

10.10.24

6 West Strawberry Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (717) 796-0811 www.mechanicsburgchamber.org

In This Issue:
Streets of Treats3
Congratulations Penn Harris Hotel6
The Corporate Transparancy Act - What you need to know20-21
News, Events & more!

Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade Tuesday, October 8th

29th Annual Streets of Treats Saturday, October 19th

Interested in sponsorship, participating, or volunteering? - email info@mechanicsburgchamber.org

CHAMBER EVENTS

Watch for Weekly Updates!!

October

- 14 Chamber office closed for Columbus Day
- 15 After Hours Mixer BeBalanced Natural Weight Loss Center, 3812 Market St, Camp Hill. 5:00 - 7:00pm.
- 19 29th Annual Streets of Treats Sponsored in part by **HB Home Services**, downtown Mechanicsburg. 10 am - 2 pm.
- 29 AM Strategies... for Business Success -PCI (PA Chamber Insurance) - Location sponsor -Joseph T. Simpson Public Library, 16 N Walnut St, Mechanicsburg. 8:30am - 10:00am.
- 31 Business Leaders Discussion Group -Sponsored by PaySmart Payroll Services, 650 Wilson **Ln, Ste. 100, Mechanicsburg**. 7:45 - 9:00am. Members only event.

RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org

For a full calendar of chamber and member events. visit www.mechanicsburgchamber.org/events

Thank You For Renewing Your Membership!

Modwash - Carlisle Pike **Town Planner Community Calendar** **Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce presents:**

After-Hours Mixer



Tuesday, October 15 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.





Hosted by

BeBalanced Natural Weight Loss Center3812 Market Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Enjoy an evening of networking, refreshments and a chance to win a prize!

RSVPing is easy, simply email info@mechanicsburgchamber.org, RSVP online, or call 717-796-0811

Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce presents:

Business Leaders Discussion Group

Thursday, October 31 7:45 - 9:00 am

Sponsored by
PaySmart Payroll Services
650 Wilson Ln, Suite 100
Mechanicsburg



RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org or call 717-796-0811.
This members-only event is **free** to attend!

Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce

in partnership with



invites you to attend

29 ⁱⁿ Annual

Streets of Treats

Downtown Mechanicsburg

Saturday, October 19, 2024 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Trick-or-Treating at Downtown & Local Businesses
FREE and low cost activities, crafts & games

Pick up your trick-or-treating bag and map of participating businesses at the Square

2 East Main Street, Mechanicsburg, PA

Questions?
(717) 796-0811 | info@mechanicsburgchamber.org
6 West Strawberry Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Join us for

More Than a Broker: PA Chamber Insurance

For Your Business, For Your People, For Your Health
Breakfast Seminar

Date: October 29, 2024

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Joseph T. Simpson Public Library

16 N. Walnut Street, Mechanicsburg Pa 17055

Open Enrollment is Quickly Approaching!

Pennsylvania Chamber Insurance is the leading expert in employee benefit programs. Please join us for this informational seminar touching on the services and the expertise you will receive by partnering with us for all your benefit needs!

REGISTER
ONLINE URL | CONFERENCE HOTLINE





For your Business. For your People. For your Health.

Business Women's Networking Luncheon

Tuesday, October 8

Due to construction issues,
this event has been postponed until
Tuesday, November 12
11:30am - 1:00pm

Residence

The new Residence Inn Mechanicsburg welcomes the Business Women's Networking Luncheon for October.

