# 2023 Readers' Choice 2020 Readers' Choice 2020 Readers' Choice

TIMES NEWS

— MEDIA GROUP



Rentschler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram & Chevrolet has been in business for 50 years. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

#### RENTSCHLER CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE RAM & CHEVROLET

Best auto dealer, new and pre-owned

Rentschler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram & Chevrolet is a new and pre-owned auto dealer, providing sales, service, parts, detailing and auto body services for 50 years. Established in 1973,

Rentschler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram was founded 50 years ago. Over the years, Rentschler dealerships have added the Jeep and Dodge franchises to offer more products, parts, and services.

"Whatever your automotive needs are, Rentschler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram Chevrolet of Slatington is here to assist you now and in the future," said Kim Guth, internet sales manager.

"We offer a no-pressure environment. We treat each customer like family and want what is best for the customer."

Throughout the last 50 years, the business has strived to include the best possible customer service with top-notch repair/maintenance work and comprehensive new and used car, truck, minivan and SUV inventories.

"We are the longest running Chrysler dealership in Lehigh County and we've been a 5-star dealer for sales and service excellence since CERAMIC PRO

ELITE DEALER

Get your shine on

Krebs Auto Detailing in Lehighton offers Ceramic Pro Coatings and more. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

the 5-star program debuted," Guth said.

**Address:** 255 North Walnut St., Slatington

**Phone:** 610-767-1171 **Online:** www.rentschlerchryslerjeepdodge.com

#### KREBS AUTO DETAILING

Best auto detailing

Krebs Auto Detailing is a family-owned and operated business that focuses on providing high-quality automotive detailing at affordable prices.

We offer services including Ceramic Pro Coatings, Window Tinting, Paint Protection Film (PPF), professional interior and exterior detailing, windshield chip repair, Fluid Film Undercoatings, headlight restoration, and sales and installation of the industry's leading automotive accessory brands.

"We are the area's leaders for protecting or enhancing your vehicle's appearance," says owner Josh Krebs.

He started the business

five years ago.

The story begins with Krebs, who cleaned and detailed cars at a car dealership many years ago. After several years working in the public education system as a teacher, principal, supervisor of mathematics and finally as director of support services, his passion for cars brought him back to the automotive industry, and he created Krebs Auto Detailing.

OCTOBER 2023

"We are a Ceramic Pro Elite Dealer and provide the highest quality services for our customers." Krebs said.

**Address:** 7420 Interchange Road, Lehighton

Phone: 610-533-4125 Email: krebsautodetailing@gmail.com

Online: Facebook/Krebs
Auto Detailing

See **AUTO** on Page 4





SUPPLEMENT 3. OCTOBER 2023



### THANK YOU FOR VOTING

We take great pride in knowing that you, our patients, have recognized us as some of the best choices for health care in Carbon and Schuylkill counties! Thank you for choosing St. Luke's...







Blocker Yamaha-Kawasaki was voted the best for ATV, motorcycle accessory shop and motorcycle dealer. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

#### **AUTO**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

#### **BLOCKER** YAMAHA-KAWASAKI

Best ATV, motorcycle accessory shop and motorcycle dealer

Blocker's has been in business for 52 years, starting as a family business.

The business handles motorcycle, all-terrain and utility vehicle sales and service for Yamaha, Kawasaki, Kvmco and others brands.

The business has launched an online store to further extend our inventory to our customers in Allentown, Bethlehem, Hazleton and throughout Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

The business owners say the customer service and longtime staff are what sets the business apart from others.

Address: 497 S. 9th St... Lehighton

> Phone: 610-377-0440 Online: www.blockers.

com and Facebook.

#### MCFARLAND & **SONS GARAGE INC.**

Best auto service, oil change, tire dealer and towing company

A full-service mechanical business. McFarland & Sons specializes in wheel alignments, ADAS Calibrations, A/C service, inspections and emissions. The garage offers towing and deals with all major tire companies.

The garage has been in business for 59 years.

Owner Troy McFarland's father Calvin started the business in 1964 and the business has remained family-owned and operated, serving their own local community.

The garage was lost to a fire June 12, 2022, and is currently working out of Troy's auto sales business until they are able to rebuild.

McFarland's Auto Sales is directly across the street from the original location.

Address: 396 W. Lizard Creek Road, Lehighton.

Phone: 610-377-4999

Pachorkowsky

Thank you for voting us

**Best Fireworks Display!** 

pyrojoellc@gmail.com

Online: mcfarlandsgarage.com and Facebook/ McFarland and Sons Garage

#### **BODY**

Best auto body

full-service collision repair, full-service mechanical repair, detailing, used auto sales and

Wentz and sons Chris and Matthew, they are a one-stop shop for all of your automo-

Their friendly staff is ready to answer your questions and explain the repair process.

They also assist with all aspects of your car repair needs, including helping with car rentals and working directly with your insurance company.

Started in 1976, Gary Wentz saw an opportunity to start his own business to fill a need for a local auto body shop that provided expert collision repairs and excellent customer service. He opened his first shop in Lehighton and has been so successful that the business now occupies four facilities, just outside Lehighton.

Address: 350 Interchange

> Road, Lehighton Phone: 610-377-3710 Online: http://www.



The business provides paintless dent repair.

Run by Gary and Roxanne tive needs.



Advance Auto Parts in Lehighton was voted best auto parts business. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS



Liberty AutoGlass was voted best auto glass repair. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

wentzautomotive. com/

Facebook: Wentz Auto Body

#### **ADVANCE AUTO PARTS**

Best parts store

Advance Auto Parts Inc. is a leading automotive aftermarket parts provider that serves both professional installer and do-it-yourself customers. Advance operates stores and Worldpac branches in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The company also serves independently owned Carquest branded stores across these locations in addition to Mexico and various Caribbean Islands.

Address: 77 Blakeslee Boulevard Dr. E. Lehighton Phone: 610-377-6107 Online: www.AdvanceAutoParts.com.

#### LIBERTY **AUTOGLASS**

Best auto glass repair

Liberty AutoGlass strives to provide the best customer service in the auto glass repair/replacement industry.

"We are fully aware of the important nature of our services in regard to safety, value and convenience," the business says on its website.

"Modern auto glass repair and replacing requires an attention to detail and a dedication to technical excellence.

The glass being repaired or replaced provides much more than just protection from the elements."

Services include: Auto glass replacement, windshields, back glass, door glass, vent glass, quarter glass, glass for side/door mirrors, windshield repairs such as stone hits, headlight restoration and windshield wipers.

Customer service representatives are glad to assist customers with exact quotes, insurance claim processing and convenient scheduling at your location or the shop.

Address: 509 N. 1st St., Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-7787 Online: www.libertyautoglass.us

#### **JENI HACKETT**

Best local band/musician

An acoustic singer/songwriter from Kresgeville, Jeni Hackett has been spreading her natural folk sound to all ages. Combining her original tunes with her long list of covers, makes Hackett a performer that any audience can appreciate.

Hackett has been performing in shows since 2000.

"I learned to play the guitar while still in high school," she said. "Once I started ESU as a student, I started playing the local Stroudsburg scene and my music career grew from there."

Hackett said she has the ability to adapt the show to cater to any venue's needs.

"We can perform as a full six-piece band or trim the band all the way down to an acoustic trio, duo or solo performance. We also have a wide variety of songs that can be performed."

Hackett has played in many states in addition to her home region — the Lehigh Valley and the Poconos.

Some venues include Camelback Mountain, Coca-Cola Park, Dorney Park, Godfrey Daniels, Lehigh Valley Zoo, Memorytown USA, Mount Airy Casino, Pocono Raceway, Sherman Theater, West End Fair and Wind Creek Casino.

With a varied songlist, artists include Fleetwood Mac, Shania Twain, Jewel, Dolly Parton, Lady Antebellum, The Eagles, Little Big Town, Sugarland, Miranda Lambert, The Beatles, Terri Clark, Matchbox 20, Elton John, Zac Brown Band, Sheryl Crow, Billy Joel, Blues Traveler, Carol King, Elvis Presley, Pink and Dixie Chicks.

**Address:** PO Box 791, Kresqeville

Phone: 570-269-0381 Online: www.JeniHackettMusic.com

#### LAROSE'S SKATING RINK

Best roller-skating rink

LaRose's has been oper-



Jeni Hackett won the best local musician.

ating for 97 years.

Eugene and Karen Crostley took over the business two years ago after Roy and Brenda Artz retired. The Crostleys have over 20 years of experience working at the rink.

"We have nice courteous staff and there are not many skating rinks around," said Eugene Crostley. "We strive to have a fun safe place for family and kids to hang out with friends to have a good time anymore. In addition to roller skating, the rink offers drinks, and hot and cold snacks. They also have video games.

Address: 2800 Interchange Road, Lehighton Phone: 484-629-6095

Website/Facebook:

laroses.net

#### PALMERTON COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Best block party/picnic

We are one of the largest events in Carbon County with professional and local entertainment along with ethnic food stands, rides and games.

The beautiful Palmerton Borough park provides a perfect setting to enhance the event. What makes the festival stand out from other businesses is the awesome homemade ethnic foods, the amazing entertainment, and the number of nonprofit groups participating to raise funds for their specific cause.

The Palmerton Festival has been operating for 34 years. It got started from being passed from Palmerton Hospital to the community.

**Address:** PO Box 266 Palmerton

**Phone:** 484-522-8899



Becky's was voted the best drive-in. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

**Website/Facebook:** www.Palmertonfestival.com

#### **BECKY'S DRIVE-IN**

Best drive-in

Becky's is an outdoor theater with two movie screens with double features.

On the grounds is a playground and trackless rides.

The concession stand has delicious hot food, snacks, popcorn, and scrumptious funnel cakes.

The drive-in theater has been in business for 77 years. In 1946 William "Becky" and Alice Beck founded the drive-in because of Becky's interest in movies.

Now their children, Mary Maberry, Darrell Beck, Cindy Deppe and Dennis Beck run the business.

Deppe said, "There aren't many drive-in theaters around anymore, less than 300 in the USA. We make our drive-in an enjoyable place for the entire family to attend."

They welcome pets and dogs even receive a dog bone at the gate when entering.

Special events during the

Lehighton

Dr. E

season include fireworks for our anniversary, Cub Scout and Girl Scout camp-outs, trunk or treat, car show to benefit Dream Come True of the Blue Ridge Chapter.

"We have raised over \$400,000 since 1986 for this worthy cause," Deppe said. "We also have a coat drive for the Allentown Rescue Mission and Salvation Army."

