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Enjoy great food as area restaurants compete for the titles of Best Chili, Chowder, & Soup!

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THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH
5-7:30PM
Italian Civic Club, 869 Water Street, Meadville



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL DINNER AND DIAMOND AWARDS!!
Nomination forms are inside this edition!

DIAMOND AWARDS
Annual Dinner

DATE
APRIL 23

COCKTAIL
RECEPTION
5 PM

DINNER &
PROGRAM
6 PM

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Chamber of Commerce
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AWARDS**
AND
ANNUAL DINNER

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Crawford County K-12 Career Education Alliance

Program Coordinator

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Christa's Corner

March ushers in a season of celebration and renewal—a month where personal milestones and community traditions converge beautifully. This month, I have the joy of celebrating several family birthdays, including those of my daughters, my father, and a cherished friend who is like family. Their special days remind me of the importance of togetherness and gratitude.

The vibrant spirit of March is also reflected in our community events. St. Patrick's Day brings lively parades like the Jack Curtin St. Patrick's Day Parade and captivating performances from the Kiltlifters, making it a time for shared joy and local pride. As warmer days approach, we eagerly anticipate the arrival of spring on March 20th.

That same day marks the start of our Annual Chili, Chowder, & Soup Cook-off at the Italian Civic Club—a highlight for food enthusiasts and community members alike. With local favorite recipes competing for the People's Choice Award and over 400 attendees expected, this event, organized by our Leadership Meadville class, promises a memorable evening of culinary delights.

We recently experienced another success with our Chocoholic Frolic, where over 300 attendees indulged in an array of decadent sweet treats. The dedication of our sponsors, volunteers, vendors, and attendees made the event a tremendous success, with proceeds benefiting our Leadership Meadville Program and the K-12 Career Education Alliance.

Looking ahead, we invite you to nominate your business colleagues and friends for our Annual Diamond Awards. Scheduled for Wednesday, April 23rd at the Hotel Conneaut, this event will honor emerging leaders, non-profit organizations, and businesses making remarkable contributions to our community. We will also celebrate the distinguished Raymond P. Shafer Award, presented by representatives from the Meadville Chamber, the Shafer Law Firm, and Allegheny College.

As I reflect on these events and the month ahead, I am reminded of the importance of slowing down to cherish the moments that truly matter—family, friends, and community. Life is precious, and every day is an opportunity to live fully, connect deeply, and support one another. I am profoundly grateful for my career, the remarkable people I meet daily, and the chance to promote the best of Crawford County.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for making our community a place where everyone can thrive. I look forward to seeing you, learning more about your successes, and continuing to build the leaders of tomorrow. Enjoy this wonderful month, and I hope to connect with you soon.

Christa

Leadership Meadville

Leadership Meadville #15: Exploring Manufacturing Excellence By: Maria Dreese

Earlier this month, Leadership Meadville 15 (LM 15) had the opportunity to explore Meadville’s strong manufacturing sector with visits to Seco Warwick, Acutec Precision Aerospace, and Channellock. Each stop provided a unique perspective on the innovation, craftsmanship, and dedication that drive our local economy. At Seco Warwick, the LM 15 class learned about their cutting-edge heat treatment and vacuum furnace technology, which serves industries from automotive to aerospace. The company is expanding its footprint with the construction of a new 60,000-square-foot facility, designed to support increased production capacity and innovation. This investment highlights Seco Warwick’s commitment to growth and its role in advancing metallurgical technology on a global scale.

At Acutec Precision Aerospace, the class had the privilege of hearing from CEO Elisabeth Smith, who shared the core philosophies that drive Acutec’s success. Acutec’s four interlocking principles are: always be lucky, we wake up paranoid, we embrace change, and we recognize adversity as an opportunity. Acutec has a commitment to continuous improvement, investing in people, and fostering a culture of innovation. She emphasized the company’s focus on agility in aerospace manufacturing, ensuring high-quality parts are delivered with speed and efficiency. Additionally, Elisabeth recently achieved a significant milestone, being appointed to the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) Executive Committee Board, further cementing Acutec’s influence in the aerospace industry at a national level. Following her insights, Brian Rydbom and Nick Patterson lead the group on a tour of the facility, showcasing the precision machining and engineering expertise that make Acutec a leader in aerospace manufacturing.

Finally, at Channellock, we saw firsthand how tradition and technology intersect in the production of their world-renowned pliers and hand tools. Founded in 1886, Channellock remains a family-owned company, now led by the fifth generation of the DeArmett family. Their leadership has helped maintain the company’s dedication to American manufacturing while continuously improving processes and technology. With over 135 years of history, Channellock’s commitment to quality and innovation ensures their tools remain a trusted choice for professionals and consumers worldwide.

This experience reinforced the importance of manufacturing in our region and the innovation that keeps these companies competitive on a global scale.



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Bajco North, LLC
New business opening.
More info coming soon!

Me Again Boutique
Downtown Mall
900 Water Street
Meadville, PA 16335
(814) 632-4246
Contact: Tammie McElhinney

Silver Level

Meadville Grocery Outlet
18993 Park Ave Plaza
Meadville, PA 16335
http://groceryoutlet.com
Contact: Stacy Walker

Casey's Ice Cream & Candies
11343 Port Road
Meadville, PA 16335
(814) 333-3769
www.caseysicecreamandcandies.com
Contact: Shawn Sullivan

Citslinc International, Inc
108 N. Ynez Ave, #205
Monterey Park, CA 91754
(844) 262-1100
Contact: Leo Liu

Lost Acres Farm
22363 S. Beaver Road
Conneautville, PA 16406
Contact: Mary Schmidt

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Amy Godwin Joins K-12 Education Alliance as New Program Coordinator

With this first newsletter, I felt it was most appropriate to begin with a short introduction of myself. My name is Amy Godwin, and it is my pleasure to step into my new role as the Program Coordinator for the K-12 Career Education Alliance.

I have served the local communities with a diverse background in Human Resources, Business Administration, Structural CAD Design, and Youth Ministry over the past 25 years. I have covered a variety of industries including Engineering, Manufacturing, Construction, Local Government, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship. My passion for leadership and development has led me to this new role focused on guiding the students of Crawford County through their transitions and preparing them for college/workforce. I'm excited to lead these students into the wide variety of local opportunities available to them and build awareness that will help to sustain the local community. We are halfway through the 2024-2025 school year, and I'm constantly amazed at the opportunities available to work with the students through this program.

Let me take a moment to highlight a few of the events that I have been blessed to be a part of.

- NTMA Manufacturing Academy – I partner with NWPA NTMA to offer students in 11th and 12th grades to meet at two local manufacturing businesses with a different theme for the day once per month. We explore the opportunities available at each shop, listen to employee testimonials, and cover a soft skill at each session. We completed our 4th session in February with our 5th and final session commencing in March. We began the program with (44) students from Conneaut, Meadville, Saegertown, Maplewood, and Cambridge Springs schools. We anticipate (38) students to complete the program, (25) students with perfect attendance.
- 4th Graders as Scientists – Crawford Central 4th grade students take a field trip to Allegheny College where we have several hands-on stations with presenters lined up to explore a variety of local Science related career opportunities. The first session concluded in February with West End Elementary and Second District 4th graders.
- Mock Interviews – I help 11th & 12th grade students prepare for job/college interviews with in-class presentations that cover interview skills, soft skills, and resume writing. Then, we follow up with real-life mock interviews. Conneaut and Meadville schools have been completed. Cambridge Springs, Saegertown, Maplewood, and Cochran schools are scheduled for Feb-Apr.

