Almost 200 local business professionals gathered at the Annual Small Business Awards Dinner, held at the White Manor Country Club on January 25.

We were delighted to honor Pegasus Technologies as the Small Business of the Year, Community Volunteers in Medicine as the Nonprofit of the Year, and Rep. Joe Pitts as our Citizen of the Year. Congratulations again to all our award recipients.

Dr. Anthony Coletta, President of Facilitated Health Networks, Independence Blue Cross, delivered our keynote address. Dr. Coletta discussed the challenges facing the health care industry and emphasized that the way to improve the healthcare system is to involve the patient and put them in the middle of the system.

Thanks again to all of our sponsors and supporters who made the evening possible.
YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 2017 FOUNDATION AUCTION GALA!

Are you feeling lucky? Come roll the dice and double down as we bring you THE ACE OF SPADES GALA. On Saturday, March 11, 2017, the Chester County Chamber Foundation hosts its Annual Foundation Auction Gala at the Desmond Hotel in Malvern. Gentlemen, black tie optional. Ladies, dress in your best - black, white, or red. Silent auction, dinner, bar, table games, live music. 6pm-10pm. Individuals: $195. Couple: $350. Gaming chips included.

A portion of the proceeds from this event benefit the Senator Robert J. Thompson Memorial Scholarship and the Chamber Foundation Youth Leadership Program.

Ante up or fold by March 6th!
On Saturday, March 11, the Chester County Chamber Foundation holds the Annual Foundation Gala. Come out and support The Foundation and the Chamber’s Youth Leadership Program at the Desmond Hotel for the “Ace of Spades Gala”

Participation in this wonderful event allows us to support our award winning Youth Leadership Program. This program gives high school students the chance to enrich their skills by collaborating with leaders in the business world. The funds raised at the Foundation Gala event give us the opportunity to award various scholarships to local students. One such scholarship is the Bob Thompson Scholarship Fund.

Be sure to dress the part: Gentlemen, black tie optional. Ladies, dress in your best - black, white, or red. It is sure to be the social event of the season! Don’t miss out on this unforgettable night full of friends, food, drinks, tables games, and dancing!

Interested in Donating an Auction Item?
Contact Paige Michael today

Click Here to Get Your Ticket Today
$195 per ticket
$350 per couple

Want to Sponsor this event?
Click here for Sponsorship Opportunities
Contact Paige Michael for more information!
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Jason Asher
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James T. Dale
(610) 233-9100
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Not a Chamber Member?
Contact Roger Richardson Now
# February Events

## Thursday, February 9

**Are You Doing to Manage your Career?**

8:00 am - 9:30 am

[Register Here](#)

Contact [Julia](#) to learn more

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## March Events

### Saturday, March 11

**Foundation Auction Gala “Ace of Spades Gala”**

The Desmond Hotel

6:00 pm - 11:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

### Wednesday, March 15

**Roundtable with Senator Pat Browne**

Exelon Generation

8:00 am - 10:00 am

This is a closed event. Contact [Paige](#) for more information

### Thursday, March 30

**Hails to the Chiefs**

Vanguard

7:30 am - 9:30 am

[Register Here](#)
SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL DINNER
NOVEMBER 2, 2017
LONGWOOD GARDENS
Many employers struggle with understanding and getting the most out of their employee benefits. As a solution for its members, The Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry has recently rolled out the My Benefit Advisor (MBA) program. MBA focuses on four key components – consulting, management, enrollment, and compliance.

USI Affinity remains a close partner with The Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry and is the endorsed administrator of this new offering, providing members with first-class service and support. USI Affinity is part of a top-10 insurance brokerage form with over 75 years of experience and is the endorsed broker for more than 500 associations while partnering with 15,000 member-businesses.

The experts at My Benefit Advisor can guide you through the entire process of obtaining quality medical, dental, and vision coverage. MBA is always up-to-date on the latest market trends, research, and best practices to help you customize your benefits program.