**Address:** 4548 Lehigh Drive, Walnutport

**Phone:** 610-767-2249 Online: www.beckysdi.com

See **ENTERTAINMENT** on Page 7

#### Phoenix® Physical Therapy

#### Thank you for voting us **Best Physical Therapist in Lehighton!**

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6. SUPPLEMENT OCTOBER 2023



## 2023 the WINERS

#### **AUTO**

ATV	Blocker Enterprises
Auto Body	Wentz Auto Body
Auto Dealer New	Rentschler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Chevrolet
Auto Dealer Preowned	Rentschler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Chevrolet
Auto Detailing	Krebs Auto Detailing
Auto Glass Repair	Liberty AutoGlass
Auto Parts	Advance Auto Parts - Lehighton

Auto Service	McFarland & Sons Garage Inc.
Car Wash	Lehighton Car Wash
Motorcycle Accessory Shop	Blocker Enterprises
Motorcycle Dealer	Blocker Enterprises
•	McFarland & Sons Garage Inc.
Tire Dealer	McFarland & Sons Garage Inc.
Towing Company	McFarland & Sons Garage Inc.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS**

August David	Karakala Association
	Knoebels Amusement Resort
	Tamaqua Arts Center
	The Inn at Birch Wilds
•	Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Co
	Palmerton Community Festival
Bowling Alley	Fritz's Lanes & Pro Shop
Campground	Knoebels Campground
	Wind Creek Bethlehem
Concert Venue	Penn's Peak
Craft Classes	Love 4 Art Studio
Dance Studio	Dance with Kim
Drive-In Theatre	Becky's Drive-In
Family Entertainment	Heisler's Cloverleaf Dairy
Firework Display	Pyro Joe LLC
Gymnastics	Tumble with Denise
HotelCountry Inn & Suites by F	Radisson, Lehighton-Jim Thorpe, PA
Local Band/Musician	Jeni Hackett
Local Fall Attraction	Yenser's Tree Farm
Local Haunted Attraction	Devils Last Laugh
Martial Arts	Mountain Karate Academy
Miniature Golf	Heisler's Cloverleaf Dairy
	Mahoning Valley Cinema
	Palmerton Pool
	Layne Doc Roberts (DJ The Doc)
•	Incognito Photo Booth Co.
	LaRose's Skating Rink
•	3



Ski Resort	Blue Mountain Resort
Social Media Group/Page	
Sports Facility	Woodstone Country Club and Lodge
Tourist Attraction	Knoebels Amusement Resort
Wedding Venue	The Barn at Graver's Tree Farm
Whitewater Rafting	Lehighton Outdoor Center



Joe Pachorkowsky customizes each fireworks show. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

#### **PYRO JOE LLC**

Best firework display

Pyro Joe offers budget friendly pyrotechnic displays for all occasions.

Joe Pachorkowsky had his first taste of fireworks when his father brought home a brown paper bag of them. It was late at night and he woke Joe up. They went outside, lit one off and after it made a very loud boom they ran into the house, turned off the lights and pretended nothing happened.

Fast forward to about 2005 or so, when he started taking classes and applied for his federal license. His first professional show was at Riverside Bar and Grille in Easton, where he still shoots about twice a year. He gained experience working on crew with a few display operators and through club shoots.

Today, Pyro Joe LLC shoots at several events throughout the year in several locations throughout the state. In addition to events we also shoot at weddings and special occasions. We currently have bids out for several events next season.

What sets Joe apart from other display companies is that each show is unique. There is no show that is alike, including our wedding displays. His wife Mary handles all of the go between for the wedding displays with the wedding coordinator to assure that the customers are getting exactly what they like.

They are affiliated as a founding member of the Lehigh Valley Wedding Cafe. Joe is federally licensed as well as state licensed in Pennsylvania and Delaware. He has various trade affiliations, including International Independent Showmans Association, the National Fireworks Association, Pennsylvania Pyrotechnics Artists and others.

The Pachorkowskys are also active in the local community through the American Legion, Knights of Columbus and Franklin Township Fire Company.

He is also recognized for being a veteran-owned company.

Address: 1149 Main Road, Lehighton.

**Phone:** 484-629-9589 **Online:** https://www.facebook.com/Carboncountypa?mibextid=ZbWKwL

#### CHANNEL 1 METHED UP NEWS

Best social media group/page

Methed Up News on Facebook started out with a police incident that ended up in James Spotts' backyard. That was two years ago.

"We are trying to be the most informative news page out there," Spotts said, with "honest, up to the minute facts, reliable, trustworthy."

Address: Coaldale. Phone: 272-225-2799

#### HEISLER'S DAIRY BAR

Best miniature golf Best family entertainment

Heisler's Dairy Bar is celebrating its 66th anniversary as a family business.



Heisler's was voted the best family attraction. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

The business started in the 1920s with home milk delivery. The dairy bar was built in 1957.

Heisler's has grown to become an ice cream manufacturer, dairy bar and restaurant and includes two mini-golf courses and a lighted driving range. Heisler's has been a local favorite for many generations. **Address:** 743 Catawissa Road, Tamaqua

Phone: 570-668-3399
Online: www.heislers-dairy.com

See **ENTERTAINMENT** on Page 8



## Thanks to all who voted!

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Penn's Peak garnered the most votes for concert venue.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7** 

#### **PENN'S PEAK**

Concert venue

Penn's Peak, the mountaintop entertainment venue in Jim Thorpe, can comfortably host 1,800 concertgoers. The venue, in business for 20 years now, is complete with a broad open-air deck for summertime revelry and a full service restaurant and bar aptly named Roadies.

Penn's Peak opened in 1998 as Rambler's Ranch, a country music venue, with a performance by legendary singer Ray Price. The original owners closed after barely two years, but the venue was reborn as Penn's Peak in 2003 with a sold-out concert

by Brad Paisley.

Penn's Peak patrons enjoy a breathtaking 50-mile panoramic view of the Appalachian Mountains.

The picturesque venue is available for weddings, banquets and private rentals.

Guests can enjoy free, live entertainment on the deck during the warmer months.

**Address:** 325 Maury Road, Jim Thorpe

**Phone number:** 866-605-PEAK

**Website:** PennsPeak. com

Facebook: PennsPeak

#### DANCE WITH KIM LLC

Best dance studio

Dance with Kim is a nationally recognized leader

in dance education, teaching dance in a variety of styles for ages 3 to 18. The studio has both recreational classes and nationally recognized competitive dance teams.

DWK has been recognized by the Association of Dance Competitions & Conventions the past four years for a studio that best exemplifies working together and striving for excellence. They are celebrating 36 years.

Kimberly A. Semmel started her business out of high school. Bringing her energetic personality to the studio floor, sharing her passion for dance and cutting-edge curriculum materials.

DWK has assembled a faculty and staff that share an exceptional ethic and dedication to their dancers and the art of dance. DWK nurtures the spirit of collaboration by giving back through the community through scholarship programs, supporting various other nonprofits and enriching the lives of all involved.

DWK for a Cause LLC was established in 2021 to help local families and organizations in need and to inspire dancers to continue to be involved in a community that has given so much to them.

Directors are Kimberly Semmel and Brittany Semmel-Pry. **Address:** 248 S. Fourth St., Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-4884
Online: www.dancewithkim.com and Facebook/
dancewithkimllc

## THE BARN AT GRAVER'S TREE FARM

Best wedding venue

Locals always knew about the tree farm and old barn.

After renovations, it's a brand-new authentic Amishbuilt barn used only for weddings with all of the rustic charm and elegance.

The venue is owned by Audrey Graver.

Address: 841 Dairy Road, Tamaqua Phone: 570-386-8932 Online: www.graverestate.com

#### TAMAQUA COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER

Best art gallery

A nonprofit arts and entertainment venue, providing the opportunity for all to create, learn and appreciate the arts in a safe place. A community effort



This happy couple was one of many to host their wedding at the Barn at Graver's Tree Farm. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

utilizing volunteers with vision, the arts center is often the first exposure one has to the arts. Many artists have never exhibited their work before.

The arts center enjoys helping artists grow and gain exposure, while providing an opportunity for others to appreciate new art.

Address: 125 Pine St., Tamaqua

Phone: 570-668-1192 Online: Tamaquaarts.org

#### MOUNTAIN KARATE ACADEMY

Best martial arts

Mountain Karate is a martial arts academy that teaches Korean Martial Arts. Mountain Karate has been in business for 32 years. Master Paul Maglionico trained at the original Mountain Karate School in the Poconos, and opened his charter branch in Lehighton in 2007.

The academy's vast experience makes it stand out from the others, with 14

master ranked (4th degree black belts and higher) plus numerous first to third degree black belts teaching. A master is always on the mats, with lots of other help.

Two grandmasters and a Ph.D. in the martial arts are on staff.

Classes are held every day except Fridays, with programs for all ages. Students range from ages 3 through

The academy created the Character Counts program for the kids.

They are charter members of the Eastern USA International Martial Arts Association, the largest Martial Arts Association in the world, and all of its instructors are certified through this association.

The academy invites people to come in to try a free class.

Address: 468 Delaware

Ave., Palmerton **Phone number:** 610-377-0323

Website/Facebook: www.mountainkarate.com

See **ENTERTAINMENT** on Page 9





Incognito Photobooth Co., based in Palmerton, has a vintage camper for wedding memories.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8** 

#### **INCOGNITO** РНОТОВООТН СО.

Party supply rental

Incohgnito Photobooth Co., based in Palmerton, has been supplying parties for six years.

Owner Wendy Cesare says she started because of her love of weddings and creating memories.

She says the personal attention to details allows them stand out from other businesses." We provide professional lighting, camera and printing services. Templates are designed specifically for every event.

Cesare says the business has the only vintage camper photobooth in Northeast Pennsylvania.

The business has also added an audio guest book where guests leave messages for the happy couple on a vintage phone.

nal memories and exqui- office and refreshment

for the modern couple who values timeless elegance," Cesare said.

White Address: 229 Street Palmerton

Phone Number: 610-

Online: website: www. incognitopbco.com and www.facebook.com/incognitophotoboothco?mibextid=LQQJ4dncognito Photobooth Co.

#### **PALMERTON MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION**

Best outdoor pool

The Palmerton Memorial Park Association is a nonprofit organization created for the benefit of the residents of the Palmerton area in memory of veterans who served in the military during World War I and World War II. Completed in 1947, the PMPA facilities consist of a swimming complex with a 90-feet by 225-feet swimming pool and baby wading pool, as-"We strive to craft eter- sociated bathhouse with site wedding keepsakes stand, a small pavilion, a



An aerial view of the Palmerton Memorial Park complex. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

picnic grove with a large pavilion, and a wooded nature trail surrounding the facility on 18 acres of woodland.

At more than 20,000 square feet, Palmerton Memorial Park Association is the largest swimming facility in the area open to people from all over, providing safety-focused group and private swimming lessons to all ages and skill sets, relaxing yet invigorating water aerobics and private lap swim time for adults, and special events scattered throughout the summer that include fun for all ages.

The facility also includes a concession stand, two basketball courts, a sand volleyball court, two pavilions available to be rented for all occasions, and large grassy areas with trees throughout to accommodate everyone's preference of sun or shade.

Beginning in 2024 the pool will be offering discounts for all military personnel (active, retired, and reserves) on all daily admissions and season memberships.

The association also offers employment opportunities to teenagers and

young adults in all positions and holds courses to grant lifeguarding and First Aid/CPR/AED certifications and water

safety certifications. **Address:** 1255 3rd Street, PO Box 33 Palmerton Phone Number: 610-826-5357

Online: www.palmertonpool.com; Facebook: Palmerton Memorial Park Association. See **ENTERTAINMENT** on Page 10

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Country Inn & Suites By Radisson in Lehighton garnered the most votes in the hotel category. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS



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#### **THANK YOU**

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Voted #1 in Tax Return
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Devil's Last Laugh in Franklin Township won the top haunted attraction. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

#### COUNTRY INN & SUITES BY RADISSON

Best hotel

Located off I-476, the Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Lehighton-Jim Thorpe offers many amenities, including free Wi-Fi, hot breakfast, whirlpool, hot tub heated pool and a business center.

