

Best Auto Service Center Earns Recognition from AAA

Best Auto got an added commendation with its certification from AAA North Penn when the Tannersville automotive repair shop scored a 99.2 percent for workmanship on repairs and earned the title "2012 Top Shop Leader."

"When people see that (certification), it adds value," said owner Tom Sforza of the certificate hanging in the waiting area of his Route 611 shop that calls the rating "the highest achievement in a review of auto repair facilities in the AAA Penn-New York Group program."

"It's our diagnostic abilities," said Sforza of the high rating. "We pride ourselves on fixing it right the first time because of our specialty tools."

That includes the recently acquired factory scan Tech 2 hand held device for General Motors cars that reads codes and can turn on and off certain mechanical areas while technicians check the system. Sforza said his workforce of six people repair 60 to 80 domestic and foreign cars a week and there is a Subaru factory trained technician on site.



Lisa and Tom Sforza of Best Auto Service Center

A photo of the refurbished exterior ran in the latest issue of AAA North Penn News magazine with a rundown of the handful of shops to receive its certification. It steers AAA cardholders visiting the Poconos to Best Auto in a listing of shops in the Northeast Pennsylvania and southern New York state region when they need the nearest reputable location to have their car serviced.

Best Auto already is an accredited American Car Care Center and last year was affiliated with A.C. Delco as a Preferred Service Center. Just like the shop's exterior, the interior was remodeled last fall with A.C. Delco upholstered chairs. It also received the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce Bizzy Award in 2012 as the Best Small Business and two years earlier got the Bizzy Award as the Best New Business.

Sforza also recently purchased a digital wireless alignment machine and better equipment for removing flat tires that severely wrapped around the wheel.

During the winter months, Sforza said the biggest demand by customers is for batteries, heaters and tires.

Best Auto is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Customers can email requests for appointments to bestautoservicecenter@yahoo.com or call 570-688-2378. Visit bestautoservicecenter.com website and check it out on Facebook.

(Story courtesy of Wayne Witkowski Pocono Record)

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GPCC MISSION STATEMENT

Act as A Unified Voice of Business
Dedicated to the Prosperity of all
Commerce
Leading to the Enhancement of
the Quality of Life in our region and surrounding
areas.

February 2013 Calendar of Events

- February 4**.....*Business Card Exchange*
5:30 p.m.- Pig Pen - Brodheadsville
- February 5**.....*West End Committee*
8:00 a.m.- Western Pocono Community
Library - Brodheadsville
- February 8**.....*Leadership Pocono*
8:00 a.m.- GPCC
- February 11**.....*Education Committee*
11:00 a.m. - GPCC
- February 12**.....*Women In Business Luncheon*
Noon - *Peppé's Bistro - E. Stroudsburg*
- February 19**.....*Women in Business Committee*
9:00 a.m.- GPCC
- February 21**.....*Expo Committee*
8:00 a.m.- GPCC
- February 22**.....*Environmental Committee*
8:00 a.m.- GPCC
- February 25**.....*Finance Committee*
7:45 a.m. - GPCC
- February 25**.....*Executive Committee*
8:15 a.m. - GPCC
- February 26**.....*Board of Directors*
8:30 a.m. - *ESU Innovation Center -
East Stroudsburg*

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

National Penn Bancshares, Inc. (Nasdaq: NPBC) has been ranked #15 on the annual *Forbes* 2013 Best Banks in America List for the second consecutive year. The standing ranks **National Penn** above its regional competitors and among the top banks in the United States.

"We are honored to be recognized, both regionally and nationally, on this prestigious list. National Penn has worked hard to become strong, clean and efficient and is gratified to be recognized for our efforts," said Scott V. Fainor, president and CEO, National Penn.

National Penn retained the #15 position on the *Forbes* 2013 list after achieving the #15 ranking on the 2012 Best Banks list and rising from #33 on the 2011 list.

The survey – conducted by *Forbes* with financial data provided by SNL Financial – gauges the health of the nation's biggest banks. Figures were based on regulatory filings of public banks and thrifts through the third quarter of 2012. Banks included in the list range in asset size from \$4.5 billion to \$2.3 trillion in assets.

Forbes based the list on eight metrics of financial health, including: return on average equity; net interest margin; nonperforming loans (NPLs) as a percentage of loans; nonperforming assets as percentage of assets; reserves as a percentage of NPLs; two capital ratios (Tier 1 and risk-based); and leverage ratio.