As a result of the ever-changing status of the Affordable Care Act and health care reform, there is a great deal of confusion around health insurance and employee benefits. Our experts provide insightful guidance, in easy-to-understand resources, throughout the year so you can make informed decisions.

There are many more advantages to the MBA program and we invite you to learn more at cccbi mybenefitadvisor.com. You can also speak directly to an MBA expert by contacting Jim Pitts at (610) 537-1377 or jim.pitts@usi.com
ARE YOU DOING ENOUGH TO MANAGE YOUR CAREER?

Are you looking for a new job, higher pay, greater growth, to be better challenged, to be happier? This presentation will teach the secret to proactively manage your career so you could achieve your career goals.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9
7:30AM - 9:00AM
WCU GRADUATE CENTER
1160 McDermott Drive,
West Chester, PA

$15
Emerging Leaders
$25
Member
$35
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Sponsored By:

REGISTER NOW AT CCCBI.ORG
Contact Julia for emerging leader pricing at Julia@cccbi.org

SPEAKER

MAY VAN
Brelyn Coaching and Consulting
Health is the foundational pillar to living a magnificent life. It is the foundation of who we are, our number one priority, and our gift to the world. But let's face it, we live a fast paced life and it is often difficult to take time to prepare and execute the perfectly balanced meal. Before incorporating Isagenix into my already healthy lifestyle, I did not think I required additional help. I assumed since I worked out, ate my organic fruits and veggies and drank lots of water that I was good. I was quickly reminded after having my 2nd & 3rd babies (twins) that I needed something else. So with the ‘what do I have to lose’ mentality, I decided to give the nutritionally re-balancing system a shot!

At Isagenix, we are committed to impacting world health physically, emotionally, mentally, financially, and spiritually. This is reflected through our no-compromise products, which combine the best of science and nature to help anyone take control of their health.

Whether you are looking to lose pounds and inches, improve performance and recovery, or combat the aging process and improve overall health, I would be happy to match up one of our solutions for you. In the first 30 days of working with me you will see a major change in your energy level, confidence and how your waistband fits. You see, I believe that you don’t need to be a certain size to enjoy life. You just need to find the size that fits your life, the confidence that allows you to come out of hiding and the training that helps you side skirt the cookie dough and rock that little black dress (or business suit)!

By the end of our time together, we will have taken a big chunk out of your “number”, kicked the caffeine habit and created a confidence and a glow that will make everyone notice. We have programs for everyone and it is not a one size fits all. It is customized to your lifestyle. You still live your life you simply incorporate tools to help you achieve your goals! Tell me about your goals and your struggles and I will craft a plan of action that is totally you!

To health & Happiness!
215.528.0597
jaimelynncurley.isagenix.com
jaimelynncurley.com
How would you describe your business, what’s unique about your organization and what challenges do you face?

The retirement savings gap was recently quantified according to a report from the Pew Charitable Trusts in January 2016, divulging that nearly 30 million full-time working Americans between the ages of 18-64 lack access to a retirement plan at work.

WHY: We believe every American deserves an opportunity to retire with dignity.
WHAT: As a result of this belief, we specialize in the collaboration with employers on the design, installation, andongoing servicing needs of their retirement programs. We are 1 of approximately 90 firms in the country that is CEFEX Certified. (CEFEX is the equivalent of the ISO certifications for Investment Advisory Firms).
HOW: Our belief in a financially secure America drives our firm and service model. We collaborate with the employer at the macro level serving as 3(21) or 3(38) investment managers on the investments as well as work with the appropriate record-keeper and third party administrator to create a comprehensive personalized experience that is prudent and well documented for each employer. Shifting to the micro level, our passion lies in educating and empowering employees through personalized reviews to establish a savings plan for their future.

What are some of the advantages to working or living in Chester County?

I believe Chester County is the greatest County in the greatest state in the greatest country in the world. I grew up in the Downingtown/Coatesville area and work in Exton. There is tremendous opportunity and optimism that exists working in Chester County. A belief in hard work, success, and service to others is what I experience as a resident and employer in Chester County.

When did you decide to start a business/what was your inspiration for branching out on your own?

