

BUSINESS NEWS



Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce- Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2019, VOL. 44 NO. 5

HUNTERDON COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME TO HONOR 2ND CLASS OF INDUCTEES

The Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce Foundation has established the Hunterdon County Business Hall of Fame to honor current and past business leaders, businesses and organizations who have made important contributions to the community. The second class of Hall of Fame laureates will be honored during an induction ceremony at the Ryland Inn on May 7, 2019.

“The Hunterdon County Business Hall of Fame highlights exceptional leadership and innovation which is part of Hunterdon’s rich history,” said Foundation Board Member Rosemary Fellner, Chief Marketing Officer with Unity Bank. “By sharing the stories of the 2019 laureates, we hope to inspire more entrepreneurs to enrich our business community.”

The Business Hall of Fame has a display at the Foundation, in the historic Reading-Large House in Flemington. A traveling kiosk for the Hall of Fame is being exhibited throughout the county at businesses, public locations and schools. The kiosk will share videos featuring honorees and their contributions to Hunterdon County.

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. at the Ryland Inn, 115 Old Highway 28, Whitehouse Station. Tickets are \$200 each for the fundraising event, which will also include a silent auction with donated items from local artists. Sponsorships are also available ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. The event is black tie optional with hors d’oeuvres, elegant serving stations, beverages and dessert provided. For more information, please contact the Foundation at (908) 782-7115 or visit www.hunterdonchamber.org.

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2017 Inaugural Class Hunterdon County Business Hall of Fame Inductees

From Left: Hon. Peter Verniero, Rich Creter (Flemington Granite), Paul Muir (Red Mill Museum), Matt Creter (Flemington Granite), Cathy Large -Wetstein (on behalf of Senator George H. Large, George K. Large, Edwin K. Large, Jr.), Joseph Colalillo (ShopRite of Hunterdon) and Adam Ambielli (Custom Alloy)

NJBIA TO OFFER RECIPROCAL DISCOUNTS TO CHAMBER MEMBERS



The New Jersey Business & Industry Association is now partnering with local and regional Chambers of Commerce and business organizations throughout the state to offer reciprocal discounts on events and memberships.

Through a partnership called ChamberLink, NJBIA members will receive member pricing on participating chamber events, while NJBIA offers member pricing to participating chamber members for their events.

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A LOOK AT THIS ISSUE:

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UNITY BANK CENTER FOR BUSINESS &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP- SPRING COURSES-5



LEADERSHIP MATTERS

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. —Margaret Mead

Today, here in Hunterdon County there are so many good business and organizations that are contributing to our County and our communities success. The Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce embarked roughly 9 years ago on a new initiative, Leadership Hunterdon. Since that first class we have graduated a group of over 60 alumni that have inspired each other, have inspired me and have contributed to successes throughout the County.

The goal of our Leadership Programs has a few layers to it, but ultimately is to transform individuals through professional development, immerse them into the multitude of issues that face our communities, contribute through producing a white paper that addresses solutions to a particular issue in the County and ultimately inspire others for further engagement in the Community.

Having participated in the program as one of the co-facilitators since the inception, I have seen first-hand how this program has impacted and transformed individuals who have participated. The power of learning new leadership skills around communications, setting a vision for an organization, tackling a community issue, building a successful organization are some of the many transformational opportunities we explore as well as meeting with leaders here in Hunterdon County.

If a business or organization wants to grow and be the best that it can be, the investment into those who work for them or for themselves as owners is paramount on the path to success. It is so important to take the time away from working within one's business and/or area of responsibility and to learn and grow. Without that growth, we all become stagnate and lack the fervor to take on the demands of our given area of responsibility.

Over the past few years of the program, we have seen the contributions of our classes manifest through their White Paper covering such topics as the expansion of the wineries in Hunterdon County to making a case study for the expansion of the Technology sector. Each of these papers, which are archived on the Chamber's website, are useful tools and resources to continue to grow and make Hunterdon County successful. This includes the business sector, the non-profit sector, education, government and those who live here as well. These White Papers have been used by individuals and organizations to further their respective mission and program of work. The Chamber has also benefited from these contributions that have helped guide our work in making the Business Community stronger.