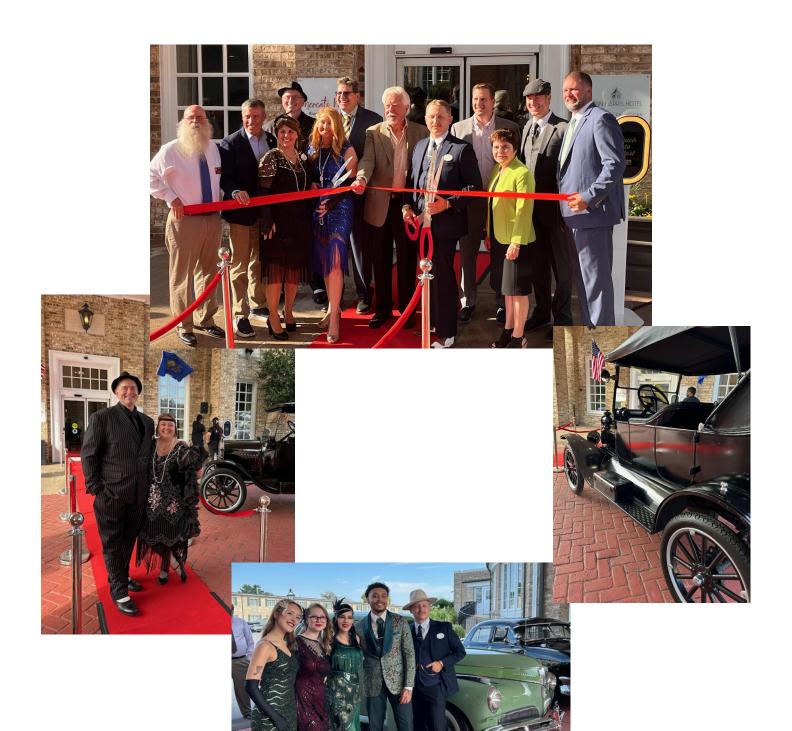
Come check out the area's newest all suite hotel and the fine accommodations that blend the perfect combination of comfort and convenience.

Introduce yourself and your business to familiar faces and hopefully some new ones, too. Come network with local business women and enjoy a light lunch.

Don't forget to bring your business cards to MIX & MINGLE.

Residence Inn Mechanicsburg 2040 Technology Parkway Enola

Reservations required.
RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org



Congratulations Penn Harris Hotel

The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce joined the West Shore Chamber of Commerce, elected officials, and the staff of the Penn Harris Hotel to cut the ribbon and recognize their grand re-opening after major investments and renovations. The longtime staple of the hospitality landscape of the area celebrated in 'style' while showing off their refreshed look and highlighting the onsite restaurant - Mercato Mio Ristorante Italiano. The Penn Harris Hotel is located at 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill.



CAEDC Now Accepting LSA Statewide Grant Applications

The Local Share Account (LSA) Statewide grant is now open for applications, and interested non-profits can apply through the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CAEDC). CAEDC is seeking applicants who are non-profit organizations and need funding for projects that either have an economic development or tourism component in the region. Projects must be at least \$25,000, and the maximum grant request is \$1 million.

Eligible uses include:

- Acquisition
- Construction
- Demolition
- Infrastructure
- Purchase of vehicles, machinery and/or equipment (excluding uniforms, protective equipment, consumable supplies, and furniture)
- Planning, consulting, and design costs related to planning projects.
- Engineering, design, and inspection, to include permitting fees, for construction projects not to exceed 10% of the total grant award.
- Contingency costs not to exceed 5% of documented construction and infrastructure costs are permissible.

Interested, qualified applicants can apply on CAEDC's online application at: CumberlandBusiness.com/lsa-application.

Complete applications must be submitted to CAEDC by November 1, 2024

If you have any questions regarding your project, contact CAEDC at 717-240-7180.

The LSA Grant is funded through the PA Race Horse Development and Gaming Act (Act 2004-71), as amended, which provides for the distribution of gaming revenues through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) to support projects in the public interest within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.





To expand the reach of our state services, my district office will set up at local senior centers to assist residents and guests with state-related issues. My office can facilitate Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications and check for unclaimed property.

To learn more about the recent expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, as well as eligibility guidelines and documentation needed to file an application, please click here.

You can also watch this video to learn more.

For questions, call 717-761-4665.

Are You Registered to Vote?

The 2024 General Election is just a few weeks away. It's always a good idea to check your registration status to make sure all your details are up to date before you try to cast your ballot. You can do that online here.

Recently moved? Changed your name? Want to change your party affiliation? You can update your voter registration online here.