"Being listed among the best banks in the country is an excellent way to close out the year," Fainor said. "However, we will continue to work toward our vision to be the most highly regarded financial institution within the markets we serve."

The Pocono Health Foundation announces the offering of various healthcare-related scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to students who exemplify academic excellence, compassion, and a desire for improving the quality of life in our community. These scholarships are designated for nursing students entering their final year of an accredited nursing program.

R. Dale Hughes established the first scholarship in 1991, and it was named the *R. Dale Hughes Nursing Scholarship Endowment*.

The Cramer Family established *The Jennie Cramer Nursing Scholarship* in 1992 to help recruit outstanding nursing students to Pocono Medical Center.

The final nursing scholarship is *The Robert A. Gordon Memorial Nursing Scholarship*, created by the Pocono Medical Center Board of Directors in 1991 in recognition of Mr. Gordon's outstanding service as a Board member.

In addition to the nursing scholarships, there is also a scholarship designed for future healthcare professionals

Sponsorships Available for 2013!

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

who are currently Monroe County High School seniors accepted in a college or university program. This scholarship is made possible through the *Dr. Elmo Lilli Memorial Healthcare Scholarship*. Dr. Lilli began serving as a family and geriatric physician in 1959 and also served as Chief of the Medical Staff at Pocono Medical Center from 1978 to 1980.

In conjunction with these four scholarships, the Pocono Health Foundation invites community organizations to apply for a grant through the *Dr. Alberta Finch Children's Health Endowment* or the *Dr. Claus G. Jordan Endowment Fund*. Anyone interested in learning more about these grant and scholarship opportunities is encouraged to visit the Pocono Health Foundation website at www.poconohealthfoundation.org. The applications for all of the scholarships will be accepted through March 31, 2013.



Daniel M. Perich

701 Main Street, a five story, 41,000 square foot office building formerly known as the "Shearson-Lehman" building sold for \$1.9 million on January 15th.

Daniel M. Perich, CCIM and associate broker of **Michael Baxter & Associates Commercial Real Estate** handled the deal between Darlak Properties and the buyer Grist Mill Development Company LLC.

The new owner already began making interior upgrades to the facility in order to attract new tenants into the available space which includes a street level former bank with drive thru lanes.



Dale R. McCandless

Dale R. McCandless a resident of Lehigh, PA and Senior Vice President with **Keystone Financial Management**, a member of John Hancock Financial Network (JHFN), has qualified for the ACE Silver Award, one of the highest honors that JHFN bestows on financial professionals within the national network. ACE stands for "Achieving Client Excellence."

According to Thomas R. Nikles, Managing Partner of the Keystone Financial Management located in Allentown, PA, the ACE Award serves as a confirmation of Dale's exceptional abilities. "It is a testament to not only sales excellence, but also the level of professionalism, respect, and real value he delivers to clients and the community every day. We are very proud of Dale McCandless' high

level of achievement," he said.

With 16 years of experience in the insurance, investments, and financial services field, Dale McCandless is excited to be working with a team of professionals dedicated to recruiting, training, and coaching financial professionals who achieve success through helping clients meet their personal financial goals. Dale holds the LUTCF and CLTC designations. Dale is also active in his community, devoting time and support to a number of organizations. Dale is a Past President of NAIFA (National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors), Lehigh Valley. He has been active as a coach for youth sports clubs in basketball, soccer, and baseball.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has indicated that nationally influenza activity is elevated and continues to increase across most key indicators. Thirty-one states including Pennsylvania are reporting widespread geographic influenza activity meaning at least half of the state's regions are experiencing outbreaks of influenza or increases in influenza-like illness.

As you know, **Pocono Health System** recently reported that more than 85% of our employees have been vaccinated against the seasonal flu. Our comprehensive influenza vaccination program began in early October and continues. The goal of the program is to achieve 90% or higher immunization rate for all employed staff, credentialed medical staff, volunteers, and contracted workers.

