

Chamber CHATTER



MECHANICSBURG
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
The Strength of One. The Power of Many.™

3.12.26

6 West Strawberry Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (717) 796-0811 www.mechanicsburgchamber.org

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News, Events & more!

CHAMBER EVENTS

Watch for Weekly Updates!!

March

18 - Business Women's Networking Luncheon - Hosted by HD Entertainment. Location: Buhrig's Gathering Place, 25 E Main St, Mechanicsburg. 11:30am - 1:00pm. FREE member event.

19-20 - Chamber office will have limited hours.

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

April

14 - Business Women's Networking Luncheon - Hosted by HD Entertainment. Hosted by Highmark Caring Place, 1800 Center St, Camp Hill. 11:30am - 1:00pm. FREE member event.

RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org



FREE HOT DOG ON MARCH 26



To celebrate the official start of baseball season, Mechanicsburg Chamber's Executive Director and baseball fanatic, Jeff Palm, will once again grill hot dogs for the community on **Thursday, March 26th.**

He will be set up from **12:00-1:00 p.m.**, or while supplies last, on the corner of Main and Market Streets in downtown Mechanicsburg

Stop by and enjoy a free hot dog, courtesy of Jeff!

Thank You For Renewing Your Membership!

Borough of Mechanicsburg
Clay's Service Center, Inc.
Community CARES
Harrisburg Senators
PCI Insurance, Inc.

Business Women's Networking Luncheon

~~Tuesday, March 17~~
Wednesday, March 18
11:30am - 1:00pm

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!!

Due to a special election taking place in her district and Heather works the polling station, she has had to reschedule.
We apologize for any inconvenience.

hdentertainmentdj.com

Join Heather and HD Entertainment with a little
'Luck of the Irish'
as she hosts this month's event.
HD Entertainment is the area's
only all-female dj company.
Learn how you can benefit from the
Central PA Wedding Shows, also.



Entertainment
All-Female
DJ COMPANY



Space is limited. Reservations required.
RSVP to info@mechanicsburgchamber.org

LOCATION:
Buhrig's Gathering Place
25 E Main St
Mechanicsburg

Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce presents:

Business Leaders Discussion Group

Thursday, March 26

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!

**Do you know a great way to show off
what, where, and how you do the things you do?
Host a Business Women's Networking Luncheon or
After Hours Mixer. There is no fee to host an event,
contact the Chamber office for more details.**

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.

16th Annual



REGIONAL FIESTA MIXER

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

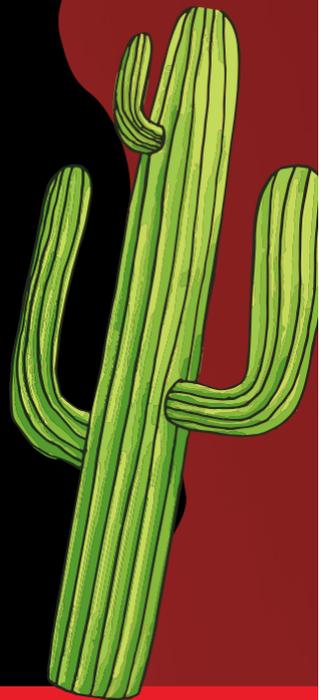
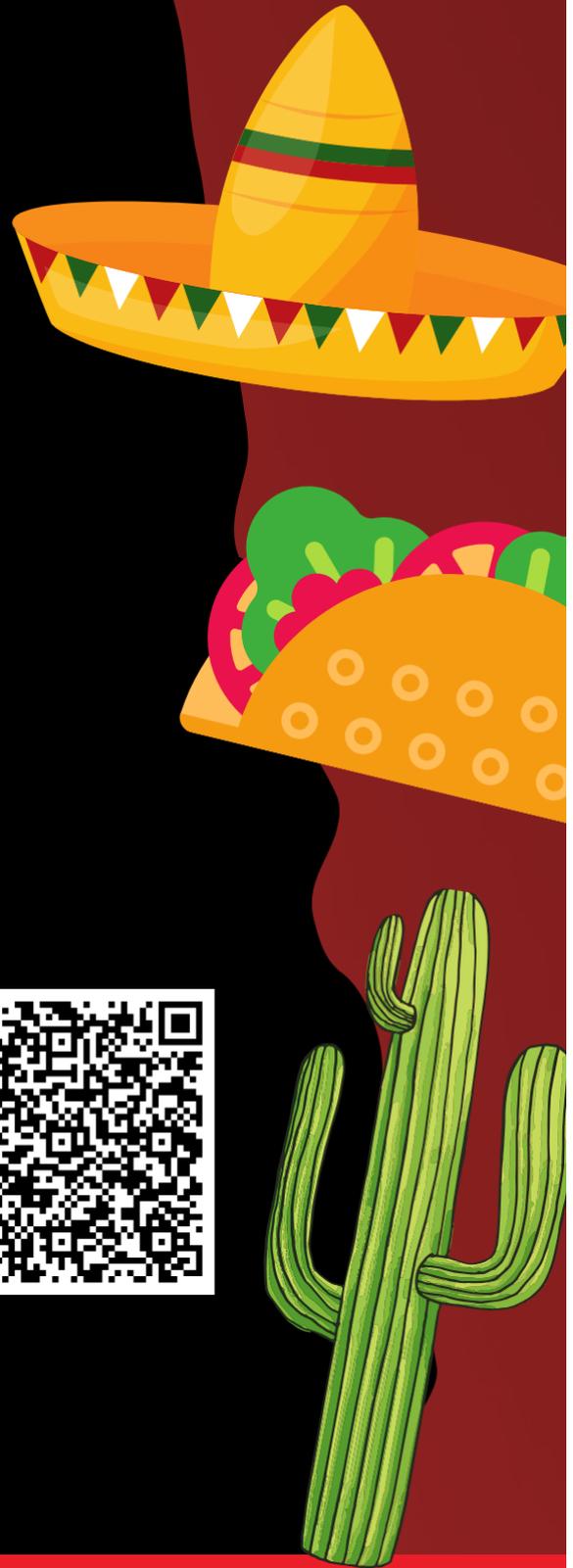
4:30 - 6:30 PM

