

# THE Communicator



Volume XXIII • Number 2  
February, 2009

Newsletter of the Pennridge Chamber of Commerce

## Welcome 2009 Leaders!



At the December 16 Membership Meeting at the Upper Bucks County Technical School, six members were elected to serve on the Pennridge Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. The following persons were elected to a two year term, beginning January 2009: Rodney Altemose, Bucks County Community College, Tom McVaugh, Laboratory Testing, Inc., Tom Skiffington, RE/MAX 440 Realty, Dan Soliday, Daniel L. Soliday, CPA, CVA, Jim Steeley, Betty Meier Steeley Funeral Home, Dave Nyman, East Rockhill Township.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the returning board members for their commitment to the Chamber and for agreeing to serve in this leadership role for the next two years. We welcome Dave Nyman, who was appointed to the Board in 2008 and then elected at this meeting. Dave resides in East Rockhill Township and is an East Rockhill Township Supervisor. He is a retired elementary school teacher who now serves as a consultant to municipalities.



Executive Director Betty Graver welcomed all to the meeting.



Chamber President Neil Fosbenner presided over the elections.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009 OFFICERS

**Thomas McVaugh, President**  
Laboratory Testing, Inc.  
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**Hugh Niles, Honorary Board Member**  
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Phone: 215-257-3645

**Christine Smith, Honorary Board Member**  
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### *In This Issue . . .*

- 2009 Officers
- New Members
- Professional Support Day
- People on the Move
- Wilcox Anniversary
- Leadership Upper Bucks
- FYI
- Valentine's Day

## Along with the elected officers, our Board Members include:

**David Alderfer, Director**  
Grand View Hospital  
700 Lawn Avenue, P.O. Box 902  
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Phone: 215-513-3938  
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**Rodney Altemose, Director**  
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**Gail Eister, Director**  
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Fax: 215-340-6721  
Email: geister@firstservicebankonline.com

**David Nyman, Director**  
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**James Steeley, Director**  
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**David P. Caro, Esq., Advisor**  
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We are thankful for all who have volunteered to use their time and talent to serve on the Board. Please remember that all of these Board members represent you as members of the Pennridge Chamber of Commerce. Feel free to give them a call with any questions or concerns.



The following companies have made an important investment in their business and community by joining the chamber. Please remember them for your business and personal needs. Also make a special effort to welcome them as they attend our functions.

**Christiansen Memorials, Inc.**, Ed Christiansen, Jr., 697 Bethlehem Pike, P.O. Box 424, Montgomeryville, PA 18936, phone: 215-368-1001. Ed and his staff specialize in the sales and service of cemetery memorials. From the supply and fitting of new memorials, to adding inscriptions, cleaning and repairing existing gravestones, this business can help with your needs.

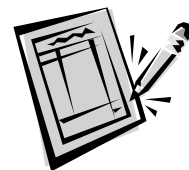
**Dinner's Done Personal Chef Service**, Richard Baringer, 814 Blooming Glen Road, P.O. Box 46, Blooming Glen, PA 18911, phone: 215-804-6438, Web Site: MyChefSite.com/DinnersDonePA.

As a personal chef, Rich Baringer provides clients in Bucks and Montgomery Counties with delicious and nutritious meals. After creating a menu designed specifically to the client's tastes and desires, Chef Rich shops, cooks in the client's home, then packages and labels the food with heating instructions—leaving the client's freezer full, their kitchen clean and their home smelling like dinner! Chef Rich is a graduate of the Culinary Business Academy and a member of the United States Personal Chef Association. Whenever possible, he uses ingredients from local merchants—giving clients the freshest food and helping those businesses thrive.

**Modern Male**, Nick Prosseda, 7 Temple Avenue, Sellersville, PA 18960, phone: 215-257-5113. Come join Nick at modern male for the ultimate experience in classic barbering and modern day cutting techniques. Modern Male is dedicated to customizing each haircut to the individual. Not only do they want to create the perfect atmosphere but deliver the best of both worlds. Tired of compromising a good cut and being in a women's salon? Well, here is your answer—Modern Male!

