, Peach Tea, & Washington Apple varieties.
- **Big Round Wheel Amusements:** Enjoy bumper cars and the popular Himalayan ride.
- **Axe throwing:** Test your aim with six available lanes in this challenging skill contest.
- **Saturday night fireworks,** presented by Kent County Tourism: The spectacular display is visible from all areas of the property at 9 p.m.

Driver Appearances (All Weekend)

Monster Monument interviews: See some of your favorite NASCAR drivers and personalities for appearances at the famous 46-foot statue on Sunday, April 30.

- **Joey Logano,** driver of the No. 22 Ford, 11:30 a.m.



- **Alex Bowman,** driver of the No. 48 Chevrolet, 11:45 a.m.
- **Martin Truex Jr.,** driver of the No. 19 Toyota, 12:05 p.m.

Arca Menards Series East autograph session: Meet the next generation of top drivers at the General Tire display, FanZone, Friday, April 28, 2:45 p.m.

NASCAR Xfinity Series autograph session: Meet stars of the NASCAR Xfinity Series before they hit the concrete in the A-GAME 200. The first 150 people in line will receive a wristband for entry. At the A-GAME display in FanZone, Saturday, April 29, 9:45 a.m.

Laps for Charity (Thursday)

Laps for Charity gives you the chance to drive your personal vehicle around the Monster Mile on Thursday, April 27. Feel the excitement as you experience the same high-banked, one-mile concrete racing surface where your favorite NASCAR drivers will compete.

Driver Options:

- For \$75 per vehicle, participants will take five laps around the track behind a Dover pace car. For those seeking an exclusive experience, we're offering a limited number of VIP sessions.
- For \$150 per vehicle, you'll take eight laps around the track, with just you and the pace car on the track.

Proceeds from this family-friendly event will help children who are in need through Speedway Children's Charities - Dover Motor Speedway Chapter. For additional information or questions about sponsorship opportunities, contact events@speedwaycharities.org.



Member News

Disabilities Advocate Uses His Voice for Good!



Henry Ritzberg, a food service worker at the Dover Air Force Base location, and member of the disability community, believes he has finally found his calling as a disabilities advocate and public speaker.

Ritzberg recently completed the John C. Maxwell curriculum, a nationally known leadership model with a focus on public speaking, teaching and personal growth. He was inspired to pursue this while attending the three-day SourceAmerica Grassroots Advocacy Conference in 2017. At the Maxwell program, he was trained in public speaking, leadership, coaching, and how to run one's own business. Ritzberg is ready to use his voice to be an advocate and share how his life has changed while being employed by ServiceSource on the DAFB. "I feel like I have a voice and I have something to say. I would like to give back to people who don't have a voice," Ritzberg told the CDCC.

Henry Ritzberg had the opportunity to exercise his passion for disability advocacy in Washington, D.C., in the midst of a prestigious company of officials such as Bernie Sanders, Lisa Blunt-Rochester, Joseph Kennedy, and more. He was given a standing ovation after a speech about his work with ServiceSource.

Ritzberg "talks from the heart" and isn't afraid to stand before big audiences. People tell Ritzberg he is "a natural" and has "the gift of gab" in this leadership role. He was referred, and paid his own way to the Speaker's Bureau in Palm Beach, Fla. "I am not lost without a cause. This was really way over my head, but I did it," he said.

Ritzberg loves his job, which keeps him physically active. He is "always in motion," which is good fit for him. When someone at the DAFB says, "Thank you, you do a wonderful job for us," that inspires him and makes him feel "extra special and extraordinary." Ritzberg plans to semi-retire in September, but will continue his work in food service at DAFB's ServiceSource. He will continue his efforts in public speaking disability advocacy to fulfill his sense of purpose and to help others.

Migrating from New York, Ritzberg has been at home in Dover for the past 24 years. In Delaware, he feels he can make "a bigger splash," especially with the support he has received from ServiceSource. Ritzberg wants people to know that people with disabilities

"want to have a fighting chance, dignity, be respected, and a sense of belonging." Ritzberg is ready and willing to use his voice, leadership, passion, and affiliation with the CDCC and Dover community to be a beacon of hope and advocate for people with disabilities.

He appreciates ServiceSource, his supervisor Tina Hunt, and the camaraderie he shares with his coworkers. "No matter what she may be going through, she has always been able to provide for her team. She has remained a leader to our group," and remains loyal, available, and accessible, Ritzberg shared. Most importantly she has given him a sense of pride to have a "Can Do" attitude. He thanks her profusely for the opportunities and her constant support.

"We are a cohesive team, we are family, we are a team with the same goal, to get the job done to the best of our ability. We often worry about one another, not of our ability, but because we are genuinely concerned about each other to ask 'How is your day? How are you feeling?' Is there anything I can do for you?" he added.

Ritzberg is inspired and motivated by his successful efforts so far, but is eager to collaborate with the local community even more. The CDCC welcomes Henry Ritzberg and ServiceSource to membership with the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce, and we look forward to seeing him continue to blossom into the disabilities advocate he was meant to be! Congratulations on your achievements thus far, Henry; we can't wait to see where your disabilities leadership journey takes you!

For more information about Henry Ritzberg or ServiceSource Delaware, please contact henryritzberg4@gmail.com or call (302) 222-1726, or visit www.servicessource.org or call (302) 222-1720.



