

CHAMBER ANNOUNCES 2012 ANNUAL AWARDS WINNERS

The Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce 2012 Awards Dinner was held on Wednesday, April 25th at Terraview at Stroudsmoor. Over 150 people were on hand to honor this year's award winners. The winners were: **Ellyn Schindler**, Gray Chevrolet Cadillac ATHENA Award, **Major James Gingrich**, Humanitarian of the Year, **Mike Katz**, Businessperson of the Year, **Colonel Charles Gibson**, Citizen of the Year, **John J. Riley**, Frank Schoelch Community Commitment Award, and **Gary Olson**, Chairman's Business Award.

A special thanks to the following businesses; PPL for sponsoring this event, William Rinehart & Gray Chevrolet Cadillac for sponsoring the ATHENA Award. A special thanks to the Pirone Family at Stroudsmoor for the complimentary butlered hors'doeuvres served at the cocktail hour and also to Ken Schurman of VIP Studios for taking photos at the event.



Ellyn Schindler
2012
ATHENA Award
Recipient

Ellyn S. Schindler is the Director of Community Relations for sanofi pasteur, and is part of sanofi's Corporate Affairs Group. Ellyn is responsible for the creation and execution of the sanofi pasteur US Community Relations Strategic Plan and related activities under the supervision of the Vice President of Immunization Policy, who also serves as the Chair for Sanofi Pasteur's U.S. Philanthropy Steering Committee.

Ellyn, who created the Community Relations function at sanofi pasteur US, works closely with the Swiftwater site leadership team. She coordinates company communications and activities that are focused on reaching community stakeholders who may be impacted by the company's initiatives, or may have impact on the company's ability to support its business plans. She is also responsible for the company's outside Community Relations agencies and related activities -- including serving as a local media spokesperson for non-product issues -- and manages Sanofi Pasteur US' Philanthropy program and company volunteer efforts.

Prior to joining sanofi pasteur, Ellyn was employed by several public relations, communication and marketing agencies, including Ruder-Finn, Inc., based in New York City.

She is currently a member of The United Way of Monroe County Strategic Planning Committee, The United Way of Monroe County Marketing Committee, Monroe 2020, and chairs the Pocono Mountains Community Fundraiser Agency Selection Committee. Ellyn was named The United Way of Monroe County's 2011 Volunteer of the Year.

Ellyn received her B.S. in Mass Communication from Towson University and her M.A. in Strategic Communication and Leadership from Seton Hall University. She is married with two children.

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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.

May 2012 Calendar of Events

May 4.....	<i>Government Affairs/Public Policy 8:00 a.m. – Stroud Township Building - Stroudsburg</i>
May 8.....	<i>Women in Business Luncheon Noon – Alaska Pete’s</i>
May 9.....	<i>West End Committee 800 a.m. - Western Pocono Community Library - Brodheadsville</i>
May 11.....	<i>Leadership Pocono 8:00 a.m. – GPCC</i>
May 14.....	<i>Education Committee 12 Noon – JR’s Grille - East Stroudsburg</i>
May 14.....	<i>Membership Appreciation - Chateau Resort & Conference Center - Tannersville</i>
May 15.....	<i>Women in Business Steering Committee 9:00 a.m. - GPCC</i>
May 16.....	<i>HR Committee 800 a.m. – GPCC</i>
May 21.....	<i>Finance Committee 8:00 a.m. – GPCC</i>
May 21.....	<i>Executive Committee 8:30 a.m. – GPCC</i>
May 22.....	<i>Board of Directors 11:00 a.m. - Stroudsmoor Country Inn</i>
May 22.....	<i>Youth Appreciation Day Luncheon 12 noon. - Terraview @ Stroudsmoor Country Inn</i>
May 25.....	<i>Environmental Committee 8:00 a.m. - GPCC</i>

Members In The News

Dover International Speedway and **Pocono Raceway** are pleased to announce the tracks are teaming up for a celebrity softball game featuring NASCAR Sprint Cup Series drivers Carl Edwards and Jeff Burton on Tuesday, May 15 at Campbell’s Field, home of the Camden Riversharks in Camden, N.J.

The game, billed as Team Dover vs. Team Pocono, marks the first time two NASCAR tracks have joined forces to promote their respective races. Edwards, driver of the No. 99 Fastenal Ford, will lead the Monster Mile squad, while Burton, who pilots the No. 31 Richard Childress Chevrolet, will captain “The Tricky Triangle” team.

The teams rosters will be filled out with drivers from the NASCAR Nationwide Series and NASCAR Camping World Truck Series, as well Philadelphia-area athletes and celebrities, and members of the local media. As they are announced, updated rosters will be posted at DoverSpeedway.com and PoconoRaceway.com, as well as Facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway and Facebook.com/PoconoRaceway, and on Twitter at [@MonsterMile](https://twitter.com/MonsterMile) and [@PoconoRaceway](https://twitter.com/PoconoRaceway).