## Professional Support Day 2009

Take a minute to mark your calendar! Our annual Professional Support Day Luncheon will be held on April 22, 2009 at the Indian Valley Country Club in honor of this special group of people. The committee is forming to make plans for this sensational event, but the theme of the day has not yet been decided. Each year, this luncheon proves to be a fun time for support staff and bosses alike. So many terrific prizes and goodies are enjoyed by all. If you would like to be included in making plans and serving on the committee, please contact the Chamber office A.S.A.P.



In the next issue of The Communicator, you will receive a nomination form on which to enter your choice for Professional Support Person of the Year. Start thinking of all the wonderful things your support staff does for you and make plans to nominate **your** professional support person to be honored as the 2009 Professional Support Person of the Year!



# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Doylestown Hospital is pleased to welcome the following physicians: **Thomas DelGiorno, M.D.**, **Peter Fumo, M.D.**, and **Edward Jones, M.D.** All three physicians have joined the Department of Medicine/Nephrology in association with Delaware Valley Nephrology & Hypertension Assoc.



WNPV Radio (1440 AM), the local News/Talk/Sports station serving Bucks and Montgomery Counties from their studios in Lansdale, has added a new advertising sales person to their staff. **Barbara Glanzmann**, 18-year radio broadcast veteran

has been hired to replace Diane Agius who left due to illness. Barb was well-known in the Philadelphia market as air personality "Max Vierra."

**Julie Rokke Sommese** has joined the staff of First Savings Bank of Perkasie as an Assistant Vice President, Commercial Loan Officer. She brings 18 years of banking experience to her position and will be available to help area companies attain their business goals.

Univest National Bank and Trust Co. recently established a Mortgage Banking line of business to expand its lending capabilities and help new and existing homeowners secure financing. As part of the expansion, Univest appointed **Edward D. Hughes**, Mortgage Banking president, responsible for enhancing Univest's Mortgage Banking products and services, developing related online services to improve customer experience and positioning Univest as a residential mortgage leader in the markets it serves. In addition to Hughes, Univest also appointed **Michael S. Keim**, vice president and Residential Mortgage operations director.



## Board of Directors and Staff - 2009

**Thomas McVaugh**  
*President*  
Laboratory Testing, Inc.

**Keith Smith**  
*Vice President*  
Prodesco, Inc. - Secant Medical, LLC

**Thomas Skiffington**  
*Treasurer*  
RE/MAX 440, Perkasie

**Janet Mintzer**  
*Secretary*  
Pearl S. Buck International

**Betty Graver**  
*Executive Director, PCC*

**Hugh Niles**  
*Honorary Board Member*  
Retired - Military

**Christine Smith**  
*Honorary Board Member*  
Personalized Secretarial Services

**David Alderfer, Director**  
Grand View Hospital

**Rodney Altemose, Director**  
Bucks County Community College - UCC

**David Beck, Director**  
The Weimer Group

**Gail Eister, Director**  
FirstService Bank  
A Division of National Penn Bank

**David Nyman, Director**  
East Rockhill Township

**Daniel Soliday, Director**  
Daniel L. Soliday, CPA, CVA

**James Spindler, Director**  
Univest Corporation of PA

**James Steeley, Director**  
Betty Meier Steeley Funeral Home

**David Caro, Esq., Advisor**  
Grim, Biehn & Thatcher

## Wilcox Recycling Celebrates 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Wilcox Recycling, located at 241 Old Mill Road, Sellersville, is proud to announce its 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This scrap metal dealer has served the Sellersville area since 1961 with a commitment to service and value. Over the past 47 years, President Thomas Wilcox, Sr., along with his staff, have focused on superior customer service and community service. Mr. Wilcox is an active member of the community, sponsoring youth athletic teams and many volunteer organizations. Wilcox Recycling is a long standing member of NEIB, PATSA, NATW and the Penridge Chamber of Commerce.

Wilcox Recycling serves the Bucks and Montgomery County areas focusing on buying scrap metal and has the ability to process most metals. They accept alloys, aluminum cans, auto radiators, batteries, copper, brass, aluminum, lead, and scrap metal. Both private and public customers are welcome. Pick up services are available including Roll-off trucking services. Additionally, towing services, including emergency Towing Service, are offered.

Wilcox Recycling has been a strong supporter of the Penridge Chamber over the past years, and we would like to congratulate them on this milestone.

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Penridge Chamber of Commerce.  
Editor: Brenda Price      Contributing Editor: Betty Graver  
Printed by Labelcraft Press, Inc.



