



THE CARBON CHAMBER & ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PRESENTS:

# FIESTA

## THE 2024 ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH • 5 PM- 9 PM  
BLUE MOUNTAIN RESORT

A FESTIVE EVENING OF MUSIC, DINNER,  
DRINKS & AWARDS AS WE HONOR OUR  
2024 CARBON COUNTY AWARD WINNERS!

 **CARBON CHAMBER**  
& Economic Development

 **The Chamber**  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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# A LITTLE ABOUT US...

The Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corporation

The Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC), located in Lehighon, PA is a member-centric organization. No matter what your company size or industry, your Chamber is committed to the success of your business!

Our main focus is to offer you one-stop business solutions, personal support, and guidance in a fun and welcoming environment. We will connect you with the right people, resources, and opportunities to help your business grow and thrive. Every week, you'll always find something exciting happening to help you meet your goals.

As your local Chamber, our strength comes from the exceptional leadership of our Board, staff, and committee chairs. But, the heart of our community and true strength comes from our volunteers, sponsors, and members as well as our partnerships and collaborations with other like-minded organizations, such as the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce.

As a CCEDC member, we encourage you to get involved, share your talents, lend your expertise and let your voice be heard.



**STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE CCEDC!**  
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CARBON CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



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## A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Pat Reilly, President & CEO, Mauch Chunk Trust

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of CCEDC, I offer my congratulations to all of the awardees being honored at this evening's gala. It is the effort and energy of many committed, community minded businesses and individuals that makes Carbon County a great place to call home!

Everything we do at CCEDC is intended to make Carbon County better than it already is and to help our members achieve the success they so richly deserve. The CCEDC succeeds when our members succeed, but our continued success would not be possible without the support of our many, dedicated volunteers.

Equally essential to CCEDC's continued success is our dedicate and hard working staff. They make every CCEDC event a "must attend" happening because of their organization, attention to detail and contagious enthusiasm.

The holiday season is the perfect time to reflect and count our blessings. One blessing we all share in common is Carbon County, a wonderful place to work, live and raise a family. Let's not take it for granted! Please make getting or staying involved with CCEDC the one resolution you keep.

Thank you for your participation and support this past year; I wish you and yours the happiest of holidays and a very prosperous new year.



# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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**Your health deserves a partner.**





# THANK YOU...

...to our Volunteers & Board Members!

## 2024 AMBASSADORS

Christine Campbell • Robyn Plesnarski • Tony Santora • Brianna Strohl • Connie Hoffman • Chuck Doyle • David Carley

## CCEDC Board of Directors

**Pat Reilly (President)**, Mauch Chunk Trust  
**Ronald Tirpak (Vice President)**  
**Jared McEvoy (Secretary)**, Miers Insurance  
**Barbara Green (Treasurer)**  
Marshall Walters, Architectural Polymers  
Joe Russo, PenTeleData  
Girvin Janicki, Walmart  
Mark Sverchek, Spott-Sverchek Insurance Agency  
John Nespoli, St. Luke's Carbon Campus  
Terrence Purcell, Lehigh Valley Health Network  
Wayne Nothstein, Carbon County Commissioner  
Maureen Donovan, Lehigh Carbon Community College  
Jane George, PPL Electric  
Marlyn Kissner, Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau  
Samuel Hellen, Pocono Counties Workforce Development

## CCEDC Staff

Kylie Adams-Weiss, SVP CCEDC  
Jessica O'Donnell-Gower, EVP Northern Tier  
Linda Rex, Administrative Assistant

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# FIESTA!

## THE 2024 ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

Presented by the Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corporation

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EMCEE ..... Virgil Cardamone

INVOCATION ..... Wayne Nothstein  
Carbon County Commissioner

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION ..... Kylie Adams-Weiss  
Senior Vice President, CCEDC

CCEDC THANK YOU'S ..... Pat Reilly  
CCEDC Board President

### GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Tony Iannelli  
President & CEO, GLVCC

SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ..... Kylie Adams-Weiss  
Senior Vice President, CCEDC  
Jessica O'Donnell-Gower  
Executive Vice President, Northern Tier (GLVCC)



**CARBON CHAMBER**  
& Economic Development



**The Chamber**  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



# FIESTA!

## THE 2024 ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

Presented by the Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corporation

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LET'S SAY 'OLE' TO OUR 2024  
GALA AWARD WINNERS!