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

- NTMA Passport to Manufacturing – Saturday, March 22nd - Students in 4th to 9th grades are invited to tour three-four local manufacturing/tooling and machining businesses with their parents/guardians. Students receive a passport booklet and collect stamps as they complete tours. The event concludes at a central location with lunch and prize drawings.
- Educator in the Workplace – Monday, April 7th at Phoenix Laser Solutions - EIW is a shop tour of a local manufacturer with beverages and refreshments as well a guided conversation afterward discussing workforce development concerns as it applies to K-12. It's held annually to help create awareness of available jobs in our county and to help build a bridge of communication between manufacturers and educators to better prepare our students for their future (particularly future careers in manufacturing) whether it be college or workforce bound.
- Crawford County 8th Grade Career Awareness Fair – Wednesday, April 9th at Allegheny College - (700) 8th grade students are registered to attend the event from (9) Crawford County schools - Business registration is due by March 14th. Over 1,200 Crawford County students have been served to date through the program with many more on the docket. (See more info on this below. Registration is now open.)

A HUGE thank you to all the sponsors of the Chocoholic Frolic, as well as the generous support of the local community. These opportunities for the students are possible because of your support!

CONGRATULATIONS to Grocery Outlet on their grand opening of the Meadville location. Welcome to the community and we wish you success! THANK YOU for your generous donation to the K-12 program!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

To **Heather Schmader** and **David Gordon** for receiving ERA's **Circle of Achievement** designation and to **Linda Peters, Leslie Berger, Ben Berger, and Mike Crowther** for receiving ERA's **Circle of Honor** designation for total production in 2024. And special congratulations to **Heather Schmader** for placing in the **TOP 1%** individual category!



Big News at ERA Richmond R.E.S.

We have a change in the Broker of Record! Benjamin Berger, grandson of owner Linda Peters, and son of Associate Broker Leslie Berger, moved into the position of Broker of Record with Linda Peters reactivating her Associate Broker license. Linda will remain very active in all aspects of Real Estate, a move bringing in the younger generation of leadership and preparing for the future of the company. Ben joined ERA Richmond Real Estate Service in 2019, received his Broker's license in 2024, and is very knowledgeable with all the tools and technology to assist agents, staff, buyers, and seller clients.



Richmond Real Estate Service

www.ERA-Richmond.com (814) 337-6000

LM Talk Recap - February 2025

Hello from the LM Talk team! Our February program was a great success. I, Jeff Miller (Class Act Cleaning, LM 5 graduate), had the pleasure of co-hosting with Joe Vilkie, owner of Cool 101.7, who graciously stepped in to assist this month.

We were excited to welcome Tom Guzick, Chief Marketing Officer at Voodoo Brewing Co. and a recent graduate of Leadership Meadville Class 14. Tom shared his unique journey—from growing up in Pottstown, PA, and earning a Master’s degree in education, to moving to Meadville in 2010 when his wife’s career brought them to the area. While searching for a teaching position, Tom began volunteering at Voodoo Brewing, helping with bottling, labeling, and other tasks—initially working for beer and food! What started as a volunteer role soon turned into a career, eventually leading him to his current position as CMO. With Voodoo’s rapid growth, including 26 franchise locations, Tom plays a key role in marketing and supporting each site’s development.

Tom joined Leadership Meadville after being “voluntold” to participate—but he’s grateful he did. He highlighted the networking opportunities as one of the most valuable aspects of the program. Before LM, his circle was largely limited to work and the gym. Through the program, he connected with 19 other community leaders and built relationships that continue today. Tom also enjoyed the Asset Discovery field trips, with Manufacturing Day standing out as a favorite. Even the classroom-based leadership sessions and morning discussions left a lasting impression—yes, even the yoga session!

A big thank you to Tom for sharing his story and insights, and to Joe Vilkie for co-hosting and supporting the LM Talk program.

We invite you to join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 9 AM to hear another Leadership Meadville graduate share their experiences. Don’t miss this opportunity to connect and be inspired!



Pictured: (from left to right) Joe Vilkie, Tom Guziak, and Jeff Miller

“

The secret to change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new.

Socrates - Father of western philosophy

”

What is Leadership Meadville?

The MISSION of Leadership Meadville is to identify and develop current and future leaders through a comprehensive program designed to increase knowledge and awareness of the issues and challenges facing this community, while also providing knowledge of all that Crawford County has to offer.

For each class, 20 individuals who have demonstrated leadership potential will be selected. Each day begins with discussions surrounding leadership theory/styles, with the remainder of the day filled with "asset discovery" that focuses on a different industry sector each month, taking the class to various businesses throughout the region. The program prides itself in giving participants access to area businesses and their leaders that would normally be more difficult to obtain.

Attendance at the orientation class and the following 10 monthly classes are mandatory for all participants. Want more info? Email Christa Lundy at clundy@meadvillechamber.com



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Your Trip Includes:

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See itinerary below



Day 1 - Pittsburgh (PIT)/Rome

Check in at Pittsburgh International Airport for a connection (or direct) flight to Rome. Overnight on the flight.

Day 2 - Rome

Change the connection flight and arrive at Rome, Italy. You will be met at the airport by your tour guide and transfer to the hotel.

Day 3 - 4 - Rome

Take a tour to Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the world. Walk along the beautiful Galleries of Tapestries, admiring Raphael's Rooms. The tour ends at St. Peter's Square. Visit the ancient Colosseum, Piazza Romana, L'arco Trionfale di Costantino, Piazza Venezia, Bocca della Verita, Vittoriano Memorial Hall, Piazza del Campidoglio.

Day 5 - Rome/Assisi/Siena/Florence

Bus journey to Assisi, tiny town built in the Middle Ages. Visit Basilica of St. Francis to see the masterpieces by Giotto and Cimabue. Drive to Siena, a UNESCO Heritage Site, world-known for the Palio, the historical horse race around the shell-shaped town square Piazza del Campo. Drive to Florence.

Day 6 - Florence

Tour starts by venturing around beautiful Florence, the cradle of Renaissance, with the help of Michelangelo. Visit Santa Maria del Fiore, more commonly referred to as the Duomo, Piazza Della Signoria, Palazzo Della Signoria (also known as Palazzo Vecchio), Basilica of Santa Croce, Piza dei Miracoli with the Duomo, and Pisa the Leaning Tower.

Day 7 - Florence/Bologna/Padova/Venice Drive to Bologna, see Particos at city center. From Piazza Malpighi walk to Piazza del Nettuno and Piazza Maggiore, then King Renzo Palace Palazzo Podesta and the Basilica of San Petronio. Drive to Padova, with Sant' Antonio Basilica, one of the most visited churches by pilgrims of the Catholic world. Drive to Venice, the City of Love. Private water-taxi transfer to Piza San Marco, visit St Mark's Basilica. Sightseeing also includes the Palazzo dei Dogi, the legendary "Bridge of Sights", roaming along Venice's canals.

Day 8 - Venice/Milan

Depart from Piazzale Roma to Milan, visit the Cathedral Metropolitan di Santa Maria Nascente Duomo di Milano.

Day 9 - Milan/Pittsburgh (PIT)

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- Price reflects double share occupancy
- 5-star service standard with low group travel rate
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- Including post departure group travel protection
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- Free shuttle bus on departure and return day
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Plan now to join the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce & Meadville Area Chamber of Commerce group for Italy trip adventure. Call Christa at the Meadville Chamber 814-337-8030 for details, email registration to clundy@meadvillechamber.com.