So, the question I ask, have you considered stepping up and taking a more active role in our community success here in Hunterdon County? We need strong leaders to grow our organizations, we need strong leaders to help the Chamber grow so that we can assist even more businesses and organizations to grow and become stronger. Our Leadership Hunterdon participants have been very diverse; individuals from small business, owners of business, individuals that lead or work for non-profits, those that are at the beginning, middle or later part of their career.

Leadership Hunterdon is an exciting opportunity to be part of the dynamic that moves our County forward. By the numbers, the majority of our 64 alumni have gotten engaged in Chamber programs or within the Community. All have commented on how their participation in the program has made them better people. I ask you to consider taking up the challenge and learning more about Leadership Hunterdon. Leadership Matters.

Sincerely,

President & CEO

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

MAY

1- LEADS EXCHANGE NORTH

7- HUNTERDON COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME 2019 INDUCTION CEREMONY

8 - LEADERSHIP HUNTERDON INFORMATION SESSION

9 & 10- UNITY BANK CB&E SEMINAR- BUILDING AN ORGANIZATION OF EXCELLENCE- JIM BARNOSKI/SANDLER TRAINING

13- ELC BREAKFAST WITH CONGRESSMAN TOM MALINOWSKI

15- LEADS EXCHANGE CENTRAL

16 - CHAMBER 101

22 - UNITY BANK CB&E COURSE: SUCCESSION PLANNING PRESENTED BY ED KUROWICKI AND JOE CARDUCCI

24- UNITY BANK CB&E COURSE:-HOW TO GENERATE MORE BUSINESS USING YOUR WEBSITE BY INKYMA

JULY

3- LEADS EXCHANGE NORTH

17- LEADS EXCHANGE CENTRAL

18- CHAMBER 101

VISIT HUNTERDONCHAMBER.ORG TO REGISTER FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

1 - HUNTERDON COUNTY COMMUNITY DAY

5- LEADS EXCHANGE NORTH

5- UNITY BANK CARD CLUB

8 & 9- HACKHUNTERDON

19- LEADS EXCHANGE CENTRAL

20- CHAMBER 101

20- LEADERSHIP HUNTERDON GRADUATION

21- UNITY BANK CB&E COURSE- STRONG BRANDS ATTRACT MORE CUSTOMERS PRESENTED BY INKYMA

SAVE THE DATE

SEPT. 30TH - ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

NOV. 7 - BUSINESS EXPO & FOOD SHOWCASE

DEC. 8 - HUNTERDON HOLIDAY PARADE

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6TH ANNUAL HUNTERDON COUNTY COMMUNITY DAY SET FOR JUNE 1ST



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Saturday, June 1st from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
South County Park-Hunterdon County Fairgrounds located
Route 179 in Ringoes.

From local businesses to non-profit organizations to our 26 municipalities, there will be a lot to see and do throughout this celebration that attracts over 4,000 attendees.

This year's event will feature:

- Live musical performances
- Petting Zoo
- Pony Rides
- Children's games and bouncy house
- Live Reptile Show
- Fire and Rescue Squad Vehicles
- Demos from local businesses and organizations
- Tethered rides on the Unity Bank Hot Air Balloon
- Delicious food and much more!

Hunterdon Healthcare, the Presenting Sponsor, is going to have face painting and other interactive activities within their tent. In addition, they will be setting up a fun obstacle course in partnership with the Healthy Hunterdon Work Force Initiative.

"Hunterdon Healthcare is looking forward to participating in Hunterdon County Community Day. We encourage our community to stop by our tent on June 1st and talk to the many health professionals and get your blood pressure taken. Children can bring their favorite stuffed animal and get it checked out by one of our nurses, plus enjoy free face painting," said Kathleen Seelig, Corporate Director of Public Relations and Marketing at Hunterdon Medical Center.

