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News, Events & more!

Seeking HOSTS for 2026 EVENTS

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

BE A HOST and showcase your business,

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

CHAMBER EVENTS

Watch for Weekly Updates!!

January

19 - Office closed for Martin Luther King Jr. holiday

21 - Annual Dinner & General Membership Meeting, Penn Harris Hotel, 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill. 6:00pm - 9:00pm. \$45 per person. Sponsorships Available

29 - Business Leaders Discussion Group - Sponsored by PaySmart Payroll Services, 650 Wilson Ln, Ste. 100, Mechanicsburg. 7:45 - 9:00am. Members only event.

RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org

Thank You For Renewing Your Membership!

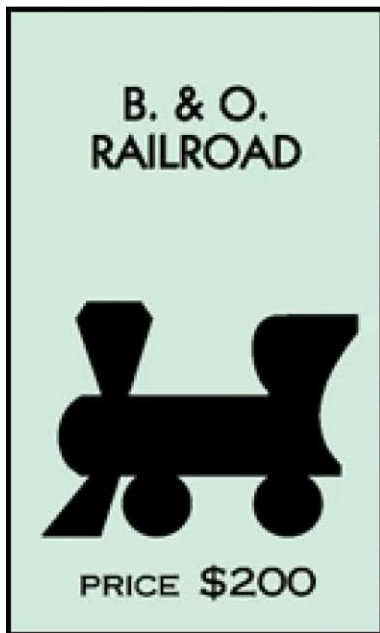
Azizkhan Internal Medicine Assoc
CSL Plasma
Fairfield Inn & Suites Harrisburg West
Fred Beans Ford/Kia
Investor First Wealth Management
Murphy Business of Greater Harrisburg

Negley's Water
Senior Helpers
SpringHill Suites by Marriott Camp Hill
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
TRU Construction

Chamber Annual Dinner & Meeting

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

January 21, 2026
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.

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

The special guest speaker for this year's event will be
Kris Hoellen, Executive Director of the B&O Railroad Museum.

With over 25 years of non-profit and for-profit managerial experience,
Kris is now taking on the task of honoring the 200th Anniversary of
American Railroading.

Also, in recognition of the America250 celebration, we welcome the
Washingtonburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution
in presenting our Nation's colors for the evening.

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

Consider donating a prize to showcase your business.
Items accepted for prize drawings.

Sponsored in part by:



Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce presents:
**Business Leaders Discussion
Group**

**Thursday, January 29
7:45 - 9:00 am**

**Sponsored by
PaySmart Payroll Services
650 Wilson Ln, Suite 100
Mechanicsburg**



RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org or call 717-796-0811.
This members-only event is **free** to attend!

Bring your questions and business topics and hear what others have to say!



Celebrate Agriculture at 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show

The Pennsylvania Farm Show – the country’s largest indoor agricultural exposition under one roof – kicks off Saturday, Jan. 10, in Harrisburg. The show will run through Saturday, Jan. 17.

This year’s theme is “Growing a Nation,” a nod to the Commonwealth’s role – and Pennsylvania agriculture’s role – in building our country as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States of America in 2026.

The 2026 Farm Show will feature fan-favorites like the 1,000-pound butter sculpture, delicious Farm Show Food Court, thousands of competitive agricultural events, homegrown celebrity cooking demonstrations at the PA Preferred® Culinary Connection, and more than 1 million square feet of hands-on agriculture education opportunities and chances to engage with the people who are growing Pennsylvania and our nation through agriculture.



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 [click here](#).



Help Kids Protect Their Devices

Online safety starts with protecting your kids’ devices from hackers and scammers.

The Federal Trade Commission offers these steps to help keep kids safer and encourages parents to teach their children about how to secure their devices and build good online habits:

- Set automatic updates on phones, tablets and laptops to protect your kids’ apps, web browsers and operating systems.
- Use strong passwords. Make sure your kids’ accounts and devices are protected by unique passwords. Consider helping

teenagers set up and use a password manager, or the device’s password generator. Remind them not to leave devices unattended in public places.

- Secure your home wi-fi network. Change your router’s default name and password. Turn off remote management, and log out as the administrator once the router is set up.
- Use parental controls to help reinforce good online habits and create safer spaces for kids to learn and play online. And, to have a better handle on what kids might be spending online, consider using parental controls to disable in-app purchases or require a password for all purchases on phones or tablets.

Learn more information about protecting kids online while enhancing their safety, privacy and healthy development at ftc.gov/KidsOnline.