Gates open at 4 p.m. with the game beginning at 4:30 p.m. Following the game, Edwards and Burton will throw out the ceremonial first pitch before the 7:05 p.m. Lancaster Barnstormers vs. Camden Riversharks baseball game.

During the Barnstormers vs. Riversharks game, both tracks will be giving away tickets to their respective NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races each inning — the June 3 “FedEx 400 benefiting Autism Speaks” race for Dover and the June 10 “Pocono 400” race for Pocono.

Access to the Team Dover vs. Team Pocono celebrity softball game is free with a ticket to that night’s baseball game. Tickets for the Riversharks game start at just \$5, and all children ages 16 and younger that wear their NASCAR gear get in free. In addition, the United Way of Camden County offers free admission for any child that wears the uniform of the little league team they play for to the game. For tickets, call 1-866-SHARKS-9 or visit www.riversharks.com.

NASCAR action returns to Dover International Speedway June 1-3, 2012 with the June 3 “FedEx 400 benefiting Autism Speaks” NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race, the June 2 “5-hour ENERGY 200” NASCAR Nationwide Series race and the June 1 “Lucas Oil 200” NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race. For tickets or more information, call 800-441-RACE or visit DoverSpeedway.com.

Then, June 8-10, NASCAR’s top national circuit heads north to newly-repaved Pocono Raceway for the “Pocono 400” weekend June 8-10. The racing action kicks off with the “Pocono 200” ARCA Racing Series Presented by Menards race on June 9 and will be followed by the “Pocono 400” NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on June 10.

LEADS WANTED!!!!

If you are aware of a new or existing business in the Greater Pocono region that might be interested in learning more about the various benefits of chamber membership, please contact Patricia Metzgar or pmetzgar@greaterpoconochamber.com.

For tickets or more information, call 1-800-RACEWAY or visit PoconoRaceway.com.

Frailey Insurance and Financial Services Agency presents their complimentary seminar series. If you are wondering about how much you should be saving for retirement, you're not alone. You are invited to attend "Savings Goals: How Much Should You Save?" to learn how to develop a sound investment strategy that fits your expectations and helps you stay committed to your long-term financial goals. Thursday, May 3, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. or Tuesday, May 22nd 6:30 pm – 7:30 p.m.

If the ups and downs of the market make you feel uneasy about investing, you're not alone. But what can set you apart from the average investor is your ability to maintain your long-term focus through inevitable market fluctuations. You are invited to attend "Investing in an Uncertain Market" to learn how to develop a sound investment strategy that fits your expectations and helps you stay committed to your long-term financial goals. Tuesday, June 5th 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. or Thursday, June 28th 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Light Refreshments will be served! Call 570-421-7447 x 223 to Reserve your Seat!

Michael Baxter & Associates Commercial Real Estate & Property Management (MB&A) has announced the High Five Charity Auction to be held Tuesday, May 15th, 2012.

Participating organizations are American Red Cross, Monroe County Habitat for Humanity, Pocono Services for Families and Children, The Salvation Army and United Way of Monroe County.

The High Five Charity Auction will be a live auction event held at Desaki Restaurant and offer the opportunity to bid on commercial real estate, travel, entertainment and other products or services. All real estate sold will be donating a minimum of \$5,000 or 10% whichever is greater with potential up to 30% or more. The seller and buyer will be able to select the receiving organization for their portion of the donation. All other items sold will benefit the sponsoring charity directly. Admission tickets are available from MB&A or any of the participating charities for \$35 each with all net proceeds being shared by the five charitable organizations equally.

The goals of the event are to raise funds and awareness for the participating charities through a unique partnership with MB&A.

MB&A is the Poconos' leading commercial real estate firm employing eight knowledgeable, dedicated Commercial Advisors.

The Inn at Pocono Manor, which opened in 1902, is the longest continuously operating resort in the Pocono Mountains and one of the oldest in North America. Throughout the last century, the 110-year-old resort, which is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, has distinguished itself within hospitality and within golf, adding 36 holes designed by three legendary golf course architects. In recognition of a century of golf, the resort has announced a Centennial Celebration for Pocono Manor's historic East Course, a Classic Era course which originally opened in 1912 with nine holes by Donald Ross, that were expanded to eighteen by William Flynn in 1924. The resort's West Course opened in 1959 with nine holes designed by George Fazio as a modern complement to the East Course's classic-era routing and style. The West Course expanded to 18 holes in 1965.

"It is indeed an honor for our team at The Inn at Pocono Manor to join together in this celebration of one of America's great classic courses," said Lisa Green, acting general manager. "Few of these courses remain from a century ago, and fewer still with two such recognized golf course architects." Ms. Green continued with, "We're thrilled we can share in this remarkable milestone with golf experts and with the public in this season-long celebration."