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In 1987, President Reagan recognized March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month to increase "public awareness of the needs and the potential of Americans with developmental disabilities" and to provide the encouragement and opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential. Each March, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, and National Disability Rights Network join forces to highlight the ways in which people with and without disabilities unite to form strong communities. This campaign is critical in supporting the disabled workforce across the country, including Delaware.

ServiceSource is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to "facilitate services, resources and partnerships to support people with disabilities and others we serve, along with their families, their caregivers and community members, in order to build more inclusive communities," according to their official website. Their regional office in New Castle, Del., assists the Dover Air Force Base (DAFB) by employing disabled service workers on the base.

ServiceSource Delaware offers a wide range of services designed to assist individuals with disabilities and other significant barriers to employment to gain or regain the skills and the confidence they need to launch or resume a career. Services include assistive technology, Benefits and Financial counseling, community integration, employment services, affordable housing, interpreting & deaf services, vocational rehabilitation, and so much more. Service Source has received many awards for exemplary service and leadership for people with disabilities.

Member News



Skyline Catering: Take-It-Home Meals Made Easy!

What makes an event special and most memorable to you? Is it the décor, the reason for celebrating, the people you're with, the food? There is no doubt that food binds our bodies, minds, and relationships together. Food has a wonderful way of gathering people; it is a common denominator that sparks joy, creates memories, and unites large groups of people. Local fan favorite, Skyline Catering, LLC, operating out of Smyrna, has been spreading joy, memories, and flavor through their food officially since 2020, but this is just the icing on the cake. Skyline Catering, LLC, "the Caring Caterers," are just getting started!

To cater to the growing catering demands of the Central Delaware area and beyond, owner Liz Hansen made the decision to close the Smyrna Skyline Café (dining in) to focus on the influx of catering orders coming in from all across the state. Now, by popular demand, the CDCC is delighted to shed light on their new service line of Ready-Made Meals To Go! Your weeknight meal planning just got a whole lot simpler. Welcome culinary aficionado, Chef Jeff Moore's meals into your home for a delicious, high quality, and hand-crafted meal, surely to satisfy.

These made-to-order Heat and Eat Meals are available for pick up on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. All orders need to be placed by Thursdays at 5 p.m. the previous week. The menu changes weekly so be sure to check frequently so you don't miss Chef Jeff's bestsellers like his meatloaf, beef & dumplings, crabcakes and more – all made with love from family recipes that have stood the test of time. A sampling of these meals is Chef Jeff's famous baked oatmeal; lunch might include a Cobb or Caesar salad, wraps, soup and bread bowls; for dinner enjoy beef, chicken, and vegetarian meals with pasta, green beans and salad – the menu is constantly changing. Offering their meals to-go allows Skyline Catering to maintain their relationships with their loyal customers who really "miss their food" while they tend to be catering large events such as weddings (Liz's favorite kind of event), corporate gatherings, showers, and more across the tri-state area.

Liz and Chef Jeff bring expansive



culinary experience and passion for food and customer service. Growing up on a big family farm where Sunday dinners were mandatory, Hansen is inspired by her mother's work ethic, recipes, and care for her family, which are evident in her work with her Skyline team. They take much personal pride in what they do, not only with the food, but how things are presented, their staff, and their professionalism. They're eager to go the extra mile for their clients. Hansen isn't afraid to shoo wedding guests away from the newly married couple to remind them

to savor the moment and to take the time to eat.

"We are not afraid of a small dinner party for 10, or a wedding of 400, and everything in-between," assured Liz. The Skyline Catering team travels the entire state of Delaware and even to parts of Maryland. Together, their work ethic and level of care for each client is unmatched!

Liz and Chef Jeff (her nephew) share a mutual vision and passion for food, so working together is easy, and they are not afraid to call one another

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out when needed. A typical workday for Hansen entails admin: scheduling, inquiries, pricing, menus, contracts, ordering and other logistics. Food and the kitchen is Chef Jeff's domain. His expertise is a big part of the business, and the ideas they share are constantly coming to fruition.

The future is very bright for Skyline Catering. Within a year, they will purchase a mobile kitchen and delivery van that will help to expand the business and help service more happy customers and create happy memories. Coupled with back-to-back events throughout the week and weekends, Liz & Chef Jeff are still keeping their eye on their initial dream: to have their own upscale and full-service event venue (similar to The Waterfall venue in Wilmington) to host proms, parties, showers, and weddings on a grand

scale. The ideal plan is to have a hotel with a glass walkway, climate-controlled, that would connect their venue and event planning operations. The CDCC is proud to have this business in our membership, and even prouder to witness their journey of growth!

Think ahead and plan your weeknight dinners with ease by placing your orders for Chef Jeff's marvelous menu before they sell out! Skyline Catering, LLC, is a business to keep your tastebuds primed in the coming years, Central Delaware!

You may call and leave a message, shop in-person, or email Skyline Catering at info@skylinecateringllc.com or online at www.skylinecateringllc.com. Payments are accepted online or in-store at 100 S. Main Street, Suite 102, Smyrna, Del.



SKYLINE CATERING

CDCC joins Instant Imprints for a Ribbon Cutting

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Instant Imprints of Delaware on March 14. Chamber members and friends joined owner Bryan Drysdale and his team to celebrate their new location event was held at 62 Southgate Blvd, Suite A in New Castle, Delaware!