Following a delicious lunch, participants were treated to a tour of some of the new facilities at GVH, led by Dave Alderfer. Participants then listened to presentations on an Introduction to Health Care in Bucks County. Presenters included Beth Styer, Executive Director of Child Home & Community, Sally Fabian, Executive Director of Bucks County Health Improvement Partnership, and Dave Alderfer, Director of Development at Grand View Hospital.

## Health & Human Services Session



The morning session included presentations on an Introduction to Human Services in Bucks County. Presenters included Roger Collins, Executive Director, Bucks County Opportunity Council, Mae O'Brien, Executive Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County, Louis McGrath, Supervisor, Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, and Sara Silfies, GPS Senior Manager, Bucks County Children & Youth. The panel gave an overview of their organization and shared their Leadership Style with the class.

**January 13, 2009**



The January Leadership Session, hosted by Grand View Hospital, focused on Health & Human Services and the leadership skill of Time Management. Participants Paul Cardie and Andrew Brown from Carroll Engineering Corp. listened, along with the rest of the class, to the interesting presentations.

## Grand View Hospital



Leadership Committee Member Rodney Altemose, BCCC UBC, provided a recap from Previous Sessions, and addressed the leadership skill of Time Management.



Robert Haddow, Upper Bucks Representative of S.C.O.R.E. Chapter 570, presents the first installment of a \$600 donation to Betty Graver, Executive Director of the Penridge Chamber of Commerce. The donation is in appreciation of the support that the counselors receive from the Chamber in their mission to be "Counselors to America's Small Business."

# ANNOUNCEMENT

In the best interest of our members and our organization we are moving our yearly Business Expo to Wednesday, September 16. With the current economic climate, it is our hope that moving the Expo will give our businesses time to evaluate their positions and goals. Historically, three area Business Expos were all scheduled with dates in close proximity. By moving the event to September, we hope to enhance participation by a greater majority of our members.

## FYI

### BUSINESS NEWS



**SCORE Chapter 570** will be holding a free seminar on "Starting or Managing a Small Business" on February 18 from 6:20 to 8:30 p.m. The focus will be on starting a small business, building a plan for your business, developing a financial plan, and preparing a marketing plan. The seminar will be held at the Bensalem Library. Registration is required by calling the SCORE office at 215-943-8850.

**Moyer Indoor Outdoor**, innovators and leaders in home heating and cooling, are spearheading the installation of geothermal heating and cooling systems in the surrounding area. Geothermal heating and cooling is a natural, dependable, cost effective way of keeping your home comfortable year round. Not only will geothermal save the average homeowner money – up to 75% in heating and hot water and 60% in cooling – but it's also environmentally a smart choice. It works through a heating and cooling unit that is connected by copper pipes installed deep in the earth that form a loop to your home. Taking advantage of the earth's constant temperature of 55 degrees, the system only needs to heat or cool the difference in temperature to keep your home comfortable. Even better, the U.S. Protection Agency (EPA) named geothermal systems the most energy efficient environmentally clean and cost-effective space conditioning systems today.

**Boucher & James, Inc., Consulting Engineers**, sadly announces the passing of Norman R. Boucher on December 31, 2008. Together with Thomas A. James, Mr. Boucher founded the company in 1962. Mr. Boucher was behind the growth of the company and earned the respect of all who came into contact with him. He had retired from the company in 1999. Son, Ross, has been serving as President since that time.



The New Year will provide new opportunities for **Indian Valley Housing Corporation** and **Indian Valley Opportunity Center (IVOC)** to serve the local community as one non-profit social services organization. The merger of the two groups into the **Keystone Opportunity Center** was officially recognized by the state on January 1, 2009. It is the hope of the board that the merger will strengthen the capacity of both groups to improve the quality of life for economically disadvantaged persons and those with limited English language skills in the Souderton Area and the North Penn School Districts as well as parts of Penridge. Keystone would like to expand its current services in Upper Bucks County and the Penridge School District in 2009. Conveniently located on Main Street in Souderton, Keystone Opportunity Center will maintain the two offices formerly used by IVOC and Indian Valley Housing Corporation. Contributions of time, materials, and cash are always welcome. Contact Jennifer Ashley, Operations Manager, 215-723-5430 x102 for information about volunteer opportunities. Watch for the new website in early February at [www.keystoneopportunity.org](http://www.keystoneopportunity.org). Shown in photo from left to right are newly appointed Keystone Opportunity Center board officers Jim Styer—chair, Ellen Enters—secretary, Executive Director Karen Hosler Kispert, Terry DeVenzio—treasurer, Nancy Gingrich—vice chair.

