

THE GREATER POCONO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 22nd ANNUAL EXPO SPONSORED BY GEISINGER/GEISINGER HEALTH PLAN

Geisinger/Geisinger Health Plan was the major sponsor of the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce Expo 2009. The event was held at East Stroudsburg University's Koehler Field House on May 6th and May 7th.

PPL was the sponsor of the two-hour VIP Reception, which gave all the exhibitors and guests an opportunity to networks with each other before the official ribbon cutting ceremony.

Dennis Jeter, of A Sound Strategy, graced everyone with singing our National Anthem.

Dr. Glenn Steele, President and CEO of Geisinger Health Systems cut the ribbon symbolizing the start of EXPO 2009. Also taking part in the ribbon cutting ceremony was Tobyhanna Army Depot's Commander Colonel Ronald Alberto.



With more than 175 businesses displayed their goods and/or services. Each person attending the event was given a canvas tote bag, printed with the names of the sponsors.

The Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce would like to thank our Major Sponsor Geisinger/Geisinger Health Plan, who has sponsored this event for the past three years, and PPL for, once again, sponsoring the VIP Reception. A thank you also goes out to other sponsors including: Advanced Business Equipment, College Nannies & Tutors, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, First National Bank of Palmerton, Grandpa Pete's Bagels, Greenleaf Pro-

ductions, Jewish Home of Eastern PA, LeTip of Stroudsburg, Lite 93.5, 107 the Bone, 840/960 Voice of the Poconos, Pencor Services, Pocono Business Journal, Pocono Community Bank, Pocono Medical Center, Ray Price Stroud Ford Lincoln Mercury, Reilly Associates, ReMax Results, and WBRE/WYOU.

See page 7 for EXPO 2009 Exhibitor Winners!

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**Bizzy
Awards**

For More Information
~or~
To Watch This Event,
www.bizzyawards.com

Coming:
September 2009



GREATER POCONO
Business Magazine TV Show

**Greater Pocono Business
Magazine TV Show**

%our Local Business and
Economic News Report+
Airtimes: Mondays at 4:30 p.m.,
Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.,
and Sundays at 12:00 noon on
Blue Ridge Cable TV 13.
WWW.GeorgeTV.com

June 2009 Calendar of Events

June 2	<i>Business for Breakfast</i> 7:30 a.m. – GPCC
June 5	<i>Government Affairs Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – Pocono Inn Town
June 8	<i>Business Card Exchange</i> 5:00 p.m. – ESU Science & Technology Bldg. – East Stroudsburg
June 9	<i>Economic Development/Transportation Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 9	<i>Women in Business Luncheon</i> Noon – Alaska Pete's - Marshalls Creek
June 10	<i>West End Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – Western Pocono Community Library Brodheads ville
June 11	<i>Women in Business Steering Committee</i> 8:30 a.m. – GPCC
June 12	<i>Leadership Pocono</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 15	<i>Energy Committee</i> 8:30 a.m. – GPCC
June 16	<i>Business Development Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 17	<i>HR Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 18	<i>Expo Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 19	<i>Monthly Breakfast</i> 7:30 a.m. Pocono Inn Town – Stroudsburg
June 19	<i>Finance Committee</i> 11:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 22	<i>Executive Committee</i> 8:30 a.m. – GPCC
June 23	<i>Board of Directors</i> 8:30 a.m. – Pocono Inn Town – Stroudsburg
June 24	<i>Membership Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC
June 26	<i>Environmental Committee</i> 8:00 a.m. – GPCC

GPCC MISSION STATEMENT

Act as A Unified Voice of Business
Dedicated to the Prosperity of all
Commerce
Leading to the Enhancement of
the Quality of Life
in our region and surrounding areas.