Businesses and organizations can be a part of this exciting event which provides a perfect platform for them to promote their products and services to local consumers. Business and food vendor spaces are available for \$200 and non-profit spaces for \$100. For more information, please visit: www.HunterdonChamber.org

The Chamber would like to thank:

- Hunterdon County
- Hunterdon Healthcare - Presenting Sponsor
- Unity Bank- Entertainment Sponsor
- Hunterdon County Division of Parks and Recreation
- Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission
- Friends of the Hunterdon County Library

Thank you for your support of this great Community event!



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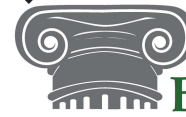
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4 Mistakes to Avoid When Naming Beneficiaries



Michelle Heide & Associates
Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisory Practice

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Center for Business & Entrepreneurship

If you've ever spent time working through your estate plan with a professional, you know how important it is to select and update your beneficiaries. Failing to do so can result in costly mistakes – for you and your loved ones. Here are four common mistakes that can easily be avoided with a bit of proactive planning:

Mistake #1 – Not naming a beneficiary on all accounts.

Ensure you have beneficiary designations on all of your retirement, investment and banking accounts, as well as your insurance policies. If you don't name a beneficiary on one or more accounts, your estate becomes the beneficiary of that account and your loved ones will need to go through the probate process (a legal process most families want to avoid for financial and emotional reasons). If this happens, your relative can lose their ability to use "stretch" payouts based on their life expectancy because the tax-advantaged status for retirement assets is lost.

Mistake #2 – Forgetting to name a contingent beneficiary on all accounts. Many people list the same loved one – usually a partner or parent – as the primary beneficiary on most or all accounts. If this is how you've handled your assets, it is important for you to also name a contingent beneficiary. This is because if your primary beneficiary passes away first and no contingent beneficiaries are listed, it's comparable to having no beneficiary designation. If you both die at the same time, funds go into probate.

Naming contingent beneficiaries also gives the primary beneficiary the option to execute a qualified disclaimer so some assets can pass to next-in-line loved ones. For example, a primary beneficiary may not wish to claim the assets because of tax implications or because they don't need the assets and prefer instead to pass your gift onto another beneficiary.

Mistake #3 – Not using specific names. One mistake many people make is listing a generic term – such as children, parents or aunts – instead of specific names in their beneficiary selections. This can be problematic, especially if you are part of a blended family. Many states won't include or recognize stepchildren when the word "children" is listed. Another risk of vagueness is that a family member you've lost contact with may enter the picture and try to claim a piece of your remaining assets. With this in mind, make sure you use full names of each person when naming beneficiaries.

Mistake #4 – Failing to review your beneficiary selections regularly. Beneficiary designations override your will, so it's crucial to keep them up to date. You may need to update your choices every few years due to life changes, such as if beneficiaries have died or your relationship with them has changed. This is particularly applicable if you've gone through a divorce or remarried. If your ex-spouse inadvertently remains the designated beneficiary of an account, he or she may have the upper hand if the case winds up in court.

Estate planning isn't the most enjoyable part of planning for your financial future, but it is crucial to helping ensure that your assets are handled the way you desire after you no longer have control.

PAID EDITORIAL ADVERTISEMENT

Michelle L. Heide, CFP®, CRPC®, BFA™ is a Private Wealth Advisor with Michelle Heide & Associates, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Clinton, NJ. Michelle specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 28 years. You may contact Michelle at 908-713-4903. Michelle's office is located at 16 Leigh St. Units 1B & 1C, Clinton, NJ 08809. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. and its affiliates do not offer tax or legal advice. Consumers should consult with their tax advisor or attorney regarding their specific situation. Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2019 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

Upcoming Courses

How to Generate More Business Using Your Website

May 24th
9 AM- 11 AM

Topic: Want to generate more business with your website? Get more from your website than just visitors!

This course will cover:

- 6 features that must be on your website to get leads and new customers
- How to implement them with your current website
- How to Identify your target customer
- Create a clear message that makes clients choose you over the competition

Presented by:

Audrey Kerchner
of INKYMA



INKYMA

Succession Planning

May 22
8 AM- 10AM

Topic: Don't miss this critical session which will discuss ways to develop and implement a succession strategy including ways to identify future needs, and personalities and competencies required of potential successors. We'll review considerations that should be made to ensure the future success of your business.

