



Hometown Heart with a Global Reach

BRIDGETON
AREA
Chamber of Commerce



Business & Community News Fall 2024



Invites you to the 38th Annual

Business and Community Hero Awards Wednesday, October 30, 2024

A Celebration of business, community, service, character, dedication, and compassion.

The Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC) will recognize business and community heroes on October 30, 2024 at The Grove at Centerton. "We will recognize an extraordinary group of business and community leaders who by their leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, and concern for others, have demonstrated their "Hometown Heart" and "Love for Where They Live", said Barry Seay, President of BACC.

presents the Francis Sharp Lifetime Achievement Award. Gil Walter will be recognized for a lifetime of extraordinary business and community leadership. His service to Bridgeton began in 2000, when he was chosen to be President and CEO of Community Health Care, Inc. He credits the vision of Community Health Care's late Board Chairwoman Gwen Gould, and her fellow Board members for giving him the opportunity to lead the organization.

Lifetime Achievement Award

The 2024 Francis H. Sharp, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award recipients are Gil Walter and Ken Mecouch. The Gary F. Simmerman Community Leadership Award recipient is James Curtis Edwards. Business Hero Awards will be presented to Fralinger Engineering, Inka Chicken Bar & Mexico Travel, and Star Bound Gymnastics Academy. The recipients of the Community Hero Awards are Nina Young and Gary Fischer.

To honor the memory of the late Francis H. Sharp, Sr. (Binks Sharp) who served his community with extraordinary dedication and integrity throughout his life, BACC



Gil Walter

He joined a team of dedicated doctors, nurses, and other health workers, inspired by a common cause to provide health care to farm workers and others in need of quality, affordable health care. Together, they transformed a hospital project of three small area clinics into a network of 21 quality health centers open to help underserved communities in three counties, and with Gil's dynamic leadership, saw it grow to 300 health professionals and support staff who provide a comprehensive range of medical, dental, mental health, obstetrics, pediatrics and other specialties to folks who may not get the care otherwise due to lack of money. In 2015, Gil retired and the leadership of CompleteCare Healthcare Network passed to Curtis Edwards, Gil's remarkable successor.

(Continued on page 2)

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Business & Community Hero Awards (Continued from page 1)

Gil Walter not only gave his energy and leadership to CompleteCare, he became and remains a champion of a better Bridgeton, finding many ways to serve others, including support and leadership of the Bridgeton Rotary Club, BACC, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties, Bridgeton Main Street Association, Bayshore Discovery Project, and the CompleteCare Foundation. He acknowledges the love and support of his wife Betty, who has helped him and supported him in his business and community accomplishments.

Ken Mecouch is a co-recipient of the Francis Sharp, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award. He is being honored for a lifetime of service to Bridgeton and Cumberland County during his 42-year career as a public servant and employee. This life-long resident graduated from Bridgeton High School in 1972, and from Penn State University in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts in General Arts & Sciences. In March 1977 he was hired by the Cumberland County JTPA Program as the Summer Youth Jobs Coordinator for the Bridgeton area, beginning his career as a public employee. His years of dedicated and ethical service included working at Cumberland Manor to establish their purchasing office and to serve as Purchasing Agent. He later established and directed the Cumberland County Purchasing Office and was named County Purchasing Agent.



Ken Mecouch

During his time as County Purchasing Agent and Director, he assisted with the development of the South Jersey Power Cooperative for the purchase of electricity and natural gas for the six southern counties and various municipalities and school boards. His leadership led to a countywide Cooperative Pricing System which permitted local municipalities and school boards to save money by joining in county contracts.

From 1985 to 2006, Ken served as the County's representative for various capital building projects including county jail expansion, Sheriff's office, 9-1-1 Center & EOM office expansion, courthouse expansion, and renovation of Vine Street School for the Prosecutor's Office. In 2006, Ken was appointed as County Administrator and Clerk to the Board, serving in those positions until March 2019.

He served on Upper Deerfield Township Board of Education, Rowan College Board of Trustees, and serves on Upper Deerfield Township Planning Board.

Community Leadership Award

To honor the memory of the late Gary F. Simmerman, who served BACC for 40 consecutive years in many leadership roles and was a leader in the business community and community in general throughout his life, the Chamber presents the Gary F. Simmerman Community Leadership Award to James Curtis Edwards who is this year's recipient of this award. Curtis, as he prefers to be called, is being recognized because of his extraordinary leadership of CompleteCare Health



James Curtis Edwards

Network in general, and especially during the COVID-19 health crisis, and for his service to and leadership of his community.

In 2003, Curtis Edwards joined CompleteCare Health Network through a Robert Wood Johnson grant aimed at uniting community leaders to enhance regional health. Shortly thereafter, he became a key member of CompleteCare's executive team, focusing on community engagement and government relations. In 2012, he was promoted to the role of Executive Vice President at CompleteCare. During this period, he supervised the establishment of five new health centers and initiated the organization's largest project—a full-service health campus on Sherman Avenue in Vineland.

In 2015, Curtis was named President and CEO of CompleteCare Health Network. His leadership and dedication, working with a team of caring and professional employees, is credited with providing Cumberland County and other areas with critical, life-saving health care services throughout the health crisis caused by the spread of COVID-19.

Beyond his responsibilities at CompleteCare, Curtis remains actively involved in the community. He began his first term as a member of Bridgeton City Council in January 2015 and is now serving his third term, totaling almost twelve years. He serves on the New Jersey Primary Care Association Board of Directors, and served on the Bridgeton School Board for nine years, served as Secretary for Gateway Community Action Partnership, and was President of the Bridgeton Rotary Lunch Club, and remains a member in service to the community and the world.

Curtis is supported in his business leadership and his involvement in local community events, and supporting various charitable causes, by his wife of 21 years Dionne and their two children, Jada and Jaelynn. His leadership led to receiving the MCN 2009 Unsung Hero Award for his commitment to migrant health, recognition in 2011 by the Vineland Chapter of the NAACP, and he was named one of New Jersey's 25 Most Influential African Americans by the South Jersey Journal in 2019.

Business Hero Award

BACC will present one of its Business Hero Awards to Inka Chicken Bar and Mexico Travel, owned by Hector Bonilla, who has made a personal and financial investment in downtown Bridgeton in recent years. Hector was born in Puerto Rico and moved to the United States when he was 14. He lived in Newark for a couple of years then moved to Vineland where he has lived since. He attended Memorial Junior High and Vineland High School, graduated in 1985, and continued his education at Cumberland County College.

His employment began with blueberry picking. Hector studied AutoCad and became a draftsman for Rudco Products in Vineland. He was intrigued with



Hector Bonilla, owner of Mexico Travel and Inka Chicken Bar

Business & Community Hero Awards *(Continued from page 2)*

computers and switched his field, working as a Computer Tech Support for Bally's, Caesar's, and The Ridge. Hector joined FAA William J. Hughes Technical Center and worked supporting the Tech center in various projects.

In 2018, Hector saw the opportunity to open a store in downtown Bridgeton. This is where the entrepreneur spirit was sparked in him. He established Mexico Travel on Laurel Street in Bridgeton. Three years later he bought the Old Bridgewater Pub. He personally headed up the redesign and reconstruction of the facility, doing most of the construction work himself. Inka Chicken Bar opened in 2021 and has grown in business and popularity. While establishing Inka Chicken and running Mexico Travel, Hector also purchased the former Laurel Theater building and land.

For the past year or so, Hector has worked on remodeling the front part of the Inka Chicken building, the former Bridgewater Pub facing Laurel Street, into an entertainment club, and private party and event venue.

Hector Bonilla began with no experience in running a business, store or restaurant, and bar, acknowledging how very hard it was in the beginning. His entrepreneurial spirit, determination, and the assistance of new friends and organizations have helped him succeed, making him a major investor in and believer in downtown Bridgeton in recent years. Hector says he has big plans for Laurel Street, and that he is just getting started.



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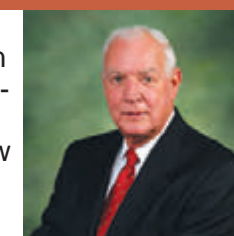


Fralinger Engineering PA is receiving the Business Hero Award for the second time. They were honored in 1993. This award recognizes its continued growth and success under the leadership of the next generations of the Fralinger family.



