I would like to start this article off by saying a huge Thank You to all of the businesses, individuals and volunteers that assisted with the Shippensburg Chamber of Commerce events this spring. As it has been mentioned many times before, it is hands down the busiest time of the year for our local Chamber. Those first two quarters of every year contain 75% of the major events that help keep the Chamber in existence. It’s exciting and crazy at the same time!

The Chamber would never be able to do the things we do without the dedication of the committed volunteers that, in some cases, take the lead on these events and others that simply provide additional helping hands. One of our goals at the Shippensburg Chamber is to continue to provide opportunities for our members to network with one another and build strong business relations here in the region.

As we move into the summer months and we host some community related events, we will focus on encouraging the people in our communities to shop local. By using the resources of the local businesses it not only benefits those who need the service, but also buys into those businesses so they can continue to grow and service our needs as a community. It’s very important that we work together to continue to make Shippensburg a great place to Live, Shop, Work, and Play.

If you know of any businesses that are not currently a part of the Shippensburg Chamber family, I would encourage you to have them give the Chamber a call. Let’s get them into the family where the benefits are very rewarding! SHOP SHIP!

Scott Brown
Chamber of Commerce President
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**SHIPPENSBURG**

**Area Chamber of Commerce**

For more information: SHIPPENSBURG.ORG

**July 12th** – Lunch and Learn – Knute’s Pub & Grill; 15 W. King St., Shippensburg; 12:00pm – 1:00pm

**June 16th** – The First Step: Starting a Small Business – Techceltor / Murata Business Center, Carlisle; 9am–12pm

**June 22nd** – Quickbooks Level 1 – ACEDC; Gettysburg; 9:00am – 1:00pm

**June 29th** – Quickbooks Level 2 – ACEDC; Gettysburg; 9:00am – 12:30pm

**June 16th** – “The Drowsy Chaperone” – Totem Pole Playhouse; Fayetteville; 8:00pm

**June 17th** – North Square Farmers Market 9th Season – Chambersburg; 8:00am – 12:00pm

**June 17th** – The Mason Dixon Appalachian Trail Outdoor Festival; Waynesboro; 10:00am – 4:00pm

**June 18th** – The Inn at Ragged Edge Presents “Paul Byrom” in Concert; Chambersburg; 8:00pm

**June 22nd** – Renfrew Museum & Park – Summer Concert Series “Wayne Band”; Waynesboro; 7:00pm

**June 24th** – The Brahman Noodles Live; University Grille; 32 E. King St.; 7:00pm – 9:00pm

**June 25th** – Carlisle Chevrolet Nationals @ Carlisle Chevrolet Nationals @ Carlisle; 35 West King Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257 (717) 532-6511 www3.truevalue.com/pague/Home.aspx

One hundred years ago, there came into existence in Shippensburg a business firm – “The Oldest Hardware House in the Cumberland Valley, founded 1856”. In that year, Mr. J.W. McPherson with his wife, Martha Shiles McPherson, left his farm north of Middle Spring and began business in the busy old town of Shippensburg. Partnered with him in this venture was Mr. Enos J. Forney.

Shippensburg’s growth had been slow and though a century and a quarter old, it had a population of less than 2,000 but industries were on the increase and each new industry demanded new types of hardware for building, repairs, and replacements; hence Mr. McPherson felt the need for this new store. The elder Mr. McPherson died in 1903 but until 1920 it continued to be known as J.W. McPherson and Sons. The store changed owners and was bought by two men who for many years had worked as clerks in the McPherson store which were Mr. Ralph Pague and Mr. Denny McDonald Fegan. With the exception of one year during which he worked in a factory, Mr. Ralph Pague had worked in the McPherson store and became a member of the firm Pague and Fegan in 1925 and retired in 1955. Mr. Denny McDonald Fegan began his career as a school teacher but for thirty years he had clerked in the McPherson store before he became a member of the firm in 1925 and retired in 1945.

From 1945 until 1951 Mr. Pague and his nephew, Howard Lyons, were in partnership and from this point; the story is modern history. This family owned and operated store is still doing great business today in downtown Shippensburg. Pague & Fegan Home and Hardware has everything you need for your home or garden projects; and their sales clerks are very knowledgeable, friendly, and willing to help you with what you are searching for!

**MAY EVENTS RECAP**

The 3rd Annual Bloom Festival was held on Saturday May 6th in the Borough Parking Lot. With overcast skies and light showers later in the afternoon, the community still came to enjoy over 50 vendors including craft & retail, food and community service organizations, displays with a fire truck from West End Fire & Rescue Company and lawn & garden equipment from Forrester Farm Equipment.

There was no shortage of fun for the kids with a children’s area with lots of activities including crafts and games staffed by students from Shippensburg University Athletic and bouncy inflatables provided by Strouse Entertainment who also kept the day enjoyable with a DJ playing upbeat and fun music to enjoy.

Special thanks to our community members who partnered with us in the way of sponsorships including the Robert T. Henry Pharmacy and Shippensburg Community Parks and Recreation Authority our Community Sponsors, the Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau and Gannon Associates who decorated the Chamber office front porch with lots of beautiful flowers and decorations for spring. Also a big Thank You to our Bloom Festival Committee volunteers who worked throughout the year planning this event and started in the very early morning hours that day setting everything up.

We appreciate the vendors who came despite the weather forecast and helped make this day a great family activity. We hope to see everyone back again next year!
HARRISBURG - More than 100 state and local chamber officials from across the Commonwealth came together today to participate in 2017 Chamber Day. The annual event, which is co-hosted by the PA Chamber of Business and Industry and the Pennsylvania Association of Chamber Professionals, allows local chamber officers to meet with key policymakers and discuss ways to improve Pennsylvania’s business climate and competitive edge.

“Chamber Day provides a great opportunity for lawmakers and administration officials to hear firsthand of the benefits and challenges that local employers face while doing business in Pennsylvania,” PA Chamber President and CEO Gene Barr said. “We’re pleased that so many local chamber representatives were able to attend this year’s event and advocate on behalf of their communities. The strong relationship the PA Chamber has with our local chamber partners plays a critical role in our advocacy efforts to help build a stronger economy.”

Participants met with key elected officials throughout the day, including Gov. Tom Wolf, who served as the keynote speaker during the Chamber Day luncheon. Senate Pro Tempore Joseph Scarnati, R-Jefferson, and Speaker of the House Mike Turzai, R-Allegheny both kicked off the event with welcoming remarks at the State Capitol. The day-long event also featured policy discussions on a variety of topics, including: the upcoming 2017-18 state budget, pension reform, property taxes, workforce development, as well as the Commonwealth’s transportation and infrastructure needs.

“Local chambers are keenly aware of the issues and challenges facing their communities,” said PACP Chair and Main Line Chamber President and CEO Bernard Dagenais. “Chamber Day is the perfect forum for the state’s top policymakers and local business leaders to discuss the top issues that are impacting Pennsylvania’s job creators. We’re pleased to join with the PA Chamber to push for policies that will remove barriers to growth and help private-sector businesses thrive.”

In addition to the PA Chamber and the PACP, Chamber Day 2017 was sponsored by the following organizations: Beaver County Chamber, Bedford County Chamber, Blair County Chamber, Central PA Chamber, Chester County Chamber, Greater Reading Chamber & Economic Development Corp., Greater West Chester Chamber, Lebanon Valley Chamber, Main Line Chamber, Schuylkill Chamber, Western Chester County Chamber, Westmoreland County Chamber, Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber and the Wyoming County Chamber.