V O L V O

Volvo Construction Equipment Customer Center 200 Rowe Road, Shippensburg

RSVP:

https://bit.ly/45DuEHa





Safely and securely shred documents containing sensitive information at my free spring shredding event on Thursday, March 26, from 5-7 p.m. in the Hampden Township Pool Parking Lot, 5001 Hampden Park Drive in Mechanicsburg. We will have two shredding trucks available!

There is a limit of four boxes/bags per household. No businesses, please. The shredder can handle staples, but please remove all paperclips and binder clips in advance.

RSVP by calling 717-761-4665 or [click here](#). RSVPs give my staff and the shredding company a headcount. Shredding will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.



Beware of Tax Season Scams



Tax season has arrived, and with it the threat of tax-related scams.

The Internal Revenue Service reminds you to watch out for these warning signs:

- A big payday – If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Bad tax advice on social media may convince you to lie on tax forms or mislead you about credits you can claim.
- Demands or threats – Impersonators want you to pay “now or else.” They threaten arrest or deportation. They don’t let you question or appeal the amount of tax you owe.

- Website links – Odd or misspelled web links can take you to harmful sites instead of [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

Taxpayers should also be aware of IRS impersonators. The IRS will never contact you using social media or text message. The first contact from the IRS usually comes in the mail.

To learn more about tax scams and how to protect yourself, [click here](#).



A Future Without School Property Taxes: Join the Conversation

Are skyrocketing school property taxes weighing down your budget? For many homeowners in Pennsylvania, the answer is yes. That's why I introduced [Senate Bill 962](#), alongside [House Bill 1649](#) introduced by [Rep. Wendy Fink](#), to eliminate school property taxes and replace them with a fairer, more stable funding system. The plan is designed to provide real relief for homeowners, improve affordability, and ensure strong, reliable funding for our schools and educators.



I invite you to attend our School Property Tax Elimination town hall to learn more and ask questions. I am co-hosting this event with Rep. Fink, [Rep. Mike Jones](#) and [Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill](#) on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Golden Connections Community Center, 20 Gotham Place, Red Lion. Residents are encouraged to RSVP by calling 717-244-9232 or visiting this [link](#). This is your opportunity to understand how the proposal could affect your household and share your thoughts.

I hope you'll join us and be part of this important conversation about delivering meaningful property tax relief.

Get Ready to Shine a Light on Government Transparency



Sunshine Week runs from March 15-21 and highlights the importance of transparency, accountability and access to public information at every level of government. It serves as a reminder that transparency benefits everyone by strengthening public trust and encouraging active participation in our system of government.

I strongly believe that government works best when citizens know what is happening

and have access to information about the decisions that affect their communities. As your senator, I remain committed to supporting transparent processes, clear communication and access to public records so residents can stay informed. Shine a spotlight on your right to know! [Click here](#) to learn more about Pennsylvania's Sunshine Act and Right-to-Know laws.