Instant Imprints' products and services have been showcasing the best of Delaware businesses for many years, but now with a bigger facility, the team is very excited to continue to help highlighting the amazing businesses in Delaware with promotional products they need. Instant Imprints specializes in a wide variety of marking and promotional solutions for their clients. They create custom screen printed and embroidered apparel and accessories that bring brands to life. They can create custom temporary and permanent signage to ensure your business is represented in the best, more visible way possible. From custom T-shirts, signs, banners, to uniforms and personalized gifts, the Instant Imprints team is here to help you leave a lasting impression of your brand. The team at Instant Imprints can also help you create custom print products such as brochures, flyers,



business cards, postcards, manuals, mailers, and more to deliver your message beautifully.

The Instant Imprints team has extensive experience in creating brand-boosting promotional products for various industries. Their loyal and happy customers come from retail, construction, delivery, healthcare, government, restaurants, technology, schools, and teams just to name a few. In addition to serving a diverse range of clients, Instant Imprints is proud to offer custom online stores for your organization to streamline ordering, control spending, reward your staff and/or clients, and to ensure brand consistency and integrity. Clients can actually create their own designs on their platform, iDesign, where they can

add their own text and art for personal designs in real time.

The Instant Imprints team is excited to invite the community to see their vast showroom in person to get a better idea of what Instant Imprints can create for them and to touch and feel the products for themselves. The public is invited to peruse their gallery of work examples to begin picturing their next product or design, or to request a quote!

To learn more about Instant Imprints of Delaware feel free to visit them on the web at www.instantimprints.com/centers/wilmdel or give them a call at 302-515-0207. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in congratulating the Instant Imprints team on their new, expansive facility!

Edward Jones



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GANNETT

CDCC joins La Baguette Bakery & Catering for a Ribbon Cutting

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for La Baguette Bakery & Catering on March 24. Chamber members and friends joined owners Chef Ludovic Bezy, Anita Wheeler-Bezy and their team to celebrate their 6-year Anniversary, and new food truck – Gourmandise – at 323 S. Governor’s Avenue in Dover.

La Baguette Bakery & Catering offers authentic fresh, French foods to satisfy. The bakery specializes in traditional French treats such as croissants, crepes, pies, tarts, and of course, fresh baked baguettes. The in-store menu doesn’t end there. La Baguette is also the perfect place to stop for lunch. Customers can order fresh salads, specialty sandwiches, and savory quiches to their delight. Chef Ludovic and his team are proud to make everything fresh on site daily without any additives or preservatives. The shop omits high fructose corn syrup, as well as GMO flours from its delicious offerings. They pride themselves on being a truly authentic French bakery, only providing high

quality ingredients in all menu items from top to bottom. La Baguette Bakery & Catering is also Central Delaware’s local spot for authentic European products such as cheeses, meats, and premium coffee. Let La Baguette cater your next occasion for fresh food to delight and energize any crowd!

The mission of La Baguette Bakery & Catering is to “provide fresh products to our patrons. Our authentic, fresh products reflect our passion or great food. We strive to provide excellent customer service,” shared Anita Wheeler-Bezy.

Anita Wheeler-Bezy moved to the area in 1987, and Chef Ludovic Bezy followed soon after graduating from Culinary Arts School in St. Dizier, France in 1993, where they met and married. “I asked him to come back to Delaware with me, and he said yes! He has been a chef here since 1993,” added Wheeler-Bezy.

La Baguette Bakery & Catering is excited to continue to give back to the Central Delaware community by



still working closely with the CDCC, fellow community members, and by providing many donations to the various businesses throughout the year whenever possible, especially Central Delaware’s Habitat for Humanity, First Responders. “We give back to the community every day by donating our bread at the end of the day to the homeless,” noted Wheeler-Bezy.

The CDCC is proud to witness the growth of La Baguette Bakery & Catering as they celebrate their 6th Anniver-

sary of serving Central Delaware. “Vive La France, at La Baguette! Beautiful Food, Exceptional Taste!”

To learn more about La Baguette Bakery & Catering feel free to visit them on the web at www.labaguettede.com or give them a call at 302-741-0180. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in congratulating Chef Ludovic, Anita Wheeler-Bezy and the La Baguette Bakery & Catering team on their 6-year Anniversary and new food truck – Gourmandise!

CDCC joins Ultrasound Express, LLC for a Ribbon Cutting

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Ultrasound Express, LLC on March 16. Chamber members and friends joined Marketing Director, Nina Graves, and the Ultrasound Express team to celebrate the Grand Opening of their new Milford location and new programs at 21 W. Clarke Avenue, Suite 1620 in the Milford Wellness Center.

The mission of Ultrasound Express is to “provide diagnostic and elective fetal ultrasounds in a unique, family friendly and safe environment where everyone can experience the difference.” The team at Ultrasound Express strives to provide the community with an enjoyable and relaxing ultrasound experience. The team is highly aware of the anxiety some people may experience when undergoing medical tests and waiting for the results. Ultrasound Express works hard to treat each patient with the individual care and comfort they deserve. They do this through offering same-day appointments with same-day results. Being an independent diagnostic center means they can truly meet the needs of every patient in a non-medical, family friendly environment, without being rushed and treated like just a number. The goal of Ultrasound Express is to make sure that families have as much information available to them as pos-

sible for a safe birthing or diagnostic testing experience, and also for patients to know they do not always have to go to a hospital or clinic for this service.