*Charles Fralinger,
President
and founder
Albert Fralinger, Jr.*

Fralinger Engineering PA was established by Albert A. Fralinger Jr. in 1966. The firm expanded several times with the corporate office now located in Hopewell Township, Cumberland



(Continued on page 4)

Business & Community Hero Awards (Continued from page 3)

County at 629 Shiloh Pike. With the growth of the company, the Fralinger name has remained a constant with founder Albert's son Charles as President of the Firm and his grandson, Michael Jr. taking servings as Municipal Engineer for several Municipalities. The firm employs a staff of 35 consisting of Licensed Professional Engineers, Certified Municipal Engineers, Licensed Professional Land Surveyors, Environmental Specialists, AutoCAD draftsman, and Construction Inspectors.

The firm currently represents 23 municipalities in Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties as the Municipal Engineer or Land Use Board Engineer. As Municipal Engineer the firm handles all land surveying, capital improvement projects, civil site design projects, environmental permitting, and construction inspection services for each municipality.

Fralinger Engineering has the capabilities of providing complete surveying and civil engineering services related to preparation of site plans/subdivisions for submission to all approving authorities.

The Chamber presents its business hero award to Star Bound Gymnastics Academy, owned and operated by Lisa Carroll-Battavio, Lori Carroll-Rieger, Clint Carroll and Amy Middlekauff. The owners are recognized for the successful business they have built over the 30 years which has been built on a foundation of love, dedication, professionalism, and service.

Gymnastics offers the youth of the area the opportunity to build strength, coordination, flexibility, confidence, and friendships that last for years. Star Bound opened its doors in Bridgeton, NJ at Carl's Corner in June of 1995, proudly beginning with 300 students.

With growing success, the business moved to a larger location to better serve their clients on



Clint Carroll, Lisa Carroll-Battavio, Lori Carroll-Rieger, and Amy Middlekauff.

Route 77 in Upper Deerfield. This location served Star Bound and its students well until June 1, 2006, when the owners were informed that the building was on fire, after being struck by lightning. The Fire Marshall deemed the building a complete loss.

Miraculously on May 17, 2006, just 2 weeks prior to losing the business the owners had purchased 12 acres of land on Landis Avenue in Deerfield Township. This is where Star Bound was able to build its dream gymnastics school.

Forced to move fast forward quickly and with the help of their amazing families, friends, and devoted Star Bound families, they salvaged all they could and moved into a temporary location in Millville for 2 years while the current facility was being built.

Their new building continues to support its growth and the innovative programs it provides, allowing Star Bound to serve its customers, students, and the community with the excellence they deserve. Star Bound is able to train over 500 clients monthly in their classes thanks to their amazing staff.

Their competitive teams continue to break records and win state, regional and national titles. They credit these wins to their amazing gymnasts, and a fantastic team and coaching staff.

Star Bound has always believed in giving back to the community by participating in food & toy drives and donations to Code Blue in several towns. They proudly host a gymnastics competition at the Atlantic City Convention Center known as the Star Struck Invitational, hosting its 28th invitational this year. Star Struck hosts over 4,500 gymnasts from across the Nation, and Star Bound proudly donates partial proceeds from this competition yearly to several charities including CHOP, American Heart Association, St. Jude's, Wounded Warriors, and the Cancer Research Center.

Total donations over the years from this event has reached \$239,000. The meet is only possible with years of loyal support and dedication by the Star Bound family.

(Continued on page 5)



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Business & Community Hero Awards (Continued from page 4)

Community Hero Award

Nina Young, an employee of Gateway Community Action Partnership, will receive the Community Hero Award for her dedicated service to and concern for those in need in our community.

In 2009, after 30 years in advertising, Nina Young returned to college to obtain a degree in Early Childhood Education at Cumberland County College. While attending college she worked at Bethel AME's Early Childhood Learning, in Millville, under the leadership of Pastor Wilkins. At Bethel in 2011, she met Fran Sykes and saw her passion to make a change in Cumberland County, which mirrored Nina's vision of helping people lift themselves out of financial poverty.

This is where her vocation and dedication to helping the community and others flourished.

In 2012, she went to work at the Center of Human Service (CHS) in Bridgeton as an ESL Assistant Teacher, teaching Latinos to speak English. It was at their 2014 graduation ceremony that she met Mayor Albert B. Kelly, of the Great City of Bridgeton, and the President and CEO of Gateway. She began working for Gateway, and in the Fall of 2014, she began overseeing Bridgeton's second season of Code Blue. 100% volunteers-run, Code Blue had four warming center sites - St. Teresa's, St. Andrews, Bethany Grace, and the Salvation Army. In addition, numerous private and public business organizations chipped in by providing meals, clothing, monetary donations, and support to make Bridgeton's Code Blue a success.



Nina Young

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic hit, leaving the City of Bridgeton with only one Code Blue site, located on Gateway's Campus. Understandably in November of 2020 only 10% of their volunteers returned, leaving them to hire paid staff. Although people still wanted to donate toiletries, clothing, and meals, they were fearful of encountering strangers who may have COVID. With her leadership and other dedicated volunteers, Code Blue was still able to provide overnight shelter and a hot meal to their guests through the pandemic.

Nina also served as Gateway's Special Project Coordinator for the Village of Hope (VOH), a partnership between Gateway Community Action Partnership, The Kintock Group, and the Re-Entry Coalition. The VOH received its first resident in November of 2022, providing temporary housing for homeless individuals released from incarceration.

Nina's dedicated service to Gateway Community Action Partnership and to the community that led to her nomination and selection as a Community Hero included designing materials for Cumberland County's First Food Summit held at Cumberland County College in partnership with Live Healthy Bridgeton, The Greater Bridgeton Area Transit bus supported by Pascale Sykes Foundation, and the Next Generation of Community Leaders, in collaboration with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She says this is her most rewarding community service from 2017-2021, giving opportunities for Bridgeton's youth to launch their own ideas, with a program that helped bridge the gap of food insecurities during the summer. This included a Mobile Feeding Bus, one of her largest design projects.



Nina Young (left) with LaTanya Mack, serving Code Blue.

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Business & Community Hero Awards (Continued from page 5)

The Community Hero Award will also be presented to Gary Fischer. He grew up and still lives in Hopewell Township. He attended Immaculate Conception School, Sacred Heart High School and York College of PA. Gary has over 40 years with Durand Manufacturing in Millville and is currently the Superintendent of Packing & Warehousing.



Gary Fischer

Gary has baseball in his blood, and a history of participation in the Bridgeton Invitational Tournament beginning as a player in 1979, and other years, playing on

seven different teams. He has the tournament record as most games played, was on two tournament championship teams, and was selected as Most Valuable Player. In 2022 Gary was inducted into the Roy Hobbs Baseball Hall of Fame.

In 2006 he opened a Training/Hitting Facility that provides fielding, catching and hitting coaching for both softball and baseball players. Gary also helped coach at West Cumberland Little League for 10 plus years when his two sons were involved. He is the proud father of his two sons Gary and Darren, and a proud grandfather of three.



It was only fitting that when this historic tournament, a long-time Bridgeton tradition, faced challenges threatening its continuance, the tournament committee turned to Gary Fischer to head the event and find ways to turn things around. Gary agreed to step up to serve as Executive Director of the tournament in 2017. With innovative ideas, including changing the date from August to May, his energetic and dedicated leadership, and the support of other leaders, volunteers, teams, and the community, the Bridgeton Invitational Tournament has continued. He remains the Executive Director heading into 2025.

“Like Gary Fischer who stepped up to save a community tradition, all of our 2024 award recipients with their amazing accomplishments and community spirit, exemplify what we call hometown heart, and clearly are people who

love where they live,” stated Randi Galan, Co-chair of the Awards Committee.

The public is invited to join the Chamber of Commerce at the Business and Community Hero Celebration on Oct. 30, 2024 at The Grove at Centerton. Sponsorships and ads are available. For more information about the award recipients, the celebration, sponsorship opportunities, and reservations, call 856-455-1312 or visit www.tinyurl.com/BACCHero and www.baccnj.com/hero.

as a player in 1979, and other years, playing on

Love Where You Live Launches Grant Program to Boost Pride and Community Involvement

Love Where You Live has collaborated with the Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation to boost business and community involvement in the program whose mission is to build a positive perception of the area for those living here and those who visit and work here, to empower citizens, businesses, organizations, and others in the community to effect positive change, and to improve the sense of wellbeing among citizens about where they live and about their lives.