Address: 1619 Interchange Road, Lehighton Phone: 610-826-4344

**Online:** www.choicehotels.com/pennsylvania/lehighton/country-inn-suites-hotels/pa977

#### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Best Bingo

Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company currently has 35 active firefighters, 10

active fire police and operates four pieces of apparatus that respond to fires, rescues, and other emergency calls within the township. The fire company also provides mutual aid to neighboring communities. The fire company was formed in 1968, when a few men had a vision and began planning. On April 14, 1970, these men attended a meeting of the Franklin Township Supervisors and two weeks later. the supervisors appointed a charter committee. The formation of the fire company and auxiliary began. By November 1971, the group had raised \$16,000 and was officially chartered April 21, 1972. The current building opened May 12, 1974.

In addition to firefighters and fire police, the fire company boasts a roster of approximately 50 active auxiliary members who have continued the fundraising activities in supporting the efforts of firefighters and fire police.

Funds raised go directly back to the community through the purchase of equipment, training, and entertainment.

**Address:** 2440 Fairyland Road Lehighton

**Phone Number:** 610-377-1244 (Call 911 in case of emergency NOT the fire company)

Online: www.facebook. com/ftvfc4

#### DEVIL'S LAST LAUGH

Best haunted attraction

Kory and Amanda Rabenold own an asylum-themed haunted attraction, and also a sideshow where Mr. Pickles started. They've been in the business two years.

They host multiple events in September and October, are open last weekend in September, and all four weekends in October. Oct. 29 is a blackout show.

Kory started out working out at Waldorf Estate of Fear, then began doing Halloween parades, and it spiraled into their own haunt.

"We have two attractions right now, Amanda Rabenold said, "In coming years we are hoping to open up third attraction in the woods."

They incorporate multiple different things into their haunt, so their guests feel like they're actually in a hospital.

They try to incorporate different senses throughout their haunted house, and have different scare tactics to entertain, which sets them apart from any normal haunt.

Address: 4005 Long Run Road, Lehighton

Phone: 484-553-9000 Online: devilslastlaughhaunt.com/devilslastlaugh on Facebook



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The company is in service

more than 50 years. It was founded in 1969.

Address: 1167 Interchange Road, Lehighton. Phone: 610-377-6960 Online: www.bucknolisicky.com

#### WILDONER **INSURANCE AGENCY INC.**

Best insurance agency

Wildoner Insurance Agenand business insurance to residents and business owners in Carbon County and the surrounding area for more than 70 years.

The agency has been family owned and operated with Charles E. Wildoner growing the business by helping area



Mauch Chunk Trust Company. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

their insurance needs after World War II.

It has been a family-owned and operated business since 1946 when Charlie and Joan Wildoner determined to provide the community with the best personal and business insurance options.

The tradition of serving local communities continues to this day with Charlene Wildoner Grant and Joe Grant still providing the best service and options.

The company prides itself

residents and businesses with on being "local and approachable and not a "1-800" or surance.com "internet-based" company.

"We are your local insurance agent that is available for coverage, claims, and help with all your insurance needs right in your backvard." said Charlene Wildoner Grant, president/owner.

"Our mission is to develop an insurance program that best fits the needs of each of our clients."

Address: 701 North St... Jim Thorpe

Phone: 570-325-3651

#### **MAUCH CHUNK** TRUST COMPANY

Best bank and mortgage company

Mauch Chunk Trust Company was incorporated in 1902, and has remained a locally owned and managed independent community bank ever since.

The main office is in Jim Thorpe, with seven branches serving Jim Thorpe, Albrightsville, Nesquehoning, Lehighton, Hometown and West Penn.

Mauch Chunk Trust has been in business for 121 vears.

The business was started as the Second National Bank of Mauch Chunk in 1864.

Address: 1111 North St., Jim Thorpe

Phone: 570-325-2265 Website/Facebook: Mauch Chunk Trust Company (Main Office- Jim Thorpe PA)



Online: www.wildonerin-

#### TIMES NEWS

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## 2023 Readers' Choice

## WINNERS

#### **FINANCIAL**

Accountant	Buckno Lisicky & Company
	Mauch Chunk Trust Company
	PSFCÚ

#### **FOOD AND DRINK**

	Blended Bakery
	Radical Wine Company
Bartender (include work place).	Tess - Jim Thorpe Legion
BBQ	Big Creek BBQ
Beer Distributer I	Dunbar Bottling: One Stop Party Central
Best Kept (Dining) Secret	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Bowmanstown Diner
Brunch	The Mason Jar Family Diner
Burger-Local	West End Saloon
	Thomson's Meat Market
Catering	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Cheesesteak	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	MYST
Coffee	Muggles Mug Coffee Shoppe
	Cousins II Cocktail Lounge
	Cindy's Deli
	Corner Cone
	Bowmanstown Diner
	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Eight Oaks
	Blended Bakery
	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
•	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Fine Dining	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Big Creek BBQ
	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Mallard Market
	al Giant
Happy Hour	Riverwalck Saloon



Hoagies	Cindy's Deli
Hot Dogs	Cindy's Deli
	Corner Cone
	Zimmerman's Dairy Inc.
Italian Restaurant	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Kid's Meal	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Lunch	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Margarita	Sisters Cantina
Milkshake	Corner Cone
Natural Food Store	Nutritional Needs
Outdoor Dining	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Pierogies	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Pizza-Local	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
Produce	More Pickles Please 1380
Restaurant Server (include wor	k place)Sherri - The Mason Jar Family
Diner	
	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Riverwalck Saloon
Taco	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
	Blended Bakery
	Blended Bakery
	Radical Wine Company
Wings	Papa Al's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria



Giant was voted best national level grocery store. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS

#### **GIANT FOOD STORE**

Best grocery store/ National/Regional

Giant has been in the grocery retail business for 100 years.

Michelle Rex has been store manager in Lehighton for 22 years.

She says the best past of the job is team members and customers.

The store's purpose: is "Connecting Families for a Better Future."

Address: 1241 Blakeslee Blvd. Dr., Lehighton

Phone: 570-386-4146 Online: www.giantfoodstores.com

#### **CINDY'S DELI**

Best deli, hoagies, hot dogs

Founded in 2012, Cindy's is a small-town deli and hoagie shop specializing in fresh deli meats, salads and sandwiches. They also offer catering.

In business for 11 and a half years, owner Caitlyn Moyer said a door opened for a new opportunity after one closed behind her.

"I've been sailing along the business route ever since!" Moyer says.

Moyer says, "I really appreciate all the love and support I have received over the years. These last two years have been challenging to say the least, but to have friends with me makes the road a little less bumpy."

Moyer says it's the personal touch and fresh ingredients that sets them apart from other businesses.

"We have a lot of fun with food all day long."

**Address:** 828 Main Road, Lehighton.

Phone: 610-379-4747 Online: www.cindysdeli.

com

#### RIVERWALCK SALOON

Best happy hour and sports bar

Riverwalck offers traditional smokehouse bbq with a Tex-Mex flair, with a full service bar.

In business for 15 year, the business stemmed from a dream of the owner that grew up in the area.

The outdoor areas are popular, with great fire pits lit at night on the weekends.

Address: 101 Centre Street, Parryville, PA Phone: 610-852-2323

**Online:** www.riverwalk-saloon.com/theriverwalcksaloon

See **FOOD** on Page 14





Cindy's Deli was voted best in deli, hoagies and hot dogs.





The Mason Jar was voted best place to have brunch.

#### **FOOD**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13** 

#### THE MASON JAR FAMILY DINER

Best for brunch

The restaurant has been opened for 2½ years. We pride ourselves in offering a variety of breakfast, lunch, and dinner dishes served by a friendly and courteous staff.

The restaurant stands out because they serve quality food at responsible prices.

Address: 3 Lizard Creek Road, Andreas

Phone: 484-464-1340 email: themasonjarfamilydiner@yahoo.com

#### BLENDED BAKERY LLC

Best bakery, doughnuts, treats & sweets, wedding cakes, kids birthday parties

Blended Bakery, which started as a cottage kitchen, is family-owned and operated for eight years. The full-service bakery offers custom cakes, cupcakes, wedding cakes, pies, custom cookies, pastries, children's birthday parties and so much more.

They bake everything from scratch using only the finest ingredients and pride themselves on community and family. "I emphasize the

importance of community and working together," said owner Christina Yurasits. "The end game is a strong village. I truly love every guest that enters my bakery and cherish how they become family. One big blended family!"

**Address:** 158 S. First St., Lehighton

Phone: 610-730-1732 Website/Facebook: Facebook- Blended Bakery Lehighton

#### SHERRI KLEINTOP THE MASON JAR

Best waitress

Sherri Kleintop has been a waitress since 1988. (Taking a few years off here and



Eight Oaks won a gold medal for Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey and several silver medals. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTOS

there.)

She started at the Mason Jar in January 2021.

"I love our amazing customers and the fast-paced environment," Sherri said.

"This is my fun part-time job and during the week I am a full-time court stenographer."

"Our customers are very kind, easygoing and fun to be around. They make my job very enjoyable!"

**Work address:** 3 Lizard Creek Road, Andreas.

#### EIGHT OAKS FARM DISTILLERY

Best distillery

Eight Oaks Farm Distillery has been in business for eight years. The distillery is veteran-owned and family-run, located in the rolling farmlands of the Lehigh Valley. We are a farm distillery, growing all the grain needed to craft our products.

Address: 7189 Route 309. New Tripoli

Phone: 484-387-5287 Website/Facebook: eightoaksdistillery.com

See **FOOD** on Page 15



Blended Bakery has special occasion cakes and everyday treats.

Congratulations to all the 2023
Readers Choice Readers Choicewinners!



Thomson's is a family-owned business for more than 41 years.

#### **FOOD**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14** 

#### MALLARD MARKET

Best grocery store - local

Mallard Market is a family-owned neighborhood grocery market.

They take pride in helping you provide your family with the best quality goods. Owned and operated by KP for seven years, Mallard Market has been a Lehighton staple for grocery shopping for over 20 years.

The business is community oriented, providing sponsorships to many local nonprofits.

**Address:** 161 S. Second St., Lehighton

**Phone:** 610-377-5090

**Website/Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/ LehightonMallardMarket

#### THOMSON'S MEAT MARKET

Best butcher/ meat market

Thomson's Meat Market has been in business more than 40 years.

"My dad started it in 1982. I bought it from him in December 2015," said Jake Thomson, owner.

The meat market provides fresh beef, pork, chicken, homemade sausage, beef sticks, ring bologna and jerky, barbecue, soups and salads.

Address: 430 Washington St., Walnutport

Phone: 610-767-4592 Online/Facebook: Thomson's Meat Market

#### **CORNER CONE LLC**

Best ice cream, milkshake, dessert and friendliest service

Pamela and Larry McCullion, along with their son Levi, are the proud owners and founders of their family owned and operated ice cream shop that opened in July of 2016.

Corner Cone serves 40plus flavors of soft serve, 26 hand-dipped flavors, along with milkshakes and a variety of sundaes and Italian ice.

One of the top features is "Pop Pop's" Banana Split, to honor Larry's father, Lawrence McCullion Sr. who loved ice cream, but passed away unexpectedly six weeks before opening day.



Corner Cone serves 40-plus flavors of soft serve, 26 hand-dipped flavors. TERRY AHNNER/TIMES NEWS

Corner Cone is a seasonal ice cream shop, which opens Mother's Day weekend through Labor Day 5 to 8 p.m. daily.

They pride themselves on fast and friendly service and great products.

Address: 103 S. Eighth St., Lehighton

**Phone:** 570-249-1755 **Facebook:** Corner-ConeLehighton/

See **FOOD** on Page 16



#### READ LOCAL SHOP LOCAL EAT LOCAL

TIMES NEWS

We cover your community!