From the Chairman of the Board

Human Capital

June 2009 marks the final month of my term as Chairman of the GPCC's Board. The past sixteen months have reinforced my belief that our Chamber thrives on "Human Capital". Unlike its monetary counterpart, Human Capital defies a quantitative value. It is the energy, foresight and spirit that motivate the GPCC's members and leaders to develop and execute short and long term goals for the organization, sponsor and conduct events, and share vocational expertise. Here are a few examples:



Since my last column, I've witnessed our Energy Committee's emergence as a new source of member value. Under the direction of Tom Finn, the energy committee conducted a successful seminar on geo-thermal and "heat transfer" building designs for local use. David Strunk of Strunk-Albert Engineering in East Stroudsburg delivered a concise presentation on the topic.

Maryellen Strunk and the staff at Pocono Business Journal continue to promote GPCC members and events at a level not previously seen in my twenty two years of living and working in this community.

In May three of our corporate and institutional members Geisinger Health Systems, PPLCorp and Tobyhanna Army Depot ("TAD") joined forces to sponsor and open the Chamber's 22nd annual Business Expo. TAD Commander Colonel Ronald Alberto reminded all who attended the opening ceremony how the lives of our men and women in uniform depend on the skill and work ethic of TAD employees.

A reality of Human Capital is its life cycle. As I write this column, I note with sadness the passing of Tom Breslauer, age 92. A past recipient of the GPCC's "Citizen of the Year" award in 2007, Tom's life story, from German concentration camp survivor to successful business owner to ageless motivational speaker leaves a void in our community's human capital. If you attended the Chamber's Annual Awards banquet in November, 2007 you'll recall Tom's message of strength in the face of adversity. I suggest we honor Tom Breslauer's lifetime accomplishments by allowing his indomitable spirit and passion for life to inspire us. Perhaps it is timely that Tom's passing occurs as the Leadership Pocono program prepares for its thirteenth graduation ceremony on June 25th. This is how the Chamber, through its "LP" program renews and nurtures our communities' "Human Capital".

I ask each Chamber member to reflect on what membership means for you. Consider for a moment the absence of Chamber membership, the absence of contact with the Human Capital that populates our region. Now is the time to renew your commitment, not just as a member on paper, but as a participant in the events that most interest you.

On Tuesday June 23rd, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. the Board of Directors of the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce will conduct an annual meeting at the Pocono Inn Towne. While members are encouraged to attend all Board meetings, the annual meeting is an opportunity to participate in the election of new Board members and Officers for the coming year. Why not join us on June 23rd?

Joseph P. McDonald, Jr., Esq.
Chairman

Membership Appreciation

If you were sipping on a tropical drink, wearing your favorite Hawaiian clothing, you must have attended the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce Hawaiian Theme Membership Appreciation Party on May 11th at Great Bear Golf & Country Club.



Membership Appreciation at Great Bear Golf & Country Club

This outstanding event provided fabulous food, excellent networking, and an evening of relaxation. Call Great Bear Golf & Country Club at 570-223-2000 to make a reservation for dinner or to discuss an upcoming event you may be considering.

Women in Business

The June Women in Business luncheon, sponsored by Pocono Pistol Club, was held at the Siamsa Irish Pub in Stroudsburg. The topic "10 Safety Tips for Women" was presented by the Pennsylvania State Police.



May Women in Business Luncheon at Siamsa Irish Pub

The June luncheon will be held at Alaska Pete's in Marshalls Creek and is being sponsored by Betsi Olmstead of Pocono Lutheran Village. The topic "Personal Finance in these Economic Times" is being presented by Carol Owens of Riley and Company.

For more information on upcoming WIB lunches, to donate a door prize, or to sponsor a luncheon, please contact Miriam Conway at 570.421.4433.

**Office Space for Lease at
the Greater Pocono
Chamber of Commerce
Building.**

**Call 570.421.4433 for more
information.**

SAVE THIS DATE !

MONDAY JULY 20, 2009

**GPCC
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Anyone who is interested in
participating as a Golfer or a Sponsor,
Please contact Patricia Metzgar at
570.421.4433

Members in the News

ActionCOACH of NEPA Offers 90 Day Planning Session to Local Business Owners. You have heard the old adage; "Most businesses don't plan to fail....they simply fail to plan!" Don't let this be you!!!