The partnership with the Chamber Foundation has been supported by the generosity of a local family, who have made a substantial investment in the Love Where You Live project. The funding allowed the committee to start a matching grant program called Beacons of Pride. The maximum grants per qualifying project is \$20,000, with up to \$100,000 in

grants available annually for five years. Businesses, individuals, and non-profit groups may submit applications for funding, now through Nov. 1 for consideration and funding into 2025. Projects are community beautification and improvement projects on public property or highly visible private property with a public-only message such as landscape and hardscape beautification in high traffic areas, park beautification and improvements in highly utilized areas, signage or mural projects in high traffic areas that promote pride and place, and lighting design projects and other curb appeal improvements.



Ed Overdevest

Ed Overdevest, Chairman of the Chamber Foundation’s Love Where You Live Committee, commented, “we believe that the greatest ability to bring about positive change in our communities and in

our lives depends on each and every one of us. Transforming this individual and collective capability into constructive good represents our highest hope and greatest recourse to bring about change for the better.”



For more information, contact Tony Stanzione and Laurie LaTorre at the Chamber of Commerce office, 856-455-1312, bacc@baccnj.com or visit www.CumberlandGrows.com/BACCLWYL or [Facebook.com/LWYLCC](https://www.facebook.com/LWYLCC).

See Chamber Member - The Bridgeton Beacon - for a video that explains the Beacons of Pride program:

www.bridgetonbeacon.com/love-where-you-live

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(Continued on page 8)

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LaLa Beading Creations

Sandy Asselta & Laurie LaTorre create beaded works of art. Items produced by hand are unique & one-of-a-kind. LaLa offers a discount to Bridgeton Chamber Members.

lalabeadingcreations@gmail.com 609-381-9222




(Continued from page 7) - **Shop Local Guide**
Cumberland County Technical Education
 Vineland 856-451-9000 www.cumberland.tec.nj.us
Public school for technical education for young people and adults

Cumberland County Utilities Authority
 Bridgeton 856-455-7120 www.ccuanj.gov
Sewage treatment services for the Bridgeton area

Cumberland Dairy, Inc.
 Bridgeton 856-451-1300 www.cumberlanddairy.com
Manufacturer of dairy and non-dairy products

Cumberland Development Corporation
 Bridgeton 856-451-4200 www.cdcnj.com
Business assistance services, economic and community development services for Commercial, Deerfield, Hopewell, Lawrence, Shiloh, Stow Creek & Upper Deerfield

Cumberland Empowerment Zone
 Millville 856-301-4607 www.cezcorp.org
Community and economic development services including loans

Cumberland Engraving Service
 Bridgeton 856-451-5052
Plaques, trophies, shirts, hats, signs and more

Cumberland Mall
 Vineland 856-825-9507 www.cumberlandmallnj.com
Regional shopping center with regional and national retailers

Cumberland Mutual
 Bridgeton 856-451-4050 www.cumberlandmutual.com
Insurance company serving insurance agencies and other companies

Cumberland Tire Center, Inc.
 Bridgeton 856-451-5555 www.cumberlandtire.com
Tires, sales and services for consumers and for commercial companies

Danone North America - Bridgeton
 Bridgeton 856-459-3890 www.danonenorthamerica.com
Fluid milk products manufacturer

De Olde Towne Tavern
 Bridgeton 856-455-3474 www.thetownereast.com
Restaurant, bar, catering, package goods

NEW Deborah Days
 Bridgeton
Individual community member

Deerfield Township
 Deerfield 856-455-3200 www.deerfieldtownship.org
Deerfield Township is 18 square miles of picturesque farms, shaded forests, and quaint neighborhoods. Our community is growing, but not too fast. You still can find the local corner store and take your children to see the rolling acreage dotted with stables and their favorite farm animals. You can just as easily access shopping, dining and entertainment within a few miles.

Designs By Dar
 Pennsgrove 856-935-4942
Designs specialty publications for many businesses and organizations

DMC Supplies
 Bridgeton 856-455-4090 www.dmcsupplies.com
Janitorial & industrial supplier

Dominion Title Services of Bridgeton
 Bridgeton 856-455-1008 www.DTSBI.com
Title insurance services

Dotty Robinson
Board Member of the Chamber and active chamber supporter.

Driven Media Solutions
 Upper Deerfield 856-498-7122 www.drivenmediasolutions.com
Designs specialty publications for many businesses and organizations

Dutch Family Furniture, LLC
 Hopewell 717-475-6171 bridgetonamish-market.com/dutch-family-furniture
Amish-made country-style furniture, quality, good prices

Dutch Neck Landscaping
 Hopewell 856-451-2188 www.dutchnecklandscaping.com
Full-service landscape design and service, lawn service, snow and ice removal

Ed's Body Shop
 Upper Deerfield 856-451-1646 www.facebook.com/people/Eds-Body-Shop-LLC/100063579850537/
Auto body repair and finishing, 24 hr. Towing Features

English Septic
 Upper Deerfield 856-358-4771 www.englishseptic.com
Sewer and septic system services

Essential Senior Benefits
 Vineland 856-301-4667 www.essentialsenior.net
We help seniors in our area have access to state, federal, and Medicare assistance programs. Ayudamos alas personas mayores de nuestra área a tener acceso a programas de asistencia estatales, federales y de Medicare.

F&S Fresh Foods, Inc.
 Deerfield 856-391-7166 www.fsfreshfoods.com
Fresh fruit and vegetable producer

Facility Solutions Group, Inc. (FSG)
 732-826-6100 www.fsg.com
Provides energy efficiency services and products, lighting distributor, electrical contractor, EV charging contractor

Family Thrift
 Hopewell 856-838-3020 www.familythriftstores.com
Clothing for men, women and children, shoes, accessories, and more.

Farm Credit East
 Upper Deerfield 856-451-0933 www.farmcrediteast.com
Banking and other financial services for those in the agriculture and agriculture-related businesses



www.CumberlandGrows.com/member-directory

First National Bank of Elmer
 Upper Deerfield 856-451-8480 www.elmerbank.com
Banking services, checking, savings, loans and more, Upper Deerfield office at Rt. 77 & Love Lane

FocalPoint Business Coaching SJ
 Vineland 609-364-6705 www.jerrycovella.com
FocalPoint helps good businesses that want to be great businesses through insightful coaching strategies and a compassionate understanding of the challenges that all business owners and managers face.

Fralinger Engineering, PA
 Hopewell 856-451-2990 www.fralinger.com
Civil engineer and land surveying services

Frank Burton & Sons
 Bridgeton 856-455-1202 www.frankburtons.com
Kitchen & bathroom design, sales & installation, hardware

Freitag Funeral Home
 Bridgeton 856-455-2600 www.freitagfuneralhome.com
Since 1897, four generations of the Freitag family have provided the finest quality funeral services to all faiths in the Bridgeton area

Frightened Turtle Vineyard & Winery
 Hopewell 856-451-0022 www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550348891934
We produce wine for everyone's taste. From sweet fruit, off dries, dry whites and dry reds to dessert wines.

G & M Nursery
 Stow Creek 609-774-5470 www.facebook.com/gmnursery2011
Shrubs, Annuals, Perennials, Flowers, Trees & Crafts

Gateway Community Action Partnership
 Bridgeton 856-451-6330 www.gatewaycap.org
Community development services to improve quality of life, promote self-sufficiency and eliminate poverty

Gather To Graze Mullica Hill
 Mullica Hill 856-800-9007 www.gathertograzemullicahill.com
We create graze boxes (charcuterie to go), boards, trays, tables and offer workshops.

Glory Be Bookkeeping, LLC
 Upper Deerfield 856-399-1939 www.facebook.com/GloryBeBookkeeping
I'm a Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor and I work virtually with businesses anywhere in the U.S. I offer QuickBooks diagnostics, account set-ups, clean-ups, catch-ups, and monthly bookkeeping services.