Presented by :

Ed Kurowicki & Joe
Carducci



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ALSO COMING...

May 9 & 10: Building an Organization of Excellence, 2 Day Seminar Jim Barnoski

June 21: Strong Brands Attract More Customers by INKYMA

June 26: Protecting Yourself and Your Business in a Digital World (Rob Kenific, Forensic Accounting Specialist of BKC, & David Watts, P.I.)

September 13- Perfecting your E-Commerce Site to Maximize Sales by INKYMA

HALL OF FAME *CONTINUED FROM COVER*

The inductees to the Hall of Fame for 2019 are from several categories. The 2019 inductees and the honor they will receive are:

- Samuel Stothoff Company, Inc & the Kuhl Corporation: Pioneer Award – a business established 100 or more years ago that brought growth, prestige and new industry to early Hunterdon County;
- Robert P. Wise, retired President Hunterdon Healthcare and current Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Raritan Valley Community College: Distinguished Leader – individuals that have enhanced the community, fostered business and community partnership through their leadership, courageous thought and entrepreneurial spirit;
- HealthQuest & Diamond Nation: Contemporary Award – a commercial, for-profit business established less than 100 years ago currently operating and based in Hunterdon County that brings economic growth, prosperity and innovation to the community; and
- Sophie & Roman Shor; and the Honorable Suzanne Lagay: Essence of Hunterdon – an organization or individual that has enhanced the community, fostered business and community partnership through leadership, courageous thought and entrepreneurial spirit.

“The Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the Hunterdon County Business Hall of Fame and the second class for 2019,” said Chris Phelan, Chamber Foundation President. “The mission and goal of the Hunterdon County Business Hall of Fame and the Chamber Foundation is to support the growth of business and entrepreneurship in Hunterdon County. The Hunterdon County Business Hall of Fame will be inspirational based on the inductees’ individual legacies and contributions to the County business community. I think it will be a great tool to fuel momentum as we strive for economic growth in Hunterdon County.”

Please join us at this event honoring the great leaders in business in Hunterdon County.

NJBIA *CONTINUED FROM COVER*

Additionally, members of regional chambers will also have the opportunity to receive NJBIA’s Capitol Memo, a weekly update on business policy issues relating to business in Trenton.

To date, there are 15 regional chambers involved with NJBIA’s ChamberLink program.

“We’re thrilled about this launch and we look forward to partnering with these great organizations who do so much for our members,” said Michele Siekerka, NJBIA President and CEO. “This is a great opportunity to expand the offerings between all of our associations for the collective benefit of all involved members.”

“This is a chance to help our respective members expand their networking reach and receive reciprocal member pricing for attendance at a wide array of select member events,” said Chip Hallock, president and CEO and of Newark Regional Business Partnership, one of the participating chambers. “We look forward to helping NRBP’s members grow while welcoming NJBIA members to the connections that we have to offer.”

In addition to Newark Regional Business Partnership, other participating chambers in ChamberLink, thus far, include:

- The African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey
- The Capital Region Minority Chamber of Commerce
- The Edison Chamber of Commerce
- The Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce
- The Hudson County Chamber of Commerce
- The Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce
- The Meadowlands Chamber
- The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce
- The Union Township Chamber of Commerce
- The U.S. Green Building Council – New Jersey Chapter
- The Somerset County Business Partnership
- The Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce
- The North Jersey Chamber
- The Cape May County Chamber of Commerce

For more information about ChamberLink and to access the latest offerings from participating chambers, visit www.njbia.org/chamberlink.

Leads Exchange

NORTH



Wed., May 1
7:45 - 9 a.m.
111 W. Main St.
Clinton, NJ



Hosted by:
Tom Fitzgerald of Disaster
Restoration Services

CENTRAL



Wed., May 15
7:45 - 9 a.m.
14-B Royal Rd.
Flemington, NJ



Hosted by:
Judy Gold of Coldwell Banker



(Top Row, l to r) B. Flanagan, D. Makoski, M. Lyons, W. Rudnik, A. Fialk, J. Papay. *(Middle Row, l to r)* K. Lichtenstein, L. MacWilliam, T. Bussel, L. Parikh, D. Fredericks, J. Kopen, T. St. Angelo. *(Bottom Row, l to r):* R. Ward, W. Goodwin, R. Cushing, M. Chazin, J. Manfreda.