At Pocono Health System, patient safety is our top priority and with the 2012-2013 influenza season well underway, vaccination is the primary method of reducing your risk of becoming ill from influenza or passing the flu to patients, coworkers, and family. In an effort to keep our patients, staff, and visitors healthy and continue to provide world class care close to home, we have implemented the American Hospital Association's recommended policy supporting that all employees and clinical providers who have not received the influenza vaccination by January 6, 2013, be required to wear a surgical mask whenever they are within 6 feet of patients, visitors, or staff members. Please do not be alarmed by this, it is a precautionary measure to protect our patients, visitors, and staff members. This policy aims to achieve the highest possible level of protection.

In addition to these steps, Dr. Susheer Gandotra, our Director of Infection Control would like to remind you of the following general measures to keep the flu from spreading to others: Cover your nose and mouth at all times when coughing or sneezing. If you are observed coughing or sneezing or are visibly ill when visiting the hospital or any of our practices for any reason, you will kindly be asked to wear a mask. Stay at home when ill. Clean and disinfect high use surfaces, especially if an individual has been coughing or sneezing within that area. Thoroughly wash your hands often with soap and water.

How does a person live until 100? Madeline Wesby can tell you. Her daily routine could rival anyone half her age. Still driving, exercising and keeping up on current events, Madeline stays focused on being busy and on January 19, she'll join the centenarian's club as she turns 100 years old.



Madeline Wesby

Born in Pen Argyl in 1913, Madeline graduated from Nazareth High School in 1931 and worked as a hair stylist first before meeting her husband Joseph Wesby. She then worked with him in a propane business in Canada before operating the former Tocks Dairy Bar on Rt. 209. When Joseph retired, Madeline worked at Joppet Farms.

After Joseph died in 1991, Madeline decided she needed to stay busy and began volunteering at Pocono Medical Center's (PMC) front desk every Tuesday and every major holiday. A pin displayed proudly on her volunteer apron advertises over 8,000 hours volunteered with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

"We are so fortunate at **Pocono Medical Center** to have such dedicated and caring volunteers, like Madeline. We are very excited for the opportunity to share this special milestone with her," said Camille Fjeld, Manager of Volunteer Services.

Madeline's favorite shows include 60 Minutes, Dateline and the History Channel. She'll watch anything educational. "The day I have to give this [volunteering] up, I'll stay home and cry," she said.

To celebrate Madeline's incredible milestone, PMC is hosting a "cake toast" in her honor on January 18 in the Stroud and Brodhead Rooms from 11:30-12:30 pm, the cake presentation at noon. Special guests will be in attendance. Happy Birthday Madeline!

Pocono Raceway announced today the names of the inaugural Pocono Raceway Fan Council, a 20-member board to be comprised of race fans to assist "The Tricky Triangle" staff in developing and improving the overall fan experience.

Pocono Raceway had many qualified applicants but after reviewing all of the applications we would like to congratulate the following race fans for being selected to the 2013 Pocono Raceway Fan Council: John Doggett (Shenandoah, PA), Matthew Stoudt (Nazareth, PA), Don Tinsman (Pittstown, NJ), Rebecca Storm (Saylorsburg, PA), Vincent Palmese (Pocono Pines, PA), Greg Horvath (Whitehall,

PA), Corie Romig (Wind Gap, PA), Steffanie Bush (East Stroudsburg, PA), Lynn Marks (Honesdale, PA), Joe Flanagan (Augusta, NJ), Tom Dolan (Havertown, PA), Meghan Brill (North Brunswick, NJ), Kevin Jakim (Langhorne, PA), Stephen Hall (Blossburg, PA), Scott DiDomenico (Warrington, PA), Tracy Noll (Camp Hill, PA), Daniel Harmon (Pittsburgh, PA), Rebecca Falik (Far Rockaway, NY), Jeanne Kamansky (Leverett, MA) and Jane Jubilee (Maplewood, NJ). Members of the inaugural Fan Council will serve a term of one year.

"The Fan Council will be a great addition to helping us generate and create the best overall experience for the most important people in our world, the race fans. This council will play an integral role in future plans, both at, and away from, the Raceway," stated Brandon Igdalsky, Raceway President and CEO.

The Pocono Raceway Fan Council will complete surveys, meet quarterly (either in person or through conference calls) and assist with promotional events throughout the year. Fan Council members will be active throughout race weekends at Pocono, talking with fellow fans and learning about their experience while being the eyes and ears in the crowd to help track officials continue improving the Pocono Raceway fan experience. They will also serve as a sounding board for their fellow race fans.