Golden Pigeon Restaurant
 Upper Deerfield 856-451-0940 www.goldenpigeondiner.com
24 Hour restaurant and bakery

Green Olive Restaurant 2
 Vineland 856-300-5892 www.greenolive2.com
see our website for additional locations

Green Olive Restaurant
 Hopewell 856-459-1147 www.greenolivenj.com
Full service restaurant with pizza, bar and alcoholic beverage service with private rooms to accommodate bridal/baby showers, birthday parties and other meetings and events.

Greg Garton, CPA
 Upper Deerfield 856-455-8100 www.garton-cpa.com
Certified Public Accounting firm with many years of experience in excellent accounting services to its customers.

H.H. Hankins & Bro.
 Bridgeton 856-451-1212 www.hhhbro.com
Hardware store, wholesale and retail lumber, kitchen design, sales and installation services



Halls Housing, LLC
 Bridgeton
Real Estate, Transportation, Logistics. Dedicated to providing high-quality products and services to government agencies.

Hampton Inn & Suites - Vineland
 Vineland 856-405-0600 www.hilton.com/en/hotels/acvyihx-hampton-suites-vineland
High quality hotels owned by Tower Hospitality

Hendricks House Group
 Millville 609-774-0160 www.hendrickshouse.org
Hendricks House Group provides residential and outpatient services to persons recovering from the disease of addiction

Holiday Inn Express & Suites
 Vineland 856-293-8888 www.ihg.com/holidayinexpress/hotels/us/en/vineland/vnlcm/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps--EX--US--VNLCM
High quality hotels owned by Tower Hospitality

Hopewell Township
 Hopewell 856-455-1230 www.hopewelltp-nj.com
Local government and services

Inka Chicken Bar
 Bridgeton 856-454-9444 www.inkachickenbar.com
Peruvian style rotisserie chicken

Inspira Health
 Vineland 856-641-8000 www.inspirafoundation.org
 www.inspirahhealthnetwork.org
Medical center and various health services

NEW Interior Fashions
 Upper Deerfield 856-451-7224 www.facebook.com/p/Interior-Fashions-100062986551125/
Steve Bacon provides custom window treatments. Will visit your home or business for measurement and installation.

Internal Medicine Associates, PA
 Upper Deerfield 856-242-3338 www.imadocs.com
Provides patients with convenient access to high-quality care.

J.A. Mariano Agency
 Deerfield 856-451-9531 www.marianoagency.com
Experienced, professional service in providing commercial & personal insurance services

J.C.'s Custom Painting
 Hopewell 856-451-3424 www.jccustompainting.com
Custom exterior and interior painting, historical restoration, wallpaper removal, interior/exterior staining & window glazing

(Continued on page 9)

Freitag Funeral Home
Serving the community since 1897

Kenneth W. Freitag, Owner/Manager - N.J. Lic. No. 3666
Christopher K. LaBree, Funeral Director - N.J. Lic. No. 4497

137 W. Commerce St., Bridgeton, NJ 08302
 Phone: (856) 455-2600 • Fax: (856) 455-2603
 email: office@freitagfuneralhome.com
www.freitagfuneralhome.com

Michael Toscano
 10 E. Main St. • Ste. E
 P.O. Box 766
 Millville, NJ 08332-0766
 O: 856.825.2880 • F: 856.825.0417
 mike@mintsinsurance.com
 www.mintsinsurance.com

MINTS INSURANCE AGENCY

Randi Galan **State Farm**
 Agent

591 Shiloh Pike Suite 8
 Bridgeton, NJ 08302-1407
 Business **856-453-7000**
 randi@randigalan.com
 www.randigalan.com

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

(Continued from page 8) **Shop Local Guide**

Joyce Media Web Design

Upper Deerfield 856-455-3722
www.joycemedia.com
Web design, hosting, SEO, content management systems, premium business email, social media management.

Kennedy Concrete

Vineland 856-692-8650 https://kennedyconcretenj.com
Manufacturer ready mix concrete, supply brick, block, concrete pavers and wall systems for landscaping

Kenney Protective Agency

Upper Deerfield 856-283-8481
www.KenneyProtectiveAgency.com
We provide safety, security, and self defense training for all ages and professions.

Lairson Electronics

Upper Deerfield 856-453-1616 www.lairson.com
Sprint certified dealer and authorized service center. Remote start systems, gps tracking, custom auto sound systems and accessories

LaLa Beading Creations

Vineland 609-381-9222 www.facebook.com/p/LaLa-Beading-Creations-100066313581730
Sandy and Laurie create beaded works of art. Items are produced by hand and are uniquely one-of-a-kind. See our display at local craft and community events or call us for a private appointment.

Landis Links

Upper Deerfield 856-459-2211 www.facebook.com/LandisLinks
Mini golf course for individual use and for parties and groups

LaTorre Hardware Inc.

Vineland 856-691-9468 www.latorre-hardware.com
We are a full-service hardware store and garden center. We also have a complete power tool and small engine repair shop.

Lupton Enterprises LLC K2

Upper Deerfield 856-455-3700 https://rmlupton.com
Computer setup and repair, hardware sales and service, networking installation and repair, cable and fiber installers, digital recording, virus removal, printer installation and repair, online data backup and data recovery services

Mainiero's Appliances, Vacs & Parts

Vineland 856-692-7900 www.mainieros.com
Appliances, vacs, parts and accessories serving all of Cumberland County with excellent service and affordable prices.

Martin Corporation / Fairfield Textile

Bridgeton 856-451-0900 www.fairfieldtextile.com
Dyers & finishers of textiles and Fairfield Textile provides customers with a dependable source of high quality fabric

Mary Kay - Marlise Counsellor

Hopewell 908-208-8424 www.facebook.com/Marlise-Counsellor-Mary-Kay-Independent-Beauty-Consultant-493283867351662
Skin Care, Color Cosmetics and Gift Giving

Maurice River Diner

Port Elizabeth 856-327-4433
www.themaucriverdiner.com
They happily serve up generous portions of great tasting breakfast, take-out, lunch and dinner favorites. Give us a call and order up some of the best tasting food in South Jersey!

Max Communications

Milville 856 825-2000 https://maxcommusa.com
www.facebook.com/maxcommusa
Has the right solution for your business's communication needs. Whether your business needs 3 telephones or 10,000, we will engineer the perfect system for your team.

Max Payment Solutions

Millville 856 825-2000 https://maxpaymentsolutions.com
A merchant services provider that offers an effective and transparent Pass through Pricing program. Payment processing with MAX is clear and efficient, as we explain your unique pricing program, with a no strings attached approach.

Members 1st of NJ

Hopewell 856-696-0767 www.membersonenj.org
Offers a full suite of financial tools and services that help our members do more with their money.

Messick's Wood & Coal Stove Shop

Hopewell 856-452-3700 www.MessickStove.com
Sell and install wood stoves and pellet stoves

Mexico Travel

Bridgeton 856-451-4000 www.facebook.com/Mexico-Travel-2149105075321194
We sell airline tickets, and offer services like wire transfer, bill pay, cell phones, taxes, & translations

Mike Carlaw Electrical Contractor

Hopewell 609-805-2564 www.linkedin.com/in/mike-carlaw-74b88610b
Electrical contractor.

My Father's Place at Greater Bridgeton Amish Market

Hopewell 856-497-4136
www.bridgetonamishmarket.com/my-fathers-place
Breakfast, lunch, dinner, authentic Lancaster County home style food in Greater Bridgeton Amish Market.

Nantuxent Corp.

Downe 856-447-3576 www.nantuxent.co
Sole practitioner CPA firm providing advisory, compliance, and management support for local businesses. Taxproblems.CPA is Tony's larger online service.

Nardelli Brothers, Inc.

Lawrence 856-447-4000 www.nardellibrosinc.com
Produce broker and farm

Newfield National Bank

Hopewell 856-575-0075
www.newfieldnationalbank.bank
Banking services, checking, savings, loans and more

Nikki Halter Photography

Stow Creek 856-332-7967 www.nikkialter.com
Wedding, event, family and corporate photography

NJ Advance Media/ South Jersey Times

Mullica Hill 856-754-7118
www.njadvancemedia.com
Newspaper, advertising and internet marketing services

NJ Third Legislative District

Glassboro 856-226-3530 https://njleg.gov/districts/district-3
NJ Third Legislative District providing government resources and legislation.