Papa Al's Italian Restaurant is a reader favorite, garnering many Readers' Choice awards. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS



Bowmanstown Diner won the best diner and best breakfast categories. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS

#### **FOOD**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15** 

#### RADICAL WINE CO.

Best winery, bar

Radical Wine Company is an urban-style winery similar to a craft brewery.

When you visit, expect a fun, laid back vibe with a variety of options, including

19 varieties of wine, 12 draft beers, five sangrias, eight wine slushies, mix and match flights, mixed drink specials and even wine infused soft serve ice cream. They also donate to local animal shelters and rescues.

Address: 511 Mahoning Drive E., Lehighton Phone: 610-365-7969

Online: www.radicalwineco.com

#### **DUNBAR BOTTLING**

Best beer distributor

Dunbar Bottling has domestic and craft beer, soda, slushy, tobacco and crowler.

Dunbar has been in business for over 50 years. The business is under the ownership of Sam Patel as CEO.

Dunbar Bottling is a onestop party shop with selection of six beers, crawlers and cases of beer.

The business is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Address: 202 N. Main Lane, Lehighton

**Phone:** 610-377-1220 Facebook: Facebook.

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A reminder that you and your loved ones have a right to choice your care. Thank you for choosing us.



Mahoning Valley NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER

397 Hemlock Drive, Lehighton 570-386-5522 admissions@mvnrc.org

com/dunbarbottling

#### **BIG CREEK BAR-B-Q**

Best BBQ and food truck

Big Creek Bar-B-Q owner Daniel Graver has been running his rustic roadside barbecue pit for over 10 vears.

He found a love for running a smoker at a young age, and with his family's support he set out to make a

He offers homemade

barbecue with roadside convenience or he can drop off and/or provide on-site catering.

The business delivers quality homemade food at a fast pace and an affordable price.

Address: 712 Blakeslee Blvd. Drive East, Lehighton

Phone: 484-523-8041 Online: Facebook.com/ Bigcreekbarbq

#### **PAPA AL'S ITALIAN** RESTAURANT

Best family restaurant, best kept dining secret, catering, best cheesesteak, dinner, fastest delivery service, fastest takeout service, best French fries, best Italian restaurant, kid's meal. best lunch, outdoor dining, best fine dining, best pierogies, best pizza - local, best tacos, best wings

Papa Al's Italian Restaurant is a family-owned restaurant with a commitment to service and value in the family tradition for the last nine years.

"We strive to provide you with consistently delicious

food at fair prices in a warm, inviting and friendly atmosphere," said co-owner Al Caban. "We use only the finest and freshest quality ingredients available in preparing each meal individually. It may take a few extra minutes, but we take great pride in providing you with an outstanding dining experience."

The menu includes pasta, pizza, strombolis, wraps, panini, burgers, specialty fries, specialty pierogies, wings, hot subs, cold subs, cheesesteaks, clubs, homemade soups, authentic Mexican tacos/ fajitas/ quesadillas, salads and Italian appetizers

Italian dinners and sauces are made in house, never frozen.

The restaurant offers lunch specials and delivers to Palmerton and surrounding areas: Lehighton, Bowmanstown, Weissport, Walnutport and Slatington.

Papa Al's offers catering, online ordering and a small outdoor seating area.

The business started on Dec. 14, 2014, out of a food truck parked at George's P & H on Little Gap Road in Aguashicola.

"We did exceptionally well and decided to open up an actual restaurant seven months later at 315 Lehigh

Ave, Palmerton, said co-owner Manny Alvarado. "It was a complete leap of faith as this property sat on a residential street and not on the main drag in Palmerton."

OCTOBER 2023

After six years on Lehigh Avenue, they moved to Delaware Avenue in 2019 and went under full demolition to zone the space from a gym to a restaurant. They opened their doors in December

In 2024, the restaurant plans a new menu with new menu items and a "private" room for meetings, small gatherings, birthdays, etc.

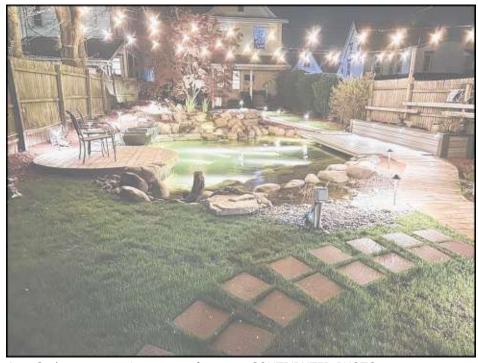
The owners are firm believers in giving back to the community, donating to many events in the Carbon County area. "That will never change as we are forever thankful for the support that we have received and continue to receive from our patrons," Caban said.

This is the first time receiving a Times News Readers Choice Award. "We are very grateful for all of those folks who took the time to vote for Papa Al's. We love what we do!"

Address: 346 Delaware Ave., Palmerton

Phone: 610-824-7163/610-824-7164

Online: www.papaalspalmerton.com



AguaStyle creates unique water features. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

#### **AOUASTYLE CREATIONS LLC**

Best aquatic landscaping for four consecutive years (2020-present) and best general contractor for two (2022-Present).

What started as a hobby transformed into a five-year business, driven by passion and built on excellence. The company creates one-of-akind natural-looking water features that are easy and simple to maintain by using the best products and the right building techniques.

Owners Robert and Lucinda Anthony design, install and maintain ponds, waterfalls and streams using Aquascape products.

"Watching a pond being created from a spray-painted outline on a customer's property to the final rock being placed on the waterfall is one of the joys in my life," says Robert Anthony, a certified Aquascape contractor.

"Water features should be enjoyed and not a chore to maintain. We feel it's important to listen to our customers' ideas. Communication is very

important to us so we can make your pond or water feature unique to you and your home. Everyone has their own style and visions for their property. We strive to make it a reality."

AquaStyle Creations can bring your backyard dreams to life in a short amount of time. Anthony's creativity, work ethic, dedication and attention to detail ensures customers that he will build exactly what they envisioned while adding an artist's touch that will leave them in awe.

"There is nothing like seeing the joy on our clients' faces when I can transform their property into an oasis. There's something about the sights and sounds of water that we are all drawn to. We are truly blessed to be able to share that with others," Anthony said.

The company serves Carbon and Schuylkill counties, Lehigh Valley and Poconos

Address: 247 S. Third St., Lehighton

**Phone:** 484-353-1003 Online: https://aquastylecreations.com/ and https://www.facebook.com/ aguastyle.creations1/

#### R.A. AHNER **FURNITURE INC.**

Best appliance saleslocal, furniture and mattress store

Ahner's offers new furniture including living room, dining room, bedroom/mattresses, custom made furniture as well as new appliances.

The store continues to offer a wide range of preowned furniture and appliances. Delivery, installation, service and delivery/removal

are available. Family owned and operated in the same location since 1968.

Started by Ronald Sr and Ruthann Ahner as a used furniture store, allowing Ronald to leave his job at Scotty Fashions in Lehighton. We operate a third generation store which is family owned, family run. Our outstanding friendly team offer excellent sales assistance as well as ongoing support of our customers.

Proudly offering new appliances from all major brands at very competitive prices.

Address: 1231 Mahoning Dr. E, Lehighton

**Phone:** 570-386-4758 Online: www.ahnerfurniture.com



Ahner Furniture & Appliances in Mahoning Township is celebrating its 55th year in business. From left are Ron Ahner Jr., co-owner; Ronald Ahner, founder; Rhonda Edgar, co-owner; and Brandon Edgar, pre-owned manager who represents the business' third generation. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

#### **HAGER FURNITURE** ware Ave. Palmerton CO. INC.

Best flooring and carpet service

Hager is a retail business offering furniture and floor covering for every room in your home.

Boy upholstered furniture. Amish made furniture from several different manufacturers, floor covering from Shaw and Mannington, and American made, two-sided mattress sets.

The business, founded in 1957, sells and install window treatments.

In 1957, Jeff Hager's grandfather, Frank V Hager, started the business after working for several furniture stores in the area.

"We are in our third generation and many of our employees have been with us for over 20 years so we have an incredible amount of experience helping customers find exactly what they're looking for and we do it in a very friendly, low pressure setting," Jeff Hager said.

All deliveries, floor covering installations, and window treatment installations are performed by employees to ensure the highest quality service.

Address: 242-48 Dela-

Phone: 610-826-2900 Website/Facebook:

hagerfurniture.com and Hager Furniture on Facebook

#### **HILLSIDE SMALL ENGINE**

The business carries La-Z Best lawn equipment sales and snow removal equipment

Ryan Hartman Small Engine Sales & Service, repairs most major brands of lawn mowers, zero turn mowers, snowblowers and Stihl handheld equipment.

In business for 14 years. Hartman decided to put his knowledge and experience into his own business. He offers friendly, personalized service with attention to detail and safety.

"If you're purchasing new equipment, we will do our best to supply you with the product that best fits your needs," Hartman said.

Address: 4088 Long Run Road, Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-4398 Online: hillsidesmallenginepa.com; Hillside Small Engine (Facebook)

See **HOME** on Page 19



18. Supplement October 2023

## 2023



## WINNERS

#### **FOR THE HOME**

Appliance Repair	Koch's TV & Appliances Inc
Appliance Sales-Local	R.A. Ahner Furniture
Aquatic Landscaping	AquaStyle Creations
Cleaning Residential/Commercial.	Miller Shine Cleaning Service
Coal Supplier	Kattner Coal & Oil
ElectricianLarry McCullion & Sor	n Electrical Constuction Services
Equipment Rental	Ark Rental
Excavating Service	Andrews' Backhoe Service
Flooring & Carpet Service	Hager Furniture Company Inc.
Furniture Store	R.A. Ahner Furniture
Garage Door Company	Palmerton Garage Doors
Garden Center/Nursery	
General Contractor	Aquastyle Creations
Heating & Air Conditioning	
Home Automation	Secure Technologies, Inc
Home Builder	Future Homes
Home Improvement Store-Chain	
Home Improvement Store-Local	M&S Hardware - Lehighton
Kitchen Remodeling	
Landscaper	
Lawn Equipment Sales	
Masonry Supply	
Masons	
Mattress Store	R.A. Ahner Furniture
Oil Company	
Paving Contractor Coster	
Plumber	Home Comfort Solutions, LLC



Powerwasher	Stahler Bros. Services LLC
Propane Company	Liberty Oil & Propane
Rain Gutters	Patriot Seamless Gutters LLC
Residential Security	Secure Technologies, Inc
Roofing Contractor	Russell Muffley Roofing & Siding
Snow Removal Equipmen	tHillside Small Engine
Stoves & Fireplaces	Stoves N Stuff
Tree Service	Mahoning Valley Lawn & Landscape LLC
Vacuum Repair	ALL BRAND VACUUM REPAIR



#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Best Place to Work	Home Comfort Solutions, LLC
Best Producer of a Local Product	Zimmerman's Dairy Inc.
Non-Profit	Palmerton Cat Project
Times News Paper Carrier	Lori Gibson



Hager Furniture is a family owned business since 1957. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS

#### **HOME**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17** 

#### STAHLER BROS. SERVICES LLC

Best Powerwasher

Stahler Bros. offers pressure washing services, house/roof washing, commercial and residential.

Owner Zackary Stahler has been in business for one year.

"I've always wanted to start my own business and I find pressure washing satisfying. So I finally decided to buy the equipment and build my trailer," Stahler said.

The company specializes in pressure washing. "Most other companies only offer it as a service. It's all we do," Stahler said.