"I'm personally very pleased to be a part of the history of this incredible classic golf course," said Greg Wall, head golf professional at the resort. "My father, Art Wall, Jr., who won the Masters tournament in 1959 and for many years represented Pocono Manor as touring professional, remains an active part of the legacy of this beautifully-designed course. As does the remarkable Jack Cuttle, who was Head Pro here for a remarkable 50 years! So much golf history has occurred at Pocono Manor, as well as countless memories for my family. It is an honor to help usher the East Course into its second century!"

Pocono Manor's East Course Centennial Celebration will kick off May 15 & 16, 2012, with a 2-day event for Golf Media and Golf Historians, which is designed to reach back over a century of the game. Highlights will be:

Kick-off Reception on May 15th that will feature an overview of Pocono Manor's 100-year golf legacy, supported by dozens of historic photographs and documents.

On May 16th, Pocono Manor's head professional, Greg Wall, will don early 20th Century golf attire and, using historic hickory-shafted clubs compete against event participants using their modern-day equipment in a long-drive contest on the first hole.

During the 2-day Anniversary event, players will have the opportunity to transport themselves to an earlier era on the East Course's original practice green through the use of an early 20th-century hickory-shafted putter, where they can try to sink a putt under the same conditions players faced in 1912.

Also on May 16th, guests will be able to golf the historic East Course all day long, and, if they'd like, move over to

Pocono Manor's West Course with holes designed by George Fazio.

It's golf, and so the melodious sounds of Bagpipes will be heard -- the great symbol of golf's birthplace in Scotland.

In all, participants in Pocono Manor's 100th Anniversary Celebration Kick Off event will experience golf as it looked and played in the game's infancy in America.

The Public will also be invited to join in the celebration with a special Anniversary Twilight rate of just \$19.12 every Thursday after 2:00 pm during the months of April, May and June -- in recognition of the East Course's 1912 opening date. Additionally, the Inn at Pocono Manor is featuring the historic East Course in a special Centennial Golf Package, which will last throughout the 2012 golf season. Special Centennial Golf Package includes: Deluxe guestroom accommodations for two nights, breakfast each morning of stay, dinner each night of stay, unlimited greens fees with one cart round daily, commemorative gift, taxes & gratuities, from \$340 per person midweek / \$435 per person weekend, based on double occupancy. For more information contact them at 800.233.8150.

Express Employment Professionals, Paramount Business Development and ActionCOACH are hosting the 2012 Refresh Leadership Simulcast, a nationwide educational event featuring Pro Football Hall of Fame members Troy Aikman and Emmitt Smith; leadership consultant and New York Times best-selling author Patrick Lencioni, and sociologist and author Bertice Berry, Ph.D.

The Refresh Leadership Simulcast is Wednesday, May 16, and will be broadcast at Sherman Theater, 524 Main St., Stroudsburg. Registration opens at 8:00 a.m. and the simulcast begins at 9:00 a.m.

Business leaders, human resource professionals, chamber of commerce officials and chamber members can register at www.refreshleadership.com/live. The simulcast costs \$19.95 per person to attend, includes continental breakfast and program/workbooks. Proceeds will benefit Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

When registering, individuals will have the opportunity to submit a question for Aikman and Smith to answer when they share leadership tips and advice learned as members of the Dallas Cowboys, one of the most prolific professional football teams in history.

Leaders can also learn from Lencioni on how to identify the natural human tendencies that plague all leadership. As identified in his first best-selling book, *The Five Tendencies of a CEO*, Lencioni will share how these tendencies often prevent leaders from fulfilling their potential and he'll offer advice on how to overcome these common behavioral pitfalls.

Those attending the Refresh Leadership Simulcast will be challenged as Berry shares the importance of finding one's

purpose in life while she also helps participants identify different learning styles.

"Being a leader means more than just managing employees," Burns said. "Even top performing employees can lose focus without the support of a great leader driving them to excel. It is crucial for leaders today to learn a leadership and communications style that works best for them and the people they manage." Stroudsburg is one of nearly 200 locations throughout the U.S. and Canada that will broadcast Refresh Leadership Simulcast.

"Express has a strong presence in the Poconos and we have great support from the community," said Terry Burns, East Stroudsburg Express franchisee. "We are pleased to offer the Refresh Leadership Simulcast as a way to give back to the business community."

The East Stroudsburg Express Employment Professionals serves Monroe, Pike, Carbon and Wayne Counties with temporary help and direct hire employees in a variety of fields, including Office Services, Light Industrial, Hospitality, Licensed/Certified Medical staffing and more. Worldwide, Express Employment Professionals put 335,000 people to work in 2011 and has more than 550 offices in three countries. Express provides expertise in evaluation hire, temporary staffing, professional search and human resources and works across a wide variety of industries. Temporary sales for the international staffing franchise company totaled more than \$2.1 billion in 2011.