The services of Ultrasound Express include medical diagnostic testing, 3D & 4D ultrasounds for pregnant families to bond with their newest additions before they are born. Ultrasound Express is proud to offer the latest HD Live technology which produces views of patients’ babies in stunning detail. Ultrasound Express provides 6 varieties of elective fetal ultrasound packages from Peace of Mind, Precious Moments, See Your Baby in 3D, Bear and Me, and an Elite Package which consists of 3 sessions to bond with one’s baby. Additionally, this business offers Sneak Peek DNA testing.

Ultrasounds are incredibly useful imaging tools; however, they are not just for fetal care. Ultrasound Express is excited to serve the community with over eight types of diagnostic ultrasounds such as carotid, neck, breast, abdominal, pelvis, deep vein thrombosis, renal, testicular, knee, skin, 1st trimester measurements, 2nd & 3rd trimester OB anatomy, 2nd & 3rd trimester growth scan and nuchal translucency.

The team at Ultrasound Express is excited to finally have a new location to call home in the Milford Wellness



Village. “After 3 years of serving the greater Milford area, Ultrasound Express was flooded out of its building near the Milford Movie Theater due to the Christmas weekend freezing weather. The company was forced to move to Jefferson Ave in Milford, on the outskirts of the Milford Wellness Village. Shortly after moving to that location, the company was informed the building’s structure was severely damaged and therefore uninhabitable. Ultrasound Express was forced to quickly move to its current location on W. Clarke Ave, within the Milford Wellness Village,” shared Graves.

Ultrasound Express is excited to get more involved with the community by continuing to partner with other sim-

ilar organizations. “For example, our midwife service includes Early Access to Care for mothers needing services before they can meet with their OB-Gyn. We are also partnering with doulas and Black Mothers In Powers to ensure mothers in Delaware know of the other alternatives to childbirth,” continued Graves.

To learn more about Ultrasound Express, LLC, feel free to visit them on the web at www.ultrasound-express.com or give them a call at 302-422-2612. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in congratulating Nina Graves and the Ultrasound Express team on the Grand Opening of their new location and new programs!

CDCC joins Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital for a Ribbon Cutting!

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital on Wednesday, March 29. Chamber members and friends joined the team of Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital to celebrate the Grand Opening of their brand-new location at 4470 Forrest Avenue in Dover, Del!

Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital was founded in 2000, and since then, they have built a positive reputation upon the foundation of delivering the utmost, quality veterinary medical care with loving compassion and respect to all patients and clients. Their team is committed to providing compassionate, quality care, medicine, and surgery for their furry patients while supporting the community.

Patients and clients come to Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital in times of need. They know they can trust their team with accomplishing veterinary services such as preventative care, surgery, dental care, acupuncture, companion laser treatment, abdominal ultrasound, microchipping, pain management, radiology, and in-house

laboratory exams.

Over the years they have seen tremendous growth, from 6 employees to 25 employees. Their vision of a new animal hospital was realized in 2016. The Forrest Avenue team describes the experience as a labor of love, and they are very happy to be in their new location. They believe their patients, clients and their team deserve this wonderful, state-of-the-art building!

The Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital team knows your pets are your family, and they are happy to provide care that treats them as such. Their team works with every client on an individual basis to provide progressive and unique treatment options, personalized patient care, unrivaled service, and honest, open communication. Their priority is to nurture the human-animal bond, improve and comfortably extend the lives of clients' furry friends. Their team strives to make each patient visit beneficial and enjoyable for all family members. Through their heartfelt concern for you and your pet, they hope your experience with Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital will make you feel



part of their extended family!

All four doctors working in their practice are local Delaware natives who value and cherish the community in which they've grown up. It is very important to the team to give back to the community by strongly supporting Delaware 4H and FFA programs, Fifer Orchards, Marydel Methodist Church, Caesar Rodney High School, Dover High School, Lake Forrest FFA, Ducks Unlimited, The Children's Theatre, Friends for Caesar Rodney, and Del-

aware Livestock Expo, among others. They are excited to continue to give back to the community in their new facility for years to come!

To learn more about Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital stop by their new location, visit them on the web at www.forrestaveanimal.com or give them a call at 302-736-3000. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in congratulating the Forrest Avenue Animal Hospital team on the Grand Opening of their new facility!

CDCC joins Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC for a Ribbon Cutting!

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (CDCC) hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC, on Tuesday, March 28. Chamber members and friends joined partner, Jon LoBiondo, and his team to celebrate the Grand Opening of their new business and bin site located at 1795 Milford Harrington Highway in Milford, Del.!

Red-E-Bins is an exciting new concept to the North American market of residential and commercial waste disposal. Red-E-Bins is here just in time for your Spring-Cleaning needs! Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC, is a new company that offers a unique and innovative approach to the traditional dumpster rental process. They work hard to provide customers with a cost-effective, time-saving, and eco-friendly option for waste management. Red-E-Bins offers a range of rental options, with dumpsters available in a variety of sizes, depending on the specific needs of the client. The company's bins are designed to be lightweight and easy to maneuver, ensuring that they can be placed in any location with ease, without causing damage to property. They offer 5-, 10-, and 15-yard dumpsters for the residential customers who need to get rid of a large amount of materials

that have piled up in their homes. This new dumpster service is perfect for those who have been wanting to clean out their attic, basement, garage, or any cluttered space in their home. Whether you're renovating, relocating, or just downsizing, Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC, is ready to make the task a breeze, and carry away your junk with ease!