Ocean First Bank

Bridgeton and Upper Deerfield 888-623-2633
www.oceanfirst.com
Banking services, checking, savings, loans and more

Overdevest Nurseries

Hopewell and Upper Deerfield 856-451-3179
www.overdevestnurseries.com
Commercial grower and distributor of nursery stock

Padgett Funeral Home

Upper Deerfield and Lawrence 856-451-1999
www.padgettfuneralhomes.com
Strives to serve clients with respect and understanding as we guide them through the difficult times associated with the loss of a loved one.

Parrish Sign Co Inc

Vineland 856-696-4040 www.parrishsign.com
Lighted sign sales, service & installation, screen and digital printing of real estate, contractor, political & all types of lawn signs, screen & digital printing t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, embroidery on all types of apparel & jackets, custom banners, flags and promotional products.

Print Signs and Designs

Upper Deerfield 856-453-0336
www.printsignsanddesigns.com
Color copying, design and printing of signs, posters, brochures, business cards, banners, direct mail, graphic design, websites and trophies & awards

Quinn Broadcasting, Inc.

Upper Deerfield 856-305-6647
www.quinnbroadcastingnj.com,
www.facebook.com/QBCSJ
Quinn Broadcasting is a family owned and operated media production and broadcasting agency, featuring live broadcast streaming, live streaming, live TV broadcasts, marketing services, and more.

Randi Galan State Farm Insurance Agency

Hopewell 856-453-7000 www.randigalan.com
Full service State Farm insurance agency providing auto, home, life, business insurance & vehicle loans, and deposit products

RDH Lawncare LLC

Stow Creek 856-506-9310 www.facebook.com/pg/RDHLawncareLLC
Landscaping, yard cleanup, trimming, mulching, and mowing services

Revive South Jersey

Bridgeton 856-455-2509 www.revivesj.org
Community Development, GED Instruction, Spanish, English, ESL classes, Community facilitator

Ricky Slade Construction, Inc.

Hopewell 856-455-4046
Paving, concrete, road construction

Rita's Italian Ice & Frozen Custard

Upper Deerfield 856-459-2211 www.facebook.com/ritasbridgeton
One-of-a-kind, delightfully different treat experience bringing you Italian Ice, Frozen Custard & Happiness, located adjacent to Landis Links Mini Golf.

Ron Jaworski's Running Deer Golf Club

Pittsgrove 856-358-2000
www.runningdeergolfclub.com
Beautiful banquet hall and exquisite food and beverages. The course is among the finest in the area, the crown jewel in Ron Jaworski's golf holdings.

Rowan College of South Jersey

Vineland 856-691-8600 x 1500 www.rcsj.edu
Higher education and workforce training services recently formed by combining Rowan College of Gloucester County and Cumberland County College.

Rutgers Food Innovation Center

Bridgeton 856-391-7603 https://foodinnovation.rutgers.edu
Food research and marketing services

RW Connection, Cumberland Valve Division

Hopewell 856-451-1324 www.rwconnection.com
Sales of hose, valves & fittings

Salmon Ventures

856-825-0500 www.salmonventures.com
Governmental and regulatory consulting to public and private entities

SERVPRO of Cumberland County - Team Fabiani

Other - please type municipality below, 609-965-0885 www.servprocapemaycounty.com
24 HR Emergency Disaster Recovery Services including Fire, water, mold biohazard and storm cleanup, restoration and remediation.

Shoppes at Dragon Village

Hopewell 609-381-4462
www.shoppesatdragonvillage.com
A unique village of shops located in the farmland of Hopewell Township, Cumberland County. Visit our merchants and join us for our monthly, family friendly events such as seasonal special events for the holidays, crafts fairs and car shows.

Shoreline Freezers

Bridgeton 856-455-8300
www.shorelinefreezers.com
Frozen products warehousing

Sir Speedy Printing

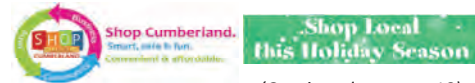
Vineland 856-691-0741
www.sirspeedy.com/vinelandnj570
Provide wide range of printing, communications and marketing and is passionate about delivering quality products and providing the best possible service, from idea to final execution quickly and efficiently.

Soroptimist International of Cumberland County

Shiloh www.sicumberlandnj.org
Women using service projects to advance human rights & the status of women

South Jersey Drug Treatment Center

Hopewell 856-455-5441
We provide comprehensive care for individuals with Opioid Use Disorders using medication assisted treatment integrated within a holistic behavioral health approach for overall wellness.



(Continued on page 10)

Shop Local for Fall!

Hours:
Thursday & Friday:
8am - 6:00pm
Saturday:
7am - 3:30pm

Family owned & operated

MY FATHER'S PLACE
AUTHENTIC HOMESTYLE COOKING
IN GREATER BRIDGETON AMISH MARKET
856-497-4136

For Quick Pick Up Call Ahead for Take Out

www.bridgetonamishmarket.com/my-fathers-place-restaurant

J. A. Mariano Agency
M. Pizzo LLC t/a

Insurance Planning Services

Michael P. Pizzo, CIC
Agency Principal

679 Landis Avenue • P.O. Box 390
Rosenhayn, NJ 08352
www.MarianoAgency.com • MPizzo@MarianoAgency.com
(856) 451-9531 Ph • (856) 453-1270 Fax

Ultra Clean Technologies Corp.
is a proud supporter of the
Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce

Providing Contamination Control Solutions for hose, tube, and pipe applications in the Fluid Power Industry.

Ultra Clean
TECHNOLOGIES CORP.