The East Stroudsburg office, located at 364 N. Courtland Street is currently accepting applications. For more information, call 570-424-1800 or visit www.expresspros.com.

Riverside Rehabilitation is pleased to announce that Cynthia Christmann, MS, CCC/SLP recently obtained certification to perform VitalStim Therapy on patients suffering from dysphasia or difficulty swallowing.



Cynthia Christman

The VitalStim 2-day Certification course was held in Philadelphia, PA and consisted of a written test and clinical application session. VitalStim Therapy is Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation done in conjunction with traditional dysphasia techniques.

In addition to VitalStim Therapy, Cynthia evaluates and treats adult and pediatric patients with deficits in speech, articulation, language, voice, swallowing and cognition resulting from brain injuries, strokes, and other neurological and auditory processing disorders. Speech Therapy patients, referred by their physicians, can set an appointment with Cynthia by calling Riverside at 570-424-1706.

Cynthia has experience in a variety of settings including acute rehabilitation, acute hospitals, home health care, skilled nursing facilities as well as outpatient clinics. She is a member of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association. In addition to her Clinical Competence Certification, Cynthia is certified in CPR. After earning a Bachelor of Science from Elmira College, she then received her MS in Speech Language Pathology from Gallaudet University in Washington DC. She currently resides in Canadensis.

Shawnee Playhouse Community Clean Up Day Volunteers Wanted!!!

Spring, the perfect time for sprucing, painting, raking and organizing. Join us as we get the Shawnee Playhouse in tip top shape in anticipation of a fabulous summer season including performances of *CATS*, *Forbidden Broadway*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *The Shawnee Story*, *High School Musical Jr.* and *Aladdin Jr.*!

Many hands make light work, so gather your gather your friends and family and bring your rakes, rags and elbow grease and join our staff on Saturday, May 19th at 10am. If you can paint, rake, tote, carry, wipe, sweep, dust, spray etc. we would love to have you!

The Shawnee Playhouse is located on River Road in Shawnee on Delaware. For directions visit our website at www.TheShawneePlayhouse.com. or call the Box Office at 570-421-5093

Allegiant announces new, nonstop jet service between Wilkes-Barre/Scranton, Penn. and Orlando, Florida via Orlando Sanford International Airport, will begin June 21, 2012. The company, known for its exceptional travel deals, will introduce the new service with fares as low as \$83.99* one way.

"We're pleased to bring an affordable and convenient travel option to Wilkes-Barre and Scranton," Andrew C. Levy, Allegiant Travel Company President said. "We are confident residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania will appreciate flying nonstop to Orlando and take advantage of the great deals we offer on hotels, car rentals and theme park tickets."

"This is great news that Allegiant will be serving Northeastern Pennsylvania with service to Orlando," said Barry Centini, Airport Director. "Orlando is on of our top destinations, and we are excited that Allegiant will provide our area's families and businesses with convenient, nonstop service to Orlando."

The new flights will operate twice weekly between **Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP)** and Orlando Sanford International Airport (SFB), beginning June 21, 2012. Allegiant will offer the only nonstop, commercial jet service to Orlando.

Located in the heart of Central Florida, Orlando is home to the world's most exciting theme parks and has plenty of shopping, dining, outdoor activities, and entertainment. Allegiant partners with more than 60 of the Orlando area's most exciting hotel properties, provides low-cost car rental service through its partnership with Alamo Rent a Car, and offers great deals on activities such as theme park tickets, dinner shows, and day tours. Northeastern Pennsylvania travelers can book their entire Orlando vacation for less by visiting allegiant.com.

Reservations can be made on the airline's website at allegiant.com or by calling the company's travel experts at 702.505.8888.

*Seats are limited. Fares are one-way and not available on all flights. Must be purchased by May 8, 2012, for travel by November 13, 2012. Prices include PFC, segment tax and September 11th security fee of up to \$10.80 per segment. A segment is one take-off and one landing. A convenience fee of \$10 per segment, per passenger is included in the introductory one-way fare. A fee of \$14.99 per segment, will apply when purchased through Allegiant call centers. Purchases made at any Allegiant Airport Ticket Office will not incur a convenience or call center fee. For ticket counter hours of operation, please visit allegiant.com. Baggage fees of up to \$35 per bag, per segment will apply to one carry-on and the first two (2) checked bags. For baggage fees, please visit allegiant.com. Additional higher fees will apply for three or more checked bags. Fare rules, routes and schedules are subject to change without notice. Restrictions apply.

Pocono Mountains Municipal Airport is holding their biggest yard sale on Saturday, May 5, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on route 611, Mount Pocono. Event will be held rain or shine and will feature great shopping and deals, refreshments, entertainment and music, and kids' activities. Space is available for vendors at just \$20 per space. For details call 570.629.5657 or visit www.unitedwaymonroe.org. \$2 parking donation and proceeds of the event to benefit United Way of Monroe County.