Tour Operator: Citslinc International, Inc. 1-844-262-1100 Email citslinc@aol.com, citslinc.us

EMAIL REGISTRATION FORM WITH DEPOSIT BY MARCH 31

The Chocoholic Frolic: A Sweet Celebration of Local Chocolate Delights

Chocolate lovers from near and far gathered at the Italian Civic Club for an unforgettable evening at the Chocoholic Frolic, a decadent celebration dedicated to all things chocolate. With over 300 attendees indulging in the creations of more than 10 local chocolatiers, the event proved to be a paradise for anyone with a sweet tooth.

A Night of Indulgence

The aroma of rich cocoa and velvety confections filled the air as guests sampled an array of chocolates, from handcrafted truffles and chocolate-dipped fruits to gourmet brownies and chocolate steak sauce. Each chocolatier brought their unique spin to classic favorites, offering a diverse selection of flavors and textures that delighted even the most discerning palates. Attendees had the opportunity to meet the artisans behind the sweets, learning about the craftsmanship and passion that goes into every bite. From time-honored family recipes to innovative new creations, the event highlighted the incredible talent within the local chocolate scene.



The winner of the Best Table Display:
Casey's Ice Cream & Candies

More Than Just Chocolate

Beyond the sweet treats, the Chocoholic Frolic featured chocolate drink tastings, a jewelry raffle, 50/50, and a basket raffle. Many guests enjoyed pairing their chocolate with chocolately mixed drinks, enhancing the tasting experience with complementary flavors.

The event wasn't just about indulgence—it also served as a platform to support local businesses, celebrate the community's love for artisanal sweets, and support a good cause. Proceeds from this event help support the K-12 Career Education Alliance and the Leadership Meadville Program.



The winner of the Best Candy:
Boozy Bonbons by Warner's
Bakery by Hil



The winner of the People's
Choice: Triple Chocolate
Covered Strawberries by
Finney's Chocolate Shoppe



Parkhurst took home 2
trophies: Best Baked Good
for their Chocolate Covered
Strawberry Cheesecake and
Best Specialty Item for their
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Congratulations to our jewelry
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Stephanie Goss, and
Brittany Waid

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- **Jewelry Raffle Sponsors:** Memory Lane Jewelers and Roberts Jewelers
- **Media Sponsors:** 7 Mountains Media, Armstrong, Cool 101.7, and The Stream

Your support made this chocolate-filled evening one to remember, and we are truly grateful for your commitment to the community and local businesses.

A Successful and Satisfying Evening

We also want to thank our incredible chocolatiers! We had entries from Casey's Ice Cream & Candies, Confections of a Cake Lover, Cup 'n Spoon, Finney's Chocolate Shoppe, Grammy Stephanie's Bakery, The Italian Civic Club, Juniper Village, Parkhurst Dining Services and Catering, Save Room for Dessert, and Warner's Bakery by Hil. We also enjoyed chocolate treats from Cracker Barrel, Dairy Queen, Titusville Dairy, and TOPS Market. With satisfied smiles and chocolate-stained fingers, guests left the event already looking forward to next year's Chocoholic Frolic. The overwhelming turnout and enthusiastic response proved that this event is a must-attend tradition for chocolate lovers.

Whether you're a devoted chocoholic or just looking for an excuse to indulge, this event was a dream come true for anyone who believes that life is simply better with chocolate.



Business After Hours



HOSTED BY:



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March 13, 2025

5:00 - 7:00 pm

1 Fountain Street, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403

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Businesswomen's Round Table



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SNACKS!
GIVE-A-WAYS!

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Monthly HR Consortium



HR CONSORTIUM

March 25th at Noon

(Usually the Fourth Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted)

Hoss' Steak & Sea House

18817 Smock Highway, Meadville (In the meeting room)

Speaker: Rescheduled from February

Timothy C. Geibel, Executive Director Crawford Area Transportation Authority

Topic:

CATA Go program possibilities and CATA update



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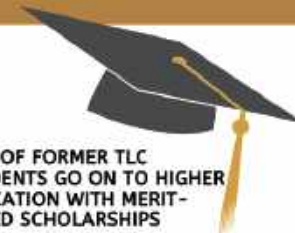


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**& ENJOY
LAKE VIEWS,
BOUTIQUES,
FIREMANS BEACH
& MUCH MORE**

OWNED BY DAVID & KAREN GORDON



The Meadville Area Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Meadville 15 are proud to present the:

Chili, CHOWDER, & SOUP COOK OFF



Enjoy great food as area restaurants compete for the titles of Best Chili, Chowder, & Soup!

For more information:
www.meadvillechamber.com
814-337-8030

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CHAMBER OFFICE AND THE CRAWFORD CO. CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU. \$20.00 IN ADVANCE OR \$25.00 AT THE DOOR

THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH
5-7:30PM

Italian Civic Club, 869 Water Street, Meadville



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Platinum: \$1500

Your organization will receive:

- Title sponsorship level.
- Company logo on all marketing materials.
- Company recognized on radio spots.
- Opportunity to display a table and distribute materials at event.
- Display company banner.
- Company name displayed at the event.
- 20 free tickets to the event - \$400 value!

Silver: \$500

Your organization will receive:

- Company logo on all marketing materials.
- Company name displayed at the event.
- 10 free tickets to the event - \$200 value!

Bronze: \$250

Your organization will receive:

- Company name displayed at the event.
- 5 free tickets to the event - \$100 value!

Gold: \$1000

Your organization will receive:

- Company logo on all marketing materials.
- Company recognized on radio spots.
- Company name displayed at the event.
- 15 free tickets to the event - \$300 value!

A portion of proceeds from this year's event will support the Leadership Meadville program.

Package Selected: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

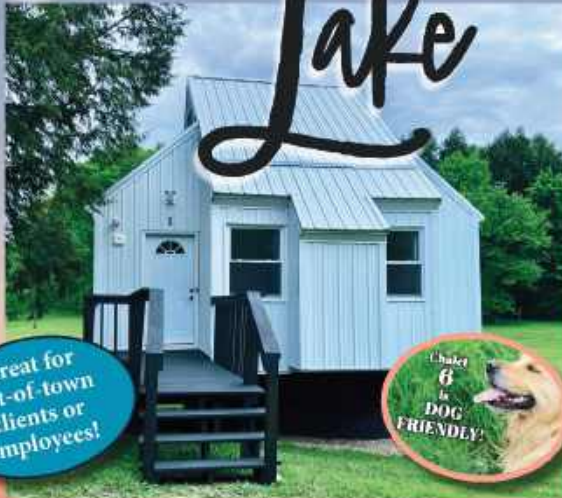
Sales Representative: _____

Sponsorship Deadline: March 7, 2025 - (Sponsorships of \$500+ received after January 17th will not be listed on tickets or poster but will be on social media and displayed at the event.)

Please Return this form and make checks payable to: Meadville Area Chamber of Commerce (908 Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) with "CCSCO" in the memo line.

Chalets by the Lake

We offer 6 newly renovated short term rental options nestled on more than 15 rustic acres within minutes of beautiful Conneaut Lake!



Great for out-of-town clients or employees!

Chalet 6 is DOG FRIENDLY!

We are conveniently located just a short distance from:

- Fireman's Beach
- Icehouse Park
- Barbara J Cruises
- Conneaut Cellars Winery
- Quaint restaurants, coffee shops, gift shops, & more!