★ 2024 General Election ★
 ★ Important Dates ★

 Oct. Last day to register to vote in the general election.
 vote.pa.gov/Register

 Oct. Last day to apply for a mail ballot.
 vote.pa.gov/MailBallot

 Nov. Election Day. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM.
 vote.pa.gov/Polls

 Nov. Completed mail ballots must be received by 8 PM.
 vote.pa.gov/County

 Vote.pa.gov/County

If you are not already registered to vote, the deadline to do so is Monday, Oct. 21. You can register in person at your county elections office, by mail or by visiting the state's online voter registration website.

On Tuesday, Nov. 5 (or sooner if you choose to vote by mail), voters across the Commonwealth will have the opportunity to elect the next president and vice president; members of the U.S. House and Senate; members of the state House and state Senate (in odd-numbered senatorial districts); and state row offices, including attorney general, auditor general and treasurer.

For more information about voting in the Commonwealth, visit vote.pa.gov.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Grief and Bereavement Support Group

1st Monday of each month 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

> Legend at Silver Creek 425 Lambs Gap Road Mechanicsburg, PA

Join us for a FREE monthly support group, open to anyone who has experienced grief and loss.

Grief is the natural emotional response to the loss of someone close, such as a family member, friend, or pet. It can also occur as a result of a serious illness, divorce, or other significant loss.

This open group provides a safe space for community members to connect, share their experiences, learn new coping skills, and support one another. Everyone is welcome to join.

Brought to you by:







JAZZ ME BAND

KIRK WISE UPCOMING SOLO, DUO & BAND PUBLIC DATES

Thur. 10/10 – Food Truck Rally, New Cumberland ...Kirk solo 5-8

Tue. 10/15 – Greystone Brew House@ Range End , Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

Thurs. 10/17 – Vibra Life, Mechanicsburg... Kirk solo 3-4

Fri. 10/18 – Farmers Fair, Dillsburg... Kirk & Band...2

Fri. 10/18* – Tall Cedars of Lebanon Event, New Cumberland...Jazz Me Band 6-9

Sat. 10/19 – Mt. Airy Orchards, Dillsburg... Kirk solo 11-2

Sat. 10/19 – Reid's Wine & Cider House, Gettysburg...Kirk & Bryce Duo 7-10

Sun. 10/20 – Mt. Airy Orchards, Dillsburg... Kirk & Beth 1-4

Tue. 10/22 – Greystone Brew House@ Range End , Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

For complete up-to-date schedule, information, and photos go to www.jazzmeband.com

Bookings: call Kirk at 717-979-0341 or E-mail wisemotors@aol.com

Tour sponsors:
FARNHAM INSURANCE,
MEMBERS 1st F. C. U.,
CLASSIC DRY CLEANERS, STUDIO D &
LANDON WISE PHOTOGRAPHY



MULTIPLE TRUCKS /// VARIETY OF FOOD





Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership selects Dr. Jayne Drake as the 2024 Person of the Year



The Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership is pleased to announce Dr. Jayne Drake as the 2024 recipient of its Mechanicsburg Person of the Year award.

This award is given annually to a Mechanicsburg resident or businessperson in recognition of an overall record of service to the community. The recipient is someone who has freely provided leadership, dedication, inspiration, and generosity for the benefit of Mechanicsburg.

Dr. Drake was selected for her exceptional contributions to Mechanicsburg in volunteer and leadership positions. Over the past seven years, she has relentlessly dedicated her time and experience in service to Mechanicsburg's business and economic development initiatives and to the RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg Revitalization Project. As past President of the Partnership and current Executive Director of RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg, she has spearheaded the expansion of the Partnership's reach and influence in the Borough and brought life and major funding to a three-phase revitalization plan that has the capacity to power Mechanicsburg into a more prosperous and re-energized future.

"What a complete surprise and humbling experience to be selected as The Partnership's Person of the Year awardee this year. The advancements we are making now in our charming town and the advancements yet to come are a result of the selfless dedication and grit of those who have laid the path before us. This year the Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership celebrates 20 years of serving the community by recognizing the people on whose shoulders we stand—the past presidents and board members—whose selfless volunteer efforts have accomplished so much in our community."