At a time when you can't pick up a newspaper or turn on the national news without hearing bickering and divisiveness over what's "wrong" with our economy, something truly uplifting is happening in Pennsylvania. Without much fanfare, more than 2,000 young adults and business executives will converge in Williamsport, Pennsylvania during the months of July and August to both explore and celebrate the world of business and what free enterprise means to America. Thirty-five years ago, business leaders in Pennsylvania responded to a perceived lack of awareness in most young adults about how the private sector operates. In 1979, a marvelously innovative program was born to teach our young people (juniors and seniors in high school) about those issues that face business people every day. **Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW)**, internationally-acclaimed for its excellence, now graduates approximately 1,800 students annually with a vastly improved understanding about the free market and how economic opportunity is so integrally tied to personal freedom.

Each summer, PFEW holds four, one-week individual sessions in July and August. The focus of the week is to group the participants into "management teams" of senior executives who have inherited imaginary "companies." These teams, under the guiding hands of "executives-on-loan," called Company Advisors, operate their firms for a computer-simulated three-year period of time. To add a sense of reality, they are competing against two other student "companies" manufacturing and distributing the same product. These fledgling corporate executives are faced with decisions that any real-life business person confronts daily.

PFEW is designed to give every participant an idea of what is important in the business world of today. Each day's activities include four to five presentations from world-class business people from a list that reads like who's who in Pennsylvania. The students hear about: Business and Finance, the Role and Relationship of Business and Government, Taxation, Business Ethics, Labor Relations, and much, much more. Is it effective? Said Elizabeth Snell of West Chester East High School, "Being part of PFEW has been one of the greatest experiences of my life. (It) was the best part of my entire summer and I will never forget the amazing people and learning opportunities about business and life. I will carry these memories with me forever!"



A 2012 PFEW "Finance Team" prepares for their Stockholder's Annual Meeting

The Chamber is proud to support PFEW to give our local students an eye-opening experience like Elizabeth described. We encourage our local companies and civic organizations to provide sponsorships for our students and, if possible, volunteers for the sessions. (PFEW is completely a product of the private sector.) Every student attends PFEW on a fully tax-deductible \$525 scholarship (the actual value of the scholarship exceeds \$1,500) which is provided by a local firm. Each graduate also corresponds with his or her sponsor following graduation to report on the program and what they learned. PFEW is also an approved organization through the PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program through the Department of Community and Economic Development.

If you would like to learn more about this award-winning program and how you can help, you can visit their website at www.pfew.org or contact John Trombetta, President of the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education at (814) 833-9576 ext. 1 or e-mail him at john@pfew.org. PFEW is open to all current sophomores and juniors in Pennsylvania and information on attendance, as well as program applications, can also be found on the website. Questions can be directed to Ms. Michelle Warofka, Manager of Schools for PFEW by calling her office at (814) 833-9576 ext. 3 or emailing her at michelle@pfew.org.

Pocono Raceway announced today changes to their two 2013 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series and ARCA Racing Series

presented by Menards race weekends. NASCAR Sprint Cup Series qualifying for the Pocono 400 and the Pennsylvania 400 will occur on Friday, June 7th, and Friday, August 2nd, respectively. Additionally, the Pennsylvania 125 ARCA Racing Series moves from a traditional Saturday race event to Friday, August 2nd.

"We are excited with the changes to the 2013 race weekend schedules," said Pocono Raceway's President and CEO, Brandon Igdalsky. "Our fans were outspoken regarding the return of NASCAR Sprint Cup Series qualifying back to its traditional Friday slot. Additionally, our jam-packed August Pennsylvania 400 race weekend will now include three straight days of races with the ARCA Racing Series race moving to Friday; the Pocono Mountains 125, NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race and two Sprint Cup practice sessions on Saturday and the Pennsylvania 400 on Sunday. The changes, done in cooperation with NASCAR and the ARCA Racing Series, should be a great benefit for race fans attending our Raceway this summer."

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series qualifying at Pocono Raceway was held on Saturdays the last two seasons, marking the first time since 2010 where qualifying will occur on Fridays. Tickets are still available for both the June 7-9 Pocono 400 and August 2-4 Pennsylvania 400 race weekends. Friday and Saturday event tickets start at \$10 and \$20, respectively, for both these weekends, with children ages 12 and under being admitted free (with accompanying adult holding a Grandstand ticket). Pocono 400 and Pennsylvania 400 tickets start at \$45 and all Concourse-level section tickets are half-priced for children ages 12 and under.