Best Auto Service Center is having a ladies night starting in May and continuing every month on the third Wednesday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. They will do an oil change at 50% off and provide a free 24 point safety check as well. The oil is up to five quarts using their semi-synthetic oil. Some oil filters and full synthetic oil is extra.

Best Auto will also be holding a seminar "Knowledge is Power" for women on Thursday, June 28th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The rep from AC Delco will be in attendance to help out and they will be discussing and holding a slide show presentation on the different parts of a vehicle. This will help women to feel more confident when they bring their car in for service and/or repair by knowing what questions to ask the service provider. RSVP for this event by Mon-

day, June 18th. For more information, contact them at 570.688.2378.



Charles K. Herman, M.D., Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon, Chief Medical Executive, Surgical Services, and Chairman, Department of Surgery at **Pocono Health System/Pocono Medical Center** was recently selected to the U.S. News and World Report Top Doctors in the field of plastic surgery. U.S. News Top Doctors was developed in collaboration with Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., publisher of *America's Top Doctors®* and other guides, and was built upon data from *Castle Connolly's Top Doctors™*, which is based upon nomination of the doctors by peers and review by a physician-led research team.

Charles K. Herman, M.D.

“At Pocono Health System/Pocono Medical Center, we are dedicated to providing world class care close to home for our patients,” said Kathleen E. Kuck, President and CEO of Pocono Health System/Pocono Medical Center. “I am deeply excited to learn that Dr. Herman has been nominated by his peers and recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of the nation’s top doctors.”

Dr. Herman was only one of 30 plastic surgeons in the state of Pennsylvania to be selected and only one of two in the Northeast PA area, including the Lehigh Valley. To learn more about U.S. News Top Doctors and the selection process, please visit <http://health.usnews.com/top-doctors>.

An eclectic collection of art will be unveiled to the public during the grand opening of the **Adam’s Jewelry Gallery** in Stroudsburg from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 12. The event will also help benefit the United Way of Monroe County.

The Gallery showcases unusual and gorgeous artwork that represents a variety of cultures, eras and creative mediums. Items include oil and watercolor paintings, pottery, sculptures, glassware. Of special interest are a portrait of boxer Muhammad Ali, Native American Indian pieces, Egyptian art, and bird figurines crafted from gemstones.

Appetizers and beverages will be served during the event, which will feature artwork sales during the afternoon and a live auction of selected items from 1 to 2 p.m. Fifty percent of all proceeds will benefit the United Way’s work to “Unite People and Improve Lives.”

“We look forward to a wonderful event that celebrates our Gallery’s grand opening and our unique blend of featured

artwork,” said Sam Salama, owner of Adam’s Jewelry. “We are proud to donate half of the proceeds to United Way as a token of appreciation to our community.”

According to Salama, the art displayed in the Gallery will continually change and will also feature local artists. Besides the Gallery, the store features a stunning assortment of fine jewelry.

The Adam’s Jewelry Gallery is located on Route 611 in Stroudsburg next to Staples. For more information, call 570-420-0672.

The United Way of Monroe County provides health/human services through community initiatives and outreach, and funding to more than 30 local programs. Its targeted need areas include Engaging Youth, Meeting Basic Needs, Helping Children Succeed and Promoting Self-Sufficiency. Founded in 1942, the organization is celebrating 70 years of service to the community. Learn more at www.unitedwaymonroe.org.

Sponsorships Available for 2012 & 2013

Please contact
Pat Metzgar at the
Chamber at 570.421.4433 to find
out which sponsorships fit your
needs!



*Major James Gingrich
2012
Humanitarian of the
Year Award
Recipient*

Major James Gingrich, a native of York, PA, attended York College of PA before entering The Salvation Army School for Officer Training in Suffern, New York in 1982. He was ordained and commissioned as a "Lieutenant" in The Salvation Army in June of 1984 and assigned to The Salvation Army in Old Orchard Beach, Maine as the Associate Youth Officer. After serving in that appointment for one year, Gingrich was re-assigned to Sanford, Maine as the Officer in Charge and six months later, on February 15, 1986 married Deborah Wilcox, formerly of Providence, RI.

"After serving in Sanford for 4 years, they Gingriches were promoted to the rank of Captain and re-assigned to Portland, Maine where they served for the next 3 and 1/2 years. During those years their 3 daughters were born.

"In January, 1993, Captains Gingrich were re-assigned to Springfield, Ohio where they would serve for the next 17 years. During that time they were promoted to the rank of Major. While there, they helped to develop a ministry program for urban, children living in poverty that would reach over 1,000 children every week. It was also there, after receiving a "Christmas Wish List" from one of the children who only wanted a mother for Christmas, they adopted their son, Mark in 2003.