Convenient laundry facility as well as free parking included on-site. Just 15 minutes from Meadville.

Each chalet comfortably sleeps up to 6 guests. There are 2 bedrooms - 1 downstairs with a full bed, 1 upstairs in the loft with a queen bed and a pullout sleeper sofa in the living room. A full kitchen on the main level is accompanied by a full bathroom as well.



Or... **BOOK ALL 6 CHALETs!**

Contact us for discounts for Chamber Members!



chaletsbythelake.com

@chaletsBTL

info@boweslucas.com

@Chaletsbythelake

@chaletsbythelake

@chaletsbythelake

Check us out for more information!



10730 State Highway 18, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316
www.chaletsbythelake.com • info@boweslucas.com

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE

*Meadville Area
Chamber of Commerce*

ANNUAL DINNER & DIAMOND AWARDS

Join us as we present the Diamond Awards to honor small and large businesses and non-profit groups as well as one young, emerging local leader and the Raymond P. Shafer Award for Distinguished Community Service.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL

COCKTAIL RECEPTION 5 PM

23

DINNER & AWARDS 6 PM

2025

\$60/PERSON FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS

\$75/PERSON FOR NON-MEMBERS

HOTEL CONNEAUT

12301 CENTER ST W, CONNEAUT LAKE, PA 16316

Nomination forms for the Diamond Awards and Raymond P. Shafer Award can be found in this newsletter and on the Chamber website and social media pages.

GOVERNOR RAYMOND P. SHAFER AWARD for Distinguished Community Service

This award is co-sponsored by Shafer Law Firm, Allegheny College and the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce. It recognizes an individual who had a positive impact on the quality of life in western Crawford County through his/her volunteer service to our community.

The award selections are based on the nominee's volunteer efforts and commitment of time, accomplishments, community impact and enhancement of the lives of others.

The award will be presented during the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce's Annual Dinner on Wednesday, April 23, 2025.

Purpose

This award was created to thank and honor individuals who by their commitment and example inspire others to engage in volunteer service. Its intention is to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making to our community and to encourage more people to serve. The goal of this award is to recognize and honor volunteers and to set a standard that encourages a sustained commitment to civic participation and inspires others to make service a central part of their lives.

This award recognizes individuals who have achieved a standard measured by service within a prior twelve-month period or service that has been performed over the course of a lifetime.

Eligibility

Nominees must have been engaged in volunteer activities for a minimum of one year in the Meadville-Western Crawford County area and have benefited the community in a substantial, important or unique way.

Submitting a nomination

Complete the form on the reverse side and return it to the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce before the deadline listed below:

By email: Email your completed nomination form to Christa Lundy at info@meadvillechamber.com

By fax: Print your completed nomination form and fax to 814-337-8022 to the attention of Christa Lundy

By mail: Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce
908 Diamond Park
Meadville, PA 16335
Attn: Christa Lundy

Nomination deadline: March 21, 2025



GOVERNOR RAYMOND P. SHAFER AWARD for Distinguished Community Service

Nomination Form

Nomination Deadline is March 21, 2025

SECTION A—NOMINATOR'S INFORMATION

Your Name _____

Daytime Telephone _____

Email Address _____

SECTION B—NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Name _____

Main Occupation _____

Was the nominee paid for the service(s) you are nominating him/her for?

Circle one: YES NO (Things done as part of their paid employment will not be considered.)

SECTION C—WHY THE NOMINEE?

Please be specific in describing how the nominee has made a positive impact, difference and/or lasting impression on Meadville-Western Crawford County utilizing his/her time and talents.

Please list other pertinent details of this nominee's background that may support this nomination.

What organizations, if any, does the nominee participate in?

***Please feel free to attach additional pages as needed to answer above questions completely.

Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce

2025 Diamond Awards

Award Categories:

- ◆ New Business of the Year (same criteria as below but in existence less than 3 years)
- ◆ Small Business of the Year (1-15 employees)
- ◆ Mid-Size Business of the Year (16-49 employees)
- ◆ Large Business of the Year (50 or more employees)
- ◆ Emerging Leader Award (Bright Leader for Tomorrow, under 40 yrs. old; an individual award)
- ◆ Small Non-Profit of the Year (Annual budget of under \$500,000)
- ◆ Large Non-Profit of the Year (Annual budget of over \$500,000)

Business of the Year

The purpose of the Business of the Year awards is to recognize local businesses that have achieved success while supporting initiatives and organizations that enhance the quality of life in the Meadville-Western Crawford County area.

Eligibility:

- ◆ Qualifying businesses must be a member in good standing of the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ Businesses must be under the same ownership for at least three years (except for New Business Award).
- ◆ Businesses may nominate themselves.

Criteria for Business of the Year Awards:

- ◆ Performance & Growth
 - Sales, profit, customer growth
- ◆ Innovation & Creativity
 - Innovative products and services, customer service, management, staff development, marketing, etc.
- ◆ Competitiveness
 - How did the company overcome obstacles and challenges?
 - Describe any strategies that have helped separate the nominated business from their competition and/or better serve their customers.
- ◆ Community Involvement
 - How does the nominated business give back to the community – time, money, resources, etc.?
 - Memberships or participation in chambers of commerce, associations or other organizations that service the community.
- ◆ Provide a brief statement as to why the nominated business should be named a Business of the Year.

Emerging Leader Award

Presented to an individual who is in the first years of their career and has demonstrated leadership qualities within their businesses and community. The Emerging Leader Award was established to foster young leadership and enhance youth retention in our community.

Eligibility:

- ◆ Qualifying individual must be employed by a business that is a member in good standing with the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce.

Meadville – Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce
 908 Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335 • 814.337.8030 • www.meadvillechamber.com



- ◆ Individual must be under 40 years of age and live and/or work in the Meadville-Western Crawford County area.

Criteria for Emerging Leader Award:

- ◆ Professional Leadership
 - How has the nominee demonstrated excellence, leadership, creativity and role model qualities?
- ◆ Community Service
 - Civic and service organizations, political pursuits, religious groups, chamber of commerce, etc.

Non-Profit Award

The purpose of the Non-Profit awards is to recognize local organizations that have achieved success while supporting initiatives and projects that enhance the quality of life in the Meadville-Western Crawford County area.

Eligibility:

- ◆ Qualifying organizations must be a member in good standing of the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ Organizations may nominate themselves.
- ◆ Provide a brief statement as to why the nominated non-profit should be named a Non-Profit of the Year.

Criteria for Non-Profit of the Year Awards:

- ◆ Innovation & Creativity
 - Innovative services, customer service, management, staff development, marketing, etc.
 - Examples of how the organization serves its clientele or populations while utilizing funds most efficiently.
- ◆ Competitiveness
 - How did the organization overcome obstacles and challenges?
 - Describe any strategies that have helped the nominated organization stand out in the community.
- ◆ Community Involvement
 - How does the nominated organization give back to the community – time, money, resources, etc.?
 - Memberships or participation in chambers of commerce, associations or other organizations that service the community.

Please note – The winner of each category is determined by the merit of the nominations, not the quantity of nominations received for any one business.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025

Meadville – Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce
908 Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335 • 814.337.8030 • www.meadvillechamber.com



Meadville Area Chamber Board Members

Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce Board Members for your dedication and hard work. Your leadership and commitment make a meaningful impact on our community's growth and success. We deeply appreciate all that you do!