To purchase tickets, visit www.poconoraceway.com or call 1-800-RACEWAY (1-800-722-3929).

Now that the **United Way of Monroe County's** 2012 campaign is over, it's time to allocate this year's funds.

The United Way's annual "Citizens' Review" fund distribution process will kick off with a breakfast orientation for volunteers on Wednesday, February 27, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania's Center for Innovation. Over 50 volunteers throughout our community are needed for this very important, annual decision-making process. Attendees will receive their panel information and will get to meet fellow members.

Citizens' Review is a unique feature of the United Way's fund distribution process. Volunteers come from all over our area and have diverse backgrounds, but share a common goal of improving the lives of Monroe County residents. Volunteers will serve on one of four panels that recommend where campaign funds will be distributed. These panels include: Helping Children Succeed, Meeting Basic Needs, Promoting Self-Sufficiency and Engaging Youth.

Volunteers will carefully review all aspects of the non-profit programs seeking funding and will make recommen-

dations about grant requests. The process includes site visits to agencies and a review of outcomes/results in improving people's lives. The total time commitment can range from 15 to 25 hours, with each panel setting up its own meeting schedule. Volunteers will need to have an e-mail account and access to the Internet. Panel meetings and site visits will run from March through April.

To get involved or for more information, visit www.unitedwaymonroe.org or call the United Way of Monroe County at 570-629-5657 and ask for Monica Cravotta, campaign and fund distribution director or e-mail monica@unitedwaymonroe.org. The deadline to respond is Friday, February 8, 2013.

Joseph R. Mattioli, III, the son of Dr. Rose Mattioli and the late Dr. Joseph Mattioli, announced today that he is stepping down as a member of **Pocono Raceway's** Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

Mattioli's tenure at Pocono started in 1974 following his graduation from Lehigh University and spanned over 40 years, with him serving as a member of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and as its past President and COO. In 1995, with Pocono enjoying unprecedented success, Mattioli stepped down as President and COO, but continued to assist the family business as a member of the Board and Executive Committee.

"After college, Joe was heading to law school, but his father asked him to take a year off and help us at the track," remembered Joe's mother and Pocono's current Chairman of the Board, Dr. Rose Mattioli. "We were still practicing medicine in Philadelphia and needed him there at the track. One year turned into over 20, and he was very instrumental in the Raceway's success in the early years."

Joe Mattioli is especially proud of Pocono's success through the 70's and 80's, when debt service, a hurricane, a recession, an oil crisis and two sanctioning body boycotts during the USAC - CART wars threatened to shut the track down. "This was a family business, so failure was not an option. With a lot of help, including major assistance from the France and Hulman families, somehow we fought our way to success," Mattioli concluded.

According to Mattioli, it makes a lot of sense to leave Pocono Raceway's management structure at this point in his life. "My dad told me that the secret to happiness is to completely change directions about every 15 years, and with the track now in the very capable hands of our next generation, I feel free to do just that," Mattioli commented. "My nephews, nieces and sons are the future of Pocono Raceway, and I have no doubt they will continue to provide leadership, meet the challenges and guide Pocono Raceway into the future as my Dad's legacy had always intended."

Mattioli's future plans include focusing more time on non-profit and veterans' organizations that he supports, such as the Military Warriors Support Foundation, which provides housing assistance to returning veterans, and the

Motor Sports Institute, which promotes academic success through engagement with motor racing. He also plans to develop Group 341, a consulting business he began 2011. With offices in California, Pennsylvania and Oklahoma, Group 341 provides strategic planning, marketing, branding, and event management consulting services. Group 341 commercial clients include America's Woodshops and Active International.

The entire Mattioli family, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee wish to thank Joe for all he has done for the Raceway over the past 40 years and wish him well as he begins the next chapter in his life.

BrightStar of Stroudsburg, a full-service healthcare staffing agency that provides both medical and non-medical homecare, has been accredited by The Joint Commission, a not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies more than 18,000 healthcare organizations and programs in the United States.

By demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for healthcare quality and safety, the BrightStar location in Stroudsburg has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™. The accreditation is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

"In becoming accredited, BrightStar was evaluated against a set of national standards by a Joint Commission team of surveyors, experienced in the delivery of home care services," said Margherita Labson, executive director of Home Care Accreditation for the Joint Commission. "Achieving accreditation demonstrates BrightStar's commitment to provide high quality and safe care to its patients."

"We make a significant investment in quality on a day-to-day basis from the top down and we went after accreditation for our organization because we want to be the best and we view obtaining Joint Commission accreditation as another step toward excellence," said Ed Jones, owner of BrightStar of Stroudsburg.

Jones noted that accreditation is attainable only through the cooperation and communication among staff members. "Everyone here at BrightStar plays a valuable role in working to meet the standards. I think it gives them a feeling of prestige to work in an accredited organization," Jones said. "They also appreciate the educational aspect of the survey and the opportunity to interact with The Joint Commission team."

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission is dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of the nation's healthcare through voluntary accreditation. BrightStar received the accreditation award after The Joint Commission found that it had demonstrated compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for home care organizations. The on-site survey occurred in November 2012.

In March, the **Shawnee Playhouse** offers three different shows to brighten up the dreary winter days. *Anything Goes* is a fun, tap-dancing musical by Cole Porter, and has it's closing weekend March 1,2 and 3rd. Opening on March 8th and running through March 17th is the beautiful *Dancing at Lughnasa*, by Brian Friel, and in a tribute to Spring, the musical *An Easter Cantata* opens on March 22 and runs through March 31.

March 1, 2 and 3 *Anything Goes* by Cole Porter. *Anything Goes* is a romantic comedy wrapped around one of Cole Porter's most magical scores. When the S.S. American heads out to sea, etiquette and civility head out the hatches, proving that sometimes love needs a little help from a crew of singing sailors, an exotic disguise and some good old-fashioned blackmail! The story includes madcap antics aboard an ocean liner bound from New York to London, where Billy Crocker is a stowaway in love with heiress Hope Harcourt, who is engaged to Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. Nightclub singer Reno Sweeney and Public Enemy #13 -Moonface Martin aid Billy in his quest to win Hope! Love and Laughs abound! This fun musical includes such songs as "Anything Goes", "You're the Top", and "I Get a Kick Out of You." Performances will be: 8:00 pm March 2, 2:00 pm March 1 and 3.

March 8 through the 17 *Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel, Produced by SCOMAC Productions. Two time academy award winner Meryl Streep starred in the movie version of this wonderful story. August, 1936, rural Ireland. Step into the kitchen of the five fiercely proud Mundy sisters, a place for talking, laughing, and lively dancing—moments that defy the hardships of their daily life. Their brother, a missionary, has just returned from Uganda, and the sisters find themselves each on the brink of momentous change. Friel's Tony-Award-winning play captures a beautiful and exuberant sliver of these women's lives, a summer where love—and everything else—seemed possible. Featured cast include Gillian Bender, Patrick Bresnyan, Sara Ferguson, Sarah McCarroll, Elizabeth McDonald, Scott E. McIntosh, Kate Neville and Aaron Pappalardo. The show is directed by Juliet Dunham. Performances will be: 2:00 pm March 8, 10, 15 and 17, 8:00 pm March 8, 9, 15 and 16.

March 22 through the 30 *An Easter Cantata*. Both a sacred and secular celebration of the Easter season, this touching show will feature traditional Easter religious songs as well as songs of spring. Performances will be: 2:00 pm March 22, 24 and 29, 8:00 pm March 23 and 30.

Also running during the month of March will be the Shawnee Original Playwright Series (S.O.P.S.) Readings, March 1, 22 and 29th at 7pm. Writers from across and beyond the Pocono area have submitted original works including comedies, dramas, and even musicals. The plays are read live on stage, script in hand, by actors of the Worthington Players. Audience members are invited to share their thoughts on the plays they hear, and vote on their favorites. The Shawnee Executive committee reviews the results, and the winning script, or scripts, will be produced in a fully staged show (s) in 2014. A sample of winners of

the Shawnee Original Playwright Series, chosen by the audience, that have been produced on stage here at the Shawnee Playhouse include *Pieces of Evelyn*, *Moments*, *Visions of Johanna*, *Whimsical Grimm*, *Ethereal Killers*, *A Night in the Toll Booth*, *The Messenger*, *A Cabin Fit for a King*, *Spanakopita*, *Succession*, *Getting' Out The Green* and *Real Friends Help You Move*.