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FAREWELL LETTER FROM FLEMINGTON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANN MEREDITH

Reprinted with Permission

Dear Stakeholders, Friends and Colleagues,

I want to share my deep gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the Flemington Community Partnership's Executive Director. It has been such a privilege and pleasure to meet, work and partner with so many wonderful people over the last two years. I am especially thankful for our Board of Directors led by Bob King, our incredibly talented staff, giving volunteers, dedicated borough employees and tireless governing body. Thank you ALL!

Happily, I got to spend part of my last day on the job meeting with someone planning to open a new cool business on Main Street. In just a few months we have welcomed five new businesses to the borough and Courthouse Square is closer than ever to becoming a reality. Wonderful events and activities are happening all of the time. If you need convincing check out the new Spring Guide to Flemington, or see how many restaurants will be hopping this week for Restaurant Week. With so much positive change, it is truly springtime in Flemington! Transformation is happening, and people are starting to look at Flemington in a new way.

Business guru and Good to Great author Jim Collins said of transformation: "Good to great comes about by a cumulative process—step by step, action by action, decision by decision, turn by turn of the flywheel—that adds up to sustained and spectacular results." This approach applies to how we have spent the last two years building our capacity and delivering on our mission of creating a thriving business community. With an eye on continuous improvement and delivery of results we have:

- Developed FCP into a small business development center with a bag full of tools for prospective and existing businesses.
- Created a more visually exciting, attractive town with banners, seasonal decorations, the Seward Johnson sculpture exhibit, dozens of hand-painted Adirondack chairs, and our storefront improvement grant program.
- Elevated Flemington's profile throughout the region—and beyond—with hundreds of positive media stories, ads, videos and social media posts generating millions of favorable impressions.
- Established and grew the "Love Flemington" brand—one that has been warmly embraced by the community and visitors.

- Drove customer traffic and sales through dozens of successful business promotions and marketing campaigns.
- Created community and cross collaborations through purposeful stakeholder gatherings, the establishment of area Working Groups, HackHunterdon, a Professional Services Networking Group and the Best Friends of Flemington (the BFF's), our resident volunteers.
- Published seasonal Guides to Flemington, The Guide to Doing Business in Flemington, a visitors guide, blogs and rack cards.
- Curated new experiences, like The Historic Flemington Trail, Biking Around Flemington, and Flemington Walks.
- Brought visitors, customers, and fun as producers of great events like the Corn, Tomato and Beer Festival (the largest festival in the borough's recent history), the Central Jersey Jazz Festival, Thursday Night Holiday Lights, the Filling Station and the Flemington Flea.
- Provided grant and marketing support for dozens of events like Stangl Stage and DIY's concerts, the Holiday Parade, Salsa Night, the Fine Artisans Show, the Main Street Half Marathon and Car Shows.
- Continuously advocated to make the borough more business-friendly.
- Last but not least: managed our resources wisely with careful budgeting and a commitment to diversifying and growing revenues—from sponsorships, new Love Flemington retail products and other ancillary sources.

Working in partnership with all of you, my successor will be just the right person at the right time to help keep Flemington's flywheel of positive change moving. Transformation is happening, and I feel so blessed to have been part of it!

With gratitude,

Ann Meredith



PS: In my new role as Executive Director of Herald Publishing I will continue to promote the great things happening in Flemington. Best Friends of Flemington are forever!

Should you have any questions regarding the upcoming leadership transition feel free to contact Board Chair Bob King at bking@flemingtoncommunitypartnership.org.