Address: 4050 Stagecoach Road, Palmerton Phone: 813-335-6017 Online: Stahler Bros. Services LLC Facebook

### MILLER SHINE CLEANING SERVICE

Best cleaning residential/commercial

Miller Shine offers quality cleaning services for

commercial and residential spaces.

In business for two years, the company prides itself on being a small family-run business that treats your space as their own.

The business was founded with a small opportunity, a lot of hard work and persistence.

"We pay attention to the small details that get over-looked in everyday cleaning," owner Priscilla Miller said. "But most importantly we do the dirty jobs no one wants. We give you peace of mind when you walk into your home or place of work."

The company is fully insured and takes pride in what they do.

Address: 125 Tower Road, New Ringgold Phone: 484-788-3183

**Online:** www.millershine.

#### PATRIOT SEAMLESS GUTTERS

Best Rain Gutters

Patriot is a full-service gutter company, specializing in residential and commercial installations. In business for 14 years, Patriot also offers gutter guard that will outperform the competition at a fraction of the price. Other services offered include: fascia, soffit, roofing, siding, and snow retention systems.

In business for 14 years, After exploring various

job opportunities, owner Kevin Garris knew he wanted something more. In 2009, he established Patriot Seamless Gutters LLC.

In 2010, the company expanded to York, while continuing to operate a satellite office out of Hamburg. Patriot Seamless Gutters LLC successfully served York County and the surrounding communities for seven years. During that time, Kevin earned several business awards, including the Home Advisor Elite Contractor.

In 2017, the main office returned to Berks County where Kevin and his family have found their forever home in Kempton.

Patriot Seamless Gutters LLC began with a pickup truck, a trailer, and 1 employee — Kevin Garris,

Today, the business has grown to a fleet of multiple trucks and multiple full-time crews.

The growth has given the company the ability to serve a larger area with the same quality and service it has provided from the start.

"Patriot Seamless Gutters is committed to delivering ex-



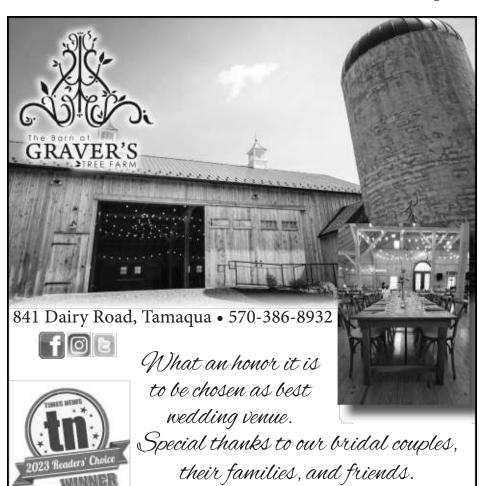
Palmerton Garage Doors won the Readers' Choice category for garage doors. The company has over 30 years of residential and commercial garage door installation and service. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS

ceptional service. We believe that the customer's needs are of the utmost importance," Garris said. "Our team brings years of experience to accommodate a variety of budgets and architecture styles." **Address:** 156 Turkey

Road, Kempton **Phone:** 610-737-7535

Online: https://www. patriotseamlessgutters.com; Facebook: Patriot Seamless Gutters

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#### **HOME**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19** 

#### **RUSSELL MUFFLEY ROOFING AND SIDING**

Best roofing contractor

Russell Muffley Roofing and Siding is a roofing and siding company who specializes in asphalt shingle roofing and vinyl siding installation.

The company has been in business for 45-plus years.

Jonathon Muffley took over the company from his father. Russell who started the company.

"We are a local, family business who take pride in quality work," Jonathon Muffley said.

Address: 767 Fireline Road, Palmerton

Phone: 610-852-2287 Email: muffleyroofing@ amail.com

#### K & K OIL **COMPANY LLC**

Best oil company

K & K Oil Company owner Walter Zlomsowitch has been promptly delivering home heating oil, diesel, kerosene and gasoline for 25 years.

"My team cares and we always try our best," ZlomRoad, Lehighton

Phone: 800-964-6451 Website/Facebook:

kandkoil.com

#### **SERVICE CONSTRUCTION CO.** INC.

Best kitchen remodeling

Service Construction is a family-owned business providing custom home designs, additions, kitchens and more for 34 years.

Woody Frey started the company in 1981 out of his home.

"We focus on quality craftsmanship, trust and reliability," co-owner Jennifer Conrad said.

Address: 701 Bridge St., Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-2111 Online: www.scustomhomes.com

#### **FLEXER MASONRY**

Best mason

Flexer Masonry can do any concrete (flat) work, brick iobs, block work and real and imitation stone. No job is too big or small.

Randy Flexer is the owner and has been in business for 4.5 years. "I've worked in the masonry field since high school and used my knowledge to start this business,"

and respect for customers is what makes his business stand out from other businesses.

Address: 456 Mahoning St., Lehighton

Phone: 610-704-1093 Website/Facebook:

Facebook.com/flexermasonry

#### **STOVES 'N STUFF COUNTRY HEARTH** AND HOME

Best stoves and fireplaces

Stoves 'n Stuff, headquartered in Tamaqua, is the area's leading specialty hearth retailer.

The business features new products that expand the warmth of the hearth to the entire living space, and offers country home décor, seasonal decorations and unique gift items to help their customers bring a cozy, country feel to the entire home.

Address: 561 West Penn Pike, Tamagua **Phone:** 570-386-5656 Online: stovesnstuff.com

#### LARRY MCCULLION & SON ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION **SERVICES LLC**

Best electrician

Larry McCullion and his wife Pamela are the proud owners of their family-owned and operated full service electrical, heating and A/C business. Larry has been serving Carbon, Schuylkill and surrounding counties for the past 51 years.

LM & S is a one-stop shop for all things electrical including heating, cooling, generator installs and more.

The business does it all from start to finish.

Previously, Larry was co-owner of L & S Electrical Construction Co., until the dissolution of the business after the passing of his father Larry Sr. in 2016. That business had started in 1965.

Larry McCullion & Son Electrical is committed to

providing its customers with damage yards or septics. efficient top notch service.

Address: 672 W. White Bear Dr., Summit Hill **Phone:** 570-645-5293

Online: www.larrymccullionandsonselectrical.com

Facebook: Larry McCullion & Son Electrical

#### **ANDREWS' BACKHOE SERVICE**

Best excavating service

Andrews' is a small excavation company specializing in shed pads, building pad and footer, downspout drains, sidewalk and concrete removal, pool pads, pike installation and well lines.

Owner Clay Andrews says that he has operated equipment for over 30 years, being in business for himself for four years. They have midsized equipment that won't

Address: Kunkletown

Phone: 610-392-6149 Online: Facebook: Andrews' Backhoe Services

#### **FUTURE HOMES**

Best homebuilder

Future homes was started in 1982 and offers custom new home construction of your dream home.

Address: 7355 Interchange Road, Lehighton

Phone: 610-951-4444 Online: www.futurehomespa.com

#### **ALL BRAND VACUUM REPAIRS** - SALES -**AND - SERVICE**

Best vacuum repair

Bob Silver sells new vacuums by Oreck, Perfect, Riccar, Simplicity and Clean Obsessed. All new vacuums sold in the store are serviced for warranty at its location.

The store services Dyson, Shark, Hoover, Electrolux, Aerus, Dirt Devil, Riccar, Simplicity and most others.

They are an authorized Kirby service center. You can also find bags, belts and filters in the store.

Silver has been selling Oreck for more than 40 years and ABV for more than 10 years. Silver originally sold Oreck Vacuums at his Silver Furniture store in Lansford.

When he retired from that location, he continued in Lansford and now Tamagua.

Address: 300 Center St., Tamagua

Phone: 570-668-1120 See **HOME** on Page 21





Tyler Haydt of Future Homes. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

#### For the Home

#### **HOME**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20** 

### FOREST INN MASONRY SUPPLY INC.

Best masonry supply

Established by Richard and Barbara Getz in 1978, Forest Inn Masonry has masonry and hardscaping products, decorative stone, pallet stone, driveway stone and natural stone.

The business offers fresh concrete deliveries with our mobile trucks and bulk and bag coal as well as wood pellets. The business carries a full line of products from EP Henry, Nitterhouse, Techo-Bloc, Breeo and Kickler.

Alaska and Enviro stoves are on display and complete line of chimney pipe.

Richard and his cousin Luther Hittner had started a contracting business and saw the need to open a masonry yard that supplied block and cement in this area. While Barbara ran the office and helped the customers in the yard, Richard did deliveries or helped his crew.

Address: 6160 Interchange Road, Lehighton
Phone: 610-377-5593

**Online:**@ForestInnMasonrySupplyInc

#### HOME COMFORT SOLUTIONS LLC

Best heating & air conditioning, plumber, best place to work

Home Comfort Solutions LLC offers quality service at an affordable price, while making its customers the No. 1 priority.

They are a local, family owned and operated company with over 20 years of experience servicing Greater Carbon County and beyond.

When your heat is out or your sink is leaking, you need fast, experienced and reliable service you can trust.

Their mission is to provide customers with an affordable range of home comfort solutions including installations, replacements, repairs and routine maintenance for all types of plumbing, heating and cooling systems and offer 24 hour emergency service

Address: 134 Mauch Chunk St., Lehighton Phone: 484-464-3681

#### LIBERTY OIL & PROPANE

Best propane company

Liberty Oil Company has been a home heating oil and propane supplier since 1925. They pride themselves on their customer service, provided by dedicated employees.

Address: 801 Bridge St., Lehiahton

**Phone:** 610-377-0365 **Online:** www.Liber-tyoil-Company.com



Koch's TV & Appliances won the most votes for appliance repair. TERRY AHNER/TIMES NEWS





22. Supplement October 2023

## 2023



## WINNERS

#### **HEALTH**

Alternative & Holistic Health	Opal's on 5th
Assisted Living/Personal Care/Nu	rsing Home Mahoning Valley
	Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
Athletic Training	LVHN Athletic Trainer Services
Behavioral Health Services	St. Luke's Behavioral Health
Cancer Center Cancer Center	at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Carbon
Cardiology	LVPG Cardiology - Carbon
Chiropractor	Steigerwalt Chiropractic
	Opal's on 5th
Dentist	Dr Bruce Hartman
	Lehigh Valley Health Network
Diabetes Management	Shelley Sassman PA-C
Emergency Room	Emergency Room
	at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Carbon
	Houser Newman Associates
-	LVPG Family Medicine
	The Zoo Health Club
	The Zoo Health Club
	Gastroenterology Associates, LLC
•	St. Luke's Gastroenterology
	LVPG General Surgery-Carbon
_	PG Ear, Nose and Throat-Carbon
	St. Luke's Home Health
	St. Luke's Hospice
	Lehigh Valley Hospital-Carbon
	LVPG Internal Medicine-Carbon
	St. Luke's Kidney Dialysis
	Lehigh Valley Hospital
	on Outpatient Laboratory Services
Massage Therapist (include work	place) Amber Hettler-Tresslar
	(Mihalko Chiropractic)
	Perfect Balance Boutique
S .	LVPG Neurology
	n Valley Hospital - Carbon Nurses
Obstetrics/Gynecology LVPG C	Obstetrics & Gynecology - Carbon