ROOKIE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR  
THE ALCHEMY LOUNGE

TOURISM BUSINESS OF THE YEAR  
NO. 9 MINE & MUSEUM

MICHAEL HARLEMAN ARTS &  
ENTERTAINMENT AWARD  
LYNN SHUPP, PHOTOGRAPHY BY LYNN

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR  
KAYLA SEMMEL

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR  
ESTHER MEIER

WILLIAM H. BAYER LIFETIME  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
PETER KERN (POSTHUMOUSLY)

2024 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR  
GALEN GLEN VINEYARD & WINERY

 **CARBON CHAMBER**  
& Economic Development

  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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• Ron Tirpak • Sheila Knappenberger • Shenanigans • Terry  
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# GET INVOLVED WITH THE CCEDC

## COMMITTEES & COUNCILS

Committees are the life force of the Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corp. and where the benefits of membership truly pay off. The more you become involved, the greater impact you will see in your business!

The strength of our Chamber comes from the hard work, time and dedication of our Committee Chamber members. Learn more about our Committees below, and if you would like to participate in one or more of these Committees, please contact Kylie Adams-Weiss at [kadams@carboncountychamber.org](mailto:kadams@carboncountychamber.org).

- Ambassadors Committee
- Business & Education Partnership Committee
- Nature & Commerce Committee
- Women in Business Committee

LEARN MORE AT [CARBONCOUNTYCHAMBER.ORG/COMMITTEES](http://CARBONCOUNTYCHAMBER.ORG/COMMITTEES)



## Rookie Business of the Year

### THE ALCHEMY LOUNGE LEHIGHTON, PA

*Recognizes a business that has demonstrated enthusiasm, community spirit and excellent customer service and has committed to growing here in Carbon County. Two years or less in business.*

Alchemy Lounge, located on Interchange Road in Lehigh, is a unique wellness studio dedicated to holistic well-being and personal transformation. Since its founding in November 2023, Alchemy Lounge has offered a variety of services, including transformational life coaching, massage, salt-infused breathwork, yoga, meditation, sound healing, and guided self-discovery sessions. With a focus on nurturing the mind, body, and spirit, the space features a salt room, an infrared sauna with built-in salt therapy, and a red light therapy booth with salt therapy. Alchemy Lounge also hosts enriching events, wellness workshops, and community gatherings that empower clients to reach their full potential. Now celebrating its one-year anniversary, Alchemy Lounge remains committed to fostering growth, healing, and wellness for all who visit.



A vibrant, stylized illustration on the left side of the page. It features a green sombrero with a red and white patterned band at the top. Below it is a green saguaro cactus with red flowers. A red chili pepper hangs from the cactus. A green vine with red and green leaves and red swirls winds through the scene. At the bottom left, a red acoustic guitar is partially visible. The background consists of a yellow field with green polka dots.

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**TIMES NEWS**

— MEDIA GROUP —

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## Tourism Business of the Year

### No. 9 MINE & MUSEUM LANSFORD, PA

*Honors a CCEDC member business that attracts guests and visitors to provide amusement, recreation, hospitality and/or culture. These businesses include: restaurants, theaters, bed & breakfasts, wineries, driving ranges and eco-tourism.*

The Panther Creek Valley Foundation, a nonprofit organization, Foundation, was incorporated in 1990 for the purpose of preserving the Coaldale No. 9 Mine site as a museum (and later a tour mine) for future generations. Restoration work began on the mine itself in 1994 and continued until the first tours were offered in 2002. Since then, we have grown to welcome 14,000 visitors per year and are expecting more in the future. With the addition of the new Dorrance Colliery Fan Exhibit Building (funded through a federal grant administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania), we will add a new, one-of-a-kind historical attraction to our site. Our facility offers many unique historic pieces including the only mine shaft that can be seen in the Anthracite Region, a miner's hospital cut into solid rock, our museum housed in the original Wash Shanty, and now the largest mine fan ever installed in the Anthracite Region which will be on display in our new building.