"On July 1, 2009, Majors Gingrich were re-assigned to East Stroudsburg/Monroe County, PA where it has been their pleasure to serve for the past nearly 3 years. Even though The Salvation Army is involved in meeting the needs of, literally, thousands of area residents throughout the year, it is the goal and commitment of the Gingriches to treat each person with dignity and respect and to help them move forward in life - not to enable to remain in brokenness."



*Michael Katz
2012
Businessperson of the
Year Recipient*

Michael Katz is a native of Monroe County where he is currently the President and CEO of R.J. Groner Co., a plumbing, heating and cooling business located in Stroudsburg. Michael attended Penn State University and graduated in 1972 from East Stroudsburg University with a BA in Psychology. Shortly after graduation he became the youngest franchisee in the country for Sunoco Oil Company by leasing and operating a service station in Old Forge, PA. Five years later Michael purchased the service station. Michael continued to operate that business for another 5 years until he sold the business to a competing oil company.

In 1982, Michael's father Edward persuaded him to come back to the family business. In 1987, the business was incorporated with Michael becoming the vice-president. In the early 1990's Michael bought out the other stockholder. As sole stockholder in the corporation, he became the President and CEO of the organization located at 603 Ann Street in Stroudsburg.

In 1999, with expansion in mind, Michael supervised over the design and construction of R. J. Groner's new home on the street his grandfather named, Katz Road. Over the next several years, R.J. Groner Company has become one of the largest plumbing, heating and cooling installation and service companies in the Pocono Northeast, adding divisions for refrigeration, sheet metal fabrication, and emergency generators. Over the last few years, due to the increasing costs of fossil fuels, the company added alternative energy solutions with departments for solar energy, solar hot water, wind energy, and ground source heating & cooling.

For many years his organization has partnered with the Monroe Career and Technical Institute to develop young talent in the field of plumbing, heating and cooling. Today there are several former students still employed at R. J. Groner Company.

R. J. Groner Co. has received several industry awards for manufacturers and recently won the Bizzy Award for "Best Business Logo" and "Best Medium Sized Business".

Some of Michael's activities over the years have included past Board Member of the ESU Scholastic Standing Committee, Past President of Business Networking International, member of the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs, Pocono Builders Association, National Federation of Independent Business, Refrigeration Service Engineers Society, Leadership Pocono where he is a board member and serves on the curriculum committee, Board Member of the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce where he has served on the Energy Committee, as well as various other industry organizations.

His interests include fishing, golf, and traveling. Michael resides in Stroudsburg with his best friend Denise Cebular and has two children, Amanda an attorney in Brooklyn, NY, and Noah an attorney in Scranton PA. Amanda has blessed him with amazing twin grandchildren, Allegra and Connor.



*Colonel Charles "Chuck" Gibson
2012
Citizen of the Year Recipient*

Colonel Charles "Chuck" Gibson is the commander of Tobyhanna Army Depot, the Defense Department's largest facility for the repair, overhaul and integration of Command, Control, Communications, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems. The Depot, located in Northeastern Pennsylvania, employs about 5,500 personnel.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps in 1986 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Bowie State University, Bowie, Md., in 1987.

His early assignments included serving as Platoon Leader, Shop Officer, Executive Officer and Transportation Officer for the 122nd Main Support Battalion, 3rd Armored Division, Hanau, Germany. He deployed with that unit to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990-91.

He assumed the position of Maintenance Officer, Support Operations Cell and Battalion S-3, 264th Corps Support Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C., and deployed to Haiti (Operation Restore Freedom) in 1994. He assumed command of the 503rd Maintenance Company, 264th Corps Support Battalion, also at Fort Bragg. He later served an assignment as Assistant Professor of Military Science at Morgan State University, Baltimore, Md., as the Military Science III Cadet Instructor.

Following that assignment, Colonel Gibson served as the G-4 Material/Plans Officer, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Red Cloud, Republic of Korea.

He served in several leadership positions while assigned to the 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, including Support Operations Officer, G4 Logistics Planner, Battalion Commander of a Stryker Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade and Assistant Chief of Staff, Logistics Division G4. While with the 25th Infantry Division (Light), he deployed to Bosnia as the Logistics Operations Planner from February to August 2002. He also served one year as the Brigade Support Operations Officer with the 45th Corps Support Group with a short deployment to Thailand.

He also has held the position of Deputy Director, Integrated Logistics Support, Army Evaluation Center of the Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.

His military education includes the Ordnance Officer Basic Course, Quartermaster Advanced Course, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, two Strategic Leadership Courses from Harvard University and a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College, Class of 2009.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, Kuwaiti Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Southwest Asia Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, NATO Medal and Parachutist Badge.

Colonel Gibson was raised in Baltimore, Md. He is married to his best friend, Michelle Gibson, Chicago Heights, Ill. They have one son, Charles Murphy Gibson, 12.