If you suffer from "Mondayitis" every day or simply seem to have a lack of direction and focus, come to GrowthCLUB and find out why successful businesses are doing business planning. You will also find out why businesses that plan increase their success.

ActionCOACH, the world's #1 business coaching firm will be holding a GrowthCLUB – 90 Day Business Planning workshop for local business owners who lack having personal and business plans. GrowthCLUB is a one day workshop that will help business owners set company goals and find the strategies to achieve those goals. Each business owner will be coached through a 90 day plan to get their business rockin' for the third quarter!

At GrowthCLUB, attendees will set goals, evaluate where they are today, and pick the winning strategies to move their business forward during the next quarter. They will leave with a complete finished workbook, a one page strategic plan summary, a 10x10 marketing plan, and a weekly action plan.

This power packed intense workshop will be held on Friday, June 12th from 8:30am until 4:30pm, in the Stroudsburg area. The investment for this workshop is \$299.95. Register with Allison Anderson by calling 570-517-7100 or e-mailing allisonanderson@actioncoach.com.

"GrowthCLUB drove home the importance of planning and implementing, then follow through!" stated Bev, an East Stroudsburg Business Owner.

Michael Baxter & Associates Commercial Real Estate & Property Management (MB&A) will present a seminar on how to take advantage of this challenging market. Topics include market trends, how to structure an offer, examples of non-traditional/creative sales, and showcase "Seller-Motivated" properties. Commercial lenders will also be in attendance.

Seminar will be presented on Thursday, June 11th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Terraview Facility of Stroudsmoor Country Inn, Stroudsburg. Call 570-421-7666 to RSVP or with any questions.

MB&A is the leading commercial real estate firm in the Pocono Mountain region. Over the past 10 years, MB&A has sold and leased over \$200 million of commercial real estate. According to the 2008 statistics from the Pocono Mountain Associates of REATLORS®, MB&A has sold and leased over three times the amount of commercial real estate than its nearest competitor.

East Stroudsburg University's Center for Research and Economic Development (CFRED) is accepting applications for 2009-2010 Employee-

Training Grants from the Workforce and Economic Development Network of Pennsylvania (WEDnetPA). Funding for WEDnetPA is provided by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

The WEDnetPA Program provides qualified companies with funds for training their employees in Basic Skills up to \$450 per eligible employee and in Information Technology up to \$850 per eligible employee. Companies may qualify for a total of \$75,000 for basic skills and \$50,000 for IT training. Funding is available primarily to manufacturing and technology-based industries including financial, healthcare, biotech and environmental-tech companies. Companies not eligible for funding include point-of-sale retailers, training vendors, government, education and non-profit organizations (except for healthcare institutions and agencies).

CFRED will be accepting applications for WEDnetPA funding through July 3, 2009. Grants will be awarded at the end of August for fiscal year July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010. During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, ESU received over \$600,000 in WEDnetPA funding that supported over 35 companies and 47 contracts for training grants.

WEDnetPA's mission is to build and strengthen employee productivity in Pennsylvania's workforce by supporting training that will put employees on a path to higher performance.

Through WEDnetPA, companies can take advantage of Guaranteed Free Training, a funding program designed to leverage a firm's training dollar, improve employee productivity and strengthen its competitiveness in the marketplace. Companies identify their own training needs, which may involve skills that are general to the workplace or specific to their industry. Companies also choose their own training providers: on-line courseware or traditional classroom instruction, conducted by either in-house staff or third-party trainers.

ESU is one of the 33 WEDnetPA partners authorized to apply for funding on a company's behalf. Information is available on-line at www.wednetpa.com. For further details or to apply for a WEDnetPA grant, contact Miguel Barbosa, Director of Workforce Development, at 570-422-7920.

Two Realtors join **Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins & Associates**. Charlotte Ashworth and Hantaheritiana Andriamahay have joined Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins & Associates

Dominick J. Sacci, the company's SVP/GM says, "Charlotte will be working out of our Bushkill office, and Hantaheritiana will be working out of our Brodheadsville location".