# CAREER PATHWAYS

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— DEVELOPMENT AREA —



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**CARBON CHAMBER**  
& Economic Development



**POCONO**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
MAKING BUSINESS

Proud Partner of  
**The Chamber**  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## MICHAEL HARLEMAN ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT AWARD

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LYNN, LYNN SHUPP  
PALMERTON, PA

*Honors an artist, entertainer or venue that supports and gives back to Carbon County.*

Lynn Shupp, Photographer and Owner of Photography by Lynn located in Palmerton, PA, with over 18 years of experience. Of her work, owner and photographer Lynn Shupp says, "My love of photography goes back to the first time looking through my grandfather's box camera and seeing the world through a different perspective! Once making photography not only my passion, but choosing it as my career, I decided to invest in myself as well as my craft and attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia for photography." Lynn's subject matter ranges from portrait photography to landscapes, commercial work, and more. Lynn is also the newly appointed President of the Palmerton Area Chamber of Commerce and is involved in countless community initiatives. To learn more, visit: <http://www.photobylynn.com/>.





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# HOLIDAY SIP AND SHOP

Starting November 22, 2024 to December 21, 2024

EVERY FRIDAY

2PM to 8PM

&

EVERY SATURDAY

12PM to 8PM

Massages, Spirit Tastings, Complimentary  
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## Young Professional of the Year

### KAYLA SEMMEL CARBON COUNTY PROTHONOTARY

*Highlights a Carbon County Young Professional highly involved in CCEDC events and community programs.*

Kayla Semmel is a lifelong resident of Carbon County. She is a graduate of Moravian College and earned dual Bachelor Degrees in Education and Psychology. She served as an Early Childhood Educator for several years before making a career change in 2020, when she became the youngest Elected Official in Carbon County. Kayla currently serves as the Prothonotary for the county. Her passion for volunteerism is deep rooted. As an undergraduate student, she was the Poverty Programs Coordinator for Moravian College. Her passion for volunteering cared over into her professional career and when she is not at the office, she can be found volunteering on one of the various organizations she is a part of. Currently, she serves as a board member of Family Promise, is a member of the Parryville Volunteer Fire Company and is on the Parent Teacher Association at her daughter's school. Kayla is also extremely passionate about our active military and veterans. In 2021, she established two annual initiatives that support both the active military and our local homeless veterans right here in Carbon County. Among the various titles Kayla has held, being a mom to her 6-year-old daughter, Zaviah, will always be her favorite.





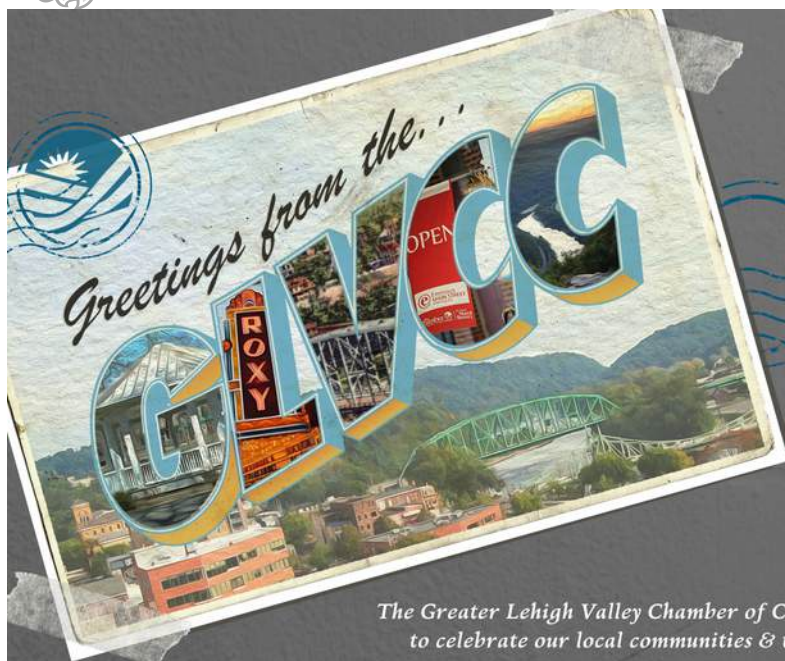
A friendly reminder from the Chamber:

*Shop Small & Shop Local  
This holiday season!*

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY  
IS NOVEMBER 30!**

**The Chamber**  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**CARBON CHAMBER**  
& Economic Development



*The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce invites you  
to celebrate our local communities & their leaders at the...*

## 2025 MAYORS' & MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS' RECEPTION

**THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 • 5:00 PM- 7:30 PM**

**DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOT (ALLENTOWN-LEHIGH VALLEY)  
7736 ADRIENNE DRIVE, BREINIGSVILLE, PA**

Featuring a **LIVE Business Matters taping!** Register today at [lehighvalleychamber.org/events](https://lehighvalleychamber.org/events)

**The Chamber**  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## Volunteer of the Year

**Esther Meier**

*Honors an outstanding individual dedicated to supporting CCEDC and other community organizations causes.*

Esther Meier is a wife and mother of 4. She has been, at different times of her life, a Registered Nurse, a full-time stay at home mom, and a full-time caregiver of her 2 elderly parents and mother-in law. She now works part-time for Catholic Charities-Carbon County for the Diocese of Allentown.

The most rewarding part of her life now is her time spent volunteering for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Lehighton, PA. She has been a member of the Society since the conference was formed in 2021 and the president since September of 2022. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic non-profit volunteer organization which seeks to serve people in need, bring faith to life, and build a more just world. Esther believes that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ and therefore we must show Christ to others by helping those in our neighborhood who are less fortunate.





Through her volunteer work at the Society, she has made many home visits to neighbors in need and helped them with food, clothing, financial needs such as housing expenses, utilities, car payment, car repairs, phone bills, etc. She also runs Vincent's Closet, a clothing exchange which takes donations of clothing, personal care items, blankets, household items and food and gives them to the needy and homeless in the area. She gives rides to appointments and shopping for those with no transportation. Through St. Vincent de Paul, she has also organized community dinners and dinners for the homeless. This past winter, she was instrumental in opening, along with other members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and volunteers from numerous churches in the area, "Operation Cold Front", a cold weather shelter, in the basement of St. Peter's Community Resource Center in Weissport, PA. The shelter provided a warm place to sleep, food and clothing for homeless in the area if the weather was forecasted to go below 25 degrees overnight. The shelter ran from January to March of 2024, entirely funded and staffed by volunteers. She is diligently working with others in the community at this time to open the cold weather shelter again this winter at a different location.

Esther is also a founding member of Bridgeway Community Services, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing a new permanent homeless shelter and transitional housing to Carbon County and the surrounding areas. Esther holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Roberts Wesleyan University in Rochester, NY.

The Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corporation invites you to the...

# Jingle Bells Christmas Shoppe Sip & Shop

**Wednesday, November 20th**  
**5 PM – 7:00 PM**

*12 Race Street, Jim Thorpe, PA*





## WILLIAM H. BAYER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**PETER KERN  
(POSTHUMOUSLY)**

*This award is in honor of the late William H. Bayer and is presented each year to a CCEDC member that has demonstrated a lifetime commitment to our community.*

Peter Kern's dedication to the Carbon County Community was second to none. Peter began his career at the New Jersey Zinc Company in 1965, working on major projects across the world. He resigned from his position of Senior Vice President in 1988 to become President and CEO of Palmerton Hospital, a position he held until his retirement in 2000. He served in a volunteer role as President of the Palmerton Hospital Foundation for five additional years.

In addition to his professional career, he was actively involved in community activities. He was elected to two terms as a director of the Pleasant Valley School District and served two years as board president. He later served 10 years as the president of the Pleasant Valley School District Foundation



He served almost 30 years as president of the Palmerton Area Chamber of Commerce and was instrumental in the founding of the Carbon County Chamber of Commerce. He served the latter organization as director for 10 years, including four years as its chairman.