Supporting Veteran-Owned Businesses

Pennsylvania is one of the top states in the nation for veteran-owned small businesses. These men and women served our nation and are now providing jobs and economic vitality in our communities. Please keep an eye out for veteran-owned businesses in our area. If you're a veteran looking to start or expand a business, you can find state and federal resources [here](#).



Family Caregivers Can Find Help Through State Support Program



Caring for a loved one is rewarding but also challenging. If you or someone you know could use some help, the state Caregiver Support Program could be the answer.

The state Caregiver Support Program provides relief through respite care, education and financial assistance for eligible unpaid caregivers. Each caregiver is assigned a care manager who will come to the home, conduct a comprehensive

assessment of the needs of the caregiver, provide support and work with them to develop a care plan.

Find out more about eligibility and how to apply, and find other caregiver resources, from the [Department of Aging](#).



CAEDC Annual Awards Event

Join CAEDC to celebrate the great leaders in our community that further our mission. Lunch will be served.

March 27th
from 11:30am-2pm
at the Penn Harris Hotel

[REGISTER HERE](#)

CAEDC
CUMBERLAND VALLEY
PENNSYLVANIA

JAZZ ME BAND

KIRK WISE UPCOMING SOLO, DUO & BAND
PUBLIC DATES

Thur. 3/12 – New Cumberland Food Truck Rally...Kirk solo 5-8

Sat. 3/14 – Rotunda Brewing/Restaurant Kegs & Eggs, Annville... Kirk solo 10-2

Sun. 3/15 – Freedom Biker Church, West Fairview...Service @10:30

Tues. 3/17 – Range + Rye @ Range End, Dillsburg...Kirk solo 6-9

Thurs. 3/19 – VibraLife, Mechanicsburg...Kirk solo 2:30

Fri. 3/20 – The Doyle Hotel, Duncannon...Kirk solo 7-10

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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CLASSIC DRY CLEANERS,
STUDIO D & LANDON WISE
PHOTOGRAPHY**

A New Position but a Familiar Face



"I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region, an organization that has been a part of my life for more than a decade. Ten years ago, my family participated in the Family Promise program during a time when we needed support the most. The compassion, dignity, and opportunity we were given changed the course of our lives and planted a seed I could never have imagined would grow into this moment."

To read more about Stacey's journey from shelter guest to Executive Director, please [click here](#).

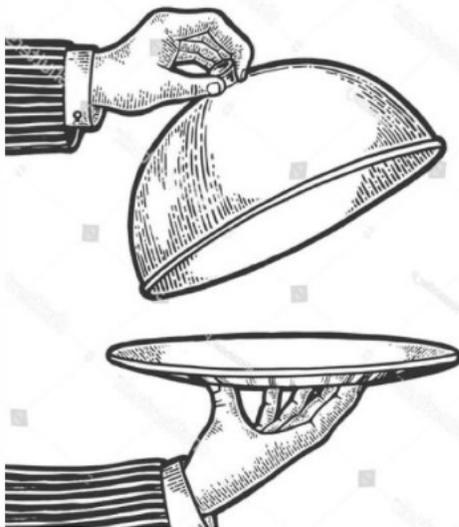


**GFWC Mechanicsburg
&
American Legion Post 109 Home Canteen**

Invite you to:

The 4th Annual Flavors Of Mechanicsburg

Food Tasting



**Sunday March 22,
2026**

Tickets - \$25 each

Seatings: 12:30 –1:30

Or **1:30 –2:30**

**Benefits 100%: Veterans
Grove Tiny Homes for**

Call Pam for tickets: (717) 254-6136

**Hosted by: American Legion Post 109 Home Canteen
224 W. Main Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**



Join us for our Lucky Bingo Extravaganza at Bridges at Bent Creek as we kick off our fundraising efforts for the Alzheimer's Association. For just \$10, enjoy 10 exciting bingo games with prizes, plus special games, raffles, food concessions, and a bake sale — limited seating, RSVP required!

Friday, March 27th
6:00pm

RSVP by Monday, March 23rd to Christine at
christine.meukel@bridgesatbentcreek.com or (717) 620-0350

2100 Bent Creek Blvd • Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

717-620-0350 • BridgesatBentCreek.com • marketing@bridgesatbentcreek.com





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.



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF SOUTH-CENTRAL PA



BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE

REGISTER TODAY. IMPACT TOMORROW.