*John J. Riley
2012
Frank Schoelch
Community Commitment
Award
Recipient*

John J. Riley attended Churchman's Business College and has an Associates Degree in Accounting and a BA in Organizational Management from Eastern University.

He has served on the PA Game Commission, still active with PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc, active with Monroe County Affordable Housing Board, serves on the Executive Board of the Minsi Trails Council of the Boy Scouts of America and has raised in excess of \$34,000 annually for scouting programs. He has served forty-seven years as a member of the Optimist Club of the Stroudsburgs, and has been a board member of the Kettle Creek Environmental Fund for twenty years.

He founded Riley and Company, Inc. CPAs and Business Advisors in 1969. The firm is currently located in Stroudsburg with ten staff and 5 shareholders and is still active in the practice on a full time basis.

In 2001 he was chosen by the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants as the recipient of the Distinguished Public Service Award. There were twenty-three thousand CPAs in the state at that time, and he was one of nineteen finalists.

He is a former Scout Master, Little League Coach, Babe Ruth Coach, Hunter Education Instructor, Firearms Safety Instructor, etc. Riley stated "I have served on more boards and raised more funds for more organizations than I can even remember".

He has raised money for Headstart Program, Burnley Workshop and Monroe County Public Library. As Chairman of the Board, he was responsible for raising \$750,000.00 to purchase and renovate a new educational facility.

He has traveled the nation for several years prior to 1989 lecturing for the Community Associations Institute in the area of Financial Management, Budgets, Tax Seminars and in particular, Reserve Studies and is past Treasurer and past President of the local chapter.

In 2004, he along with a group from around the Commonwealth, created Wildlife for Everyone Foundation, Inc. Riley stated "We have been very successful in getting the Foundation moving forward. It is our mission to build an extensive research facility for the use of The PA Game Commission biologists, and the complex will also serve multi-purpose environmental projects, including lecture facilities, meeting facilities, work rooms, and other envi-

ronmental and conservation facilities. This foundation's purpose is also to augment the ability to acquire lands, to save the wildlife and their habitat, to increase environmental awareness by the educational process, and to contribute to promoting the biology and scientific approach into the future".

He is a member of Our Lady of Victory Church in Tannersville for 60+ years and a Lector at Our Lady of Victory for 40 years.

He is married to Phyllis for fifty-five years and they have eight children (4 boys and 4 girls), and are blessed with fourteen grandchildren; 15th coming in October 2012. He was born in 1932, and raised at Pocono Manor Inn until he was fourteen years old. His father was the pastry chef there from 1912 to 1947. He graduated from the Pocono High School in Tannersville which no longer stands as it was destroyed by fire in 2000. He entered the military a month or two after graduation from high school in 1950, and served during the Korean conflict, and spent five years in the Air Force.



*Gary Olson
2012
Chairman's Business
Award
Recipient*

Gary Olson is the president and CEO of ESSA Bank & Trust. Gary started his career in finance in 1977, shortly after graduation from East Stroudsburg University, when he joined ESSA Bank & Trust as a staff appraiser. Over the next decade, he rose through the ranks, from management trainee, to branch manager, to vice president of administration and operations, to executive vice president and chief operating officer. He reached the highest level of leadership when he was named president and chief executive officer in 2000.

On April 4, 2007, the Bank completed its conversion from a mutual Savings and Loan company to a publicly traded thrift. ESSA Bancorp is a listed company on the NASDAQ Global Market. ESSA employs over 200 people, and has 13 branches located in Monroe County along with four in the Lehigh Valley region. ESSA has served the community since 1916.

Besides his dedication to his profession, Gary has had a lifelong interest in community service in general and health care in particular. He joined the board of directors of the Pocono Medical Center (PMC) in 2001. He is currently Chairman of the Pocono Health Systems board.

He has also served in various capacities on the Board of Directors for the American Cancer Society. He has served on the board of the Pennsylvania Division since 2003 and is currently Chairman of the East Central Division comprised of Pennsylvania and Ohio. He has also served on the ACS, Monroe Unit Board since 1982. He served as the Stroudsburg ACS Relay for Life Chairman from 1994 to 2002.

He was a founding member of the Stroudsburg United Soccer Club, now Keystone Athletic. In September 2007, he was inducted into the Stroudsburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Additionally, he has served on the Board of the Pocono Snow Soccer Club since 2008. He and his wife, Jennifer, are the proud parents of a son, Mitchell, and a daughter, Meredith.

Golfers Wanted for our upcoming Annual Tournament to be held at Mount Airy Golf Course on Monday, July 16, 2012.

For more information, contact Patricia Metzgar at the Chamber at 570.421.4433.