Charlotte has been licensed since 2003 and previously worked with Century 21 Millennium Real Estate. She

originates from Queens, New York and has been living in the Poconos for the last eleven years. Charlotte has a BA in Economics from East Stroudsburg University.

Charlotte was recruited by the company's Associate Broker/Sales Manager, Lisa Flory. Lisa says, "I am proud that Charlotte discovered the value of partnering with us. We value our sales associates and realize that they are our most valuable resource. I look forward to being successful with Charlotte".

Hantaheritiana is new to the real estate industry and has been an assistant teacher for a private daycare. She is originally from Madagascar and has been residing in Blakeslee for the last five years. "Hanta" is currently studying Business Administration and was recruited by Patricia Blank Toombs, the firm's VP/Sales and Vacation Rental Manager.

Kathleen Beam joins **Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins & Associates.**

Kathleen Beam has joined Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate, Wilkins & Associates and will be working out of their West End office, announces the company's SVP/GM, Dominick J. Sacchi.

Kathleen has been licensed since 1998. She had previously worked with Coldwell Banker Phyllis Ruben Real Estate and Dominion Mortgage Co. She originates from Syracuse, NY, and has been living in the Poconos for the last eleven years.

Kathleen was recruited by the company's Executive Vice President, Heather D'Adamo. Heather says, "I am glad that Kathleen decided to join us. She sees the value of being with a company that provides agents the tools they need in this market and why one in four families trust our company with the sale or purchase of their home. Now Kathleen can be a part of that success."

Beam is an ePro certified Realtor®, which is the National Association of Realtors designation that certifies real estate professionals as Internet Professionals. She is also a licensed EMT volunteer at the Towamensing Fire Co. in Carbon County.



Annette Ifill has joined **Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate, Wilkins & Associates** and will be working out of their Bushkill office, announces the company's SVP/GM, Dominick J. Sacchi.

Annette has been licensed since February of 1997. She was previously employed for ten years by Oppenheimer Capital and Insurance Servs Office as an Executive Assistant for VP's and AVP's. Annette originates from Barbados, and

has been living in the Poconos for the last thirteen years.

Ifill was recruited by the company's Associate Broker/Sales Manager, Lisa Flory. Lisa says, "I am happy to see that our family of sales associates is growing as so many other companies are downsizing. Along with our last merger with Coldwell Banker Phyllis Ruben RE and by agents like Annette joining us, we have accumulated the best talent under one roof. It isn't by accident that one in four families trust our company with the sale or purchase of their home".

Shawnee Mountain Ski Area has always been recognized for its excellent winter sports and now they are becoming well known for something else, unique outdoor theme festivals held during the summer and fall. In addition to a Celtic festival, Garlic festival, Rodeo and Hot Air Balloon festival, Shawnee Mountain will hold a new event



in July called The Poconos' Wurst Festival.

Kevin Adams, a member of the festival planning team explains, "the Wurst Festival is modeled after our other

successful events. This 2 day festival will feature premium entertainment, ethnic food, beverages and crafts as well as interesting novelty acts."

Adams further adds, "festivals are attracting thousands of tourists and local residents and there are several ways for businesses to get involved and market themselves, either as a vendor or as a sponsor."

Dates for these upcoming events in 2009 are: Shawnee Celtic Festival-June 27 & 28, Poconos' Wurst Festival-July 18 & 19, Pocono Garlic Festival-September 5 & 6, Rodeo and Chili Cook-off-September 26 & 27, Autumn Timber and Balloon Festival-October 16, 17 & 18.

More festival information can be found on their website, shawneemt.com or by contacting Kevin Adams at (570) 421-7231 ext.233.

Pocono Healthy Communities Alliance (PHCA) and NEPA Community Federal Credit Union recently teamed up to discuss the needs of Monroe County as they relate to financial stability. Making effective financial decisions and knowing how to manage money are critical skills to enjoying a secure financial future. However, many individuals and families lack the knowledge necessary to make sound financial choices, as evidenced by falling savings rates, mounting consumer debt, and a growing dependence on alternative banking institutions. Research shows that the majority of Americans have insufficient knowledge about concepts related to personal finance and basic economics. Additionally, financial literacy among low to moderate income populations has shown to be significantly low, resulting in con-

sumers that are inadequately prepared to make financial decisions.