1) Choose a Date.

- **Saturday, March 28** 2:00pm. ABC West, Mechanicsburg.
- **Sunday, March 29** 2:00pm. ABC West, Mechanicsburg.
- **Wednesday, April 8** 4:00pm. Clearview Lanes, Mount Joy
- **Friday, April 10** 6:00pm. Edgewood Bowl, Gettysburg.
- **Wednesday, April 15** 4:00pm. Clearview Lanes, Mount Joy.
- **Thursday, April 16** 6:00pm. Palmyra Bowling, Palmyra.
- **Friday, April 17** 6:00pm. Hanover Bowling Centre, Hanover.
- **Thursday, April 23** 6:00pm. Midway Bowl, Carlisle.
- **Friday, April 24** 6:00pm. Colony Park Lanes, York.

Presenting Sponsor



King Pin Sponsor



BBSSCPA.ORG/EVENTS

(717) 236-0199 • events@bbbsscpa.org

2) Register Today.

BBSSCPA.ORG/EVENTS

3) Build your team.

Invite friends, family & coworkers.

4) Fundraise.

Teams of 5 raise \$500 (or more) to support a Big & Little.

5) Party!

Bowling. Pizza. Drinks. Raffle prizes. Inspire children to dream BIG!

Food Sponsors





PASSPORT GALA PREMIERE EVENT

Vision Resources of Central Pennsylvania (VROCP) is excited to announce the premiere of the organization's new fundraising concept: **Vision Resources Passport Gala**. Each event will feature a different Passport destination, the first, on **April 23, 2026**, will be Italy and there is no better location for guests to enjoy an Italian experience than **Visaggio's Ristorante**.

The ambiance at Visaggio's will be the perfect setting to allow those attending to move about among the food and beverage stations, place bids on a variety of auction items, enjoy strolling musicians, and share this marvelous evening with passionate friends of Vision Resources. Gala guests will be treated to sensational cuisine featuring Northern, Central, and Southern regional Italian specialties, prepared by the talented chef Tony and the staff at Visaggio's. Tickets will include beverages of choice including select wines, beers, and the signature drink of the evening, an Aperol Spritz.

VROCP is a one-hundred-and five-year-old non-profit agency with a mission to facilitate independence, enrich the quality of life, and empower individuals who are visually impaired, or otherwise disabled. The organization is proud that for the past twenty-five years Vision Resources promoted awareness of the vital programs and services the agency provides, while celebrating the agency's importance in the community, with inspiring and spirited Visions of Monte Carlo events. The organization believes the Vision Resources Passport Gala is a creative and fresh concept that will continue to benefit the agency and take the organization farther in the fulfillment of its mission.

Mark your calendar for April 23, 2026, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. for Vision Resources Passport Gala. Tickets are \$125.00 per person, available online at the VROCP website, www.vrocp.org. Advance ticket purchases are required, space is limited and sales end Thursday, April 2nd. For more information call Vision Resources, 717-238-2531.





JUNIOR MOCK INTERVIEWS

MASH Career Services is seeking community professionals to volunteer as mock interviewers for all junior students.



APRIL | 20-28 | 2026

Mechanicsburg Area Senior High School

Use the QR code or link below to sign up, or contact nclever@mbgsd.org for more information.

ttsu.me/mockinterviews



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



*Spreading sunshine to
those in our community
fighting cancer or other
life-threatening
illnesses.*



**Hearts - n - Hands
Sertoma Club**

**SUNDAY
APRIL 26, 2026**

**Mary Lank Memorial
Flamingo Cash Bingo**

**Lower Allen VFW Post 7530 - 4545 Westport Dr.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

For Tickets Scan Code:

**CASH
PRIZES &
RAFFLES!**



**SMALL
GAMES OF
CHANCE**

Or Call Karen - 717-979-5546

Please RSVP by 4/13/2026

**Doors Open at Noon - Games begin at 1:30pm
\$35 includes: 10 Games, Hearty Appetizers & Soda**

Special Games available for purchase

EIN #63-0655922



THE FOUNDATION FOR ENHANCING COMMUNITIES

Grant Applications Now Open to Support South Central Pennsylvania Nonprofits

The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC) is now accepting applications for Grant Cycle 2, offering funding opportunities to nonprofits serving South Central Pennsylvania.

Eligible nonprofits can review guidelines and apply at www.tfec.org. The application deadline is Friday, May 1, 2026. Nonprofits with questions about application or eligibility for available competitive grants can learn more by emailing grants@tfec.org.