(Continued from page 9) - *Shop Local Guide*SHOP. EAT. ENJOY.
LOCALSHOP LOCAL
Bridgeton Area Chamber Member Directory
For Fall, Winter and the Holiday Season**South Jersey Economic Development District, Inc.**Vineland 856-838-3060 www.sjedd.com
Regional Economic Development organization providing grant management services and technical assistance to County and local governments.**South Jersey Eye Associates**Upper Deerfield 856-455-5500
www.southjerseyeye.com
Professional, friendly and comfortable vision and eye care health services**South Jersey Gas**Folsom 856-881-7000 www.sjindustries.com
www.southjerseygas.com
Natural gas provider**South Jersey Water Conditioning Service**Hopewell 856-451-0620
www.southjerseywater.com
South Jersey Water Conditioning is a licensed and authorized Kinetic Water Systems dealer, so we're proud to offer products that are built to be durable, efficient, and long-lasting.**Sray-Webster Funeral Home, LLC**Upper Deerfield 856-455-3613
www.sraywebsterfuneralhome.com
Professional, caring, funeral services**Stable Landscaping LLC**Shiloh 856-759-2283 www.stablelandscaping.com
Landscaping and Outdoor Living Contractor**Stanger Family**Upper Deerfield
Community supporters**Sungenis Insurance Agency**Hopewell 856-451-1824 www.sungenisagency.com
Insurance policies and service for business and residents**Sussex Irrigation**Bridgeton 856-451-1368 www.sussexirrigation.com
Supplier of Irrigation products to landscape contractors and Center pivots installation and supplier**Sweet Things with Styles**Pittsgrove 856-358-3886
www.facebook.com/SweetThingsWithStyles
Hand Dipped Ice Cream, Fine Candles, Gifts from Local Artists**Taylor Wiseman & Taylor**Vineland 856-235-7200
www.taylorwiseman.com
*Taylor Wiseman and Taylor is a professional services firm that has a broad base of experience in the fields of Civil Engineering, Surveying, Land Planning, and Environmental Science.***TBI Unlimited Landscaping, LLC**Bridgeton 856-455-7832 www.tbiunlimited.com/
Full service landscape design and services**TD Bank**Bridgeton 856-453-5810 www.tdbank.com/
Banking services, checking, savings, loans and more**Technical Xpress**Bridgeton 609-774-1787 www.technicalxpress.com
Technical XPRESS was started in 2000 with a simple idea to provide low-cost computer support for consumers and small businesses. Technical XPRESS has evolved into a leading provider for Computer Solutions, Network Solutions, Website & App Development**The Authority Roundtable on Sept. 12 included these speakers (left-right): John Ruga, The Reserve, Herbert Zwartkruis, Sika, Jeff Staubers, West Star Aviation, Bruce Riley, Ultra Clean Technologies, and Maestri D'Italia of Relema, Inc.****Ten 22 Bar & Grill**856-358-3325 groveatcenterton.com/ten-22-menus
Food and beverages at a comfortable, friendly tavern in The Grove at Centerton.**Terra Nonno Winery**Deerfield 856-575-1459 terranonno.com
Beautiful vineyard and venue for wine tasting and parties, owned and operated by the Pipitone family**Terrigno's Fairfield Inn**Fairfield 856-451-7592
www.terrignofairfieldinn.com Restaurant, bar,
banquet hall, catering, package goods**Terry's Custard**Upper Deerfield 856-451-8673 www.facebook.com/
Terry-Custard-Ice-Cream-225216460829831/
Home-made ice cream specialties**The Authority**Deerfield 856-825-3700 www.theauthoritynj.com
Solid waste disposal, recycling, economic development services**The Bridgeton Beacon**Bridgeton 609-938-0809
www.bridgetonbeacon.com
*This South Jersey Non-Profit Media Platform promotes our community's art, culture, history and economic development through the production of informative, positive and educational video programming and journalism.***The Charlesworth Restaurant & Hotel**856-447-4928 www.charlesworthrestaurant.com
A charming, historical restaurant and hotel located on the Delaware Bay in Fortescue, NJ with beautiful bay views and one of a kind dining experiences.**The Dolores Romero Cancer Foundation**Vineland 609-600-7532
www.thedoloresromerofoundation.com
*We are a not for profit that financially assists local South Jersey cancer patients with out of pocket expenses related to their illness.***The Grove at Centerton**Pittsgrove 856-358-3325
www.groveatcenterton.com
*The largest event venue South of Atlantic City and features five multifunctional spaces including the all-new Garden Room that leads to a 3,000 sq. ft. outdoor firepit lounge for an indoor / out door event experience unlike any other.***The Guidance Center**Millville 856-825-6810 www.ccgcnj.org
Community mental health services**The Original Canal's Discount Liquors**Bridgeton 856-451-0998 www.facebook.com/The-original-canals-217301291756341
Wines, beer and liquors**The Passion Professor LLC**Upper Deerfield 856-430-4274
Patricia Mooneyham presents coaching, consulting, education and related services to transform you and your organization.**The Reminder (Cohansey Cove Publishing)**Millville 856-825-8811 www.reminderusa.net
Newspaper, ads, digital ads & more**The Ritter Law Office**Bridgeton 856-451-3030 www.ritterlawoffice.com
Legal services**The Roarke Agency, LLC**Upper Deerfield 856-455-6660
www.roarkeagency.net
Real estate sales, rental, services**The Salvation Army of Bridgeton**Bridgeton 856-451-0999 www.facebook.com/
NJSABridgeton
Social services and assistance for the needy in the communities**The Voice Radio Wilmington**Vineland 302-858-5118
www.thevoiceradionetwork.com
Radio Station network committed to the region's economic and cultural progress.**Tim Trimble State Farm Insurance**Upper Deerfield 856-451-6340
www.timothy-trimble.com
Auto, Fire, Life, and Commercial Insurance Sales
T-MobileBridgeton 856-378-1993 www.t-mobile.com
Sells cellular devices, services, home internet, and more for T-Mobile.**Tower Hospitality**Vineland 856-691-1300 www.towerhospitality.com
Lodging in area hotels. See Wingate, Holiday Inn Express and Hampton Inn in our membership list.**Township of Downe**Downe 856-447-3100
https://downetwpnj.org
Local Government**Triantos and Delp, CPA, LLC**Vineland 856-691-9544 www.triantosanddelp.com
Certified Public Accounting firm, preparation of business and individual taxes, financial statements, etc.**Trout's Power Equipment**

Bridgeton 856-451-3535 Sales and service of outdoor equipment, lawn mowers and more

Ultra Clean Technologies Corp.Upper Deerfield 856-451-2176
www.ultracleantech.com/ Hydraulic equipment
hose cleaning technologies for business and industry**Upper Deerfield PreSchool**Upper Deerfield 856-455-7975
Daycare and Pre-School and teaching supplies online**Upper Deerfield Township**Upper Deerfield 856-451-3811
www.upperdeerfield.com Local government services**USDA Rural Development**Bridgeton 856-787-7700 www.usda.gov
Committed to improving the lives of homeowners, businesses, and communities within the Garden State**Valcar Distribution LLC**

Upper Deerfield 856-455-5939 Commercial trucking

W.W. Manufacturing Co., Inc.Bridgeton 856-451-5700 www.wwmfg.com
Manufactures & sells tools, welding, plasma cutting**WHIBCO, Inc.**Bridgeton 856-455-9200 www.whibco.com
Producer of sand, gravel, & other materials for use in construction & industry**Whimsey Hut**Hopewell 609-381-4462 www.facebook.com/
WhimseyHut The flagship store to the Shoppes at Dragon Village, one-stop shop for all things seasonal, holiday and more.

Improving Your Tomorrow

On Sept. 12, The Authority hosted a large audience of area business people at a unique setting inside a hangar at the Millville Executive Airport.

continued on page 15

CHOOSE CHAMBER MEMBERS &

OTHER LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

Get a jump on the holiday shopping season and check out options for a new career at the Cumberland County Business Expo and Job Fair on September 26 where the public is admitted at no cost.

See www.CumberlandExpo.com for a list of participating businesses and other expo information.

Leap into Fall Shop & Work Local

Cumberland County Business Expo & Job Fair
Thursday, September 26, 2024 4pm to 6:30pm
Cumberland County Tech Ed Center Gymnasium
3400 College Drive, Vineland NJ

FREE ADMISSION FOR THE PUBLIC

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Message from Chamber President Barry Seay

Barry Seay of South Jersey Water Conditioning Service is President of the Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce.

To Our Chamber Members and the Community:

As summer is coming to a close, its time for our Chamber and the business, education, and community to leap into Fall. Summer ends with our Chamber's and our Chamber's Hispanic Business Committee presentation of a lunch meeting on September 17, 11:30 AM at INKA Chicken Bar in Bridgeton celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in the U.S. Please join us. Register online www.tinyurl.com/BACCHispanicHeritage.

We kick off the official start of Fall with the Cumberland County Business Expo and Job Fair, which is a joint project of our fellow chambers - Greater Millville and Greater Vineland. On Sept. 26, 4-6:30 PM, the public is invited to attend with free admission. More than 70 businesses and organizations are expected. Visit with them for products and services you need, for new job opportunities, and for chances to win prizes. Get the latest information on this event at www.CumberlandExpo.com.

As Fall continues, our Chamber Government and Community Relations Committee hosts a legislative breakfast on Oct. 9, 8:30 AM at The Grove at Centerton. Our NJ Senators and Assembly Members from Districts 1 and 3 will be there. To attend and for more information, see www.tinyurl.com/BACCLegislators.

continued on page 12

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Message from Chamber President Barry Seay

Continued from page 11.

Thanks to the work of our Love Where You Live Committee, the Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation has launched the renewed Love Where You Live project. To boost participation of the business and non-profit communities and with a generous anonymous donation of \$500,000 over five years from a local family, we are offering matching grants for projects that meet the programs criteria.

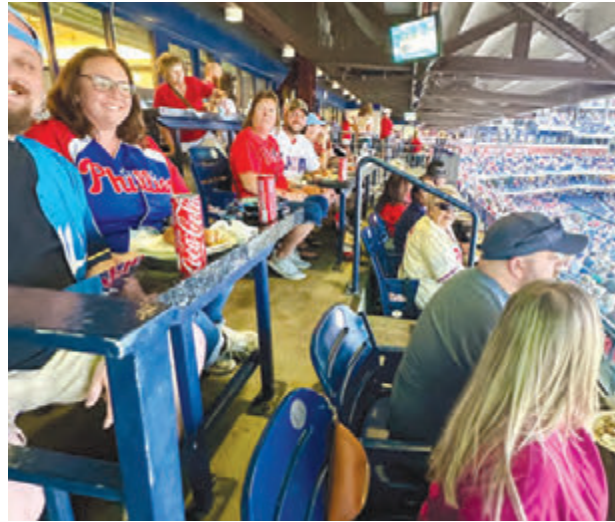
Applications are being accepted now through November 1 for the first year of funding, which may include up to \$100,000 in grants. For the details, visit www.CumberlandGrows.com/BACCLWYL.