David Gordon, President
ERA Richmond Real Estate



Adam Prenatt, Vice President
Unifirst



Jean Martin, Secretary
Bayshore Homes



Matt McLamb, Treasurer
Mercer County State Bank



Dave Astry
Bush Investment Group



Tony Boca
Bayshore Homes



DJ Craven
The Gildea Group



Zach Smith
Acute Precision Aerospace



Chuck Evanoff
Penelec



Marie Feltz
Decorating Den Interiors



Mandy Mahoney
Blue Canopy Marketing



Carrie Worsk
Black Bear Dispensary



Chad Wagner
Barr's Insurance



Darrin Hyde
Hill Barth & King



Ron Martin
Smoky Martins BBQ



Chris Bowes
Calvert Pearson Insurance Group

Meadville Area Chamber of Commerce

908 Diamond Park
Meadville, PA 16335

(814)337-8030

info@meadvillechamber.com

www.meadvillechamber.com

About Us

The Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce has been serving the business community for 215 years. Founded in February 1807, we continue to be a vital advocate for Western Crawford County businesses and governments.

Mission Statement

The Chamber works collectively to build business and connect community, provide educational programs, promote our members and empower leaders of tomorrow.

Vision Statement

Leading our community to prosperity.

Registration Now Open

THE MEADVILLE CHAMBER FOUNDATION'S



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ALLEGHENY COLLEGE
PRESENT THE:

CRAWFORD COUNTY 8TH GRADE CAREER AWARENESS FAIR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025

8:00 AM-1:00 PM

ON THE CAMPUS OF ALLEGHENY COLLEGE



**INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING
AS AN EXHIBITOR?**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO ACCESS THE
REGISTRATION FORM.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 14, 2025.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT AMY GODWIN AT 814.219.4014.

St. James Haven's Ongoing Fundraiser:

Community Drive-thru Dinner

Thursday, March 27 3PM - 6PM



Chicken & Biscuits, Mixed Veggies & Sweet Treat

100%
of the proceeds are used towards the ongoing operation of St. James Haven.

On the third Thursday of each month, St. James Haven hosts a dinner, "Drive-Thru Style" at their shelter located at 779 North Main St., Meadville, PA. All you have to do is "drive-thru", let us know what you want, and one of our volunteers will bring out your dinner!!

Cost: DONATION

**A huge
THANK YOU
to this month's sponsor:
Leech Carbide**



LEECH CARBIDE



CALLING ALL AREA BUSINESSES:

St. James Haven's Fundraiser

Community Drive-thru Dinner

★ **BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY** ★

Sponsorship Benefits

- Logo Displayed on our Outdoor Banner
- Business Newspaper Ad
- Radio Ad
- Facebook Feature & Pinned to top of St. James Haven Page

ALL THESE BENEFITS FOR A SPONSORSHIP OF **\$1,000**

- Armstrong Channel 36 Ad
- Logo Displayed on St. James Haven's Website
- Opportunity to be Present and Serve the Day of the Event
- Promotional Flyer Distribution
- Full Page Ad in Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

**Interested in becoming a sponsor? Give Samantha a call!
(814) 337-6082**

EXPERIENCE

CLIMBING FOR PROMISING FUTURES!



Join us for a rock-climbing experience that officially kicks off the fundraising efforts of our Mt. Kilimanjaro Climb!

Enjoy a fun evening of climbing, with food and refreshments provided by our youth driven business, ILP Snack shack. Help kick off our CEO, George Trauner, COO, Jerrad Rimel & Attorney Gery Nietupski's Mt. Kilimanjaro climb which is working to raise \$250,000 for our Right Start for Young Mothers program.

RSVP Required for this Free Event!

**THURSDAY
MARCH 20TH
FROM 5-8 PM**



ASCEND ERIE
426 STATE STREET ERIE PA 16501



CLIMBING - FOOD - REFRESHMENTS

WWW.BETHESDA1919.ORG/CLIMB



Time Management Workshop

Be more productive and maximize YOUR time

A 5% increase in productivity over the course of a year can give you back two full weeks of time!

Setting clear priorities and taking ownership of your time are essential steps to achieving both individual and organizational goals. This guide offers practical techniques to efficiently define your goals and effectively reach them.

In today's fast-paced world, professionals face constant pressure to find innovative ways to meet objectives, stay ahead of the competition, respond quickly to customer demands, and still maintain a healthy work-life balance.

We will focus on ten key areas to help you refine your time management strategies, regain control of your personal and professional life, and experience a true sense of accomplishment.

Create more time in a day!

Developing effective time management skills helps you:

- Accomplish more each day
- Meeting project deadlines
- Building staff capacity to serve customers
- Less meetings, more time on opportunities



Wednesday, April 9th, 2025
8:30 to 11AM

Crawford Heritage Community Foundation
415 Chestnut Street, Meadville

\$ 35.00 per person

RSVP to the Meadville Area Chamber
(814) 337-8030 or
info@meadvillechamber.com

This workshop will cover the following areas:

- The Starting Attitude
- Setting Realistic Goals
- Defining Priorities
- Analyzing How You Use Your Time
- Planning Tools
- Scheduling Your Day and Week
- Managing Interruptions
- Facilitating Effective Meetings
- Effective Delegation
- Dealing with Procrastination
- Project Management Skills

Instructor Bio: Gary Svetz, President of Svetz Consulting Services, LLC has over 30 years in developing individuals and their organizations utilizing training in leadership, team building, productive conflict, customer service, managing change, and effective coaching skills. He works in all sectors, including for-profit and non-profit environments. Gary's recent areas in the last few years are within healthcare, government, service, retail and manufacturing organizations.



KEYSTONE COMMUNITY
EDUCATION COUNCIL

*Serving Clarion, Crawford, Mercer, and
Venango Counties and Surrounding Areas*

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR

20th ANNIVERSARY!

ENJOY 40% OFF
ANY CLEANING SERVICE!

**At Your Request
CLEANING, Inc.**

814-333-1205

847 N. Main Street, Suite 001B
Meadville, PA 16335

atyourrequestcleaning@windstream.net

www.atyourrequestcleaning.com



Chamber Member News

Update us!! "Your Chamber...Your Voice" features updates on area business news for members, about members! Member News is a free member benefit that is an easy way to keep up with other local business success and to be recognized for your own accomplishments. To announce awards, promotions, events, personnel changes, new merchandise, or other news, email updates of 200 words or less in paragraph format to jpanchura@MeadvilleChamber.com by the 20th of each month. One graphic (head shot or company logo) per blurb, please. Your Chamber is excited to hear about the success of your business!

Next Newsletter: April 2025

Advertising & Member News Deadline: March 20th - Contact Julie Panchura (JPanchura@MeadvilleChamber.com).

Barr's Insurance



Cyber Crime is on the RISE! Are you protected with a separate CYBER INSURANCE policy for your business? Did you know that you are more likely to have a CYBER Claim than a property or auto claim? Contact Chad Wagner, for more information and a FREE NO OBLIGATION quote today!

Small Business's are TARGETED for these attacks as they don't have the protections in place to protect their business. We want you to be here tomorrow, so please contact me to set up an appointment!

Toll Free: 888-813-7500 or visit www.barrsinsurance.com

Me Again Boutique: A Journey of Compassionate Care



Tammie McElhinny began fitting women in need of mastectomy products in 1998, a passion which led her and Trish Wilson to open Me Again Boutique 10 years ago. Although the Boutique was at Cutter's Condos for one year only, Tammie was able to expand services offered at Bay City Orthocare to include mastectomy care. During this time, she met Denise Giambra, Certified Mastectomy Fitter and together, they shared a vision of returning to the boutique concept of care offering women a more intimate and compassionate fitting experience (along with a little retail therapy.)