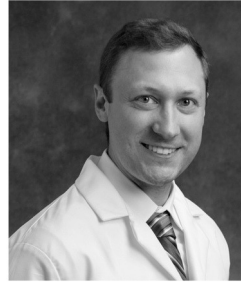
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Tax Tidbit: Change in Marital Status? What You Need to Know



Have you recently married, divorced, or lost a spouse? A change in marital status should prompt a review of financial matters, but at such a time it is easy to overlook the details. Here are a few reminders and suggestions:

Insurance coverage: When your marital status changes, review your insurance policies. Combining separately held health insurance policies with a spouse can result in savings and discounts. Most group health insurance policies allow spousal coverage. You may want to opt for coverage under your partner's policy if superior or less expensive coverage is offered. Married couples are often considered a better insurance risk, so together you may qualify for a lower rate. Also evaluate your need for disability or long-term care insurance.

Beneficiary designations: Review beneficiary designations on life insurance policies and retirement accounts.

Estate planning: Update choices that have become obsolete. Incomplete paperwork or inappropriate choices could mean your intended beneficiary may not end up with your assets. You should periodically review and update your existing will and other estate planning documents. This is especially important whenever your marital status changes. Before you get married, consider a prenuptial agreement if there are children from a prior marriage or if you own substantial assets.

Other documents: Review any other important documents. If you change or hyphenate your name, notify the Social Security Administration and Department of Motor Vehicles of your name change. Make copies of your estate papers and final divorce decree. Keep the originals in a safe place.

Tax planning: Your tax liability will likely change when you marry, divorce, or become a widow. Newlyweds may face higher taxes due to the so-called marriage penalty. In either case, you may need to change your income tax withholding or estimated tax payments.

10 Contact us at (908) 782-7900 to discuss changes in consideration for your financial plans. Learn more about our estate and tax planning services, and legal services at www.bkc-cpa.com

HATS OFF



From Left: Susan Lax, Executive Director of Hunterdon Helpline and Ari Lopatin, Owner of the MAX Challenge of Flemington

The **MaxChallenge of Flemington** recently hosted 'Workout for a Cause' to benefit **Hunterdon Helpline**. They also conducted a Silent Auction with proceeds going to Hunterdon Helpline! Great to see partnerships in the community!



Chick-fil-A Flemington celebrating their accomplishment of being named a 2018 Symbol of Success

Congratulations to **Chick-fil-A Flemington** on being named a 2018 Chick-fil-A Symbol of Success winner. This is based on a year-over-year sales increase. They were one of 185 restaurants nation-wide to receive this award.



Congratulations to **Winnewald Day Camp** for providing an outstanding recreational and educational experience to the children of Hunterdon County for 68 years! Happy anniversary! They will open for the 2019 season on June 24th. For information about their open house event on May 19th, see page 15.

Meet Erin DeGeorge, Esq.

D | D

DETORRES & DEGEORGE

FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS



Erin DeGeorge has dedicated her legal career to the thoughtful and diligent representation of clients in divorce and family law matters. As a certified mediator and a compassionate and creative attorney, she takes a solution-oriented approach, working closely with clients to identify their goals and develop a strategy that effectively and efficiently meets those goals.

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Congratulations to **Hunterdon Digestive Health** on a successful Colon Cancer Awareness Campaign in the month of March. Dr. Anubha Sinha and her staff conducted many screenings. The practice offers an open access screening colonoscopy that is faster and easier. For more information visit: www.hunterdondigestivehealth.com or call 908-788-8200.

Below: Dr. Sinha (right) and her staff in their new Flemington offices



HATS OFF



Jessica L. Palmer, an Associate of law firm **Norris McLaughlin, P.A.**, will receive this year's Bowden, Byrne, McCormick Dedication Award from the **Hunterdon County YMCA**. The award is given to those who show outstanding dedication to the YMCA and their community. Congratulations!

Heath Village



A Unique Retirement Community Since 1966

Friendship Center children and **Heath Village** residents recently participated in a maple tapping demonstration presented by Kevin Newport, Heath Village Director of Grounds. Children were able to see how a tree is tapped for maple sugar and hear more about the process of how maple syrup is produced. *For more information about Heath Village, contact Melissa Nichols at (908) 684-5006.*



Victoria Davis, owner of Have Adding Machine Will Travel, is celebrating four years in business this May! She offers affordable, professional Bookkeeping and Business Services for individuals, small business and not-for-profit businesses. Victoria also volunteers on our Business EXPO planning committee and is currently in the 2019 class of Leadership Hunterdon. Make an appointment with Victoria by calling 908- 797-7611 . Congratulations!