Jillian Biehl Morrison, President of The Partnership, had this to say about Dr. Drake as this year's honoree, "Dr Drake is the perfect choice for our 2024 Person of the Year. She exemplifies service above self. Her kindness and tenacity are legendary, and she is synonymous with, and passionate about revitalization in Mechanicsburg. You cannot think about the RENAISSANCE project without thinking of Jayne Drake and her enthusiasm, excitement, and tireless efforts. It has been an honor to work alongside her, and a thrill to see all of the hard work she has put in come to fruition. We are eternally grateful to Dr. Drake, and so fortunate to experience this revitalization with her."

Senator Mike Regan said of Jayne and this award, "I applaud the decision to name Jayne Drake Mechanicsburg Person of the Year. Jayne has been the driving force and has led the community charge to revitalize the Mechanicsburg downtown. She has shown exceptional leadership guiding the RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg Revitalization Project and the Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership. I've seen firsthand her commitment, which not only betters Mechanicsburg, but also enriches the entire 31st Senate District. Her impactful work and unwavering dedication to the RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg project will be seen for years to come."

The **2024 Person of the Year Tribute Dinner and Dance** will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd, 2024, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the West Shore Elks Club.

Sponsorships and tickets are now on sale, and proceeds will support the ongoing efforts of The Partnership and RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg - https://bit.lv/4ecHE8n

For more information, contact The Partnership at info@downtownmechanicsburg.com



UPMC to Host Multiple October Career Events Throughout Region

In October, UPMC is hosting multiple events designed to make it easier and more accessible for job seekers to find new careers and for high school students to learn about opportunities in health care. These events will be held at or near UPMC hospitals in Carlisle, Hanover, Harrisburg, Lititz, Mechanicsburg and York.

With a variety of event styles and locations, all potential job seekers can find an event that fits their needs, from experienced professionals looking to make a change to recent graduates preparing to start their careers to high school students seeking more information about the many opportunities available in health care fields. Registration and details for all events can be found at careers.UPMC. com/events.

Find Your Fit Career Fairs

A Find Your Fit career fair will be held at each of UPMC's hospitals in central Pennsylvania between Oct. 9 and Oct. 24 from noon to 6 p.m. Visit careers.UPMC.com/events for details on specific dates and locations. Attendees can apply onsite, have their resumes reviewed, and meet with UPMC Human Resources representatives and hiring managers — and may be offered an onsite interview. Information will be available regarding the UPMC Scholars Program, sign-on bonus opportunities and UPMC's Total Rewards benefits packages, which are designed to support employees' physical, financial and emotional well-being. The event is open for those pursuing any clinical or non-clinical role at UPMC, including nursing, patient care support, laboratory, imaging technologies, pharmacy, office support, safety and security, and many more areas.

Health Care Career Nights

Health Care Career Night brings together health care departments and local colleges and universities to create an opportunity for high school students and their families to not only learn about roles in health care but discover what training or skills are needed to embark on those careers. Health care is one of the fastest growing employment sectors in the United States. Careers can range from direct patient care, like nursing or therapy, to behind-the-scenes work in a laboratory or pharmacy, to non-clinical positions in support services and professional or administrative areas. Attendees can meet UPMC health care professionals, ask questions, learn about UPMC's career paths and student education benefits and experience hands-on activities. All events are from 6 to 8 p.m., with more details on dates and locations available at careers. UPMC.com/events.

Talk to Us Tuesday Walk-in Career Events

The final Talk to Us Tuesday walk-in career events of the year will be held on the second Tuesdays in October (Oct. 8) and November (Nov. 12) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in each UPMC hospital lobby. Attendees can explore rewarding careers at UPMC, meet with recruiters and hiring teams and get as-

sistance with resumes, job searches or applications. Talk to Us Tuesday is open to anyone, from experienced professionals to students. No appointment is needed. Although not limited to these areas, these events are focused on a variety of roles in imaging technology, laboratory, nursing, pharmacy, patient care support and allied health.