Red-E-Bins' goal is to take the guess work out of junk removal at affordable, all-inclusive, flat rates. Their goal is to make sure they are good to their customers by being on time, getting the job done right, and ensuring they have healthy consumer relationships in order to create organic referrals. All bins include drop-off, pick-up, and disposal so you don't have to worry. The innovative design of the bins allows this company to be able to place dumpsters where they typically aren't able to fit, without damaging surfaces. This is incredibly helpful in residential cases, but also commercial instances as well. Red-E-Bins can be placed in wooded areas, driveways, and on roofs. There is a rental package to suit the needs of any home or business, ranging from larger renovations to general clean-outs. Book your dumpster rental on your own time to fit your schedule, with no need to worry about pick-up.



Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC's revolutionary private dumpster service is designed to be as convenient and easy to use as possible, saving clients' time and money, while also helping to minimize their environmental impact. Jon and his team at Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC, are committed to providing all customers with an exceptional experience from start to finish. Start feeling lighter today!

To learn more about the company's innovative dumpster rental service, or to request a rental quote, email Red-E-Bins Sussex, LLC at redebins-DE@gmail.com or give them a call at 302-236-2713. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in congratulating Jon LoBiondo and his team on the Grand Opening of their new business!

New Member Spotlights

Introducing the Delaware Office of Auditor of Accounts!

Transparency, accountability, and leadership are all amazing and expected qualities of anyone holding a government position working on behalf of the people, especially in the state of Delaware, where the degrees of separation are very low between the tight-knit population. Delawareans value the close relationship they have with elected officials in all positions because they are accessible, reliable, and actively engaged in more ways than one.

The Central Delaware Chamber is happy to shed light on a newly-elected official, but first let's talk about the position – the Auditor of Accounts. The State Auditor serves Delawareans by providing independent objective oversight of the state government's use of taxpayer dollars and enhancing governmental economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. The Auditor of Accounts for the State of Delaware is the fiscal watchdog over other state agencies and has been in existence since July 4, 1897. The Auditor is mandated to complete the Annual Comprehen-

sive Financial Report which is a fiscal report card of the state's finances. This affects Delaware's bond rating and could impact federal funding received.

This is an incredibly important position of accountability to hold for the entire State, and the good news for Delawareans is that we are in exceptional hands! Newly elected State Auditor Lydia York brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this role. A graduate of Florida A&M University with a degree in accounting, she spent her early years working in public accounting at PriceWaterhouseCoopers. After attaining her CPA, she attended Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and graduated with an MBA, then worked for several years at some of the largest employers in Pittsburgh, Pa. A job relocation to Delaware gave Lydia the impetus to attend and graduate from Temple University's Beasley School of Law.

Lydia is a 20+ year resident of New Castle County, Delaware. Born in North Carolina and raised in Pitts-

burgh, PA., Lydia is the younger of two daughters. Her parents, both educators instilled in her a love of books, reading, and education. During her free time, she enjoys cooking, reading, and traveling.

The State Auditor is happy to become a member of the CDCC to interact and learn about all the wonderful businesses, owners, and members in Central Delaware. She looks forward to engaging with the community and bringing sound fiscal judgement to the office, entities, and Delawareans she serves.

To learn more about the State Auditor's office, please go to Auditor.Delaware.gov. To report suspected fraud and questionable uses of State resources, call 1-800-55-FRAUD (1-800-553-7283) or online, Reportfraud.auditor.delaware.gov. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in welcoming The Auditor of Accounts for the State of Delaware, Lydia York and her team into membership!



Introducing The Divine Zone, LLC!

Check in with yourself: take three deep belly breaths, drop your shoulders away from your ears, release the tension in your jaw, now in your forehead – how do you feel? Most likely, much better! Self-care is so important and translates to benefiting every aspect of your life. As the familiar expression goes – put your mask on first. This can be applied to the concept and practice of self-care. If you are not taking care of your body, mind, and soul, it can be extremely difficult to take care of others. Self-care doesn't need to be difficult or time consuming and if you are unsure of where to begin this journey, you are in the right place.

The Divine Zone, LLC is a mobile massage therapy center that will transport you to "the divine zone" of relaxation, rehabilitation, and rejuvenation! The mission of The Divine Zone is "to provide therapy to all people in order to relieve stress and tension, to improve range of motion and circulation, to enhance a state of well-being and offer a preventive lifestyle through all services provided in a proficient manner," as shared by owner Kevin O'tey. The inspiration of The Divine Zone circles back to when O'tey was just 10 years old and was occasionally requested

to rub the shoulders and neck of his grandmother, which extended to the rest of his family. Upon seeing the immediate benefits, O'tey realized in his athletic years the need and appreciation for massage therapy for himself and his community.

The Divine Zone is here to deliver the utmost care through their massage services (modalities) such as the Swedish Deep Tissue, Sports, Medical, Prenatal, Hot Stone, Neuromuscular, Trigger Point Therapy, Reflexology, and Abdominal. O'tey is a highly experienced certified massage technician, member of the Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals Association and will be able to recommend the best modality for your relaxation and therapy needs.

The benefits of these services include general relaxation, stress relief, improved circulation, muscle relaxation, reduction of anxiety, trigger point release, improvement in cellular nutrition and much more! O'tey welcomes you to experience the immediate benefits and relief of the Divine Zone for yourself – you deserve it!

