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News, Events & more!

Mechanicsburg Chamber Will Hold Election for Board of Directors at January Meeting



If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors for the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, [click here](#) to review job description, nomination policies, procedures and application.

We are accepting applications!

CHAMBER EVENTS

Watch for Weekly Updates!!

January

9 - Business Women's Networking Luncheon - Virtual Edition. 11:30am - 12:45pm. FREE member event.

17 - Annual Dinner & General Membership Meeting - Penn Harris Hotel, Camp Hill. 6:00 - 9:00pm

25 - Business Leaders Discussion Group - Location TBA. 7:45 - 9:00am. Members only event.

February

13 - Business Women's Networking Luncheon - Sponsored by **Renewal by Andersen of Central Pennsylvania**, 4856 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg. 11:30am - 12:45pm. FREE member event.

RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org

For a full calendar of chamber and member events, visit www.mechanicsburgchamber.org/events

Thank You For Renewing Your Membership!

Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation/Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau
Fred Beans Ford/Kia
Leaf of Eve
Penn Waste
Senior Helpers
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Business Women's Networking Luncheon VIRTUAL EVENT

**Tuesday, January 9
11:30am - 12:45pm**

Join the Mechanicsburg Chamber and other Chamber members for an organic group conversation this month. Come out to introduce your business to familiar faces and hopefully some new ones too.

RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org or call 796-0811.

Upon registering, Zoom login credentials will be provided.

Seeking HOSTS for 2024 EVENTS

- Business Women's Networking Luncheon
 - After Hours Mixer
- Business Leaders Discussion Group

BE A HOST and showcase your business, service and more...

For more information - on **HOSTING AN EVENT**
contact the Chamber office at 717-796-0811 or email - info@mechanicsburgchamber.org.

Chamber Annual Meeting at

Penn Harris Hotel, Trademark Collection by Wyndham
1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill

January 17, 2024
6 - 9 p.m.



Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce invites all members to join us for the Annual General Membership Meeting

Our annual meeting brings members together to network
in celebration of business, community and the
achievements made.

New this year - dinner will be a table served meal!

The special guest speaker for this year's event will be George Shea, CEO of Shea Communications, LLC of New York City, a leading business-to-business and consumer public relations firm. However, he may be better known as the face and emcee of the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July Hot Dog Eating Contest. Come learn how he was able to take an absurd idea and make it mainstream.

Tickets are \$45.00 per person.
To purchase please contact the Chamber at 717-796-0811

Sponsored by:



Mechanicsburg Chamber Will Hold Election for Board of Directors at January Meeting

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More information or questions call 717-796-0811

GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs) Mechanicsburg

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7:00 PM at
Buhrig's Gathering Place, 25 East Main Street, Mechanicsburg.

The program will be presented by member Barb Chilcotte about "living off the grid".

Would you like to know more about how we serve the community while helping
Veterans, libraries and schools? Come for a visit to find out.

For more information, contact Sue at 717.243.9872
visit our website at <http://gfwcmech.tripod.com/>



2023 Small Business Advantage Grant Application Period Now Open!

The 2023-2024 Small Business Advantage Grant Program are open for applications on. Project work completed on or after July 1, 2023 will be considered for funding. The application period will close when funding is exhausted or March 22, 2024, whichever occurs first.

Small Business Advantage Grant

The Small Business Advantage Grant provides reimbursement grants ranging from 50% to 80% of eligible project costs to Pennsylvania small businesses to improve energy efficiency or reduce pollution or waste by: upgrading or replacing equipment or supplies; improving processes; or reducing runoff into affected waterways. Maximum grant award amounts will vary from up to \$5,000 to up to \$8,000, based on the environmental impact of the project and whether the project location is in an Environmental Justice Area in Pennsylvania.

Click [here](#) to visit the website for more information.

A Promise Once Made ~ A Promise Now Kept

Mechanicsburg is rising. You are cordially invited to attend the RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg Community Presentation. Please join us as we discuss the changes coming to the Borough that will help stimulate and support business development, economic growth, and community engagement.

What: RENAISSANCE Mechanicsburg Community Presentation

When: Wednesday January 10th, 2024

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Where: Buhrig's Gathering Place

Parking: The lot behind Buhrig's ~ overflow parking at PNC

This meeting will also give us the opportunity to listen to your thoughts and insights. We welcome your engagement in this transformative project.