Registration: Individuals can register online for any of these events to select a location and area of focus. Registration is not required but is highly encouraged for Find Your Fit and Health Care Career Night, especially for those wishing to complete an interview at the event. Visit careers.UPMC.com/events.

Virtual seminars

What Do Seizures in a Child Mean?

Join UPMC Children's Specialty Services neurologist Dr. Gull Zareen Sial to learn how seizures occur, causes, types, treatment options, effects on lifestyle, long-term outcomes, and seizure first aid.

- o Virtual Wed., Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m.
- o To register, visit UPMC.com/VirtualEvents or call 717-231-8900.

The Leading Edge of Hand Surgery: Exploring Hot Topics and Advancements

Join UPMC Orthopaedic Care hand surgeon Dr. Anna Muzio to learn about the latest treatment for carpal tunnel syndrome, trigger fingers, thumb arthritis, ganglion cysts, and dequervains tenosynovitis, as well as common injuries.

- o Virtual Thurs., Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.
- o To register, visit UPMC.com/VirtualEvents or call 717-231-8900.

There is Always Hope: The Latest Treatment Options for Breast Cancer

Join UPMC Hillman Cancer Center specialists to learn about the latest treatments for breast cancer, including limited radiation treatments with lower dose radiation, surgical options, chemotherapy, and clinical trials.

- o Virtual Tues., Oct. 22, 6:30 p.m.
- o To register, visit UPMC.com/VirtualEvents or call 717-231-8900.

Advancements in Osteoarthritis Treatment that Can Improve Your Life

Learn what options UPMC offers to treat osteoarthritis. Hear from a panel of specialists how lose dose radiation therapy, surgery and/or medications can be used to relieve your osteoarthritis pain.

- o Virtual Wed., Oct. 30, 6:30 p.m.
- o To register, visit UPMC.com/VirtualEvents or call 717-231-8900.

Chamber Chatter is published on-line every Thursday.

We encourage member businesses to send us information on sales, promotions, news and events. It is a great way to promote your business or organization.

Chamber Chatter advertisements will remain for up to 4 weeks, or as space permits.

If you have something to share, please submit it by Wednesday at noon to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org.

Chamber Chatter advertising is a FREE member benefit.



309 Herman Ave | Lemoyne

Shop our vendor fair, order food from our food trucks. FREE Fall fun, kids crafts and games!





Seeking HOSTS for 2024 & 2025 **EVENTS**

- Business Women's Networking Luncheon
 - After Hours Mixer
 - Business Leaders Discussion Group

BE A HOST and showcase your business, service and more...

For more information - on HOSTING AN EVENT contact the Chamber office at 717-796-0811 or email - info@mechanicsburgchamber.org.



Night of Worship



Saturday, October 26th - 3 PM Grace Baptist Church, Lancaster with livestream option available



Experience The Gospel of Mark performed dramatically word-for-word from the ESV Bible. This one-man Scripture Performance will surprise and delight you with creative storytelling that will take you to the places Jesus went and introduce you to the many people Jesus called to follow Him. Be inspired, challenged, and moved by the power of the Word of God as you watch the revealing of the Son of God live on stage.



Can't make it in person? Host a watch party from your location!

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Pricing is on a pay-as-you-will basis and equally supports both ministries.



thetide.org/now

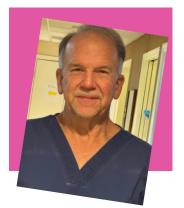


PINK OCTOBER @ EAST MAIN DENTAL

Fundraiser/Raffle to benefit
Pink Hands of Hope

in Mechanicsburg

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO PUT A
PIE IN THE FACE OF YOUR DENTIST?
NOW IS YOUR CHANCE! BE THE
HIGHEST BIDDER AND YOU WILL
HAVE THAT CHANCE.