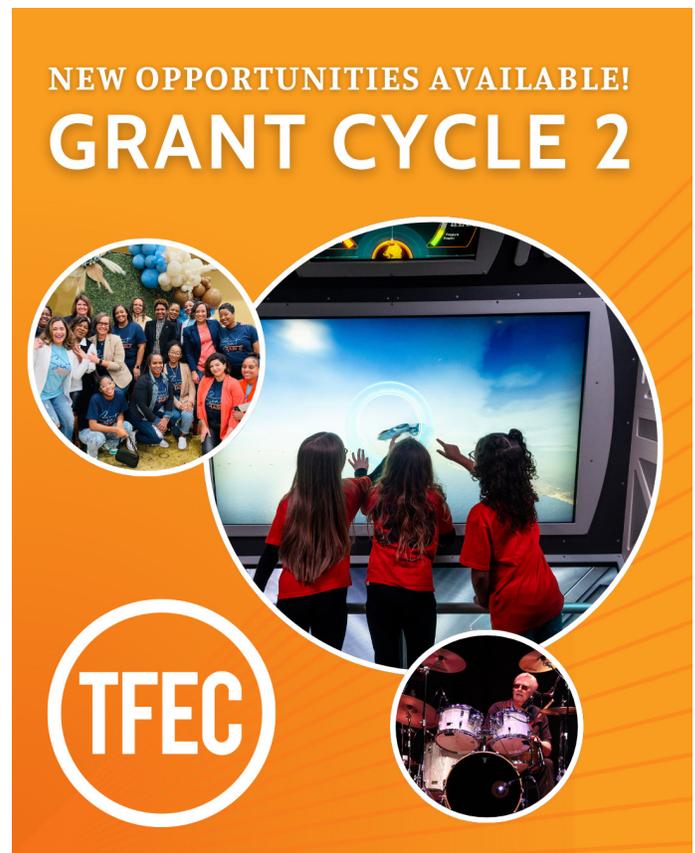
These funds support programs that strengthen families, expand access to education and health care, address basic needs, protect the environment and enrich communities through the arts.

“Every grant awarded represents an investment in our community,” said Jennifer Doyle, president and CEO of TFEC. “When local nonprofits have the resources they need, they can respond to real challenges, meet people where they are and create lasting impact.”

Grant Cycle 2 is open to eligible nonprofits serving Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lebanon and Perry counties, as well as the Dillsburg area. Funding priorities reflect the charitable goals of donors who partner with TFEC to make a difference close to home.

“When nonprofits thrive, our communities thrive,” said Stefani McAuliffe, vice president of community impact at TFEC. “In 2025 alone, more than \$9 million in grants helped organizations expand services, launch new programs and reach more people. That investment strengthens families, supports economic stability and improves quality of life across South Central Pennsylvania.”

Community change begins with people who care. TFEC is powered by private generosity, not government funding, which means individuals, families and businesses can shape the future of their own neighborhoods. By starting a charitable fund, donors can turn their values into lasting impact and strengthen the place they call home. To learn how to begin, connect with Kim Alvarez, Vice President of Philanthropy at TFEC, at philanthropy@tfec.org.



APPLICATION DEADLINE - MAY 1



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doctor**
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Message Us Today to Get Started!

UPMC

LIFE CHANGING MEDICINE

Midstate Medical Moment: Debunking Weight Loss Myths

By Olivia Mosco, CRNP, UPMC Weight Management

Diet, exercise and weight loss are some of the most trending topics on social media and we often spread this information by word of mouth to friends and family. But how can you know if the information you're seeing and hearing is accurate?

Consulting with a trusted weight management specialist can help you reach your weight loss goals in a safe and realistic manner. Weight loss involves multiple components including nutrition, physical activity, lifestyle changes and medical interventions like medication and surgery. This is why it is important to talk with a professional about developing a personalized plan for success.

Myth: BMI is the only number that matters when it comes to a person's health.

Body mass index, or BMI, is a screening tool for obesity, but it doesn't paint the full picture of someone's overall health.

For example, someone with a high percentage of muscle mass who does frequent, heavy strength training may have a high BMI and low fat mass, as well as acceptable metabolic lab work. On the other hand, some individuals may have a low or normal BMI with little muscle mass and demonstrate metabolic dysfunction, such as high cholesterol or uncontrolled blood sugar.

For this reason, it's important to assess BMI results in context with your health care provider and make appropriate lifestyle recommendations based on other measures of your overall health.