In 2023, Bay City was acquired and it's mastectomy service was eliminated. But where one door closes, another opens leading to meeting Julie McLaughlin, CFm/Lymphedema Compression Specialist whose expertise in compression fitting has made her our area's leading expert. Now, Tammie, Trish, Denise and Julie, alongside Shelly and Emily, will bring new energy to re-open Me Again Boutique with expanded services, the ability to bill insurance and new lines of merchandise, dedicated to treating every woman with the expertise, compassion and kindness they would want for their own mother, sister and friend.

A NEW Beginning Coming Soon! Follow us on Facebook at Me Again Boutique LLC



March into Elegance at Roberts Jewelers! Spring is in the air, and Emeralds are in full bloom at Roberts Jewelers in the Park Avenue Plaza! Celebrate the season with Emerald earrings, pendants, and rings as vibrant and timeless as the Emerald Isle itself!

Stop by Roberts Jewelers, where a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is waiting just for you!

When it's more than a memory.....

Hours: Monday - Friday 10:00am. - 5:00pm., and Saturday 10:00am. - 2:00pm.

Located at 19057 Park Avenue Plaza, Meadville, PA 16335 Call us at 814-337-6398 or visit robertsjewelrystore.com

ARMSTRONG®

Armstrong's Breaking Bread is celebrating 15 years! Breaking Bread is an initiative designed to address hunger in the communities in which we live, work, and provide service.

Please join us on Friday, March 7th, at your local Armstrong store to mark this milestone anniversary! Bring any non-perishable food or monetary donation for a chance to win our "Movie Night In" basket. Plus, receive a special 'thank you' gift from our team. Remember, all donations stay local - because when you support Armstrong, you support your community!

Your local Armstrong store: 160 Westview Drive, Meadville. If your business or organization is interested in partnering with Breaking Bread, please email Meagan Waters at mwaters@agoc.com.



Founded in Switzerland in 1973, LNS was established by three visionary founders who set out to revolutionize mechanical bar loaders during a time when the watchmaking industry was flourishing. Over the decades, LNS has remained committed to innovation, consistently

developing cutting-edge products that set new standards in the industry.

Through a combination of groundbreaking product development and strategic acquisitions, LNS has evolved into a global leader, delivering smart, advanced solutions for the machine tool industry and its clients.

Today LNS has a global presence with nine manufacturing locations across three continents. The company has over 950 employees globally to serve our growing customer base. In 2023 LNS was proud to celebrate 50 years in business. LNS Group - One-Stop-Shop for Machine-Tool Peripherals



Are you sick of being sick? This winter sickness seems to be nonstop. Let us help you! Here at Vitality Natural Health and Wellness Center we have what you need to stay healthy or kick that sickness that is hanging on longer than it should. Options include; vitamins and supplements that we can suggest at a therapeutic dosage to get the full

benefits you need, natural remedies such as Magic Socks and Castor Oil Packs to promote detoxification, Infrared Sauna sessions to remove those toxins and improve your immune system, Detox Foot Bath to get you feeling better sooner, Massage Therapy to get that lymphatic system moving, and MORE! Don't go through the rest of the winter not feeling like yourself, give us a call!

Meadville Area Free Clinic THANKS the Community!



The Free Clinic wants to thank the greater Crawford County for their donations of over 150 pieces of durable medical equipment (DME) donated to "Pass It On" (PIO) program! It was a cold snowy, blustery Saturday morning, but working together, Allegheny College students, volunteers from MMC Vernon Physical Therapy, Free Clinic volunteers & Board members - unloaded, sorted, inspected, cleaned, sanitized and stored the equipment for disbursement for those in need in the PIO program. And thank you to MMC for use of a truck and driver to take items to "Chosen" in Erie the DME that we can't sanitize and use here, but they can!

Thank you!

Free Clinic is also excited to have a new partnership with American Liver Foundation (ALF)! Physicians will be able to offer patients with 1 or more risk factors a "Liverstat test". ALF connection Care Coordinator will provide education, resources and follow up.

Since 1997 we have been offering free primary medical health care services to residents in Crawford County and surrounding area between ages 18-64, who do not have health insurance. Serving an average of 80 patients monthly and over 25 zip codes. Questions? Please call 814-333-3932.

Crawford Christian Academy



Crawford Christian Academy offers a Bible-centered education that equips students to serve God and impact the world through Biblical thought and action. Serving over 350 students from preschool through 12th grade, CCA partners with parents and local churches to help children reach their academic and spiritual potential.

Our dedicated faculty and staff provide quality education across two campuses: Calvary Campus for preschool and primary grades (K-2) and Vernon Campus for grades 3-12, with ongoing improvements supporting growth. This year, CCA has expanded programs with new teachers, sports teams, and electives in STEM, Creative Arts, and Multimedia. Spiritual growth is nurtured through chapel experiences and discipleship groups. Recent highlights include a beautiful Winter program and several field trips, with more events planned this Spring. Enrollment for 2025-2026 is now open! Please join us at one of our upcoming Open Houses: Calvary Campus on April 15th (5:30-7:30 PM) and Vernon Campus on April 10th (5:30-7:30 PM).

Looking ahead, CCA plans to expand Vernon Campus with additional classrooms and a gymnasium to accommodate growing enrollment and support new programs, but we need support through donations to make this happen. For more details on our relaunched capital campaign, please visit crawfordchristianacademy.org/wherever-we-go.

Kathleen Layer Coaching



Hi, I'm Kathleen Layer, Master Certified Intuitive Eating & Body Image Coach for Women. I'm not your average health coach. I don't focus on weight and my goal with clients is not weight loss, but rather helping you feel more confident, capable, and compassionate about your health, yourself, and your body than ever before. I want you to FEEL your best by becoming your best self. I work with clients virtually and offer workshops, seminars, and wellness events for individuals, groups, teams, and businesses.

To schedule a free consultation or learn more about my services visit www.kathleenlayer.com

Riverside Brewing Co

We have a fantastic lineup of live performances and festive activities planned for March at RBC. Here's what's coming up:



*** **Live Music Performances:****

* Logan Battin – Saturday, March 1st from 6-9 PM

* Chris Higbee Acoustic – Friday, March 7th from 6-9 PM

* Fred Oakman – Saturday, March 8th from 6-9 PM

* Business After Hours - Thursday, March 13th

*** **St. Patrick's Day Weekend Celebrations:****

* Lucky Dog – Saturday, March 15th from 6-9 PM

* Jay Baumgardner – Sunday, March 16th from 5-8 PM

* Michael Aarons – Saturday, March 22nd from 6-9 PM

* Joseph Hosey – Saturday, March 29th from 6-9 PM

Join us for a weekend of festive fun with green beer, special features, and themed cocktails.



Spring is right around the corner! Are you purchasing a new home, selling your current home, or maybe it's time to refinance? Harmony Closings LLC is happy to assist you with your title and closing needs. We will walk you through the settlement process and

handle all aspects of the closing. We have two licensed title agents who are well versed in the title insurance industry, with over 30 years of combined experience. Our goal is to provide you with a smooth, professional and personal real estate closing experience.

If you'd like more information about our services, have questions about title insurance or the closing process, please contact us at closings@harmoniclosings.com or call (814) 337-0001.