PAFFLE ITEMS: 55 INCH TV DINNER & I NIGHT HOTEL STAY ORAL B ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH TAKE HOME WHITENING TRAYS HERSHEY BEARS TICKETS

Stop in at 324 E Main St Mechanicsburg to bid and purchase raffle tickets. October 1-31 Mon- Wed 8-5 Thur 7-1. Pieing will happen 10/31 @ 1:30

Digital **POTS** Replacement Solution



What's Changing and How TPx Can Help

In consideration of FCC order 19-72A1, service providers are no longer mandated to maintain copper POTS lines. This regulatory shift has led to increased costs and reduced availability for essential services that are dependent on POTS lines, such as fax, elevator, and alarm systems. TPx aims to fill this critical void with an innovative Digital POTS solution available nationwide, meeting the vital POTS replacement needs for alarms, elevators, and essential fax lines.

Proposed Solution

In partnership with MetTel, TPx will deliver a cutting-edge POTS replacement solution. With over 50,000 deployments, MetTel's adapters support one to eight Digital POTS replacement lines from a single device connecting over the customer's internet. Featuring error correction and packet loss detection, it ensures uninterrupted service by resending lost packets to prevent call failures. The solution includes an 8-hour battery backup and two cellular SIM cards for additional reliability. MetTel enables provisioning, porting, and installation, ensuring seamless integration. The solution is also certified for alarm lines by the National Fire Protection Association and the New York City Fire Department.



Anticipated Customer Benefits*

Certified Solution	Fire code compliant solution, UL 60950-1 & UL 2054 certified.
Reliable Connection	Connect via broadband, Wi-Fi, and 4G LTE SIM. Dual SIMs.
Ongoing Support	Professional installation, 24/7/365 NOC monitoring, over-the-air firmware updates, and emergency support.
Strategic Coverage	Access to major cellular providers.
Potential Cost Savings	As POTS lines are retired, their costs rise. It is possible to save money with TPx POTS line replacement.
Tailored	Flexible digital transformation tailored to your need.
Quality Connection	Low latency, high-speed networks ensure top-notch voice quality and reliability.
Scalability	Adjust features as needed to meet evolving communication



Steve Troutman, Senior Solutions Consultant

O: 610-502-6085 C: 717-497-2002

Toll Free 1-844-424-7827 Opt. 2

E: steve@greenstar-us.com W: https://greenstarcloud.io





Support local **Blessing Boxes** and **Little Free Pantry** with your food donation! For the months of October and November, we ask that you collect nonperishable foods at your home or office. These Blessing Boxes provide barrier-free access to food any time.

Drop off items to First United Methodist Church Mechanicsburg (135 W. Simpson Street, 717-766-4611) or if you need it picked up, contact Lori Hoffnagle at I_hoffnagle@yahoo.com. Donations will be distributed to all three locations.



Most needed items

Canned Vegetables
Canned Meat (tuna, chicken)
Small Cereal Boxes
Pasta and Pasta Sauce
Peanut Butter and Jelly

UNEXPIRED & NONPERISHABLE FOOD ONLY

Blessing Boxes located at Trinity
Lutheran Church (132 E. Main), Turning
Point Church (near Finkenbinder Park)
and Little Free Pantry at First UM Church,
Mechanicsburg

Questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at I_hoffnagle@yahoo.com



The Corporate Transparency Act

Starting January 1, 2024, the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA) requires certain entities to disclose beneficial ownership information (BOI) to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). This is separate from tax filings with the IRS. Entities required to report include any entity created by filing a document with a secretary of state or any similar office under the law of a state or Indian tribe (i.e., Limited Partnership, Limited Liability Partnership, Limited Liability Company, Corporation, etc.). Penalties for willfully not complying with the BOI reporting requirement can result in criminal and civil penalties of \$500 per day and up to \$10,000 and/or up to two years of jail time.

CTA Webinars

What you need to know about Beneficial Ownership Information reporting and how to act!