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Unity Bank has been named one of the 2019 Best Places to Work in New Jersey in the medium category. It is the third year in a row that Unity has been honored by the survey and awards program, which identifies, recognizes and honors the top places of employment in New Jersey that benefit the state's economy, workforce and businesses.

"It is an honor to be named one of the Best Places to Work in New Jersey for the third year in a row," said Unity Bank President & CEO James A. Hughes.



"The recognition is a testament to our employees because they are what makes Unity Bank a special place to work. Our employees are genuinely committed to providing customers with a personalized banking experience. Our bank management team in turn works to find new and innovative ways to recognize our employees for their dedication and to make the bank an enjoyable place to work."

The awards program, created in 2005, is produced by NJBIZ. The Best Places to Work in New Jersey awards reception and ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 1st from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at iPlay America's Event Center in Freehold.

For more information on the Best Places to Work in New Jersey program or to reserve your seats to the event, please visit www.njbiz.com/events

Unity Bank's trivia team, The Knowledge Bank, came in first place during **Healthy Hunterdon Workforce Initiative's Trivia Night**. The night had 44 attendees and provided an opportunity for co-workers to de-stress and have fun! The event's prizes were sponsored by **Basil Bandwagon Natural Market** and **Profeta Farms**. The Healthy Hunterdon Workforce Initiative is a Chamber Initiative that seeks to improve the health of employees in the County. If not already, you can join the program that is included in Chamber membership by emailing info@hunterdon-chamber.org The Initiative is sponsored by **Hunterdon Healthcare**.

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In celebration of its 135th anniversary serving central NJ residents and businesses, **Gebhardt & Kiefer Law Offices** made the third contribution in its year-long initiative of giving back to the local community by donating 135 needed items to St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in North Branch. The assortment of items included pet bed mats, pet bed heating pads, throw blankets, kitten milk replacer, and many flavors of extra-large durable dog chews.

Throughout the year, Gebhardt & Kiefer will continue to make monthly contributions to charitable organizations in increments of 135. In January, the firm kicked off its anniversary celebration by donating 135 buckets of household cleaning supplies to Fisherman's Mark Food Pantry in Lambertville. In February, the firm donated 135 packs of diapers to the United Way of Hunterdon County's Diaper Bank.



Pam Fyfe and Bryan Phoden of St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in Branchburg (2nd and 3rd from left), along with Rocco the dog, accept a donation of 135 animal care items from Gebhardt & Kiefer representatives Donna Dias (1st from left), Tracy Bussel (4th from left) and Mark Chazin (5th from left).

Patricia Garity Smits of **Law Offices of Patricia Garity Smits L.L.C.** and her husband, Dave Smits, participated with other Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) from around the country for a day on Capitol Hill, meeting with legislators to discuss funding and other issues related to the Peace Corps. Congressman Tom Malinowski, 7th District, personally met with the group from New Jersey. They also met with senior staffers for Senators Booker, Menendez and other Representatives. Dave and Pat Smits were Peace Corps volunteers in Guatemala.

Pat Smits is also the host of "It's the Law" and one of the "Sports Guys" on Hunterdon Chamber radio.



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Congratulations to the **MAX Challenge of Flemington** on their recent Grand Opening Event. Raritan Township Mayor Jeff Kuhl was on hand to cut the ribbon along with owners Roxanne and Ari Lopatin and Chamber President Chris Phelan. The MAX Challenge offers a 10-week exercise program that pairs with a nutrition program to optimize your results. They are located at 148 State Route 31 Suite 103 in Flemington. For more information visit <https://www.themaxchallenge.com/locations/flemington-nj/> or call 908-751-7123.

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FYI- MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Good News Home for Women** will be holding its **Annual Golf Classic** on Monday, May 20, 2019 at the Beaverbrook Country Club in Annandale, New Jersey. This event is being held to raise funds needed to continue helping women break-free from the bondage of drug and/or alcohol addiction and help them recover.

For more information go to www.golf4gnh.com or contact Robin Jackson at (908) 806-7913, ext. 326.

