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# CHAMBERLINE

December 2024



## Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Staff

Chair:	William Humphrey.... Freedom Bookkeeping Solutions LLC and Dirk Baumgardner.....Truck Mart, LLC/Car Starz Humphrey's Cleaning Service LLC
Vice Chair:	Ellen Ile..... F&M Trust John Marshall..... Parx Casino Mark Goodhart..... Strickler Agency Inc. John Massimilla..... WellSpan Health - Chambersburg Hospital Carley Miller..... Orrstown Bank
Treasurer:	Andrea Mowen..... WellSpan Health Chrystal Miracle.....Shippensburg University Foundation Marcie Taylor..... The Drew Michael Taylor Foundation
Secretary:	Joseph Trace..... GDC IT Solutions Ronald Taylor..... Shippensburg University Steve Oldt.....Shippensburg Township Nicole Smith.....Celebration Villa of Shippensburg Deborah Luffy..... Shippensburg Area School District Mayor Kathy Coy..... Office of the Mayor

### President

Wendy R. Kipe

chamber@shippensburg.org

### Shippensburg Area Chamber of Commerce Committees

Awards Breakfast Committee	Cinco de Mayo Committee
Back to School Family Fun Day Committee	Community Christmas Party Committee
Central PA Chainsaw Carver Festival Committee	Membership Committee
Chamber Golf Tournament Committee	Programs & Promotions Committee
	Shippensburg Beer & Wine Festival Committee

**OUR MISSION** To provide members with services that promote and support economic vitality as well as develop Shippensburg as a great place to live, work, play, visit and invest.

**OUR VISION** To be recognized as the premier membership-based organization for professional networking, development, and stimulating economic growth in the vibrant and prospering business community of Shippensburg.



Dear Chamber Members,

As 2024 wraps up, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on all the progress we've made together as a community this year. With the holiday season fast approaching, it's the perfect time to celebrate our shared successes, recognize all the hard work that's gotten us here, and look ahead to even bigger and better things in the year to come.

This year has really been about connection. Partnering with groups like SADCO, DOIT, and Downtown Ship & Beyond, we are starting to build a strong network that will play a key role in the revitalization of Shippensburg. And honestly, this is just the beginning—there's so much more to come, so stay tuned! Be sure to mark your calendars for February 25 for a Town Hall meeting.

Throughout 2024, we've hosted a variety of events—from networking mixers to community celebrations and collaborative projects—that have allowed us to showcase the unique talents and offerings of our members. The results speak for themselves: by working together, we've made a real difference, and we're excited to keep that momentum going as we move forward.

We are particularly excited about the upcoming launch of our new website this month. This site will provide even more ways for you to connect with the community, including tools for posting your Hot Deals and Job Openings. These features will help your business or organization reach a wider audience and attract more attention. In addition, we're working on consolidating all of Shippensburg's events into one platform. This will make it simpler for everyone to find out what's happening and how they can get involved.

Looking ahead to 2025, we're excited about the new programming we're developing to support small businesses and nonprofits. We understand that these organizations often work with tight resources, so we're focused on offering workshops to provide valuable tools in areas like marketing, business development, and more. These initiatives will help you grow and thrive in the year ahead.

We couldn't have achieved all that we have this year without the incredible support and active participation of our members. Whether it was attending events, collaborating on projects, or sharing your expertise, your efforts have been instrumental in building the momentum we're seeing in Shippensburg.

As we prepare for the exciting opportunities in 2025, we encourage you to reach out with any ideas, feedback, or ways you'd like to get involved.

On behalf of the entire Chamber team, I want to extend our deepest thanks for your incredible support and dedication throughout 2024. We've achieved so much together, and we can't wait to see what we can accomplish in 2025 and beyond. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a prosperous new year ahead!

Wendy Kipe  
President

**SHIPPENSBURG.ORG**  
717.532.5509 | 68 West King Street | Shippensburg, PA

*Shippensburg  
Historic,  
Hometown,  
Happening!*

### CHAMBER TIERED MEMBERSHIPS

#### Platinum Level

Orrstown Bank  
Parx Casino

Volvo Construction  
Equipment  
WellSpan Health

#### Gold Level

Adams Electric  
Bell Insurance  
Comcast

Gannon Associates  
Insurance  
JLG Industries

Lehman Construction  
Services, Inc.  
M&T Bank

Members 1st FCU  
Shippensburg  
University Foundation

Shippensburg  
University  
truNorth Financial  
UPMC Carlisle



# Events Calendar

- January 16** - New Member Spotlight & Meet Michaela Mixer, El Mariachi Mexican Restaurant
- March 13** - Annual Awards Breakfast, Tuscarora Room, Reisner Dining Hall, Shippensburg University
- April 17-19** - Central PA Chainsaw Carvers Festival, Shippensburg Fairgrounds
- May 9** - Keystone Business Summit, Shippensburg University



- December 31**- Martin's Famous Potato Roll Drop, Downtown Chambersburg
- December 24**- Christmas Eve Celebration, John Allison Public House, Greencastle
- December 24** - Christmas Eve Service, Macedonia United Brethren Church, Greencastle
- January 1**- First Day Hike 2025, Cowans Gap State Park



- December 28** - Noon Years Celebration, State Museum of PA, Harrisburg
- December 31** - Countdown to Noon with the Artificial Wizards, West Shore Theater
- December 31** - Harrisburg NYE Celebration, Downtown Harrisburg
- December 31** - Hotchee New Year, Carlisle Theatre



- December 31** - Midway Bowl's NYE Party, Midway Bowling Center
- December 31** - New Year's Eve Pickle Drop, Dillsburg
- January 4** - PA Farm Show, Harrisburg

- December 31** - Drop the Anchor New Year's Celebration, Downtown Shippensburg
- January 4** - Writing A New Year's Resolution, Shippensburg History Center
- January 15** - Swan Lake, Luhrs Performing Arts Center
- January 18** - Tavern Games of the Revolution, Shippensburg History Center
- January 2 - March 31** - The Tide's Shoe Drive Fundraiser



## There's only one NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in central Pa.

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center brings more leading-edge care and hope to you.