October 24, 2024 from 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Presented by Andy P. Berger & Katherine Pandelidis Granbois at Saxton & Stump

Join us as Saxton & Stump attorneys Kathy Granbois and Andy Berger discuss:

- The entities that are reporting companies under the CTA and must submit a BOI report to FinCEN.
- Exemptions from the CTA's reporting requirements.
- The information that a reporting company must report to FinCEN.
- When initial reports and changes to reports must be filed.
- The penalties for failing to comply with the reporting requirements.
- The individuals who are considered beneficial owners under the CTA.
- Steps to take to comply with the CTA.

Register Now >

Corporate Transparency Act's Beneficial Ownership Information Requirement

November 20, 2024 from 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Presented by Andy P. Berger & Katherine Pandelidis Granbois at Saxton & Stump

In this webinar, Justin Abodalo will discuss the basics of the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA) and who the reporting obligations apply to, bringing about compliance obligations with FinCEN. Justin will also discuss the constitutional challenges made against the CTA in the Alabama District Court case NSBA v. Yellen, and anticipated results once an appellate court issues a decision on the appeal.

Register Now >

CTA Resources

- Beneficial Ownership Reporting Requirement Toolkit, from the The U.S. Department of
 the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), contains templates and
 sample content structured to allow private, public, and non-profit organizations to share and
 amplify this important information. It also includes a general background on the reporting
 requirements, templates for newsletters, websites, and emails, sample social media posts and
 images, and information on how to contact FinCEN.
- Trout CPA's Corporate Transparency Act handout includes information on the filing options, compliance requirements, and exemptions.

For questions or assistance, please contact your Trout CPA professional.

930 Century Dr, #104 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 717-697-2900 www.troutcpa.com



UPMC Installs 'Hope Bell' for Those Facing Cancer in Infusion Centers Across Central Pennsylvania

The UPMC Pinnacle Foundation recently installed seven "Hope Bells" in UPMC Hillman Cancer Center infusion centers in central Pennsylvania, an alternative to the traditional end-of-treatment bell that allows patients to celebrate various miles in their journey, from regaining appetite to attending family events. The Hope Bell was conceptualized by Aleecia Munchel, BSN, RN, a UPMC infusion nurse, in collaboration with her late patient Barbara Gutshall, who passed away after a courageous fight with breast cancer.

"The Hope Bell gives voice to the small victories that mean so much to our patients," said Munchel. "It's a symbol of resilience and joy in the face of incredible challenges. The bell represents a milestone, a moment of triumph over adversity. It is a reminder that even in the toughest times, there is hope and strength within us all."

The Gutshall family funded the installation of the Hope Bell at UPMC Community Osteopathic in Harrisburg, where Barbara received her treatment. Inspired by the initiative, the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation further funded the installation of Hope Bells in all UPMC Hillman Cancer Center infusion centers across central Pennsylvania, extending the reach of this meaningful project.



Hope Bell 1 – Don Gutshall with Aleecia Munchel photographed in front of the Hope Bell at UPMC Community Osteopathic in Harrisburg

A dedication ceremony was held at UPMC Community Osteopathic, honoring Barbara's memory and the generous donation from her husband, Don Gutshall. The event was attended by family, friends, and the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center infusion team.

"You are all the real heroes," said Don Gutshall. "For all that you do, for the countless hours you spend, and for the compassion you show to all those patients and families that you take care of, we are deeply grateful. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and your impact is immeasurable. Thank you for being the pillars of strength and hope in our community."

The installation of the Hope Bells symbolizes the unwavering support and compassion that UPMC Hillman Cancer Center provides to its patients and their families. As these bells ring out in celebration of each milestone, they echo the enduring message that hope and courage are ever-present.

To recognize her visionary Hope Bell project,

Munchel was awarded the prestigious HOPE Award for 2023-2024 by UPMC.

The UPMC Hillman Cancer Center in Central Pa. had approximately 40,000 patient visits for medical oncology and infusion in 2023, averaging close to 100 appointments per day. It is one of just 56 National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the country, which provides cutting-edge treatment and access to hundreds of clinical trials. For more information or to schedule an appointment at the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center in Central Pa., visit UPMCHillman. com/CentralPA