Due to changes in technology in both the type and delivery of financial services, individuals with low to moderate income encounter great challenges when making appropriate financial decisions. Financial services also have become more varied in their makeup and sophistication, making it increasingly difficult for consumers to make astute choices among financial services. "The NEPA Federal Credit Union's financial literacy seminars are an opportunity to gain tips on budget management and financial planning. These skills are useful to all residents, regardless of income level," says Michael Tukeva, Executive Director of PHCA. There are two seminars currently scheduled. On June 17th, Credit Cards Anonymous: Get a Handle on it will provide education on how to consolidate debt and lower your monthly payments. On July 15th, Lean, Mean Credit Management will share advice and tips on establishing credit and increasing your credit score. Both seminars will be held at NEPA Community Federal Credit Union located on 935 Clay Avenue, Stroudsburg. For more information, contact Michael Tukeva, PHCA Executive Director at 570.517.3953 or email to mtukeva@co.monroe.pa.us.

On April 30th **Ramsour Chiropractic/Align Life** team had its first ever TAKE BACK YOUR HEALTH event here in the Poconos! Dr. Brettney Ramsour, winner of The Healthy Workplace Award for small businesses 2008, takes his commitment very seriously. He truly believes that everyone can have a healthier lifestyle and strives to educate as many people as possible on how to do so. His belief has had a rippling effect! People in the Pocono's are buzzing about the Take Back Your Health event and are eagerly inquiring about future events.

The Take Back Your Health event was a hands-on, get up and move, educational experience! A D.J. played while Dr. Brettney demonstrated breathing techniques and movements designed to increase your energy. Using a hands on approach made learning these simple techniques easier to commit to memory and left participants feeling confident in following through with these techniques during their everyday lifestyles.

His partner Dr. Joseph Esposito of Align Life also made an impact on many. His dedication to a healthier lifestyle compelled him to fly in from Illinois for this event. He spoke about how to reduce your risk of cancer & toxins that we accumulate on a daily basis in our bodies. Dr. Esposito's quest for health led him to create and design the Ultimate Body Cleanse detox system, proving his thorough commitment to healthier living.

Dr. Ramsour showed further his commitment to educating others by generously donating prizes for the games that were played. Prizes included massage certificates, detox systems and weight loss programs. The admission/donation of \$5.00 collected in advance was given to Health

Missions which is an organization of doctors who go overseas to help others in need. Ramsour/ Align Life's next event is a Boot Camp to educate those with a strong commitment to taking control of their health. This is a must attend, never been done before, event that is sure to encourage us all towards a healthier lifestyle. For more information about this and future health events please call 1-877-25-Chiro.

Keller Williams Realty "Red Day" is the real estate agency's service initiative dedicated to improving its local community. On May 14th, the local Keller Williams "crew" visited Pocono Area Transitional Housing in Stroudsburg



and spent several hours helping Sharon Taylor with a myriad of tasks. They were so impressed with the organization that they are planning to go back on a regular basis.

This program was developed by the parent Keller Williams' Company and includes all their agencies across the United States. It is one of the largest events ever undertaken by the real estate industry.



Teresa A. Cuomo Mickens of Sciota, Pa., an associate broker with **Coldwell Banker Commercial Pennco Real Estate** in Stroudsburg, Pa., has earned a spot in the company's Bronze Level Circle of Distinction based on her transaction revenue for 2008. The Circle of Distinction is an honor bestowed on the

top ranking producers among the nation's Coldwell Banker Commercial professionals.

"Terri has demonstrated exceptional performance that exemplifies excellence in client service for which Coldwell Banker Commercial professionals are known. She is a true

asset to our organization,” said Rick Davidson, president and CO of Coldwell Banker Commercial Affiliates Inc.