O'tey is also a proud veteran with 30+ years of dedicated military and government service as a former

paratrooper. O'tey is currently an avid cyclist who has grown to love his hydroponics garden growing kale, lettuce, spinach, and herbs in the basement of his home. Two years ago, he, his wife of 21 years, and their two daughters found their forever home here in Central Delaware. "My lovely wife Samantha, who has supported my efforts from the beginning, is an international best-selling author. Together, we home-school our 7-year-old, special-needs daughter, Sydney. Our oldest daughter, Kiara, an account specialist at a wholesale club, is living on her own successfully navigating adulthood," added O'tey.

"Late last year, I made a promise to invest more time into properly marketing my business in hopes of sharing my gift to all in need. My philosophy is: 'A sound soul dwells within a calm mind and a solid body'. Through this mindset, I hope to take you all to The Divine Zone," O'tey said.

For more information about the Divine Zone, LLC Mobile Massage Therapy, please visit www.TheDivineZone.com. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in welcoming Kevin O'tey into membership!



New Member Spotlights

Introducing Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware!

The definition of a mentor, according to Merriam-Webster, is a trusted counselor or guide. Synonyms include but are not limited to tutor or coach. There are many ways to guide, teach, or counsel someone in life, depending on the topic at hand. Take a moment to think about someone in your life who has been a version of a mentor to you. How did that person impact your life? Or on the contrary, how did the absence of a mentor impact you? Either way, this reveals the importance of helping others in any way you can, especially guiding the future generations. There are 8 billion people in the world – we were never supposed to do this “thing called life” alone.

Since 1964, Big Brother Big Sisters of Delaware (BBBSDE) has been providing mentors for at-risk youth between the ages of 6 and 17 throughout the State of Delaware. Big Brothers Big Sisters has held a physical office location in Dover for over 20 years. BBBS of Delaware has operations in each of the three counties within the state and serves over 1,100 children annually. This organization is committed to its mission of serving children with one-on-one mentoring and to understanding the needs of local youth. “Our organization is well positioned to follow youth throughout their academic career and serves an integral role in helping young people graduate high

school on time, and become successful, employed members of our community,” shared Executive Director Anya Lindsey-Jenkins.

The team at BBBSDE employ a human development approach with each child that receives a mentor. BBBSDE programs offer extensive enrichment experiences for students with a heavy concentration on social-emotional learning, executive skills training, character development and college career path exploration. Mentors (“Bigs”) are vetted and specially trained thoroughly. They are matched with children (“Littles”) with similar interests based on their specific needs. “BBBSDE staff strive for mentor matches that are not only safe and suited to the child’s needs, but also harmonious and built to last,” boasts their official website. “Bigs” are volunteers who evolve into role models, coaches, personal cheerleaders, and friends for children who need support the most. Each Big Brother Big Sister relationship is unique and “carefully administered and supported by rigorous standard and trained personnel.” BBBSDE staff members are there every step of the way to support and supervise.

BBBSDE accomplishes their mission through a variety of programs that accommodate to children’s needs and schedules. Their School-Based program coordinates “Bigs” to meet with

one a week for 45-60 minutes at the child’s school to read, complete homework, or just talk over lunch. Their Beyond-School Walls program introduces the “Little” to the “Bigs” workplace for monthly meetings that allow children to explore career opportunities and develop professional skills in a real-world setting. Additionally, BBBSDE offers a Sports Buddies and JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) programs to leave a positively profound impact on the future generations.

Executive Director Anya Lindsey-Jenkins and her family moved to Delaware in 2017 and they have loved it ever since! When she isn’t doing the wonderful work of serving at-risk youth at BBBSDE, you can find her outdoors enjoying the natural beauty of Delaware’s parks and beaches. She also enjoys reading and watching documentaries.

Lindsey-Jenkins desires to increase BBBSDE’s presence in the Central Delaware community. She is dedicated to expanding their reach in Kent County and acquiring a larger facility to service the Dover youth. Mentors are critical to the success of BBBSDE and to the youth. BBBSDE is currently looking for mentors in the Dover area. If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving the community, apply at www.bbbsde.org today!



For more information about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware, please visit www.bbbsde.org or check out this video www.youtube.com/watch?v=bApehm89pYgm. Please join the CDCC in welcoming Executive Director Anya Lindsey-Jenkins and the BBBSDE team

Introducing NovaCare Rehabilitation!

The human body is world of wonder within itself! It needs upkeep, nutrition, and care to support our actions, goals, dreams, and everything in between. When you are faced with an ailment or injury it can feel as though your life has stopped and been put on pause indefinitely. You may become frustrated, hopeless, or impatient (not to mention in pain/discomfort). This is your friendly reminder that healing is a process not to be rushed, but with proper, holistic, help and care, you can be back on your feet feeling good as new in less time than you thought!

NovaCare Rehabilitation is part of the largest physical therapy network in the U.S. With almost 2,000 outpatient physical therapy centers and 7,000-plus licensed therapists, they are a leader in physical therapy excellence. NovaCare Rehabilitation is part of the Select Medical Outpatient Division, a nation-

ally renowned and community-based provider of outpatient physical therapy and rehabilitation. Their Dover, Delaware, clinic location in the Greentree Shopping Center is here to support the Central Delaware community in a plethora of physical ways that also contribute to patients’ mental well-being.

People come to NovaCare for all types of physical therapy needs all over the body. Services include recovery & reconditioning, hand therapy, occupational therapy, sports medicine, Work-Strategies (partnering with employers case managers, payors and insurers to treat and prevent work-related injuries and reduce the total workers’ compensation spend), specialized services, pediatric therapy, and prosthetics and orthotics. NovaCare’s mission is “commitment to providing an exceptional patient care experience that promotes healing and recovery in a compassion-

ate environment,” reads their information website.