Watts and Pepicelli



The law firm of Watts and Pepicelli is pleased to announce the addition of attorney Shannon A. Ferry to the Personal Injury and Civil Litigation section of the firm.

Shannon was born and raised in Meadville and graduated with honors from Meadville Area Senior High School in 2018.

In 2021, Shannon earned her B.A. degree in Political Science from Virginia Tech, where she graduated magna cum laude in three years.

After finishing undergraduate college, Shannon was admitted to Cleveland State University College of Law. During law school, she interned for the City of Lakewood Law Department. As a student, Shannon obtained a special license which allowed her to prosecute cases in the Lakewood Municipal Court and successfully argue in the 8th District Court of Appeals of Ohio.

She obtained her Juris Doctor degree in May 2024.

Shannon will be working closely with attorney Alan Pepicelli, concentrating her practice on personal injury and civil litigation. Shannon will also be working as a part-time prosecutor in the Crawford County District Attorney's office.

Shannon has had a close relationship with the lawyers and staff at Watts and Pepicelli her entire life and is very excited to be joining them now as an attorney.



Participation in a track and field team provides children with numerous physical, mental, and social benefits that contribute to their overall well-being. Engaging in regular physical activity through running and field events helps improve cardiovascular health, strength, endurance, and coordination. These activities also instill lifelong habits of fitness.

Beyond physical benefits, participation in track and field fosters important life skills such as discipline, perseverance, and goal setting. Children learn the value of challenging work and

dedication as they train to improve their performance. They also develop resilience in overcoming challenges and setbacks, helping them build confidence and a keen sense of self-esteem.

While many events focus on individual performance, athletes support and motivate each other, creating a sense of community. Friendships formed through training and competition can be long-lasting, and the experience teaches valuable communication and leadership skills.

Seton Catholic School offers all children in our community the opportunity to participate on our youth track and field team in the spring and on our youth cross country team in the fall. These teams consist of children enrolled in kindergarten through grade 8. Contact coach Krissy Davis for more information about Seton's community youth athletics programs at kdavis@seton-school.com or call 814-336-2320.



Come tour the newly renovated student union at Pitt-Titusville's Education & Training Center on Thursday, April 24, from 3 to 5 P.M. at 504 E. Main Street, Titusville, PA.

The self-guided tours are part of a ribbon cutting and campaign celebration in the J. Curtis McKinney II Student Union. Spots on the tour include the Manufacturing Assistant Center, makerspace, digital arts lab, art gallery spaces, renovated classrooms, and collaborative areas.

The event will also highlight the support ETC received, enabling the campus to surpass its \$3 million capital campaign goal. Remarks will be given by ETC and university officials.

A reception will follow the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Attendees are asked to RSVP by contacting Michelle Therminy at (814) 362-7551 or MDT28@Pitt.edu by April 10.

Renovations began in spring 2024 to address a need for renovated space and regional manufacturing and automation needs. The MAC, an initiative of the Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, now operates on campus, improving education and workforce development in the region. The project will create new opportunities for students, regional employers, and partners to include Brockway Center for Arts & Technology, Manchester Bidwell Corporation, Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, and the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville.

Staging By Sonya



Our small business mission: Staging by Sonya strives to develop a sophisticated, high quality, customized space that will optimize efficiency & you'll continue to love for years to come or will give you a great return on your investment!

Follow us on social media: [Facebook.com/stagingbysonya](https://www.facebook.com/stagingbysonya), [@stagingbysonyallc](https://www.instagram.com/stagingbysonyallc)

Call (814)572-6505 to schedule

At Your Request Cleaning, Inc



As we celebrate our 20th anniversary of providing services to our community we are also excited to introduce Susan Cook, the Office Manager/Bookkeeper for At Your Request Cleaning, Inc. Susan brings a wealth of experience in office management and bookkeeping across various industries. She graduated from Saint Leo University with a BA in Accounting and has been a valuable asset to our team. A native of Jamestown, Susan now resides in Saegertown with her boyfriend Mark Swavey. She is a proud mother of two and grandmother of five. Susan enjoys spending her weekends with her family and exploring the local community.



March is finally here, and the employees at GG&C Bus are hoping for Spring to come early. We have had a challenging winter with the snow, ice and deep cold, but as always we transport the students with a smile. We plan on participation in the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 15, we would love to see you. We are still in need of drivers! There is a nationwide bus driver shortage, and our community is feeling this pinch as well. We will train you and take care of all of your clearances and certifications. Please consider adding this rewarding part-time job to your schedule. We are located at 159 Northwood Drive, (of Baldwin St. Ext.). Stop in or call us at 814-807-1873. You can also apply online at www.ggcbus.com. Did you know we provide private charters? Our experienced drivers can transport your group to weddings, bar crawls, wineries or whatever your group chooses. Just call us at 814-807-1873. Happy Spring!

Pennwest Edinboro Beehive



The NWPA Innovation Beehive Network provides free services to small businesses and entrepreneurs in our region. Allegheny College, the Erie County Public Library, Gannon University, Mercyhurst University, Penn State Behrend, and PennWest Edinboro have teamed up to reduce barriers to business growth and innovation. Services range from market analysis, to product design, to website development, and more. Fill out the Beehive intake form at nwpabeehive.com and a representative will contact you. Once again, this assistance is provided free of charge.

The Learning Center



The Learning Center began the month of March with our annual Open House for Prospective Students. There are only a few spots left available for the 2025-2026 school year, so please don't wait to reach out to set up a tour! Tours can be scheduled by emailing Dana at dana@learningcenterk8.org.

As warm weather approaches, TLC has been preparing for our Spring Bling Art Auction and Fundraiser. This year, the event will be held on Saturday, April 5th at the Iroquois Boating Club on Conneaut Lake. A signature cocktail and delicious hors d'oeuvres will be available along with live music from Credit/No Credit. There are lots of sponsorship opportunities that are perfect for local businesses to showcase themselves to a large audience. If you're interested in learning more about how your business can benefit from Spring Bling, please reach out to Sarah at sarah@learningcenterk8.org.

You Matter, LLC



At You Matter Foundation, our mission is to empower individuals by emphasizing their intrinsic value and potential. We provide resources and programs designed to foster personal growth and self-worth.

Through our diverse range of workshops and seminars, we focus on self-care, mental health, and personal safety. These initiatives equip individuals with essential tools to thrive in their personal and professional lives. Whether it's through self-defense courses or personal development workshops, we aim to help everyone feel safe, confident, and valued. Our comprehensive approach underscores the importance of nurturing both the mind and body. We believe that when people recognize their worth, they can reach their full potential and make meaningful contributions to their communities.

You can be part of this transformative journey. Whether by participating in our programs or supporting our initiatives, your involvement is invaluable. Together, we can create a community where every individual understands that they matter.

For more information or to get involved, please visit our website at youmatterfdn.org.

French Creek Valley Conservancy



Join FCVC and Allegheny College's Watershed Conservation Research Center (WCRC) for a Vernal Pool Walk at one of FCVC's properties in Guys Mills! This night hike takes you to a unique habitat of vernal pools where salamanders and frogs are migrating! Find registration for the walk and more detailed information at <https://www.frenchcreekconservancy.org/calendar-events-2/>.