Visit our website at RENAISSANCEmechanicsburg.com

Check out our concept video: vimeo.com/591086780

In 1820, a man named Henry Stouffer divided his farmland into building plots along the southwest side of Main and Market Street in a sleepy, dusty, but growing village named Mechanicsburg. It was then he made a promise that the plot at 1 West Main Street would forever be reserved as a park for the rest and relaxation of the residents.

For reasons now lost in the mist of time, that community park never came to be.

Now, 200 years later, his promise is being kept. Mechanicsburg is finally getting its centrally located, community-driven gathering place that will provide an anchor for commerce, business development, social events, and transit.

Refreshments to be provided by Dalicia Ristorante & Bakery



New HOPE Ministries

Sharing Christ's love by meeting human needs

MLK Day of Service



"The greatest birthday gift my husband could receive is if people of all racial and ethnic backgrounds celebrated the holiday by performing individual acts of kindness through service to others." - Coretta Scott King

We invite you to serve with us on **Monday, January 15, 2024** in honor of MLK Day!



**SIGN UP
TODAY**
nhm-pa.org

JAZZ ME BAND

KIRK WISE UPCOMING
SOLO, DUO & BAND
PUBLIC DATES

Fri. 1/5 – Hook & Flask, Carlisle...7-10
Kirk solo/duo

Sat. 1/6 – Hemauer Brewing,
Mechanicsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

Tue. 1/9 – Greystone Brew House@
Range End , Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

Fri. 1/12- Grandpa's Love Shack BBQ
Restaurant, Shermansdale...Kirk Duo 6-8

Sat. 1/13 – Spring Gate Estate,
Harrisburg...Kirk Duo 6-8

Tue. 1/16 – Greystone Brew House@
Range End , Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

Fri. 1/19 – Silver Spring TOA Center,
Mechanicsburg...Band 6-10

Sat. 1/20 – Reid's Wine & Cider House,
Gettysburg...Kirk Duo 7-10

Tue. 1/23 – Greystone Brew House@
Range End , Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

For complete up-to-date
schedule, information,
and photos go to
www.jazzmeband.com

Bookings: call Kirk at 717-979-0341 or
E-mail wisemotors@aol.com

Tour sponsors:
FARNHAM INSURANCE,
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LANDON WISE PHOTOGRAPHY



Celebrate Agriculture at 108th Pennsylvania Farm Show

The Pennsylvania Farm Show – the country's largest indoor agricultural exposition under one roof – kicks off Saturday, Jan. 6, in Harrisburg. The show will run through Saturday, Jan. 13.

This year's theme is "Connecting our Communities," which aims to bring together those who are fed, nourished and enriched by the agriculture industry to those whose lives and livelihoods depend on it.

As always, the show will feature hundreds of competitions and exhibits, as well as animals and products related to the state's robust agriculture industry. The annual showcase is a family-friendly event with lots to see and do; and don't forget to stop by the famous food court for a taste of some Pennsylvania cuisine.

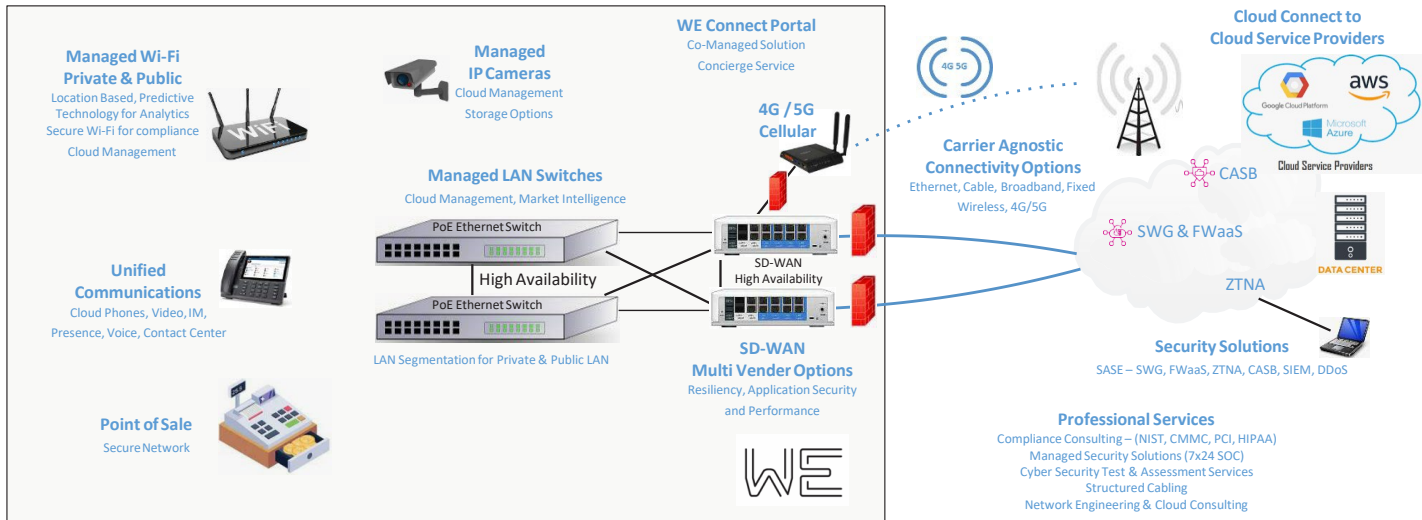
Admission to the show is free, but parking is \$15 per vehicle. Shuttle service is provided.