Bells Across PA Unveiled in Cumberland County

[Cumberland County](#) recently [welcomed a bell](#) from [America250PA's](#) Bells Across PA, featuring a design by local artist Phil George. Congratulations to Phil on this recognition of his talent!

The program invites artists across the state to decorate three-foot fiberglass bells to commemorate America's semiquincentennial in 2026. Each bell is unique and interactive, encouraging visitors to touch and explore the designs, with the goal of placing at least one bell in each of the state's 67 counties.



PA Treasury Mails Nearly 100,000 Money Match Checks

Check your mailboxes, because the Pennsylvania Treasury Department recently mailed nearly 100,000 [Pennsylvania Money Match](#) checks totaling more than \$22 million. Treasurer Stacy Garrity urges those who receive a check to cash or deposit it immediately – this is a real program, and this money belongs to

Pennsylvanians.

Money Match, a law that went into effect in 2025, allows the Pennsylvania Treasury to return single-owner unclaimed property valued at \$500 or less automatically without the need to search or file a claim. Money Match successfully returned \$50 million in its first year and will continue issuing checks quarterly.

More than one in 10 Pennsylvanians is owed some of the over \$5 billion of unclaimed property in Treasury's care. The average value of a claim is \$1,000. Visit patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property to start searching.

PA State Police Chaplaincy Program Accepting Applications

The Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) is accepting applications from Pennsylvanians who want to volunteer as PSP chaplains.

The positions are open to licensed or ordained clergy interested in providing spiritual support to state troopers. Interested residents are encouraged to apply by Jan. 1, 2026. Contact RA-SPMAP@pa.gov for details and applications.



Seeking HOSTS for 2026 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.

JAZZ ME BAND

KIRK WISE UPCOMING
SOLO, DUO & BAND
PUBLIC DATES

Sun. 1/11 – Christian Fellowship Church,
Carlisle... Service @ 10:30

Tues. 1/13 – Range + Rye Restaurant @
Range End, Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6 – 9

Sat. 1/17 – American Legion “the Swamp”,
New Cumberland ...Kirk Duo 7-10

Sun. 1/18 – Mountain Ridge Church,
Dillsburg/ York Springs...Service @ 9

Tues. 1/20 – Range + Rye Restaurant @
Range End, Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6 – 9

Thur. 1/22 – Cashtown Inn & Restaurant.
Orrtanna ...Kirk solo 5-7:30

Sat. 1/24 – Rotunda Brewing/Restaurant,
Annville... Kirk & Beth Duo 6-9

Sun. 1/25 – Freedom Biker Church,
West Fairview...Service @ 10:30

Tues. 1/27 – Range + Rye Restaurant @
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:
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LANDON WISE PHOTOGRAPHY

GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs) Mechanicsburg

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 13
at 7:00 PM at Buhrig's Gathering Place, 25 East
Main Street, Mechanicsburg. Our speaker will be
PA State Representative, Thomas Kutz.

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/>



AGRIBUSINESS & AGRITOURISM FUNDING SEMINAR

Join CAEDC to learn about available local and state grant programs that support agribusiness and agritourism initiatives.

CAEDC OFFICES

230 S Sporting Hill Rd
Suite 100
Mechanicsburg PA 17050

[REGISTER HERE](#)

JANUARY 21

from 9am - 11am



CUMBERLAND VALLEY
PENNSYLVANIA

Cumberland Area
Economic Development
Corporation



Mechanicsburg Money

Where dollars made in Mechanicsburg stay in Mechanicsburg

Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership is excited to introduce Mechanicsburg Money, a new initiative designed to keep local spending local and drive customers directly to our downtown businesses!

This program runs from 11/29/2025-2/28/2026.

\$4,000

400 \$10 coupons
will be distributed

More Info
& to Register -



**FREE TO
JOIN!**



CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS

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.****



Welcome to our new Executive Director!

The Joseph T. Simpson Public Library Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the selection of Elizabeth “Lizzy” Baldwin Seidel as their new Executive Director.

Lizzy’s hiring is part of a planned retirement succession plan for the current Executive Director Sue Erdman, who will retire on February 15, 2026 after 29 years of service as Simpson Library’s Executive Director.

Lizzy was most recently the District Consultant for York County Libraries, and her prior experience includes Director of the Guthrie Memorial Library in Hanover and Library Manager at two branches of the Dauphin County Library System.