The Raising Wonder Foundation



The Raising Wonder Foundation is a recently formed nonprofit organization dedicated to the building up of families and other communities doing the important work of raising kids. We offer family coaching sessions, workshops, fun family activities, speaking engagements, online content, and a podcast to help adults and the children they support to more meaningfully and joyfully connect with each other. You may be familiar with some of this work that was being done under Wonder Learning Community, LLC, but we have transitioned to now provide these services (and more!) through our foundation. We give a warm welcome to our Board of Directors, as well as the

Meadville community members who have already donated time, funds, and resources to our mission. We believe strong families are worth the effort it takes to support them, and we know everything is done better when done together. Give our QR code a scan, and check out our website for our current offerings!

Hagan Business Machines of Meadville



Time for a Tech Tune-Up: Enhancing Your Business' Digital Health: With the rapid pace of technological advancements, businesses are continually adjusting to new tools, software, and processes. This makes regular reviews of IT infrastructure a key part of staying competitive. One important area to monitor is data security, as cyber threats are constantly evolving. Ensuring your business has up-to-date security measures, such as firewalls and encryption, can go a long way in protecting sensitive information.

Another area worth focusing on is software updates. Keeping systems updated reduces vulnerabilities and improves overall performance. It's also important to ensure that employees are properly trained on best practices for digital security, from password management to recognizing phishing attempts.

By staying proactive in these areas, businesses can minimize risks, maximize efficiency, and avoid unexpected costs. As we move further into the digital age, taking the time to reassess and optimize IT systems will continue to be essential for long-term success.

Easy Does It Customs

It's Mike and Amanda from Easy Does It Customs. Spring is finally here! Time to get your golf cart ready season. Looking for a new one? It's a great time for great deals! Do You Need a PA Street Legal Golf Cart? We can help with that too! We're the ONLY dealer in Western PA that can provide fully street-legal golf carts—so you can cruise your community hassle-free!

PA Street Legal comes:

- 100% Electric – Zero emissions, maximum fun!
- DOT-Approved – Turn signals, headlights, seatbelts & more!
- Smooth & Comfortable – Perfect for local roads.
- Long-Lasting Lithium Battery – More power, less hassle.
- Customizable & Stylish – Make it uniquely yours!



Don't wait until the last minute—beat the rush and get your golf cart serviced now! Whether you need maintenance, new batteries, parts, or custom accessories, Easy Does It Customs has you covered.

We are located at: 857 Georgetown Road, Sandy Lake, PA 16145 Call us: 724.374.EASY Check us out 24/7: www.easydoesitcustoms.com. Get ahead of the game, call us today and ride in style!

Red Bird Real Estate



Red Bird Real Estate still has a few office spaces available at 381 Chestnut St. Located in a historic building in a prime spot on Chestnut St. with plenty of off-street parking, these offices are a perfect spot for professionals, entrepreneurs, and small businesses. Spaces are limited - contact us today at info@redbird-real-estate or (814) 219-9972 to schedule a showing!

March Specials at Eternal Glow!



Celebrate the luck of the Irish with our exclusive March specials at Eternal Glow! Whether you're in need of a spring refresh or simply want to treat yourself, we've got you covered with two amazing offers you won't want to miss.

Indulge in our Luck of the Irish Brightening Facial, designed to revitalize and brighten your skin, prepping it for the spring season and giving you that radiant, lucky glow you deserve. This facial includes a rejuvenating treatment that leaves your skin glowing and refreshed. Plus,

you'll receive a special lucky charm as a gift—just our way of adding a little extra luck to your day!

For a fabulous lash makeover, take advantage of our Lucky Lash Upgrade special. Book any full set of lash extensions this March and receive a complimentary brow wax or brow tint. Whether you're looking for perfectly shaped brows or stunning lashes, we've got you covered.

Don't forget to shop our boutique while you're here! Each special includes a \$10 boutique credit to use on your favorite items.

Book online today at www.eternalglowbeautycare.com, and let us help you get ready for the season with a little extra luck and beauty!

Stone United Methodist Church



"He took our infirmities and bore our diseases." Matthew 8: 17b

Each of us is created a precious and holy vessel of embodied love. Some of us have been through harrowing times since last Lent that has shattered our sense of wholeness body, mind, and spirit—like a glass vessel fractured into pieces. In this Lenten "season of recovery" for our physical, communal, mental, intellectual, and environmental health, we will explore the healing

narratives of Jesus that tell of divine solidarity with human suffering and remind us that we can begin a journey toward making something beautiful from that which is seemingly broken. Beach glass offers us a multifaceted symbol of this transformative process.

I invite you to join us starting Wednesday, March 5 for our Lenten journey to wholeness and hope! Learn more at stoneumc.org. Grace & Peace, Pastor Kendra

The Academy Theatre



The Producers – Runs from April 11th – May 4th

Directed by Julia Kemp, the plot is simple: a down-on-his-luck Broadway producer and his mild-mannered accountant come up with a scheme to produce the most notorious flop in history, thereby bilking their backers (all "little old ladies") out of millions of dollars. Only one thing goes awry: the show is a smash hit! The antics of Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom as they maneuver their way fecklessly through

finding a show (the gloriously offensive "Springtime for Hitler"), hiring a director, raising the money and finally going to prison for their misdeeds is a lesson in broad comic construction. At the core of the insanely funny adventure is a poignant emotional journey of two very different men who become friends.

Bialystock and Bloom! Those names should strike terror and hysteria in anyone familiar with Mel Brooks' classic cult comedy film. Now as a big Broadway musical, The Producers once again sets the standard for modern, outrageous, in-your-face humor. The Producers skewers Broadway traditions and takes no prisoners as it proudly proclaims itself an "equal opportunity offender!" Tickets are available at www.theacademytheatre.org or by calling the Box Office at 814-337-8000.

Member News submissions are FREE and are part of your benefits as a Chamber Member! Submit 200 words or less along with one picture, graphic, or logo by the 20th of the month to be included in the next mailing. Please email submissions to Julie Panchura at jpanchura@meadvillechamber.com.



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Find us online!

Current Resident or:

MARCH CALENDAR

- 7 Experience Meadville's First Friday - Go Green! 5-8PM
12 LM Talk on Cool 101.7 - 9AM
13 Chamber Ambassador's Meeting - Chamber Office - 8AM
14 Leadership Meadville - Social Services Day
18 Chamber Board of Directors Meeting - Chamber Office - 7:30AM
20 Chili, Chowder, Soup Cook Off - ICC - 5-7:30PM
21 Due Date for nominations for the Shafer Award and Diamond Awards
24 Businesswomen's Roundtable - Inspire Salon & Spa and Inspire Med Spa - 5-7PM
25 HR Consortium - Hoss's - Noon

CHAMBER CALENDAR 2025 AT A GLANCE

- JANUARY Groove & Glitz - January 11
FEBRUARY Chocoholic Frolic - February 21
MARCH Chili, Chowder & Soup Cook-off March 20
APRIL Annual Awards Dinner - April 23
JUNE Women's Golf Outing - Date TBA
AUGUST Thunder In The City - August 1-2 Fall Golf Outing - August 27
SEPTEMBER Wine, Brew & Spirits Walk September 13
OCTOBER Women In Business Expo October 15
NOVEMBER Chamber Auction - November 12
DECEMBER Christmas Party - December 10
OTHER PROGRAMS Leadership Meadville Business After Hours Businesswomen's Roundtable Luncheons, Seminars, & Workshops

CRAWFORD COUNTY ENTREPRENEUR Small BUSINESS JUMP START Looking to Start a Business or Expand & Reinvent Your Current Business? WE OFFER AN EXCITING TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ENTREPRENEURS! Do you dream of starting a business, but not sure where to start? ... Community Based Program Fee: \$125 per person