“This is an extraordinary accomplishment and we congratulate Terri on her accomplishment,” said Spiros Bili-anos, CCIM, broker/owner of Coldwell Banker Commercial Pennco Real Estate. Recent sales transactions brokered by

Terri which were considered for her Bronze award include a \$5.5 million sale of an office building located in Allentown, Pa., and a \$2.5 million sale of a re-development site located in Effort, Pa.

Mickens earned her real estate license in 2003 and joined Coldwell Banker Commercial in 2006. During her nearly six years in commercial real estate in Northeastern Pennsylvania, she has assisted regional and national clients with their commercial real estate needs. She has completed all educational and sales transaction requirements to become a Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) recognizing her expertise in commercial and investment real estate, a distinction held by less than 6 percent of the estimated 150,000 commercial real estate practitioners nationwide and making Mickens the only female designee in Monroe County.



Pocono Business Journal's Publisher Receives SBA Small Business Award. The U.S. Small Business Administration's Philadelphia District Office has just announced that Marynell Strunk, publisher of Pocono Business

Journal, is one of nine recipients of the 2009 Small Business Award Winners and has been named “Small Business Journalist of the Year” for 2009. The SBA's Philadelphia District Director, David Dickson, officially presented the winners with their awards at the annual “Celebration of Small Business” event held in Philadelphia. The event was hosted by the Advocates for Small Business (ASB).

“The Philadelphia District Office's annual ‘Celebration of Small Business’ event is an opportunity to recognize the achievements of small business and its advocates in Eastern Pennsylvania,” said Dickson. “Every year the award winners honored at this event have truly distinguished themselves but this year's winners are a special testimony to the tenacity of the small business community as it continues to find ways to grow, despite today's unpredictable economy.”

“It is an honor to be chosen for this award. Being instrumental in developing a newspaper to serve the Pocono business community, and having the ability to share the stories of the successes, challenges and innovation of the region with over 25,000 readers is an exciting task,” said Strunk.

EXPO 2009 Winners!

Each year, the Chamber honors exhibitors in several categories. This year's award recipients were:



Most Interactive Booth
Pocono Mountain School District
Photo courtesy of VIP Studios



Most Creative
Strauser Nature's Helper
Photo courtesy of VIP Studios



Best of Show
Blakeslee Home Improvement
Photo courtesy of VIP Studios

Ribbon Cuttings

BAYADA NURSES



Bayada Nurses has just opened their newest location at 14 Eagles Glenn Mall in East Stroudsburg. Bayada Nurses provides a full range of home care services delivered with compassion, excellence, and reliability, customized to meet the client's individual needs; RNs, LPNs, HHAs, Therapists, and MSWs. With their expertise in continuous care nursing, they are able to transition even the most complex cases, from hospital to home. For more information contact them at 570.421.3742 or visit their website at www.bayada.com.

COLLEGE NANNIES & TUTORS



College Nannies & Tutors, the nation's largest nanny resource Builds Stronger Families™ by offering a complete set of nanny placement, on-call nannies and professional babysitting services that lead to happy children. They also offer customized tutoring, homework help, and college prep services. Visit them at Fountain Springs East on Route 611 in Tannersville or give them a call today at 570.620.1300.

CLOSE THE LOOP



After 9 years of offering recycled products online as a dot com business, Close the Loop, LLC has opened its 1st retail store. The store is located right here in the Poconos. The location is on Rt 209 at the corner of Frable Road, near Gould's Farm Market in Brodheads-ville. Since Close the Loop was founded in 2000, they have recycled 7 MILLION pounds of tires for new & beneficial uses (rubber mulch for playgrounds, landscaping, equestrian, military use, etc), and over 100,000 lbs of recycled plastic. The retail store offers rubber mulch, timbers & tiles/pavers, glass mulch, cocoa shell mulch, plastic fencing, and many other unique recycled gift items, made in the USA. Hours are Mon-Fri 9am-3pm or anytime by appointment by calling 570.629.8414, or visit their website at www.closesthe-loop.com