NovaCare wants the public to know that they are “your partner in wellness.” Their focus every day is to deliver exceptional patient care. “Your health and wellness goals are our goals. We help you maintain your health or recover your health to get back to the activities and life that you love,” shared NovaCare Business Development Manager Kim Russell.

This healthcare company’s values are as follows: “They deliver superior quality care in all that they do. They treat others as they would like to be treated. They are results-oriented and achieve their objectives. They are team players. They are resourceful in overcoming obstacles.”

NovaCare is excited to build their connections with the community.



They believe that the CDCC is a great for connecting with individuals and businesses alike. The CDCC is happy to be a part of NovaCare’s journey, serving quality physical therapy care for Delawareans to continue living their best lives!

For more information about NovaCare and their services, please visit www.novacare.com or stop by their clinic at 128 Greentree Drive in Dover, Del. Please join the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce in welcoming NovaCare Rehabilitation into membership!

Member of the Month



NAME: Ann Haggerty

TITLE: Vice Pres. of Mission Advancement

BUSINESS: KSI

ADDRESS: X301 N. Rehoboth Blvd.,
Milford DE 19963

HOURS: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Mon-Fri

PHONE: 302-422-4014

WEBSITE: www.ksiinc.org

EMAIL: haggertya@ksiinc.org

Tell us a little about your organization.

KSI is a nonprofit focused on helping people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) live their best lives. It was started in 1962 by a group of community leaders and families looking to help train Central and Southern Delawareans with I/DD for workplace readiness and greater life independence. Over time, KSI developed programs designed to help individuals unlock their abilities’ potential and reach their personal goals.

Programs include Pre-Vocational training that provides skill-building experiences and paid work opportunities to help participants reach community employment. The Life Enrichment Program offers life skills development and ongoing community engagement to create greater life independence. The KSI Explore Program helps people with an acquired brain injury regain socialization skills and better navigate their lives. With all that, KSI includes services like door-to-door transportation, daily breakfasts and lunches, access to volunteer opportunities, and more.

Tell us about your role in the organization.

As Vice President of Mission Advancement, I am privileged to help spread KSI’s stories of success and community enhancement. Additionally, I oversee management of our annual fundraising events, including the Paths to Possibilities 5K Run/Walk, our Annual 3 Club Golf Tournament, the KSI Monster Bash and others, as well as helping to develop community and business funding partners. I also help identify expansion opportunities for KSI programs and services to better serve Delawareans with I/DD. One such example is KSI’s recent acquisition in 2023 of Camp Lenape, a summer day camp facility and program for ages 7- to 21-years-old people with disabilities that will eventually help KSI deepen its offerings to families year-round.

Tell us something that makes your organization unique.

KSI’s depth of programming gives individuals the opportunity to start from wherever their skill level is and journey step-by-step to the goals they always wanted to achieve. From learning to better interact and communicate with others, take direction and work as a group, individuals

can move through expanding experiences to be ready for independent employment or more independent living. And they can move between programs as needed to increase their successes as they grow. KSI is committed to people’s lives being improved, as well as improving their families’ lives.

What do you see for the future of your organization?

The future of KSI is about expanding our reach to meet individuals where they are with the services they need. In late 2021, KSI opened its Southern Campus in Georgetown to better service Sussex Countians with I/DD, especially seniors seeking day experiences full of stimulation and friendship. And in February 2023, KSI acquired Camp Lenape in Felton to continue the exciting summer camp experiences for children with I/DD previously offered by United Cerebral Palsy. With onsite swimming, cookouts, lots of visits from community “celebrities,” community trips and just lots of fun activities, it’s a unique service for Kent County residents. The organization also intends to make the Camp Lenape facility a year-round resource for families and community groups, offering

respite services and meeting site capabilities.

How has the Chamber helped your organization grow?

Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce has helped KSI spread its good story in numerous ways, with incredible networking and exhibit opportunities with its diverse business membership, special promotion and features in CDCC News, exposure through Leadership Central Delaware’s community tours, and much more. Every one of those tools has offered hundreds of people a personal experience with KSI and the people we serve. And that is the best way to understand the impacts our programs have on those with I/DD, as well as the successes they accomplish for themselves.

What is your best advice to other organizations?

Success is solely due to the staff that’s dedicated to making the magic happen every day for your business. Making sure they’re treated with dignity, respect and appreciation is just as important as how you treat your customers.

Ambassador’s Corner

Rev. Dr. John G. Moore Sr.



Hi there! My name is Rev. Dr. John G. Moore Sr., and it has been my delight to serve as a CDCC Ambassador for over three years. In my statewide occupation as Director of Philanthropy and Engagement for the United Way of Delaware, I have been affiliated with several Chambers of Commerce in the First State. By far, the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce is the cream of the crop and the best of the best.

As an ambassador, I am privileged to be an official representative of the CDCC

providing mentoring to new members and serving as a liaison for the hundreds of current members by promoting growth and brand awareness through the mission of the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce. I truly enjoy participating in the energetic business mixers, attending the incredible programs and joining in on the ribbon cutting ceremonies.