Board President Thomas Topolski said, “After a wide and lengthy search for a new Executive Director, we’re fortunate to have found Lizzy to lead our Library upon Sue’s retirement. While we’ll greatly miss Sue’s leadership, wisdom, and dedication to the Simpson Library, Lizzy’s experience, leadership, and passion for library services make her a worthy successor to Sue and to continue Simpson’s legacy of service to our community.”

Lizzy began her employment with Simpson Library on November 10. “I am very excited to begin my time at Simpson! I am hopeful that I can build on the legacy that Sue has crafted over her time here and learn from everyone to carry Simpson Library on into the future,” said Seidel.



Please join us in thanking Sue for her years of service and welcoming Lizzy to Simpson Library!



Meeting Rooms at Simpson Library

The meeting rooms at Simpson Public Library can be used by community organizations for their meetings and by anyone needing a quiet place to work or study.

To reserve a meeting room at Simpson Public Library, click [here](#):

If you want to reserve a room at the [Learning and Book Sale Center](#) or have any questions, please contact the reference desk at mechanicsburg@cumberlandcountylibraries.org or 717-766-0171.



Recovery-Friendly Workplace Survey



Penn State's Center for Economic and Community Development is surveying Pennsylvania businesses and organizations about their needs for a recovery-friendly workplace training initiative.

Please click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to participate!



All participants will receive a **\$10 Amazon gift card** as a token of appreciation for their time.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at cecd@psu.edu. Thank you!

Join
OUR TEAM
POSITIONS AVAILABLE



Are you detail oriented, reliable and take pride in creating beautiful, spotless spaces?

Angel Home Solutions, LLC is a luxury cleaning company serving high end residential homes and premier businesses in Central Pennsylvania. We're looking for exceptional people to join our team.

We offer:

- Competitive compensation
- Flexible schedules
- A professional, respectful work environment
- Opportunities to grow

Contact us today and let's get started on a brighter future together. We look forward to hearing from you!

Please contact Karen at 717-773-1340



The Tide[®]

Your Soles ~ Their Souls
Shoe Drive Fundraiser

SEEKING
COLLECTION
SITES FOR THE
2026 SHOE
DRIVE!

Help support



**Literacy Classes
to Villagers in India**



**Microbusiness in
Developing Countries**



GET INVOLVED!

- set up a community drop-off location
- promote shoe drive and collect shoes
- donate your new/gently worn shoes

**Collection thru
March 31st**

Contact The Tide office for
more information or to set
up a collection site at your
church or business.

**events@thetide.org
717-264-7288**



thetide.org/shoes

Special thanks to the community for their past support - donating 20,000+ pairs of new and gently worn shoes since 2022 and to Cubes Moving & Storage of Chambersburg for the use of a Cube to store incoming shoes.



Important Payroll Updates for 2026

As 2025 comes to a close, we're equipping you with the resources you need to start the new year strong. Whether you're planning payroll strategy or navigating new compliance updates, we've got you covered.

Resources at a Glance:

- [2025-2026 Payroll Booklet](#)
 - o Everything you need to know, from deadlines to best practices, is in our 2025-2026 Year-End Payroll Booklet.
- [FAQs: 2026 SECURE 2.0 Catch-Up Contribution Changes](#)
 - o Beginning in 2026, new rules from the SECURE 2.0 Act will change how certain workers age 50 and older make "catch-up" contributions to their retirement plans. This article encapsulates what you need to know.
- [Employer Q&A: New Overtime Deduction in the 2025 Tax Reform](#)
 - o For tax years 2025 through 2028, businesses and workers will see major updates in how qualified overtime is calculated, deducted, and reported to the IRS.

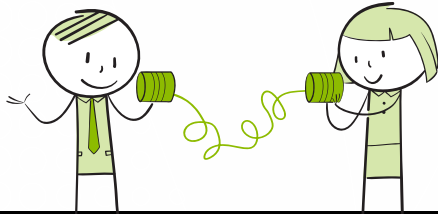
Make sure your team is ready; explore these resources today.

930 Century Dr, #104
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717-697-2900
www.troutcpa.com



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BUSINESS NEEDS?



payroll@paysmartpa.com | 717.766.1777
www.PaySmartPA.com

As 2025 has come to a close, we know your to-do list is growing. Payroll compliance shouldn't be another headache on it!

That's where PaySmart can help. As a locally owned and operated payroll company, we've been supporting Central PA businesses for years. Our team of payroll advisors can give you practical tips to help ensure:

- Your payroll tasks are completed on time
- You stay compliant with year-end regulations
- You feel confident closing out the year

Let's set up a quick call so you can walk into 2026 with peace of mind.