Business Card Exchange

Gray Chevrolet Cadillac hosted the April Business Card Exchange in their newly renovated showroom. WOW! What an incredible event. Everyone in attendance not only enjoyed networking, but sampled the delicious array food supplied by Danny's Fettuccine Bar, Momento's Pizza & Restaurant, and Olga's Greek Cuisine. Beverages were supplied by Barley Creek Brewing Company. Everyone also had the opportunity to test drive a car of their choice. Thank you Bill & Jo Rinehart for hosting an outstanding card exchange. Gray Chevrolet Cadillac is located on Route 611 in Stroudsburg, just past the Stroud Mall and you can contact them at 570-517-5500.



Networking at the April Business Card Exchange at Gray Chevrolet Cadillac



L to r: Robert Phillips, IOM, Pat Metzgar, Jo Reinhart, Bill Rinehart

A Sound Strategy, Inc., a Web Site & Graphic Design Company, sponsored the event. Mr. Dennis Jeter talked about the services that his company has to offer to businesses. They offer document Management, Ecommerce, Event Management, Multimedia, Subscription Services, and Training. They are located at 314 Independence Road, Suite147, East Stroudsburg, PA and you can contact them at 570-422-7741.



Dennis Jeter of A Sound Strategy Inc, Sponsor of the Event

Women In Business Luncheon

The April Women in Business luncheon, which was held at Mount Airy Casino Resort featured the annual Save Our Planet Awards presentation. Each year, the Environmental Committee recognizes individuals and companies that have shown outstanding or innovative environmental contributions in our area. This year's award winners were:

Non-Profit/Volunteer Category: United Way of Monroe County, with Honorable Mention going to Kettle Creek Environmental Fund



From l to r: Mathilda Sheptak & Chris Grape Garvey of United Way of Monroe County



John Woodling
Kettle Creek Environmental Fund

Government Category: Paradise & Price Townships



From l to r: Louise Troutman, Paradise Township Supervisor, & Carol Hillestad, Paradise Environmental Advisory Council

Individual Category: John Leiser



John Leiser

Mark Lichty Award: Don Miller



Don Miller

Business Category: Lasting Impressions Landscaping



*Lori & Jim Foglio
Lasting Impressions
Landscaping*

We would like to thank our sponsors, Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, and Michael Reisenwitz of the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority. We would also like to thank Cantor Designs for the beautiful trophies that they created for this event and Ken Schurman of VIP Studios for the photographs.

The May luncheon will be held at Alaska Pete's and the topic to be featured will be "Domestic Abuse and How to Identify it in the Workplace" and is being presented by Kim Fedrigan of Kash & Fedrigan law firm. The sponsor will be Mountain Valley Orthopedics

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.

Institution Category: Stroudsburg Middle School



*From l to r: Doug Olmstead,
Environmental Committee
Member & Carol Owens of
Stroudsburg Middle School*

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Welcome New Members

The following new members are not listed in the 2010-2011 Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide. Please be sure to add this page to your copy of the Directory.

Albright Electric

Freeman Gladd
136 Winter Hill Road
Effort, PA 18330
610.737.2392
570.619.8851
albrightelectric@verizon.net
Contractors-Electrical

AT&T Mobility

Joanne Bennett
3578 Route 611
Bartonsville, PA 18321
570.688.6493
jb663@att.com
Wireless

First Hope Bank – Blairstown Branch

Marisol Lopez
201 Route 94
Columbia, NJ 07832
908.459.6033
908.459.6091
mlopez@firsthope.com
Banks-Financial Institutions

Keystone Financial Management

Dale McCandless/Samantha Puskar
1624 Hausman Road
Allentown, PA 18104
610.530.2112
610.530.8672
dmccandless@jhnetwork.com
www.keystonefinancialmanagement.com
Financial Services-Insurance

Michael Gozdowski Prudential Financial Services

Michael Gozdowski
P.O. Box 676
Reeders, PA 18352
570.269.5118
570.340.7063
michael.gozdowski@prudential.com
Financial Services-Insurance

IMPACT



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Executive Committee

Charles Niclaus - Chairman of the Board

Elizabeth Koster - First Vice Chairman

Chris Kurtz - Second Vice Chairman

Dr. Robert Dillman - Treasurer

Kathleen Kuck - Secretary

Daisy Gallagher - Past Chair

Staff

Robert Phillips - President/CEO

Patricia Metzgar - Vice President, Operations/Development

Miriam Conway - Executive Assistant

Georgia Strunk - Office Assistant

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Doug Atherton

Michael Baxter

James Becker

Rich Berkowitz

Vinny Bianchi

Debi Cope

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Scott Henry

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Brandon Igdalsky

Michael Katz

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Brian McKenna

Kathy Mullins

Doug Olmstead

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Conrad Schintz

Dr. Arthur Scott

Tom Sforza

Mathilda Sheptak

William Skinner

Steve Somers

Paula Testa

Marc Troutman

Carl Wilgus

Theresa Yocum

IMPACT

Visit us at www.greaterpoconochamber.com

(USPS 380-890)

Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce

552 Main Street

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Phone: (570) 421-4433

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