Admission to play readings is free. A suggested \$8 donation would be gratefully accepted. Worthington Players is a non-profit community theatre group based at the Shawnee Playhouse and produced by the Shawnee Institute Ltd, a 501(C)(3) foundation established to enhance the cultural and environmental aspects of life in Shawnee on Delaware, Pennsylvania, and for other purposes which such a foundation might support. The Worthington Players were established in 1999 and are Shawnee's performers for off-season shows.

To reserve tickets please call the Shawnee Playhouse Box Office at 570-421-5093 or visit the website at www.theshawneeplayhouse.com

Bruce Denlinger recently retired after selling his **Allstate Agency**, in Mount Pocono, ending a thirty-five year affiliation with Allstate Insurance. While retired he will not be inactive. He will continue volunteering as a member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board and will be working to complete his Masters Degree at the University of Pennsylvania. In addition, he will be teaching an adult education course titled *Insurance Simplified* and will be making a presentation on the religious beliefs of Benjamin Franklin at Northampton Community College this spring.

Perryman Keglovits Foundation presents its 11th Annual All-Star Monroe County Senior High School Basketball Games for Childhood Cancer. The event will be held at the Koehler Fieldhouse East Stroudsburg University on Monday, March 25th and will be televised live on Blue Ridge Channel 13. Senior Girls game starts at 6:00 pm., Senior Boys game starts at 7:30 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, visit their website at www.perrymankeglovits.org or call 570.269.7580 or 570.460.4557.

Business Card Exchange

The January Business Card Exchange was hosted by Siamsa Irish Pub in Stroudsburg. Everyone enjoyed the great hors d'oeuvres and networked with many Chamber members.



Business Card Exchange at Siamsa's Irish Pub



Mr. Thomas Casey - Merrill Lynch

Mr. Thomas Casey, of Merrill Lynch, sponsored the card exchange. Mr. Casey talked about the services that he offers and is looking forward to working with Chamber members.

You can contact Tom at 570-829-8053 or email him at thomas.j.casey@ml.com.

LEADS WANTED!!!!

If you are aware of a new or existing business in the Greater Pocono region that might be interested in learning more about the various benefits of chamber membership, please contact Patricia Metzgar at 570.421.4433 or email to pmetzgar@greaterpoconochamber.com.

Women In Business Luncheon

The January Women in Business luncheon, sponsored by Keystone Financial Management, was held at Pepe's Bistror. The topic "New Year, New You: Eating Healthy for Increased Productivity" was presented by Lindsay Vaughn, Dietician at Kinsley's Shoprite.



Lindsay Vaughn, Dietician at Kinsley's Shoprite speaks at the January 2013 Women in Business Luncheon

The February luncheon will also be held at Pepe's Bistror and is being sponsored by AlignLife Center for Natural Health. The topic will be presented by Dr. Marcia Welsh, President of East Stroudsburg University who will speak on "Women and Education: Endless Possibilities!"



Dan McCandless and Samantha Puskar of Keystone Financial Management - Luncheon Sponsors

For more information on upcoming WIB lunches, to donate a door prize, or to sponsor a luncheon, please contact Miriam Conway at 570.421.4433.

Welcome New Members

The following new members are not listed in the 2012-2013 Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide. Please be sure to add this page to your copy of the Directory.

A&A Auto Stores

Robert Venetz
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Stroudsburg, PA 18360
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570.424.1492
stroudsburg@aaaautostores.com
www.aaaautostores.com
Automobile-Parts

Enterprise

Cat Grey
1425 N. 9th Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570.421.1505
570.421.5350
catherine.v.grey@ebi.com
www.enterprise.com
Automobile-Truck Rentals

Kitchen Chemistry

Lisa Diemer
733 Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570.730.4944
ldiemer@ptd.net
www.kitchen-chemistry.com
Bakery-Supplies

Liberty Mutual Insurance

Gary Dobrinsky Jr.
5050 W. Tilghman Street - Suite 200
Allentown, PA 18104
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Michael Katz - Secretary
John Holahan - Assistant Secretary
Chuck Niclaus - Past Chairman

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Miriam Conway - Executive Assistant
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