**Univest Corporation of Pennsylvania** and its insurance subsidiary, Univest Insurance, Inc., recently announced the acquisition of Liberty Benefits, Inc., a full service employee benefits brokerage and consulting firm specializing in comprehensive employee benefits packages for businesses with 2 – 500 employees. The acquisition, completed on

December 29, 2008, expands Univest's growing insurance business and increases its capabilities to deliver employee benefit solutions. Liberty Benefits, Inc. offers a comprehensive range of affordable benefit products, plans and value-added services and is headquartered in Conshohocken, PA.

## KUDOS



**Thomas Skiffington**, Broker/Owner of RE/MAX 440 and RE/MAX Central was recently named Realtor of the Year by his peers at the Bucks County Association of Realtors. He was named out of approximately 4,000 Realtor members. Tom was chosen not only for his success in the Real Estate business and his company, but for his leadership within the Realtor organization and all his community service and involvement. Tom

owns the largest RE/MAX organization in Pennsylvania which has 10 locations throughout Bucks, Montgomery and Lehigh Counties. His organization is one of the few who has had record growth through this current market.

The **Bucks County Community College Foundation** is pleased to announce a \$10,000 grant from **Verizon** to establish a Reading and American English as a Second Language (AESL) Learning Lab at the College's Newtown Campus, located at 275 Swamp Road in Newtown. Starting in 2009, the Reading and AESL Learning Lab will provide students who struggle with the demands of college-level work with the academic skills and behaviors necessary to succeed in college level courses. In addition, the lab will add greater flexibility to course delivery, and expedite student's progress through the developmental courses. Approximately 25 percent of BCCC's more than 10,000 students struggle initially with the demands of college-level work and will benefit from the new lab.

The Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority announces that the **Sellersville Museum** raised \$300 for the Pennridge FISH Organization during their 32nd annual "Christmas Tree Forest" exhibit, held in December. Forty Christmas trees were decorated by local schools, churches and organizations. Visitors to the Museum "voted" for their favorite decorated tree by donating coins into the Santa banks in front of every tree. Over 1000 people visited the Museum during Winterfest and on December 13 and 14. It was the largest crowd ever to attend the annual Christmas Tree Forest exhibit.



**Univest Corporation** donated \$10,000 to St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital in support of St. Luke's new Upper Perkiomen Outpatient Center. To recognize this significant contribution, the main vestibule in the new facility will be named after Univest National Bank and Trust Co. Pictured from left to right are K. Leon Moyer, president and CEO of Univest National Bank and Trust Co.,

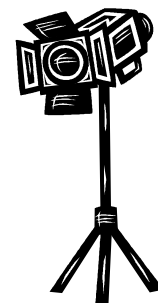
Luanne Stauffer, St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital board vice chair and executive director for the Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Ed Nawrocki, president of St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital.

The Ridge Crest Christmas Shop, held at the Fifth Street Branch of **First Savings Bank**, raised nearly \$4,000. To help get the Bazaar off on the right foot, First Savings donated \$750 to the project. The Christmas Shop benefits mentally and physically challenged citizens in our local communities.

## COMING EVENTS

Looking for local entertainment? Be sure to visit [www.sellersvilletheater1894.com](http://www.sellersvilletheater1894.com) to check out all of the shows running at **Sellersville Theater 1894** in the months ahead. Check out the family entertainment, featuring *The Nelson Family Magic Show* on Feb. 7 and *Geist, Visual Comedian* on March 14 in addition to all of the adult oriented live music concerts.

The Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority announces that the **Sellersville Museum** will be open Saturday and Sunday, February 7 and 8, hosting a special exhibit entitled: "Vintage Valentine's and Postcards." The Museum will be open from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. each day. As always, admission is free. The Sellersville Museum is wheelchair accessible and has a chairlift to assist visitors to the second floor. The Museum is located next to the Sellersville Borough Office at 120 East Church Street, Sellersville. Call 215-257-5253 for more information.