YUTZ-MERKLE



Yutz-Merkle Insurance Agency recently held a ribbon cutting at their new location at RR 14, Box 7323 (Route 611) Stroudsburg. They are a full service agent offering many insurance products, such as Personal, Commercial, Life & Health, and Financial Services. For more information on what they offer, contact them at 570-421-7300 or visit their website at www.yutzmerkle.com

PPL Sponsors The 2009 Youth Appreciation Day Awards Luncheon

The Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee honored ten area students at their Youth Appreciation Day Awards Luncheon that was held on May 26, 2009 at Pocono Inn Town. PPL was the proud sponsor of this event. Mr. Robert Phillips, IOM, President/CEO welcomed everyone and introduced Mr. James Becker, Chair of the Education Committee. Mr. Becker talked about what this award signifies and introduced Carol Huffman, Youth Appreciation Day Chair, who presented the awards.



Youth Appreciation Day recognizes students who have overcome significant challenges to achieve success. They are awarded based on their overall accomplishments and they are not the top athletes or scholars.

Those students that were honored were: **Tanya Keitt**, East Stroudsburg High School-North, **Angela Achey**, East Stroudsburg High School-South, **Michael Pennington**, Monroe Career & Technical Institute, **Corinthia Matsumoto**, Notre Dame High School, **Michael Boorstein**, PA CareerLink of Monroe County, **Kristen Sherer**, Pleasant Valley High School, **Sean Gaughan**, Pocono Mountain East

High School, **Jacqueline Armstrong**, Pocono Mountain West High School, **Thomas Hefner**, Shawnee Academy, The Beacon School, and **Victoria Carter**, Stroudsburg High School.

The honorees received gifts donated by Big Wheel Roller Skating Center, Bushkill Falls, Carole Ann Bowyer, Marianne Chester, Community Bank & Trust, East Stroudsburg University, ESSA Bank & Trust, First National Bank of Palmerton, Geisinger, Great Wolf Lodge, KNBT, Division of National Penn Bank, Leadership Pocono, Inc., Northampton Community College, Penn Security Bank & Trust Co., Pennstar Bank, Pocono Community Bank, Pocono Family YMCA, Sherman Theater, and Wayne Bank.

Complimentary lunches were provided by Nancy Cross, Bruce Denlinger, Maryanne Heeter, Elizabeth Koster, Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corp, Elisa Rosario, Barbara Samet, and Shawnee Academy/The Beacon School.

The recipients were also given certificates from the Senate, House of Representatives, and the County Commissioners.

Welcome New Members

The following new members are not listed in the 2008 Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide.
Please be sure to add this page to your copy of the Directory.

Apostle Art

Valerie Sagheddu
3059 Emerald Blvd.
Long Pond, PA 18334
570.972.7939
apostleart@epix.net
www.epix.net
INTERIOR DESIGN

AXA Advisors, LLC

Blake R. Martin
RR 2, Box 2579
Cresco, PA 18326
570.595.7447
570.595.7226
blake.martin@axa-advisors.com
www.blakermartin.com
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Maureen H. Christy, CPA

Maureen H. Christy
6 Evergreen Lakes
Kunkletown, PA 18058
610.681.6694
mhccpa@ptd.net
ACCOUNTANTS-CERTIFIED
PUBLIC

Dakota Electric, LLC

Paul Sylvester
PO Box 253
Kresgeville, PA 18333
610.579.3331
dakotaelectric88@yahoo.com
www.dakotaelectric.vpweb.com
ELECTRICAL

Golf with Kim

Kim A. Kleinle
PO Box 1124
Tobyhanna, PA 18466
570.242.4298
kkleinle@gmail.com
www.golfwithkim.com
GOLF INSTRUCTION

Healthmarkets

Nickey Baxter
32 Olde Mill Run
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570.420.1684
570.476.6799
nickey.baxter@healthmarketssales.com
www.nickeybaxter-ins.com
INSURANCE