	Carbon Oral Surgery Associates
	FreySmiles Orthodontics
Orthopedic CareLe	ehigh Valley Orthopedic Institute/LVPG
Orth	nopedics and Sports Medicine-Carbon
Pain Management	LVPG Pain Specialists-Carbon
Pediatrician	LVPG Pediatrics-Lehighton
	k place)Kerri Jahelka
	- Dedicated Fitness
Personal Trainer (include wor	k place)Gwen Remaley
	- The Zoo Health Club
Pharmacy-Chain	Rite Aid - Lehighton
Pharmacy-Local	Mauch Chunk Pharmacy
Physical Therapist	Phoenix Physical Therapy
Plastic SurgeryLVF	PG Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Pulmonary Care	LVPG Pulmonology and Critical Care
	Medicine-Carbon
Senior Fitness/Wellness	The Zoo Health Club
Sleep Medicine	St. Luke's Sleep Disorders Center
Speech Therapy	Time 2 Talk Therapy Services, LLC
Spine Care	LVPG Advanced Spine Center
Urgent Care	LVHN ExpressCARE-Palmerton
Weight Loss Management	St. Luke's Weight Management
Yoga Class	Zen with Zegley

#### LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK

Best athletic training for LVHN Athletic Trainer Services

Best Cancer Center
- Cancer Center at
Lehigh Valley Hospital—
Carbon

Cardiology - LVPG Cardiology - Carbon

Dermatologist - Lehigh Valley Health Network

Emergency Room -Emergency Room at Lehigh Valley Hospital– Carbon

Family Doctor - LVPG Family Medicine

General Surgery -LVPG General Surgery-Carbon

Hearing Professional
- LVPG Ear, Nose and
Throat-Carbon

Hospital - Lehigh Valley Hospital-Carbon

Internal Medicine
- LVPG Internal
Medicine-Carbon

Laboratory Services -Lehigh Valley Hospital - Carbon Outpatient Laboratory Services

Neurologist - LVPG Neurology

Nurse (include workplace) - Lehigh Valley Hospital - Carbon Nurses

Obstetrics/Gynecology - LVPG Obstetrics & Gynecology - Carbon

Orthopedic Care - Lehigh Valley



#### Your health deserves a partner.

Orthopedic Institute/ LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine-Carbon

Pain Management -LVPG Pain Specialists-Carbon

Pediatrician - LVPG Pediatrics-Lehighton

Plastic Surgery -LVPG Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Pulmonary Care - LVPG Pulmonology and Critical Care Medicine-Carbon

Spine Care - LVPG Advanced Spine Center

Urgent Care -LVHN ExpressCARE-Palmerton

Thank you, Carbon County, for your overwhelming support of LVH-Carbon and Lehigh Valley Health Network, with two years of caring marked with expansion.

Located in the heart of Carbon County, LVH–Carbon is a full-service hospital that offers access to many of Lehigh Valley Health Network services in a location that is convenient for you. Services include: Comprehensive heart care, state-of-the-art surgical care, leading-edge cancer care, emergency medicine,

advanced imaging services, outpatient laboratory services, health center and dedicated orthopedics facilities.

"It's as if Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)—Carbon has always been here." That's what many area residents have been saying as the hospital moves into its second year of service and is already expanding to meet current and future needs.

Since its June 2022 opening, the hospital has exceeded most predictions for patient volumes. ER visits, hospital admissions and outpatient testing have been more than anticipated.

"Early on, after opening, we recognized a tremendous opportunity to expand and grow our services," says Christine Biege, RN, President, LVH–Carbon. "This expansion is a direct response to the needs of our community. Our team immediately began to plan for enhancements that would make access to care and our patient experience even better."

Work began quickly to add four additional medical-surgical beds and a seven-bed intensive care unit, a project nearing completion with anticipated opening later this year.

Outpatient laboratory services have been added and an all-new Cardiac Rehabilitation Center is now open at the adjoining Health Center. LVH–Carbon also has added a DEXA scan machine to diagnose osteoporosis as well as pulmonary function testing to determine how well the lungs exchange air.

Breast Health Services has been relocated to the hospital campus and tech-

nology enhancements have been implemented. In addition to the latest 3D mammography unit, the Breast Health Services location now offers automated breast ultrasound. ABUS is the only breast cancer screening technology FDA-approved for use in women (individuals born biologically female) with dense breast tissue. Ultrasound is a noninvasive, effective way to look inside the body at organs and soft tissue.

LVH–Carbon has welcomed many new physicians to the community in the past year expanding access to a higher level of care and delivering more primary care clinicians and more clinical specialists. "We are so grateful for the opportunity to serve the residents of Carbon County – and for the incredible support we have received from the surrounding community," says Biege. "Our growth is a direct response to how

our community continues to support Lehigh Valley Health Network. We are thankful and appreciative and resolved to continue to heal, comfort and care for our community."

LVH–Carbon comprises more than 100,000 square feet of clinical space between the hospital and adjoining health center located on Blakeslee Blvd. Drive E. in Lehighton. The campus offers abundant, convenient free parking and smart charging stations available for electric vehicles.

The hospital deepens Lehigh Valley Health Network's commitment to the local community, a partnership that has been in place for decades. LVHN is reinforcing its commitment to Carbon County by providing better access to more comprehensive care closer to home while still having the resources of the entire health network available.

See **HEALTH** on Page 24



WILDONER INSURANCE AGENCY

Home | Auto | Business



Our sincere thanks for all your support!
We are proud to be your #1 agency!
- Charlene, Julie, Louise, and Joe

703 NORTH STREET | JIM THORPE, PA | 570-325-3651 | WILDONERINSURANCE.COM

#### HEALTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

#### ST. LUKE'S UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK

Best in behavioral health, home health, sleep disorders, hospice and weight management

At St. Luke's University
Health Network we have the
ability to keep complex care
close to home offering critical
care, chest pain, trauma and
stroke center accreditations.
These benefits and services
improve patient quality of
care by reducing the need for
patients to be transported out
of the convenience of their
local area for health care. It
also decreases time spent
waiting in the emergency
department.

A look at the winning categories:

- Behavioral Health St. Luke's behavioral health team provides comprehensive mental health, addiction, and recovery services for individuals of all ages. Our team meets people where they are, working closely with them to develop a personalized care plan that empowers them to define their own recovery goals, teaches them necessary skills, and educates them so they can make informed decisions about their treatment.
- Home Health St. Luke's Home Health professionals provide care and education to you and your family members as you recover from surgery or manage an illness. Our care is medically directed and delivered to you in your home. Services are provided under a plan of treatment established and approved by your physician and generally include the skills of a registered nurse.
- Sleep Disorders St. Luke's Sleep Disorders



St. Luke's Carbon campus offers a variety of medical services. TIMES NEWS FILE PHOTO

Centers treat a variety of sleep-related conditions, including insomnia, narcolepsy, restless leg syndrome, sleep apnea, snoring, and other sleep-related conditions, and provide comprehensive sleep services including evaluation, testing and treatment. St. Luke's Sleep Disorders Centers are nationally accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine. To schedule

an appointment, call 484-526- and spiritual care. To ensure your best quality of life, our

• Hospice - St. Luke's Hospice is for patients facing a life-limiting illness that is difficult and has many challenges for both the individual and for the family. They focus on meeting the needs and goals of you and your family. Their support includes pain reduction, symptom control, as well as emotional, social,

and spiritual care. To ensure your best quality of life, our staff members use their expertise to help answer questions, solve problems or issues, offer guidance, and provide direction.

Weight Management
 St. Luke's Weight Management Center offers the region's most comprehensive program for both surgical and nonsurgical approaches to better manage, care for and overcome obesity and the conditions and illnesses that go with it, including diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea and more. We have

an experienced team of physicians, fellowship-trained surgeons, physician assistants, nurses, social workers, dietitians, and other health care professionals who are dedicated to helping you achieve success on your weight loss journey.

**Phone:** 1-866-STLUKES (785-8537)

Website/Facebook: www.SLUHN.org - facebook.com/StLukesUniversity-HealthNetwork

See **HEALTH** on Page 25



Wisdom Teeth & Extractions
Implants – No Referral Necessary
IV Sedation

Most Major Insurance Plans Accepted

Frank L. Hoffman, D.M.D

Diplomates - American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery









1080 Blakeslee Blvd. Lehighton, PA 18235 610-377-1942





#### HEALTH

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24** 

#### **MIHALKO CHIROPRACTIC**

Best Massage Therapist

Amber Tresslar, licensed massage therapist chiropractic and therapeutic massage, was licenses in 2018. Therapy services. She has worked for Mihalko Chiropractic since that time.

Address: 656 Delaware Ave., Palmerton

Phone: 610-826-4136

#### **ZEN WITH ZEGLEY**

Best yoga class

Zen with Zegley's purpose is to provide knowledge, support, products and services to those searching for wellness and a more natural lifestyle through reiki, meditation, yoga and more. Products include natural gemstone jewelry and mala. Services include reiki, yoga, meditation, O2 Bar and ionic foot detox.

Melissa and Jim Zeglev have been in business approximately five years.

"Our love for yoga, meditation and reiki started our business and it grew from there," Melissa Zegley said,

Love for what they do and the desire to make available to all, is what drives the business.

In addition to current services, Melissa is studying to become an Ayurvedic Practitioner.

Address: 344 N. 9th St., Lehighton

**Phone:** 570-778-7968 Facebook: www.facebook.com/ZenwithZegley Website: www.zenwithzegley.com

#### **PERFECT BALANCE BOUTIOUE**

Best medical supplies

Perfect Balance Boutique is a unique boutique specializing in mastectomy items along with an array of

intimate apparel for every woman's needs. They also carry compression garments,



Jim and Melissa Zegley of Zen With Zegley in Lehighton. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

wigs and skin care items.

Kimberly Gerhard, owner and cancer survivor, knew this was needed in our area.

She says that "there is nothing like what this store specializes in within 30 miles."

Address: 170 S. Third St., Lehighton

Phone: 610-379-4577 Online: www.perfectbalanceboutique.com

#### **PHOENIX PHYSICAL THERAPY**

Best physical therapist

Phoenix Physical Therapy offers physical and occupational therapy services treating a variety of diagnoses including orthopedic, neurological, vestibular, pediatric, concussion, work and sport related injuries. Phoenix Physical Therapy Lehighton opened in 2003.

Phoenix was founded in 1997 to set a new standard for outpatient physical therapy. Over the past 25 years, Phoenix has grown to 155 clinics nationwide.

Phoenix Physical Therapy is privately owned company that offers individualized

hands-on care tailored to your recovery goals. When you choose Phoenix, you join a family.

The highly trained team is dedicated to providing exceptional patient care throughout your PT journey and helping you get back to feeling your best. From your first appointment to your last, you can expect the highest quality of care.

Address: 1018 Blakeslee Blvd., Dr. E., Lehighton

**Phone:** 610-377-5845 Online: https://phoenixphysicaltherapy.com/

https://www.facebook. com/PHOENIXrehabLehigh-

#### **OPAL'S ON 5TH**

Best alternative and holistic health and day spa and tanning salon

At Opal's on 5th, we offer a variety of wellness and tanning services that are designed to help you feel your best, both physically and mentally. Whether you're looking to relieve stress, improve your physical health, or simply relax and rejuvenate. our staff is passionate about

helping our clients achieve their wellness goals through personalized service.

The business opened in November 2022.

"We are a mother-and-daughter duo that opened a wellness and tanning salon in our hometown to address a local need for an expanded wellness services," said Peggy Shupp, co-owner with Opal Snyder. "Our dedication to providing top-notch services and restorative products, is an invaluable resource for those seeking to prioritize their well-being. With our daughters/granddaughters by our side, our family has served the Palmerton area for six generations."