On October 30, 6 PM, at The Grove at Centerton, our Chamber presents its annual Business and Community Hero Awards. Once again, the awards will be given to an extraordinary group of individuals, businesses, and organizations who are true hometown heroes, and examples of what it means to love where you live. Congratulations to our Lifetime Achievement Award recipients Gil Walter and Ken Mecouch, the Community Leadership Award winner James Curtis Edwards, Community Hero Awardees Nina Young and Gary Fischer, and the Business Heroes Star Bound Gymnastics Academy, Mexico Travel and Inka Chicken Bar, and Fralinger Engineering. Register, sponsor, and get more information at www.tinyurl.com/BACCHero.

It's a busy season. Please get involved to help us do more. Join the Chamber if you are not a member – www.CumberlandGrows.com/Join.

Thank You to All Who Supported Fundraisers This Summer for the Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Coming Soon: 50-50 Raffle with Winners to Be Selected on Dec. 4



The Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation presented three fundraisers to support the Foundation and its contributions to the community. The Foundation's Phillies Hall of Fame Suite raffle raised \$4,000. Sixteen people enjoyed an exciting Phillies victory over the Braves from the suite with food, beverages, and a great view of the game from the second level above the Phillies dugout.

On July 26, the Summer Party at Terra Nonno Vineyard featured live music by Whiskey Sunset, wine, food and fun. The event raised \$2,500 to support scholarships and other community donations and projects.

The Foundation presented the Dog Days of Summer at Cedar Rose Vineyard on August 13. It included wine, food, fun, raffles, prizes, live music by Frank Piccione, the dogs of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department, and others brought their dogs along, too. The net proceeds estimated at \$3,000 will be donated to help the K9 unit at the Sheriff's Department.

Tickets will be on sale soon for the Chamber Foundation's 50-50 raffle. The raffle winners will be selected at a drawing on December 4, at the Chamber's Annual Meeting. You do not need to be at the drawing to win as winners will be notified. Last year the first place winner received \$1,767 and the



second place winner won \$753. It's a nice way to win some cash for the holidays. Contact the Chamber office at 856-455-1312 or any Chamber Board member and other members for tickets. NJ raffle license 55-5-39981, Pittsgrove license #464.



50-50 Raffle
Dec. 4, 2024
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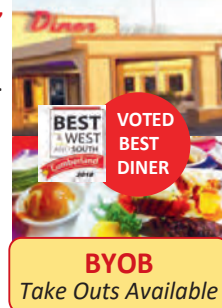
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Downtown Bridgeton Sidewalk Sale and Hispanic Heritage Celebration Attract Shoppers and Visitors



The Bridgeton Sidewalk Sale was held on August 17, bringing businesses and organizations downtown and attracting new shoppers and visitors. More than 40 downtown businesses participated and provided prizes. Several not-for-profit organizations provided fun for children including pony rides and bounce houses at the Riverfront area. The sidewalk sale was presented by City of Bridgeton UEZ, Bridgeton Main Street Association, Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce and its Hispanic Business Committee, and Bridgeton Rotary Club.

Minerva Alvarado, Co-Chairwoman of the Chamber's Hispanic Business Committee, said on behalf of her co-chair Jon Cummings, "we would like to express our sincere gratitude to those of you who made this event possible. The rain didn't stop us! We think this event will get better and better every year. Special thanks to those of you who made time to attend meetings, answer emails, and those who were our boots on the ground. The chamber office was of great help. We

thank Laurie and Tony. Thanks to the folks who sponsored our event, too. I can't say enough about Stephanie Gonzalez who was a major force in keeping our mission alive through her tremendous work with the UEZ."

Sidewalk Sale sponsors were Bridgeton Alive, Atlantic City Electric, The Passion Professor, Mooneyham for US Senate, LaLa Beading Creations, Essential Senior Services, T-Mobile of Upper Deerfield, INKA Chicken Bar, and Around the Way Entertainment DJ Blends.

On Sunday, September 8, Unidos Para la Familia led the presentation of the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month at the Riverfront Park in downtown Bridgeton. A combination of beautiful weather, food, music, dancing, and vendors, drew crowds to the event. Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber Foundation, and the Foundation's Love Where You Live Committee, sponsored the celebration, and participated with an informational table at the riverfront. It was an opportunity to introduce the Love Where You Live Beacons of Pride grant program to the public. Ed Overdevest and Tony Stanzione attended on behalf of the Chamber.

La Venta en la Acera del Centro de Bridgeton y la Celebración de la Herencia Hispana Atraen a Compradores y Visitantes

La venta de Bridgeton Sidewalk se llevó a cabo el 17 de agosto, llevando a negocios y organizaciones al centro de la ciudad y atrayendo a nuevos compradores y visitantes. Más de 40 comercios del centro de la ciudad participaron y entregaron premios. Varias organizaciones sin fines de lucro proporcionaron diversión para los niños, incluidos paseos en pony y casas inflables en el área de Riverfront. La venta en la acera fue presentada por la Ciudad de Bridgeton UEZ, la Asociación de la Calle Principal de Bridgeton, la Cámara de

Comercio del Área de Bridgeton y su Comité de Negocios Hispanos, y el Club Rotario de Bridgeton.

Minerva Alvarado, copresidenta del Comité de Negocios Hispanos de la Cámara, dijo en nombre de su copresidente Jon Cummings, "nos gustaría expresar nuestro sincero agradecimiento a aquellos de ustedes que hicieron posible este evento. ¡La lluvia no nos detuvo! Creemos que este evento mejorará cada año. Un agradecimiento especial a aquellos de ustedes que se tomaron el tiempo para asistir a las reuniones, responder correos electrónicos y a aquellos que fueron nuestras botas en el terreno. La oficina de la cámara fue de gran ayuda. Agradecemos a Laurie y Tony. Gracias también a la gente que patrocinó nuestro evento. No puedo decir lo suficiente sobre Stephanie González, quien fue una fuerza importante para mantener viva nuestra misión a través de su tremendo trabajo con la UEZ".

Los patrocinadores de Sidewalk Sale fueron Bridgeton Alive, Atlantic City Electric, The Passion Professor, Mooneyham para el Senado de EE. UU., LaLa Beading Creations, Essential Senior Services, T-Mobile of Upper Deerfield, INKA Chicken Bar y Around the Way Entertainment DJ Blends.

El Domingo 8 de Septiembre, Unidos Para la Familia encabezó la presentación de la celebración del Mes de la Herencia Hispana en el Riverfront Park en el centro de Bridgeton. Una combinación de buen clima, comida, música, baile y vendedores, atrajo a multitudes al evento. La Cámara de Comercio del Área de Bridgeton, la Fundación de la Cámara y el Comité Love Where You Live de la Fundación, patrocinaron la celebración y participaron con una mesa informativa frente al río. Fue una oportunidad para presentar al público el programa de subvenciones Love Where You Live Beacons of Pride. Ed Overdevest y Tony Stanzione asistieron en nombre de la Cámara.



Upper Deerfield Becoming a Hub of Economic Development

Sika, the world leader in the development and production of systems and products for bonding, sealing, damping, reinforcing, and protection in the building sector and automotive industry, has broken ground for a new state-of-the-art 250,000 sq. ft. mortar production plant in Upper Deerfield, expected to be in operation in late 2025.

This landmark \$80 million dollar investment marks a significant milestone in the history of Sika Corporation in the United States. The Northeast Anchor site will produce a full range of mortars including high-performance cementitious grouts, self-leveling mortars, and mix-



Above: Sika, Cumberland, and Upper Deerfield officials at ceremonial groundbreaking.

Below: Mayor Jim Crilley, Deputy Mayor John Daddario, and Administrator Roy Spoltore at the construction site.

Right: Ultra Clean Technologies is expanding its manufacturing, warehousing, and office building to better serve its customers in the U.S. and around the world.



es for shotcrete which include products for residential and commercial construction applications.

Sika will create 50 jobs in Cumberland County.

“This new investment into our supply chain and manufacturing footprint is a testament to our unwavering commitment to the Northeast Region and the surrounding areas of the United States as a prime production hub,” said Jim Walther, CEO and President, Sika Corporation USA.