For all the latest news about the Farm Show, [follow it on Facebook](#) or visit www.farmshow.pa.gov.



Retail as a Service

Infrastructure as a Service
Customer Administrative Management



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Chamber Chatter is published on-line every Thursday.

We encourage member businesses to send us information on sales, promotions, news and events. It is a great way to promote your business or organization.

Chamber Chatter advertisements will remain for up to 4 weeks, or as space permits.

If you have something to share, please submit it by Wednesday at noon to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org.

****Chamber Chatter advertising is a FREE member benefit.****



Delivering The Future. Now.

Is Website Accessibility Relevant for Your Business? Here is What the DOJ Says

Website accessibility means ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to access your website content. With many things that are a part of our everyday lives moving online, this is an increasingly important topic. Your organization should understand what the Department of Justice says about website accessibility under ADA (the Americans with Disabilities Act) and know how to comply.

What does the DOJ do?

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has an important role, which is to uphold federal laws. By upholding federal laws, they keep our country safe and protect civil rights. The DOJ seeks just punishment for the guilty, and ensures the fair and impartial administration of justice. The DOJ ultimately determines whether certain rights fall under the law. Recently, the DOJ announced that website accessibility does fall under ADA, as a protected right.

What is ADA?

In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became a civil rights law to protect individuals with disabilities against discrimination. The law prohibits any type of discrimination against those with disabilities in all public places, and private places that are open to the public. There are five titles under ADA, and they are: Title I (Employment), Title II (State and Local Government), Title III (Public Accommodations), Title IV (Telecommunications), and Title V (Miscellaneous Provisions).

Does this apply to my business?

If your business falls under Title II, State and local governments or Title III, Businesses that are open to the public then you are required to ensure that your communications with individuals with disabilities are as accessible and effective as with others.

Title II – State and local governments

Many services provided by government entities are now available online, which means they must be accessible to persons with disabilities. A few examples of these services are:

- Applying for an absentee ballot
- Paying tickets or fees
- Filing a police report
- Filing tax documents
- Registering for school or school programs
- Applying for state benefits programs

Title III – Businesses that are open to the public

The ADA requires that businesses open to the public provide full and equal enjoyment of their goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations to people with disabilities. Some examples include:

- Retail stores
- Banks
- Hotels, inns, and motels
- Hospitals and medical offices
- Food and drink establishments
- Auditoriums, theaters, and sports arenas

Your business or organization is required to remove any barriers that prevent a person with a disability from accessing your website and services.

How do I ensure compliance?

Here are a few barriers to look out for when evaluating your website compliance, according to the DOJ.

- Poor color contrast – Text that is difficult to read because of the color and color of the background. For example, light gray text on a white background.
- Use of color alone to give information
- Lack of text alternatives (“alt text”) on images
- No captions on videos
- Inaccessible online forms
- Mouse-only navigation (lack of keyboard navigation)

If you're feeling overwhelmed at the idea of your website compliance (or potential noncompliance), our pros are here to help. We're happy to evaluate your current website and offer solutions. You can also learn more about ADA and website accessibility compliance by reading our blog post, [Is Your Business Website Compliant Under ADA Regulations?](#)

Source: <https://beta.ada.gov/resources/web-guidance/>

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