I graduated college in 2008 from Villanova, and California University of Pennsylvania with my MSBA in 2010. In 2011, I began my first business venture, founding the non-profit organization, Fiorenza's Food For Friends (F4). F4 is a non-profit designed to eradicate world hunger by connecting sources of food to recipients in need. Two years later, in 2013, I co-founded Summit Group Retirement Planners, Inc. with my father, Anthony Fiorenza. The inspiration for both business ventures was a deep desire in my heart to make the world a better place through service to others.

What advice do you have for aspiring small biz owners and entrepreneurs?

My advice is very simple. Trust in the Lord, follow your heart, and focus on serving first. ALWAYS put the needs of others above yourself, and do not lose hope regardless of how many setbacks you experience. Each day visualize your future self as the success you wish to become. Start each week by putting together an agenda of things you wish to accomplish and use that to keep yourself on track. You can also do this annually to help you accomplish your goals that are more long term.

Why did you join the Chamber, what do you find most valuable about the chamber as a small biz owner?

I joined the joined the Chamber to meet like-minded business owners that wanted to serve first in their community with the work they perform every day. As a small business owner, the thing I found most beneficial about the Chamber is the exposure it provides, credibility it establishes, and relationships that enables you to form. Being that I was in my early twenties when I joined the chamber, it taught me a lot about patience, and the importance of building rapport with others, even those that I was not or will not be conducting business with.

Each month the Small Business Leadership Spotlight features a different CCCBI member and the story of their business. They'll sit down with Roger Richardson - Membership Director - and share a little more about living and working in Chester County and using the chamber as a resource for networking, business development, and community engagement.

Contact Roger to see how you can be the next Small Business Spotlight.
Shadowlee Canine trains, certifies, and insures Therapy Dog Teams (Handler and Dog) and provides therapeutic support to school children, veterans, patients, and seniors with and without disabilities.

Therapy dog visits have been shown to decrease levels of the stress hormone cortisol and increase circulating levels of endorphins; the body's natural painkillers.

Our teams go through a ten-week course taught by Shadowlee Canine's certified Dog Trainers. All dogs attending this course must be evaluated for temperament prior to acceptance. After graduation the therapy dog teams are placed in a facility that caters to the team's strengths and abilities and are shadowed by trainers on visits to ensure successful transition to the work. Our teams are re-evaluated on a yearly basis and must be re-examined by a licensed veterinarian to insure that the dog is still fit for the work. Our volunteer Services are provided free of charge.

Our work in Pennsylvania schools currently includes working with children with severe autism as well as children with behavioral difficulties, reading problems and other issues.

Leaders in the field - Susan Fireman and Jill Fingerhood create and oversee all school programs. They have trained over 400 Therapy Dog Teams and have worked with Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue.

Julie Pecorella Principal of Hillsdale Elementary School in West Chester says "she is thrilled that Shadowlee Canine Therapy dogs are available to her school. Students are given the opportunity to read out loud to the dogs. How calming and supportive this can be. "According to Newsweek children that read to therapy dogs increase their reading rates by 24 words a minute.

“For students arriving with stress and anxiety the dogs serve as a friend and reassuring influence. My staff and students are grateful for this program”

Lisa Williams Learning Support teacher says "Shadowlee Canine provides a valuable resource to the West Chester schools. Students with and without disabilities or that may be having behavioral difficulties spend time with the dogs who offer no judgment and make the students feel comfortable". “The dogs go through ten weeks of training and learn how to relate to children and adults”.

According to the Journal of Alternative and Complimentary Medicine during sessions with Therapy dogs children with autism spectrum disorder showed increases in verbal, nonverbal communication and in other social behaviors.

Tina Geissler loves to see the smiles and giggles of the students when her dog wags his tail and they keep reading even if they have to duck to see the page under him. Shadowlee Canine provides volunteer services free of charge and also offers therapeutic support to Veterans, Patients and Seniors.

Contact Susan Fireman or Jill Fingerhood
518-755-5601 - Solanina@aol.com
www.ShadowleeCanine.com
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