Myth: I must go to the gym or get 10,000 steps every day to lose weight.

A lot of people make new year's resolutions to hit the gym every day or to get 10,000 steps a day, and while those are admirable goals, they're often setting you up for failure – especially if you haven't regularly worked out or been active prior to starting that goal.

I often recommend that patients start with smaller, more realistic and achievable goals and slowly increase to an overall goal. For example, aim to go to the gym two or three times a week or try for 6,000 steps a day, instead of 10,000. Slowly increasing these goals over time becomes more sustainable, due to the foundation of success you've created by starting small.

Myth: I must follow a certain diet to see success with weight loss.



Many weight loss diets are built around calorie deficits, which are useful for reaching your goals.

However, a lot of 'fad diets' eliminate certain macronutrients like carbohydrates or fat from your daily food intake. The reality is that our bodies require a variety of foods to get the macro and micronutrients they need to thrive.

I recommend patients meet with a registered dietician to make an individualized plan that focuses on a well-balanced diet that consists of protein, fruits, veggies, complex carbs, etc. Your needs can vary from others, so it's important to find out how much of each macronutrient you need based on your preferences, needs and medical history.

Myth: I have to use medication or get bariatric surgery to lose weight.

Each patient's health history, lifestyle and circumstances are different. There's no one-size-fits-all approach to weight loss. That's why it's crucial to find a comprehensive program that will help you develop an individualized plan for success.

The four pillars of obesity treatment, as defined by the Obesity Medicine Association, tell us that nutrition, physical activity, behavioral modifications, and medical interventions (such as medication or surgery) all play a role in helping people reach their weight loss and health goals. If you are interested in long term weight loss and management, you should discuss with your care team and request a referral for [our program](#) to explore what an individualized treatment plan could look like for you.

Through the Midstate Medical Moment, UPMC wants to raise awareness about the health conditions affecting people living in the communities we serve. For more information about UPMC services in Central Pennsylvania, visit UPMC.com/centralpa.

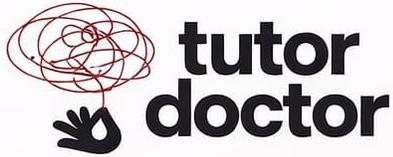
Chamber Chatter is published on-line every Thursday.

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.****



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Personalized Tutoring for Every Learner

Tutor Doctor provides **customized, one-on-one tutoring** tailored to your child's learning style — delivered in-home or online.

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- Elementary Math
- Pre-Algebra
- Algebra I & II
- Geometry
- Pre-Calculus
- Calculus
- Statistics

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- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Other Subjects

- Social Studies
- French

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- **Language Arts (ELA)**
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- Writing & Grammar
- Vocabulary Building



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- One-on-One Personalized Attention
- Customized Learning Plans
- Flexible Scheduling
- Builds Confidence & Academic Success



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- Online Tutoring
- Live, Interactive Sessions
- Sessions Tailored to Strengths & Needs

REGISTER NOW | Serving Harrisburg & Mechanicsburg

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www.tutordocor.com/harrisburg-mechanicsburg

SBA Offers Disaster Relief to Pennsylvania Small Businesses and Private Nonprofits Affected by Rainfall

Low interest disaster loans now available



U.S. Small Business
Administration

The [U.S. Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#) announced the availability of low interest federal disaster loans to small businesses and private nonprofit (PNP) organizations in Pennsylvania who sustained economic losses caused by the rainfall beginning May 2-July 17, 2025.

The disaster declaration covers the counties of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Perry and York.

Under this declaration, the SBA's [Economic Injury Disaster Loan \(EIDL\)](#) program is available to eligible small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, nurseries, and PNPs with financial losses directly related to this disaster. The SBA is unable to provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers, except for aquaculture enterprises.

EIDLs are available for working capital needs caused by the disaster and are available even if the small business or PNP did not suffer any physical damage. The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills not paid due to the disaster.

“Through a declaration by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, SBA provides critical financial assistance to help communities recover,” said Chris Stallings, associate administrator of the Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience at the SBA. “We’re pleased to offer loans to small businesses and private nonprofits impacted by these disasters.”

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates as low as 4% for small businesses and 3.625% for PNPs, with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due until 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement. The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each applicant’s financial condition.

To apply online visit sba.gov/disaster. Applicants may also call SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

The deadline to return economic injury applications is Sept. 29, 2026.

**[CLICK HERE FOR A FACT SHEET ON
ECONOMIC INJURY DISTASTER LOANS \(EIDL\)](#)**



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.