Deserving community members of Carbon and surrounding counties no longer need to travel out of the area to commit to a more holistic and down-to-earth wellness approach.

"Fortunately, at Opal's on 5th, you won't find overpriced gimmicks but you will find state of the art equipment to optimize benefits," Shupp said.

Self-care services include ionic foot detoxes, tanning,

salt room, infrared sauna, facials, Reiki, sound meditation and accessories.

Address: 502 Delaware Ave., Palmerton

**Phone:** 610-488-2932 Online: www.Opalson5th.com

#### **MAHONING VALLEY NURSING AND** REHABILITATION CENTER

Best Assisted Living/ Personal Care/ **Nursina Home** 

Mahoning Valley Nursing and Rehab Center started as a small 13 bed nursing home. We now provide long term and short term services to the elderly. We are dedicated and loyal to our staff.

Address: 397 Hemlock Dr., Lehighton, PA

**Phone:** 570-386-5522 Website/Facebook: www.mvnrc.org

#### **MAUCH CHUNK PHARMACY**

Best pharmacy

For 25 years, this independently owned pharmacy provides personal care to each customer.

The pharmacy staff is always willing to go the extra mile so that your health care needs are met. The business provides personal care and prides itself on having a relationship with customers.

Address: 1204 North St., Jim Thorpe

Phone: 570-325-5020 Online: www.mauchchunkpharmacy.com

#### **TIME 2 TALK THERAPY SERVICES LLC**

Best speech therapy

Time 2 Talk provides speech therapy services for adults and children.

The business started three years ago as a mobile operation, going from house to house.

Time 2 Talk offers individual sessions either in-person, virtual or home visits. Kristin Ellis, CEO states that they run social skill groups, T2T day out activities and summer camp programs.

The clinic specializes in augmentative and alternative communication.

Address: 521 Bridge St., Lehighton

Phone: 484-613-0545 Online: t2ttherapv.com

#### **FREYSMILES ORTHODONTICS**

Best orthodontist

Dr. Gregg Frey and Dr. Daniel Frey are known for personalized service and fantastic results.

The exceptional team at FreySmiles recognize every smile is unique.

The goal is to make your smile look best on vou.

At FreySmiles Orthodontics, staff has treated the most Invisalign cases for patients of all ages in the Lehigh Valley area and they are in the top 1% in the US.

Trust your smile to the regions choice for orthodontic care and the area's top Invisalian provider.

Address: 1080 Blakeslee Blvd. Dr. E., Lehighton

**Phone:** 610-437-4748 Online: freysmiles.com; facebook.com/freysmiles

#### **CARBON ORAL SURGERY ASSOCIATES PC**

Best oral surgery

Since 1979, Frank L. Hoffman, D.M.D. has been offering extraction of wisdom teeth, dental implants, extractions and surgical procedures of the oral cavity.

The business employs nurses as assistants and understands the anxiety levels with dental care.

Address: 1080 Blakeslee Blvd. Drive East, Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-1942 Online: Carbonoralsur-

gery.com



Violent Venus Tattoo Studio



#### BLUE BOMBER NOTARY LLC

Best Notary public

A full agent Notary, Blue Bomber offers title, plates, registration, dog licenses, fishing licenses, fax, copies, boat titles, ATV and snowmobile titles and registration.

In business for 1 year and 10 months, owner Wendy Borger had the opportunity to take over previously owned Notary.

Borger says the community support and small business feel set the business apart from others. She offers discounts and free services for veterans.

"I love the small town and enjoy helping the community with their Notary needs," Borger said.

Address: 210 Delaware Ave., Palmerton

Phone: 610-824-2583



Hartman Funeral Home was voted best funeral home. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

#### VIOLENT VENUS TATTOO STUDIO

Best tattoo shop

Amanda Zellers is in her first year in a storefront, but she has built up a client base as a tattoo artist for the last 18 years.

Zellers apprenticed during high school at another local tattoo studio in Lehighton.

Eventually that business closed but over the years she has worked for other studios and privately.

"I always wanted my own storefront business where I wasn't a commission to someone else," Zellers said. "I've built up the most amazing and loyal following of clients over the last two decades. They support me unconditionally and through all of that encouragement they gave me the push to make that jump into my own storefront and I am so very thankful for that."

She runs a single artist studio. "Instead of a chaotic space where artists are all sharing the same room I am able to offer more peace and privacy," Zellers said. "I want my clients to feel like they're

able to relax like they're in their own home. I am also woman owned in a primarily male dominated industry."

**Address:** 195 S. 1st St., Lehighton

Phone: 484-629-5221 Online: www.facebook. com/violentvenustattoo

#### COUNTRY CLIPPERS PET GROOMING

Best pet groomer

Country Clippers is an allbreed dog and cat grooming service.

They also sell a variety of dog and cat leashes, harnesses, dog apparel and toys.

They have been in business for 23 years.

Before that, Stacy Goldberg and Jennifer Lichauer worked for several years for other kennels and veterinary hospitals.

They thanked their loyal clients, friends and family for all their support.

Address: 195 Clayton Curve, Palmerton Phone: 610-284-2626

ton dire Fur

#### HARTMAN FUNERAL HOME INC.

Best funeral home

Hartman Funeral Home has been in business for 17 years.

At an early age, Troy A. Hartman had the desire to become a funeral director, and be a support to families going through the worst moment in their life.

With much determination, his goal was to enter a profession that was predominantly multigenerational.

Troy A. Hartman, funeral director/supervisor, said, "We take great pride in assisting families make well-planned preparations in their time of need. With a great deal of kindness, compassion and attention to detail, we offer personalized and affordable services and products to honor and celebrate the life of a loved one."

Together with his sister, Dedria, they have become first-generation funeral directors/owners of Hartman Funeral Home Inc. "We believe that every good funeral home should be an integral part of its community. Not only is it our intention to serve families during a challenging time, but establish everlasting friendships. It is our professional and personal desire to go above and beyond for every family we serve. We recognize the power of every interacting with each family, and the importance of the life of their loved one," Dedria Hartman said.

Address: 1791 West Penn Pike, New Ringgold Phone: 570-386-1122

Online: www.hartmanfuneralhomeinc.com

#### **PALMERTON PAWS**

Best pet boarding

In business for seven years, owner Matt Shollenberger offers doggy day care and pet boarding with flexibility and great rates.

**Address:** 529 Franklin Ave., Palmerton

Phone: 610-703-7975 Website/Facebook:

Palmerton Paws

See **PROFESSIONAL** on Page 27

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26** 

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY BY LYNN**

Best photographer

Lynn Shupp's services include professional business headshots, events, commercial and studio photographs.

Personal photography include children, family, pet, boudoir, weddings, engagements, high school senior, special occasions and more.

She also does artistic prints and artwork for decorating personal or commercial spaces of local images, travel images and artistic subjects, plus traditional prints, canvas prints, acrylic prints, metal prints and photo albums

In business since 1997, Shupp studied photography at The Art Institute of Phila-

"After passing out watching an open hip replacement while going to school for radiology, I made the choice to follow my passion of photography and telling a story through photographs," Shupp said. "I like photographing people's outsides and stories way better then photographing their insides.

"I always wanted to help people so that is why I went the health care path, but I can't handle blood and such. After sitting in on a few classes I really liked it and realized I could help people through photography. I started the



Lynn Shupp

business locally because I wanted to still be able to help take care of my bedridden mother and provide a service to an area I love."

Photography has been her passion since she looked through her Pappy's box camera as a little kid because the whole world was upside

"Every person, place and thing has a story and I want to listen and tell the story through images.

Photography isn't just something I do, it's a part of me," Shupp said.

She has turned her passion into her forever career.

"I have had the chance to photograph for happy reasons, I have had the chance to create moments that were shortly going to become memories because time was coming to a close. I have had the chance of helping people through tough emotional times using photography. Ev-



**Professional** 

Road, Palmerton Phone: 610-852-2620

Online: photobylynn. com; Facebook: Photography by Lynn; Instagram is photobylynn and photographybylynnpa.

#### **KELLY BOERNER FAMILY DAY CARE**

Best day care

Kelly Boerner has been in business of loving children for 32-plus years.

Address: 210 Penn St.,



Valley Royale was voted best conference/meeting space. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

**Phone:** 570-778-6047

#### **VALLEY ROYALE**

Best conference/ meeting space

Tamagua

The Valley Royale is more than just a tennis club.

The facility has pickleball, three unique Airbnbs, host private events, and a nonprofit to bring free and accessible tennis to kids.

In business for three vears, owner Jennifer Everett said, "My initial intention was just to re-open the courts for Lehighton's high school tennis team to have home courts again, but it quickly grew to be much more than that:"

She said the facility stands out as a meeting space because it is a unique setting.

"It's historic, while vibrant and we're able to adapt the space to fit so many different needs," Everett said,

People who are involved in a local kids program are invited to reach out it to collaborate for them to learn

Address: 738 Mahoning, Dr. E., Lehighton

Phone: 610-508-2761 Website: valleyroyale.

See PROFESSIONAL on Page 28





## 2023 HEADERS WINNERS NEWS WINNE

#### **PROFESSIONAL AND SPECIALTY SERVICES**

Attorney	
	Tribe Pride
	Lehighton Outdoor Center
	S & O Computers
Conference/Meeting Space	Valley Royale
Cosmetologist	.Sierra Serfass - Rustic Roots Salon
Daycare	Kelly Boerner Family Day Care
Dog Training	Passion 4 Paws Dog Training Co.
Dry Cleaners/Laundromat	24/7 Laundromat
	Hartman Funeral Home
Hair Salon	Mint Salon & Spa
Hydraulic Work	DAT Emergency Services LLC
Junk Removal/Clean Outs	AAA Junk Removal
Kid's Birthday Parties	Blended Bakery
Lawn Maintenance Mah	oning Valley Lawn & Landscape LLC
Monument Company	
Music School	Off the Charts Music School

Nail Salon	The Seventh Moon Wellness Spa
Notary Public	Blue Bomber Notary LLC
Party Planner	Oak Hollow Designs
Pest Control	Seitz Bros.
Pet Boarding	Palmerton Paws
Pet Groomer	Country Clippers Pet Grooming
	Photography by Lynn
Pool/Spa Repair	PDC Spa & Pool World
Preschool	LHH Learn & Play
Printer	L. E. Williams Printing, LLC
Radio Station	99.9 The Hawk
Real Estate Agency/Agent	Kristen Obert,
Broke	er Iron Valley Real Estate Northeast
Tanning Salon	Opal's on 5th
Tattoo Shop	Violent Venus Tattoo Studio
Travel Agency	Bambi Elsasser
-Dream Team	Destinations with Dream Vacations
Veterinarian	Lehighton Animal Hospital

#### **SHOPPING**

Antiques	The Slatington Marketplace
Bicycle Shop	Lehighton Outdoor Center
Bridal/Formal Wear	V.K. Bridal Couture
Clothing	Boscov's
Consignment Shop	Bawdy Plus
Convenience Store	Convenient Food Mart-Palmerton
Farmer's/Flea Market	Hometown Farmer's Market
Firearms	A. F. Boyer Hardware & Guns
Florist	The Flower Patch & Gift Shoppe
Gift Shop	Everything Nice Gift Shop
Hobby Store	Love 4 Art Studio

Home Party Consultant	Michael George Pampered Chef
Homemade Crafts	Love 4 Art Studio
Kayak Shop	Lehighton Outdoor Center
Kid's Consignment	The Kids Closet Sale
Pet Supplies	Tractor Supply Company
Pool/Spa Sales	PDC Spa & Pool World
Produce Stand/Grower	More Pickles Please 1380
Sign Shop	Jet Signs
Sporting Goods Store	Lehighton Outdoor Center
Tree Farm	Yenser's Tree Farm

#### **Professional**

ery men.

cleanings.