He was a member of the advisory board of St. John Neumann Regional School, Palmerton, where he also served eight years as a mentor to the school's Chess Team. Since 2010, he served as treasurer of the Palmerton Area Historical Society.

He was actively involved in the mergers of Lutheran Welfare Services of Hazleton, Lutheran Home at Topton and Tressler Lutheran Services of Mechanicsburg to form Diakon Lutheran Service Ministries. He served these organizations as a director for 25 years and at various times as vice chairman, corporate secretary, and chairman of the Compensation Committee. Upon his retirement, he was given the distinguished honor of director emeritus.

In 2009, he was elected to the board of directors of the Allentown Symphony Association, where he served as chairman of the Governance Committee and as a member of the Executive Committee. In 2013, he was elected board president and was very active in obtaining broad-based community financial support for the organization.





The Carbon Chamber & Economic  
Development Corporation presents:

# A VERY MERRY

*Master Your Membership*

# WORKSHOP

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Tuesday, December 3, 2024 | 8:30 - 10 AM  
CCEDC Office, 137 South St. Lehighton



Join us for breakfast, networking & learn  
how to leverage your CCEDC/GLVCC  
member benefits to help your business  
grow!

## REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Visit [CarboncountyChamber.org](https://CarboncountyChamber.org) or

Call 610-379-5000

FREE for Chamber Members | \$10 for Future  
Members





# 2024 Business of the Year

## GALEN GLEN VINEYARD & WINERY ANDREAS, PA

*Recognizes a business that has demonstrated achievement and innovation in management, workplace excellence and has committed to growing their business for the betterment of our community.*

Accepting tonight's award is Erin Troxell of Galen Glen Winery. Erin Troxell is the dedicated winegrower behind Galen Glen Winery, nestled in Pennsylvania's scenic Lehigh Valley. With nearly a decade spent traveling the wine world, Erin returned to Galen Glen with a deep appreciation for the unique terroirs and winemaking traditions that have inspired her career. Eight vintages ago, she brought that vision to life by establishing three new vineyard plantings, setting a standard of excellence that has shaped Galen Glen's reputation. Erin's commitment to sustainable viticulture and quality-driven production is at the heart of Galen Glen, where she continues to craft expressive, award-winning wines reflective of both her passion and the land she cultivates.



The Carbon Chamber & Economic Development Corporation presents the...

**DARYL BROWN, ASSOCIATE  
REPRESENTATIVE**

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*Ribbon Cutting Ceremony*

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 • 5-7 PM**

**5:30 PM RIBBON CUTTING**

625 Interchange Road, Lehighton PA

RSVP @ [CarbonCountyChamber.org](http://CarbonCountyChamber.org)

DISCLAIMER: NO PRODUCTS WILL BE SOLD AT THIS EVENT.



**CARBON CHAMBER**  
& Economic Development

**The Chamber**  
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



# SAVE THE DATE

## CCEDC UPCOMING EVENTS

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2025 IS AROUND THE CORNER - IT'S TIME  
TO GET READY FOR OUR 2025 EVENTS!

Event sponsorships marry traditional advertising and public relations benefits in a unique package available exclusively to Chamber members. Many of our sponsorships include advertising opportunities such as direct mail, print and online advertising. On the PR side, nearly all of our sponsorships include complimentary tickets to the sponsored event. Higher levels of sponsorship may include the opportunity to address the audience on behalf of your organization and a variety of additional event-based visibility. Not to mention, the inherent value present for member businesses which demonstrate their support of The Chamber and its commitment to the community through their sponsorship investment.

To view our upcoming events, visit our website at **[carboncountychamber.org](https://carboncountychamber.org)**. If you're interested in packaging your sponsorships for strategic placement for your business, contact Kylie Adams-Weiss at [kadams@carboncountychamber.org](mailto:kadams@carboncountychamber.org) or Jessica O'Donnell-Gower at [jessicao@lehighvalleychamber.org](mailto:jessicao@lehighvalleychamber.org)!