A highlight for me as an ambassador has been facilitating leadership and communication sessions at meetings for the CDCC Board of Directors and several

classes of Leadership Central Delaware. There is sound leadership throughout the entire CDCC organization, which gives me such pride to serve as an ambassador. As a retired Air Force veteran and pastor of a local church, I truly know the value of building deep relationships and broadening one’s network—and through the wonderful CDCC, building these bridges becomes seamless. Kent County is home of the capital city of Delaware, and we are so fortunate to have a “Capital A” class Chamber of Commerce.

Congratulations - You’re a 10!

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce of Commerce is excited to introduce a monthly feature for 2023 in the Chamber Connections. “Congratulations – You’re a 10!” is designed to recognize, congratulate and highlight recently renewed members who are celebrating membership anniversaries in increments of 10.



Thank You for Your Renewal!

RENEWALS FOR FEBRUARY

NAME of COMPANY	# of YEARS	NAME of COMPANY	# of YEARS
Dover Army Navy Store, Inc.	52	HAASS' Family Butcher Shop	9
BBSI	51	Law Offices of Bonnie M. Benson	9
Family Dental Associates	43	The Moving Experience	9
The Elizabeth W. Murphey School, Inc.	41	Liberty Tax Service	8
POLYTECH School District	37	Bennie Smith Funeral & Limousine Services	7
Kent County Association of REALTORS	35	Comfort Suites – Dover	7
Fifer's Farm Store & Kitchen	34	CompleteCare at Silver Lake	6
512th Airlift Wing	33	DEMEC	6
Forever Media Inc.	29	People Ready	6
Kent Sign Co.	24	AARP Delaware	5
Delaware Association of REALTORS	22	Meridian Bank Mortgage Center	5
Holiday Inn Express	22	Miller's Roofing & Coating, LLC	5
W.D. Pressley, Inc.	21	Snow's Painting Services, LLC	5
First State Manufactured Housing Assoc.	20	Tidewater Utilities, Inc.	5
RRW Inc Home Instead Care	20	Fly High Cheer and Tumble	4
Bob Johnsons Computer Stuff, Inc	19	Eunity Solutions	3
Sleep Inn and Suites	15	Miller Mortgage Group at AnnieMac Home Mortgage	3
Diamond State Pest Control, LLC	14	Mishoe	3
Jeweler's Loupe	14	Shortcutz Lawn & Landscape Co	3
Delaware Division for the Visually Impaired	13	Bea Delightful	2
State Farm Insurance – Bennett Ins. Agency Inc.	13	High Ground Creative LLC	2
Corp1, Inc.	12	Hunt Military Communities	2
Pizzadili's Deli and Catering/Winery	12	Key 2 Clarity Counseling Services	2
American Legion Post 14 & Station 64	10	McDonald's	2
Carey Insurance Group	10	Smyrna Nutrition	2
Delaware Health Information Network	10	Eddee Boone Consultant LCC	1
		Homestead Gardens	1
		Legal Shield – Jason King	1
		Milford Wellness Village	1

New Members

Banning Hardscapes

Ronald Banning
16 Bonnie Court #14
Smyrna, DE 19977
302-420-3476

Best Buds

Eric Hill
516 Jefferic Blvd.
Dover, DE 19901
302-505-5000

Delaware Office of Auditor of Accounts

Lisa Sneed
401 Federal Street, 3rd Fl.
Dover, DE 19901
302-612-2368

Delaware Valley Medigap

John Egger
108 Patriot Drive, Suite A
Middletown, DE 19709
302-487-1961

Divine Zone LLC

Kevin O'tey
8 Main Street / PO Box 62
Magnolia, DE 19962
202-520-5136

Emerald City Wash World, Inc

Robin Holt
730 W Division Street
Dover, DE 19904
302-734-1230

Energize Delaware

Robin Coventry
500 W. Loockerman Street
Suite 400
Dover, DE 19904
302-883-3048

Garner Group Financial, LLC

Eugene Garner
36934 Horsey Church
Road
Delmar, DE 19940
302-747-9293

Harrington Dialysis – Davita

Rebecca Hurlery
2000 Midway Drive
Harrington, DE 19952
302-305-2347

High Horse Performance

Rebecca Schwartz
93 Artisan Drive, Suite 6
Smyrna, DE 19977
888-894-1115

Milford Post 3, American Legion, Inc.

Rebecca Crouser
664 N Dupont Blvd.
Milford, DE 19963
302-632-5460

Red-e-bins Sussex LLC

Jon LoBiondo
3 Iroquois Avenue
Milford, DE 19963
302-236-2713

Top Spin Productions DJ and Photobooth Services

Milton Rivera
79 Joshua Drive
Magnolia, DE 19962
347-538-4344

Coffee On Us!

SPONSORED BY
Tre Sorelle Dolce

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce would love to connect you with something delicious! The photograph on our front pageheader changes each month, depicting picturesque and unique locations right here in Central Delaware. These photos are the subject of our monthly "Coffee On Us" contest.

If you recognize the location of the header picture on our front page, be the FIRST PERSON to CALL the CDCC Office (302-734-7513) with the correct answer and you will win a \$10 gift card to:



You'll also see your picture and your company name on our Facebook page – and, of course, you'll win bragging rights for the month!

The winner of the last "Coffee On Us" Contest was Nancy Quade of New Image Inc., for correctly identifying Kent County Wastewater Facilities in Milford! Congratulations, Nancy – and thank you for playing our game!

Please note that the same person is qualified to win the Coffee on Us Contest only twice per calendar year.