[Schedule a quick chat](#)

We'd love to be your trusted payroll resource here in Central PA.

PaySmart | Central PA's Trusted Payroll Partner 717.766.1777



www.liveworkplay.media

BREAKING NEWS

● LIVE

SMALL BUSINESS FINALLY GETS WHAT THEY DESERVE!!

We've created the first true Coast-to-Coast
small business directory where your
customers - whether locals, travelers or new
movers find YOU for \$20/\$30 month!!

Christine Vasiliades
Founder
liveworkplay.media





CAEDC Secures Nearly \$1 Million in Grant Funding for Cumberland County Projects

Through the Statewide Local Share Account (LSA) Program, the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CAEDC) has secured funding for three impactful projects in Cumberland County, totaling \$971,218. These investments will support community infrastructure, accessibility, and recreational development across the county.

The three grant awards include:

\$500,000 – Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania

The project will construct and install an ADA elevator from the ground floor to the lower level of the regional headquarters. Renovation of the lower-level will also provide a revitalized multipurpose space, a museum, ADA-accessibility, restrooms, and a kitchen.

\$300,000 – Mechanicsburg Volunteer Fire Department

This grant will assist with the construction of a new fire station located at 208 S. York Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, helping ensure continued public safety and emergency response services for the community.

\$171,218 – Keystone Trails Association

The funding will allow the association to retain a qualified engineer or architect to develop plans, drawings, and specifications, and to obtain necessary permits and approvals for an upgraded facility at Scott Farm.

The Statewide Local Share Account program is funded through the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act (Act 71 of 2004). The program distributes gaming revenues through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) to support projects that serve the public interest across Pennsylvania.

There were 16 projects in Cumberland County awarded Statewide LSA grants this cycle, totaling \$4,924,228, representing nearly 2% of the \$268,035,583 awarded in Pennsylvania.

“CAEDC was proud to assist with the grant application process and celebrate the successful award of funding for these projects. Working with dedicated partners to bring tangible benefits to Cumberland County communities is central to our work” said CAEDC Economic Development Director, Greg Welker.



CAEDC's America250PA Cumberland County Sponsorship Program

To support product development, event creation, and promotion efforts for America250PA Cumberland County, CAEDC will consider sponsorship requests of \$500-\$3,000 for activities happening in Cumberland County prior to December 1, 2026.

Sponsorship requests will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Emphasis will be placed on projects and activities that attract visitors. Please allow three weeks for review after submitting your sponsorship request. Deadline to submit an application is February 2, 2026.

All America250PA Cumberland County sponsorship requests must be submitted through this form.

[See full Sponsorship Guidelines.](#)

**CLICK HERE FOR
APPLICATION FORM**



Join Cumberland County in Celebrating America250!

This year, Cumberland County proudly kicked off its 275th anniversary, and we're already gearing up for another milestone—the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026! To ensure a memorable celebration, Cumberland County has formed an America250PA Committee with representatives from various organizations, including local historical societies, chambers of commerce, non-profits, school districts, higher education institutions, the Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau, and Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation.

We invite your business to join the excitement and contribute to making America250 truly special in Cumberland County! Here are the ways you can assist.

- Explore and share the microsite VisitCumberlandValley.com/America-250.
- Plan an America250PA-themed event and submit it for free to our online calendar.
- Take an active role and join one of our sub-committees:
 - Programming & Events
 - Marketing & PR
 - Education
- Consider sponsoring an America250PA-themed event.

If you'd like to participate or learn more, please contact Stacy Snyder at smsnyder@cumberlandcountypa.gov.

6 Things Productivity Experts Do When They Come Back To Work After Vacation

Productivity experts weigh in on how to avoid the post-vacation crash and transition back to work smoothly.

By [Monica Torres](#) - HuffPost

Vacations are a much-needed balm to weary souls. A few days of sun, friends and rest can help banish the stress of urgent requests, crabby colleagues and unreasonable deadlines.

But you don't want your post-vacation high to become a post-vacation crash when you see the pile of work that awaits you. To keep your restorative mood intact, you want to make the transition back to work as smooth as possible.

Here are some of the best tips productivity experts shared on what they do when they come back to work from [vacation](#) to avoid feeling stressed by the grind. Their answers were lightly edited for clarity and length.