Hunterdon Healthcare Foundation is hosting it's 27th Annual Golf Classic on May 13th at Fiddler's Elbow in Bedminster. For more information, call 908-788-6591 or email ddalley@hhsnj.org

Hunterdon Land Trust's Dvoor Farm will hold its opening day of its Farmers' Market on Sunday, May 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You'll find freshly picked organic fruits and vegetables, all-natural meats, hand-crafted cheese and honey, vegan items, native plants and more. Enjoy a tasty breakfast or lunch all on the beautiful Dvoor Farm, 111 Mine St., Flemington. Opening day will feature a fast-paced program of juggling, magic and mime with Bob Lloyd that will captivate audiences of all ages. Plus, live music by classical guitarist Keith Calmes. The market will be open every Sunday through November. To learn more, visit www.hunterdonlandtrust.org.

Winnewald Day Camp is holding an open house event for 2019 summer camp on May 19th from 1-4PM. The camp is located at 21 Cratetown Road Lebanon, NJ 08833. For more information contact: winneday@ptd.net or visit www.winnewald.com

Advanced Medical Spa is offering a special SPRING INTO SAVINGS! Beauty is always in season! 10% off spa services at Advanced Medical Spa. Call 908-200-1980 to schedule your appointment today, some exclusions may apply.

The Raritan Valley Community College Planetarium in Branchburg will present star shows and laser concerts for all ages in May, including children's programs and a laser show featuring music by Pink Floyd. In addition, a special Astronomy Day will offer hands-on activities. Planetarium tickets cost \$10 for one show, \$16 for two shows on the same day. For reservations and information, call 908-231-8805. For additional information, visit www.raritanval.edu/planetarium.

- **Use our Community Calendar to plan your organization's major events!**
- **Make a submission to our Community Calendar at hunterdonchamber.org**

To submit your organization's announcements, visit hunterdonchamber.org and fill out the form on the NEWSLETTER page under the 'News and Events' tab. Submissions must be received by the first Monday of the preceding month for publishing. All submissions subject to approval by the Chamber.

goHunterdon is joining with The League of American Bicyclists to promote National Bike to Work Week. This year the event falls on May 13 through May 17, 2019 in Hunterdon County.

Bicyclists living or working in Hunterdon County, NJ participate in the event by registering to bicycle to work one or more days during the week of May 13 through May 17. As an added incentive to commute to either a work site or a transit site, each ride to work or site serves as an entry into prize drawings held at the end of the event.

For more information or to register visit:
<https://www.bikereg.com/bike-to-work-hunterdon>

Chick-fil-A Flemington hosts Breakfast Bingo most Wednesdays at 9:30 AM for prizes. For more information, call the restaurant at (908) 237-2697.

Readington Township Department of Recreation provides a wide variety of recreational programs and services for all ages. They offer youth and adult sports programs, arts classes, summer camps and more. For their full offerings, visit www.readingtonrecreation.org/programs If you have any questions about recreation programs or services, please call their office 908-534-9752.

BW Nice of Hunterdon Chapter will host their 8th annual Red Shoe Cocktail Reception and Fashion Show charity fundraiser on June 6th, from 4-8PM at the Ryland Inn. Proceeds from the event will go to **Safe in Hunterdon** and BW Nice. For more information visit www.bwnice.org/bwnice-chapter/hunterdon-county-red-shoe-event/ or contact Red Shoe Chairs, Bridgett Como or Pat Miller, at bmcomo@me.com or bwnicehc@gmail.com.

Basil Bandwagon Natural Market of Flemington will host How To Help Our Bodies: A Pain & Inflammation Health Event on June 6th from 5-6PM. The event will focus on the follow topics: - How our diet impacts our overall inflammation and pain - The types of inflammation, which one we need and which we should eliminate - Healthy alternatives to help decrease unwanted pain and inflammation Presented by Elke Kallicragas, Terry Naturally Educator Elke has been working with alternative health medicine for over 10 years. Tickets are \$5 in advance and can be purchased through eventbrite.com. Please contact Nicole at outreach@basilbandwagon.com with any questions.



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