The **14th annual Chocolate Lovers' Fantasy** is being held Saturday, February 7. Event and raffle tickets and sponsorship packages are now on sale for this not-to-be-missed celebration of all things chocolate! Whether you're a decidedly dark-chocolate-only aficionado or an only-milk-chocolate-melts-in-my-mouth fan, make your own chocolate dreams come true! Hosted in historic Tyler Hall on the campus of Bucks County Community

College, Newtown, Chocolate Lovers' Fantasy, features amazing arrays of chocolate and auction times, plus plenty of food, fun, and more! All proceeds benefit A Woman's Place (AWP), the only domestic violence agency in Bucks County. Call 215-343-9241 ext. 110 or visit [www.awomansplace.org](http://www.awomansplace.org).

**Calling all Women!** Women Build is a program about opportunities for women—opportunity for developing and using real construction skills to eliminate substandard housing in Bucks County and worldwide, and opportunity to become homeowners and improve their lives and the lives of their children. The program is planned, fundraised for and promoted by the efforts of area women. Throughout the year, women can attend training clinics in basic construction skills at Lowe's, build on site during a Women Build Day and get involved in Women Build advocacy and fundraising efforts. If you are interested in getting involved, please consider attending one of the following interest meetings: Thursday, February 12th, 6:30 – 7:30 pm or Tuesday, February 24, 11am- 12 noon, Habitat for Humanity Office, 31 Oak Avenue, Suite 100, Chalfont, (Snow date is Thursday, February 26, 6:30-7:30 pm). Please RSVP to Laura at [l.mcclellan@habitatbucks.org](mailto:l.mcclellan@habitatbucks.org) or 215-822-2812 x302 if you plan to attend one of these sessions.

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## *Valentine's Day A Day for Celebrating Special People*

Valentine's Day is a day to remember special people in your life. Brightening up someone's day lets them know that they are appreciated. Whether family or friend, let that person know that they are special. Celebrate this day—a bright spot in the long, dreary days of winter. If you choose to buy a gift for a specific person, please remember to patronize a chamber member.

If it is flowers you need, be sure to check out the florists in your membership directory who can provide you with many beautiful choices to brighten the days of those you cherish. If you need cards and gifts, remember to visit our retail stores. Maybe a cake from one of our bakery or supermarket members would help to brighten the day.

If a romantic dinner is in your plans, remember the Chamber restaurants and call early to make your reservation. Tickets to a museum or theater are another option. If you are more comfortable with gift certificates, check out all of our beauty salons and massage therapists. A membership to a gym, wellness center or health club facility would be a great idea, especially for people who find exercising in the cold too difficult.



You can always call the Chamber for information on our members, visit the Chamber website [www.pennridge.com](http://www.pennridge.com), or check out your Chamber Directory. We welcome your calls. With your help, the Penridge Chamber businesses, for which this is a special day, will be successful!



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Phone: (215) 257-5390  
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<http://www.pennridge.com>  
email: [pennridgecc@pennridge.com](mailto:pennridgecc@pennridge.com)

***Return Service Requested***

### ***Progress Through Community Service***



### **Coming Events**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 3  | Board of Directors Meeting, Chamber 7:30 a.m.   |
| February 10 | Leadership Bucks . . . Upper County Session, First Savings Corp. Office<br>8:00 a.m-4:30 p.m. |
| February 16 | President's Day Holiday - Chamber Closed  |
| February 18 | Membership Committee Meeting, Chamber 9 a.m.  |
| February 24 | Membership Luncheon w/speaker, Revivals Restaurant 11:45 a.m.                                 |
| February 26 | Government Affairs Committee Meeting, Chamber 7:30 a.m.                                       |
| February 26 | PACC, Bucks County Community College UCC, 7:30 p.m.   |
| March 3     | Board of Directors Meeting, Chamber 7:30 a.m.   |

### **Quote of the Month**

"Success is not measured by what a man accomplishes, but by the opposition he has encountered and the courage with which he has maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds."

—Charles Lindbergh

**SCORE Counselor** available every Wednesday and Thursday at 9:30 am or 11:00 am at the Chamber office.  
Check out their web site at <http://www.score.org> seven days a week.

**Remember your ABC's: **ALWAYS BUY CHAMBER****

***Please patronize the businesses who advertise in our newsletter.***