1. They admit they can't respond to everyone at once.

"One of the most important things that I do before I go on vacation to keep me from being overwhelmed after is I put up an autoresponder that is a little bit more detailed than 'Hey, I'm out of the office from this day to this day.'

Instead, I have a really detailed out-of-office message that lets people know when I will be unavailable, whether I will be checking email intermittently or if I am not going to be available at all. And then, based on who you are, I let you know when to expect a response.

I find that creating that autoresponder with all of those details helps set expectations from when people can expect to hear from you. Then you don't return to five messages from the same person wondering why they haven't heard from you yet. The sooner that you recognize that you can't respond to everyone at once, the easier it's going to be to prioritize based on importance and urgency." — [Anna Dearmon Kornick](#), time management coach and host of the *"It's About Time"* podcast

2. They take an extra day of vacation just to switch their mindset.

"Organization for me starts before I even get back to the office. Typically, I take an extra day of vacation to get used to the fact that I have to return to work!

Once I'm there, I begin to make a list of tasks and I'm not overwhelming myself with everything that undoubtedly needs to get handled.

Next, I prioritize that list. Is this task past due? Does this task need to get done today? Can this particular task wait until another day? Now I have everything organized in my brain, it is written down, and I can finally start conquering the tasks at hand." — [Pamela A. Reed](#), time management coach and author of *"Unfinished Business: How to Finish What You Start ... Faster!"*

3. They tackle a to-do list they created before vacation.

“Before I leave for vacation, I make my **to-do list** for the week that I’m coming back. It can be overwhelming walking back into work and not knowing what’s on your plate. Making your to-do list ahead of time will allow your mind to truly rest when you are out of the office, knowing that you have a game plan for your return.

It’s also a good idea to run the list by your supervisor or teammates so that you are on the same page about your post-vacation priorities.” — *Katie Wussow, business coach for creatives and host of “The Game Changer” podcast*

4. They first do tasks that only take a few minutes.

“My first day or two at work would go mostly to collecting, organizing and prioritizing the pile-up of work. I’d write down all of the tasks and use the **Eisenhower Matrix** to organize and prioritize them. As I process the tasks, I’d do only tasks that take less than five minutes. For tasks that take longer than that, I’d block time for them on **Google** calendar. Tasks that others can do better than me would get delegated or outsourced, and distractions would just get eliminated altogether.

These practices help get me back in control in just a few days. The key is to put your organization skills to use. You should have the courage to be realistic about whether you can take on more tasks or negotiate a reasonable deadline.” — *Samphy Y, productivity coach*

5. They remind themselves it’s OK to have a slow start.

“I give myself a pep talk. I tell myself I just returned from vacation. It took me several days to unwind and relax; similarly, it’s going to take several days for me to get back to my regular routine. This helps me keep my vacation and work in perspective. I then work on tasks one at a time.

I write my thoughts down on paper. I find the process relaxing and calming. Often, things don’t look as bad on paper; you can clearly see things in black and white versus turning over things in your mind.

I quickly review my emails in reverse chronologic order. This may be counterintuitive, but it works for me. I start with current emails and work backwards, simply reading them and not taking any action. This way, I get a big picture view of things. When I come to the end of messages, nothing is a huge surprise because I’ve already reviewed everything. I then prioritize my work requests as needed.” — *Rashelle Isip, productivity consultant*

6. They mark everything as ‘read’ to eliminate stress.

“I have really tried to let go of the idea that I have to spend my first day back after a vacation frantically ‘making up’ for the time I was off, which feels antithetical to the point of the vacation. Instead, I tell myself, ‘Today is going to be a slow day. Obviously. I’m just getting caught up.’

If I’m in an all-team meeting that first morning back and everyone has to say what they are working on for the day, again, I’ll say out loud, ‘Today I’m getting caught up.’ I think this helps reinforce the idea that of course people need a day to catch up on emails and Slack messages and tend to the most urgent items. I think the more people who can reinforce that attitude, the better it is for everyone in a workplace.

I’m also someone who hates having unread emails, and opening my inbox and seeing dozens of unreads stresses me out immensely. For a long time, that was the worst part of returning to work after vacation for me. Now, I’ll just immediately do a ‘mark all as read’ in my inbox, just to remove that

feeling of, 'Oh no, I have so much to do and I have to do it all immediately!' Then I spend my morning working through the emails at a regular pace, without that faux sense of urgency. — *Rachel Wilkerson Miller*, Vox senior editor and author of *“Dot Journaling—A Practical Guide”*