LA Anna Chapel, LLC

Elika Almeida
2857 Paradise Road, #602
Las Vegas, NV 89109
570.994.4119
702.552.9682
elika@ptd.net
www.laannachapel.com
EVENT PLANNER

Metro Public Adjustment

Michelle Murphy
189 Matterhorn Dr.
Effort, PA 18330
570.730.8607
570.629.6078
michelleem1970@hotmail.com
www.metro-pa.com
INSURANCE ADJUSTERS

Minky's Mansion/Party Clown & Craft

Phyllis King-Robert
20 Alpine Lake
Henryville, PA 18332
570.619.7076
minkymotors@yahoo.com
www.minky'smansion.com
ENTERTAINMENT

Passion Parties by Trish

Patricia Elston
PO Box 857
Blakeslee, PA 18610
917.406.6679
570.646.6637
cheyennelo457@yahoo.com
www.trypassion.com
ENTERTAINMENT-PARTIES

The Pocono Internet Broadcasting, Co., LLC

Robert Miller
PO Box 203
Mt. Pocono, PA 18344
570.350.3810
rmiller@pibco1.com
www.pibco1.com
INTERNET RADIO STATION

Uptown Shine (Handwashing & Detailing)

Keith Wilson
RR 1, Box 711
Tannersville, PA 18372
570.216.4114
uptownshine@netzero.net
www.uptownshine.com
CAR WASH

Monthly Breakfast

Pennstar Bank was the sponsor for the May 15, 2009 monthly breakfast that was held at Pocono Inn Town.

Ms. Annette Merlino, Manager of Pennstar Bank's Bartonsville office introduced Mr. David Oberheu, Regional Manager of Pennstar Bank, who is responsible for three counties; Wayne, Pike and Monroe.



From left to right, Robert Phillips, IOM, Cindi Mahoney, Annette Merlino, John Jablonski, David Oberheu

Mr. Oberheu reported that Pennstar Bank has six branches in Monroe County and he discussed the different locations and the managers of each location. Their branches rank 2nd in the company and they will continue to work with local government as the community continues to change and with change, comes opportunities. Pennstar Bank is owned by NBT Corporation and they are safe, sound, and secure. They have expanded to 122 locations and have diversified with offering financial services, along with insurance. Pennstar Bank reaches out to the community in a variety of ways.

Pennstar Bank issued stock in 2009 and raised \$34 million in capital. Their philosophy is to be a local community member, hire local people, and look to invest in the area.

For more information on what Pennstar Bank has to offer, contact them today at their Bartonsville location at 570-420-4579.

Barrett Township Historical Society was the special program for the May Monthly Breakfast. Mr. George Alt reported that the organization started approximately 16 years ago when a group of six to seven people got together to discuss pursuing Barrett Township. The Cresco Station Museum is the hallmark of their society. The museum was re-dedicated three years ago. Mr. Karl Weiler, of the Weiler Foundation, owned the station and restored it as close as possible to the original structure. In 1998, Mr. Weiler handed the keys to the station to the Barrett Township Historical Society and it opened as a museum in 1999. The Cresco Station Museum has several new displays, such as surgical and medical instruments of the civil war. Once a month at the museum there is art and music and the museum has had over 1000 visitors. The museum is open from mid-May until mid-October, and in July and August they are open Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.



From left to right, Robert Phillips, IOM, George Alt, Al Hall

The Barrett Township Historical Society is happy to serve the community, not only by retaining records, but also making history and producing a quarterly newsletter.

Also discussed was the Barrett Township Sesquicentennial Celebration. Barrett Township was founded December 31, 1859. Events will be held throughout the year and it kicked off on New Years Day with pork and sauerkraut dinner and the celebration will end on New Year's Eve with a Period Dress Ball at the American Legion.

Consuelo Erickson won the 50/50, which she donated to the special program. Ms. Heather D'Adamo from Better Homes and Garden Wilkins Real Estate won the door prize of assorted golf items that was donated by Pennstar Bank.

**Monthly Breakfast
Sponsorships Available
for 2009!**

**Please contact Pat Metzgar at the
Chamber at 570.421.4433**

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