#### **PROFESSIONAL**



Kristen Obert, Iron Valley Real Estate Northeast

#### **IRON VALLEY REAL ESTATE NORTHEAST**

Best real estate agency/agent

Kristen Obert, Broker, has a full-service real estate company servicing buyer and sellers.

She opened in January 2020.

"Our agents are not just Realtors, we are also your neighbors," Obert said. "We live and work in your town which makes us your trusted market experts."

Address: 3295 Forest, Inn Road, Palmerton

**Phone:** 610-826-2232 Online: www.ironvalleyrealestatenortheast.com

#### **MINT SALON AND SPA**

Best Hair Salon

Mint Salon and Spa is full service salon striving to achieve every client's wants and needs while creating a specialized and relaxing experience.

They specialize in custom cutting, coloring, as well as hair extensions.

In business for 12 years, Mint also offers manicures, pedicure, waxing, brow laminations and lash lifts. 12 years in business.

Address: 434 Center St., Jim Thorpe

Phone: 570-325-8787 Online: www.hairbymintsalon.com

#### LHH LEARN & **PLAY CHILDCARE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28 CENTER INC.**

Best preschool

We are a quality childcare center that prides itself in providing a loving, nurturing, happy environment for the youth of our county.

18 years in business. Jennifer started as a small home based center and now has grown into multiple centers. We set ourselves apart from other centers because we provide a homelike feel when you walk in.

We also have an educated staff that provides quality early learning.

Address: 162 Summit, Ave., Lehighton

**Phone:** 610-377-1495

#### **TRIBE PRIDE BARBERSHOP**

Best barbershop

Tribe Pride has been in business for five years. They specialize in modern and traditional haircuts in a clean and relaxing environment.

They strive for perfection and take pride in making evervone feel good when they leave with their new cut.

Audra and Charissa want to sav "thank you" to everyone for their support!

Address: 531 Bridge St., Lehighton

Phone: 484-629-0505 Facebook: Tribe Pride Barbershop

#### **DREAM VACATIONS** BY BAMBI **ELSASSER**

Best travel agency

Bambi has been in business for five years, planning land and sea destinations for both domestic and abroad travels. Her business got started with her fascination with travel.

Address: 278 Ashtown Dr., Lehighton

**Phone:** 610-509-6465 Website/Facebook:

Dream team destinations by Bambi

Owner Craig Walters Sr.

bought the business from the

Bruze family after working for

Over the past 30 years, he

them for about eight years.

managed the sales, manu-

facturing and installation of

Craig Walters Jr. is now

The company strives on

cemetery memorials.

carrying on his father's

providing customers with

the best quality granite and

designs at the lowest cost.

an artist on-site who does

The company employs

custom-made drawings and

Best monument

company

legacy.

#### **SIERRA SERFASS WALTERS RUSTIC ROOTS MONUMENT SALON** CO. INC.

Best cosmetologist

Sierra Serfass has been a license cosmetologist since 2016.

etchings, a Computer-Aided

Design team featuring hun-

operator, two salespeople,

quotes, appointments and

cemetery engravings and

dreds of designs, a sandblast

and two foundation and deliv-

The company offers free

The business takes great

pride in excellent craftsman-

Phone: 570-645-3415

smonument.com; cj@walter-

www.walter-

ship and friendly service.

St., Summit Hill

Online:

smonument.com

"My desire was to work in a hands-on creative environment where I can engage with people on a personal level. I am passionate about connecting with each and every one of my clients and achieving their goals," Serfass said.

Address: 7550 Inter-

change Road, Lehighton Phone: 610-379-4399

#### PDC SPA & POOL WORLD

Best pool/spa repair

For over 40 years PDC Spa & Pool World has been selling A/G pools, hot tubs, and saunas.

The store also has a Address: 348 E. White wide selection of chemicals to maintain your pools and

> PDC install all kinds of pools.

The family-run business's goal is to provide excellence in customer service and quality products.

Address: 701 Bridge Street, Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-5637 Online/Facebook:

www.pdcspaworld.com/ Facebook-PDC Spa and Pool World

#### **PASSION 4 PAWS DOG TRAINING CO.**

Best dog training

Bill from Bill's Dog Training retired, our founders felt no one did it like Bill, and Passion 4 Paws was born 15 years ago.

Owner Erika Yob says, "We don't train like most places. We also don't turn anyone away. We specialize in shelter and rescue dogs, as well as reactive and agaressive dogs."

Address: 2022 Main St., Northampton

Phone: 908-342-8040 Website/Facebook: passion4pawsdogtraining.

#### **DEAN R. ARNER AUCTIONEER LLC**

Best auctioneer

Dean R. Arner Auctioneer is a second-generation auction company. Owner Dean R. Arner has been in the auction business his entire life and he loves what he does.

During the last 10 years in business, they have evolved into a full-service auction company specializing in real estate, antiques, firearms, coins, farm equipment, tools and quality household goods.

Address: 315 Snowdrift Road, Andreas

Phone: 570-386-3389 Online: www.deanarnerauctions.com



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170 S. 3rd St. Lehighton 610-379-4577 610-379-4578







Lehighton Outdoor Center had the most votes in several categories.



Best Hobby Store, Homemade Crafts, Craft Classes

Love 4 Art Studio has offered paint and sip parties for the last five years

The studio offers team-building fundraisers at the studio or on location.

Everyone can paint their own individual project and customize with paint colors. Address: 468 Delaware

Ave., Palmerton Phone: 610-295-9272

Online: Facebook/ Love4artstudio

#### YENSER'S TREE FARM

Best tree farm and local fall attraction

Charles, Dennis and Drew Yenser started the tree farm by planting 500 Douglas fir trees in 1971.

The farm has been in business 52 years.

Yenser's is proud of being a family oriented agritourism business that offers a relaxed friendly atmosphere with spectacular views of the beautiful Mahoning Valley.

The farm participates in

Trees For Troops, and sells Christmas trees.

Other special events include a fall festival and sunflower festival.

Address: 1910 Mahoning Drive East, Lehighton. Phone: 570-386-2073

Online: www.yenserstreefarm.com/@yenserstreefarm

#### **EVERYTHING NICE GIFT SHOP**

**Best Gift Shop** 

**Everything Nice Gift Shop** is a quaint shop located on Race Street in Jim Thorpe. This cozy shop carries about 80% USA made products.

Find a sweet, fun or sarcastic gift or something for vourself.

The store has been in business for 39 years.

Owner Beth Beers said. "I work hard to find unique products that you won't find anywhere else. The shop is fun, and inviting for a wonderful shopping experience."

She adds. "I am verv thankful to be blessed doing what I love. I have such gratitude for my customers and for shopping small and shopping local."

Address: 31 Race St.,

Jim Thorpe

**Phone:** 570-325-2248 Online: Facebook/Shop-

**JimThorpePA** 

#### LEHIGHTON **OUTDOOR CENTER/** JIM THORPE RIVER **ADVENTURES**

Best kayak shop, bicycle shop, sporting goods shop, whitewater rafting, bicycle repairs

Jerry McAward owner of Lehighton Outdoor Center has been in business for 16 vears but five years in the new building. The business got started with years of running the river rafting business which led to building the Lehighton Outdoor Center. McAward states that we are A "specialty shop" experience staff delivers.

Address: 123 Lehigh Drive, Lehighton, PA Phone: 610-377-1230

Online/Facebook: www.itraft.com, locbiking. com, leightonoutdoorcenter. com

#### **AF BOYER HARDWARE & GUNS BEST FIREARMS**

AF Boyer is a five-generation company, serving the public for 154 years. They are the oldest family owned firearms and hardware store in the USA and the largest in the Lehigh Valley.

Address: 130 Main St., Slatington

Phone: 610-767-3162 Online: afboyer.com; facebook/BoyerHardware





Everything Nice gift shop has unique selections.

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Tom Zimmerman and his nephew Wyatt Trombly with Nesquehoning Police Chief Michael Weaver accepting a donation. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

#### ZIMMERMAN'S DAIRY

Best producer of a local product, best iced tea

Back in 1900, Aaron Zimmerman began delivering milk to homes by horse and buggy. Today, the business is still family-owned and operated by the fourth and fifth generations of Zimmermans: Dave, Thomas, and Matthew. Zimmerman's have been in business for 122 years.

A wholesale distributor of dairy products, the company manufactures its own line of drinks, including its famous ice tea.

Zimmerman's Dairy supports many local organizations and nonprofits.

Address: 808 Bridge St.,

Lehighton

Phone: 610-377-0340 Online: www.zimmermansdairy.com

**Facebook:** Zimmerman's Dairy

#### PALMERTON CAT PROJECT

Best nonprofit

In the fall of 2013, a small group of Palmerton residents were alarmed at the number of feral cats roaming the streets. They began to use humane traps to capture the cats and have them spayed/neutered and vaccinated at low-cost clinics in the area. The cats were then released back at the trapping site. This is known as TNVR (Trap/Neuter/Vaccinate/Return).

Today the Palmerton Cat Project actively assists anyone with a feral cat problem residing within the Palmerton Area School District. Working as a team with residents, cats are trapped, sterilized, and receive their rabies and distemper vaccines. Some require more extensive care, such as treatment for infection, wounds, and parasites.

The cats are then fed and monitored by colony care-takers. Once sterilized, the colony numbers dwindle. The average life span of a feral, outdoor cat is 5 years. Kittens and friendly adults transfer into foster homes, where they are socialized and medically cleared for adoption.

**Address:** P.O. Box 24 Palmerton

**Phone:** 610-349-3545 **Online:** https://www.face-book.com/PalmertonCatProject?mibextid=LQQJ4d



Palmerton Cat Project was voted the best non-profit.



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November 17th, 2023: Annual Awards Gala November 21st, 2023: Carbon's Economic Outlook December 2nd, 2023: Black Forrest Krampus Nacht Festival



137 South St., Lehighton PA 610-379-5000 info@carboncountychamber.org



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## Thank you, Carbon County, for choosing Lehigh Valley Hospital-Carbon and Lehigh Valley Health Network.

#### Best Hospital Lehigh Valley Hospital-Carbon

**Best Athletic Training**LVHN Athletic Training Services

Best Cancer Center
Cancer Center at Lehigh Valley
Hospital-Carbon

**Best Cardiology**LVPG Cardiology-Carbon

**Best Dermatologist**Lehigh Valley Health Network

Emergency Room LVH-Carbon

**Best Family Doctor** LVPG Family Medicine

**Best General Surgery**LVPG General Surgery-Carbon

Best Hearing Professional LVPG ENT-Carbon

Best Internal Medicine LVPG Internal Medicine

Best Laboratory Services LVH-Carbon

**Best Neurologist** LVPG Neurology

**Best Nurses** LVH-Carbon

Best Obstetrics/Gynecology LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology-Carbon

**Best Orthopedic Care** LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine-Carbon Best Pain Management LVPG Pain Management

**Best Pediatrician**LVPG Pediatrics-Lehighton

Best Plastic Surgery LVPG Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Best Pulmonary Care LVPG Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

**Best Spine Care**LVPG Advanced Spine Center

**Best Urgent Care**LVHN ExpressCARE-Palmerton