Upper Deerfield Mayor Jim Crilley welcomed Sika, saying, “I am grateful that of all the locations you could have chosen for this new state-of-the-art mortar production plant and Northeast Anchor Site, that you chose Upper Deerfield here in Cumberland County, New Jersey. This site is part of more than 700 acres our community has designated for economic and industrial development because of its access to infrastructure, roadways and rail. Your selection of Upper Deerfield and this location helps fulfill our plans for growth in development and jobs, while maintaining and valuing our history of agriculture and food processing and open space.”

Sika has subsidiaries in 103 countries around the world and, in over 400 factories, produces innovative technologies for customers worldwide.

Bruce and Debby Riley, owners of Ultra Clean Technologies, have begun an expansion project at its building and land in Upper Deerfield. The expansion will provide more warehouse space, supporting the company’s continued growth in sales here in the U.S. and around the world.



Above: Sika USA CEO Jim Walther speaks of the corporation’s commitment to growth on the East Coast from this new Upper Deerfield site. Below: NJ State Senators John Burzichelli and Michael Testa, Jr. welcome Sika to Cumberland County.



At Carlls Corner, the new Chipotle Restaurant has opened, with an-



other national restaurant, Wing Stop, set to open next door to them.

New businesses are also due to open in the Carlls Corner Shopping Center.



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Bridgeton UEZ & LAEDA Presents Business Classes

Thank you to Minerva Alvarado for providing this article.



The Bridgeton UEZ and LAEDA presented training for area businesses, "Networking for Small Businesses" recently at Revive South Jersey building in Bridgeton.

Minerva Alvarado, represented the Bridgeton Area Chamber's Hispanic Business Committee and said

it was an excellent exchange of valuable information and resources thanks to the presentation by Jamila Powell of LAEDA and leadership of Stephanie Gonzalez.

More classes are coming: "Budgeting", October 31st, and "Digital Marketing", November 12th. Classes in English with Spanish materials. Classes will run from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Sheppard House, 31 W. Commerce St at the entrance to Bridgeton City Park. Use this link to sign up <https://laeda.ecenterdirect.com/events/892191>

For information use these links: LAEDA on Facebook: www.facebook.com/LAEDA1987 Bridgeton UEZ: www.cityofbridgetonnj.gov/179/Urban-Enterprise-Zone.

Minerva Alvarado, representó a la Cámara del Área de Bridgeton y al Comité de Negocios Hispanos de la Cámara y dijo que fue un excelente intercambio de información y recursos valiosos gracias a la presentación de Jamila Powell de LAEDA y el liderazgo de Stephanie González. Se vienen más clases: "Elaboración de presupuestos" 31 de octubre, y "Marketing Digital" 12 de noviembre.

Clases en inglés con materiales en español. Las clases se llevarán a cabo de 6:00 p.m. a 8:00 p.m. en Sheppard House, 31 W. Commerce St en la entrada de Bridgeton City Park.

Minerva will plan a networking event so the Hispanic Business Committee can meet this wonderful group of engaging entrepreneurs.

Stay tuned!



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Downe Sewer Project Funded

After more than a decade of planning, the Downe Township Sewer Project is now a reality. The financing through the New Jersey Infrastructure Trust was completed earlier this month, the last step before construction can commence.

"The US Department of Agriculture, our Federal Legislators, the State, and the County Board of County Commissioners have been tremendous partners on this project" stated Mayor Mike Rothman. "This project has been planned for years and most people thought it would never happen. I am grateful for the efforts of all involved including all members past and present of Downe Township Committee, Township Administration and Township professionals."

This sewer project will enhance the quality of Downe Township's waterways, protect the health of its oyster beds and aquatic life, and allow for the redevelopment and revitalization of Fortescue and Gandy's Beach.

More info: www.downtownpnj.org

Bridgeton Christmas Parade is Saturday, December 7

The City of Bridgeton is again hosting the Annual Holiday Parade, planned and managed by the Department of Recreation and Public Affairs, with assistance from the Bridgeton Main Street Association. The parade will be held on Saturday, December 7 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. This year's theme is "Christmas in Toyland".



"We are hopeful that you will consider participating in building a new tradition for the great City of Bridgeton," commented John Medica, Director of Recreation and Public Affairs. You may request a parade entry by sending

email to RecDept@CityofBridgeton.com by the November 20 deadline or call the office of Recreation and Public Affairs at 856-453-1675.



**Gerard Velazquez, III, President, CEO
of the Authority**

Roundtable

continued from page 10

Long-time area business leaders and new businesses coming to Cumberland County talked about their positive experiences here,

and their plans for growth. Other speakers were Kim Ayres and Jerry Velazquez of The Authority, Andy Kuhn of Choose NJ, Lisa Jester of Millville Army Air Field Museum, Douglas Smithson of Big Sky Aviation, Ben Clendaniel of DRBA, Sgt. Tim Kiniry, WW II Veteran, and Mayor Albert Kelly of Bridgeton and Chairman of the CCIA Board.

BRIDGETON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Thurs. Sept. 26, Rise & Shine Breakfast, The Grove at Centerton, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties presents a one hour event with a free buffet breakfast while enjoying a range of speakers including testimonies from Bigs, Littles, parents. More info: 856.692.0916 or email Melody Montgomery at mmontgomery@southjerseybig.org www.southjerseybig.org

Thurs., Sept. 26, 4 PM to 6:30 PM, Cumberland County Business Expo and Job Fair, Cumberland County TEC Gym. Promote your business and meet people looking for new jobs and careers. Free admission for the public. Free drawing for prizes, food trucks available. Exhibitor registration and event information: www.CumberlandExpo.com.

Sat., Sept. 28, 5K Run for the Animals at Cohanzick Zoo, in Bridgeton City Park and Zoo. Proceeds benefit the animals in the zoo. Join the run / walk and donate. www.RunSignUp.com/CohanzickZooRun.

Wed., Oct. 9, Chamber Legislative Breakfast Meeting, The Grove at Centerton, Breakfast and networking: 8 to 8:30 AM; Discussion and remarks: 8:30 to 10 AM. Guests include the Senators and Assembly Members from NJ Legislative Districts 1 & 3. Register: www.tinyurl.com/BACCLegislators

Sat., Oct. 12, CompleteCare Foundation Halloween Bone Run & Walk, Anthony Campanella Park, Vineland, 8:00am: Registration; 9:00am: 5K Start, 9:15am: Walk Starts, 856-451-4700 x1130, jcortez@chcinj.org, www.RunSignUp.com/BoneRun

Sat., Oct. 26, Inspira's Grand Gala, Switch House in Phila., Proceeds benefit Inspira Health's Behavioral & Mental Health Services. More info: www.InspiraFoundation.org/Gala

Wed., Oct. 30, Chamber's Community & Business Hero Awards Celebration, The Grove at Centerton, 5 PM social hour, 6 PM dinner begins. \$75 per person. Sponsors welcomed. Register, sponsor, more information: www.tinyurl.com/BACCHispanicHeritage

Wed., Nov. 20, Holiday Bowling Night, Campani's Legacy Lanes, 5:30 to 8, Register your team for two games, food, and fun: www.tinyurl.com/BACCBowl

Mon., Nov. 25, 2 - 3 PM, Free Zoom Networking Hour open to members of Bridgeton, Greater Millville, Greater Vineland, and Chamber of Commerce Southern NJ, Register with Chamber of SNJ or contact your Chamber.

Wed., Dec. 4, 11:30 AM to 1:15 PM, Annual Chamber Meeting & Service Recognition, The Grove at Centerton, www.tinyurl.com/BACCSERVICE

Sat., Dec. 7, Noon-2 PM, Bridgeton Christmas Parade, Downtown Bridgeton, Theme "Christmas in Toyland". Register email RecDept@CityofBridgeton.com by Nov. 20 or 856-453-1675

Thurs., Dec. 19, 11:45 AM, Holiday Meeting with Rotary, Other Service Clubs, Bridgeton High School, Lunch, music, and toy and food donations. www.tinyurl.com/BACCRotary

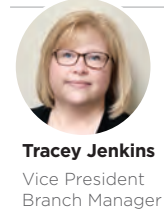


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