We meet rigorous standards for clinical care and research set by the National Cancer Institute, the nation's authority on cancer. This means more breakthrough research, more leading-edge care, and more treatment options for you.

If you or a loved one is touched by cancer, we're here for you. Learn how we deliver world-class care to our communities at [UPMCHillman.com/OnlyOneCPA](http://UPMCHillman.com/OnlyOneCPA).



**As the colder months hit, many of us are not ready for Old Man Winter's potential wrath.**

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) advises everyone to prepare their home and cars, prepare for possible power outages, and to check on older adults. Specifically, the CDC recommends taking the following steps so that you will be more likely to stay safe and healthy when temperatures start to fall.

**Preparing your home**

Winterize your home:

- Install weather stripping, insulation, and storm windows.
- Insulate water lines that run along exterior walls.
- Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.

Check your heating systems:

- Have your heating system serviced professionally to make sure that it is clean, working properly, and ventilated outside.
- Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
- Install a smoke detector. Test batteries monthly and replace them twice a year.
- Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.

Prevent carbon monoxide (CO) emergencies:

- Install a CO detector to alert you of the presence of the deadly, odorless, colorless gas.
- Keep grills, camp stoves and generators out of the house, basement and garage; and
- Use fuel-powered generators at least 20 feet away from the house.
- Learn symptoms of CO poisoning that include headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion.
- Leave your home immediately if the CO detector goes off and call 9-1-1.

Prepare your car:

Get your car ready for cold weather. Service the radiator and maintain antifreeze level; check tire tread or, if necessary, replace tires with all-weather or snow tires. Also:

- Keep the gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Use a wintertime formula in your windshield washer.
- Prepare a winter emergency kit to keep in your car in case you become stranded.

**Other steps**

Be prepared for weather-related emergencies, including power outages. Be sure to have plenty of non-perishable food on hand and extra water stored in clean containers. If bad weather is forecasted:

- Avoid travel;
- Fully charge your electronics; and
- Keep an up-to-date emergency kit on hand.

**First things first**

An emergency kit for your car should include:

- cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries;
- blankets;
- food and water;
- booster cables, flares, tire pump, and a bag of sand or cat litter (for traction);
- compass and maps;
- flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries;
- first-aid kit; and
- plastic bags (for sanitation).

Start with these items for an in-home emergency kit:

- Battery-operated devices, such as a flashlight, a NOAA Weather Radio, and lamps;
- extra batteries and pre-charged portable electronic power sources;
- first-aid kit and extra medicine;
- baby items; and
- cat litter or sand for icy walkways.

Don't forget specific items you or members of your family might need during an emergency.

For additional winter prep tips, consult the CDC ([cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)), Red Cross ([redcross.org](http://redcross.org)) or [ready.gov](http://ready.gov). For more information about electrical safety, visit Storm Central at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) and [safeelectricity.org](http://safeelectricity.org).



# NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT MIXER

Hosted by:



Join us for an evening of networking and connection as we welcome our newest Chamber members!

- Welcome Our Newest Members
- Network with Fellow Chamber Members
- Meet our new Community Coordinator, Michaela Wetzel
- Enjoy Food & Refreshments

🕒 4:30 - 6 PM  
📅 January 16, 2025  
📍 El Mariachi Mexican Restaurant  
40 Shippensburg Shopping Center, Shippensburg

📞 Phone Number 717-532-5509  
🌐 RSVP online at: <https://bit.ly/3ZSP8Jt>



**SHIPPENSBURG**  
Area Chamber of Commerce



Ellen J.W. Gigliotti

LFMT, Clinical Director;

Sanctuary Christian Counseling



## Respectful disagreement

Nothing I can say about the negative tenor of our public discourse is going to surprise most of you. Many have told me - and the other Sanctuary Christian Counseling therapists - about their stress, anxiety and dismay regarding the way we all speak to each other and interact with those we don't agree with that we have all come to live with in the past decade or so.

With the holidays nearly upon us and a divisive election season still causing division, it might be good to reflect on what needs to be done to help us all live together in peace again.

This necessity transcends political party lines, and has nothing to do with one candidate or another, this or that issue or anything partisan at all. It has to do with how we treat each other - the language and attitude we have and the respect (or lack thereof) inherent in our behavior.

We used to do this much better, both on a national level, a local level and a family level. We need to get back to appreciating the value of each human, and allowing them to be themselves - to think what they think, feel what they feel, and express themselves (respectfully) however they choose to do so without our disdain, disparagement and outright hatred.

This is especially difficult in families, and the upcoming holidays present lots of opportunities for contentious gatherings. Time after time, clients come to Sanctuary Christian Counseling because they are in disagreement within their families and don't know how to navigate those issues.

We have almost all of us forgotten how to dialogue respectfully with each other.

Here are some hints that might help.

- Use "I" statements as much as possible. I statements - "I think, I feel, I want..." can express strong feelings without blame, and help you to have a more respectful conversation. If you talk about YOU, the other person often feels less attacked. A good example is "I understand where you're coming from, but I have some thoughts ..."
- Listen as well as speak. Let the other person make their points and really do focus on what they're saying instead of marshaling your arguments while they are talking. When you do this, you show you're willing to listen and consider their position, too. A good example is "I see your point. I do have a different perspective though ..."
- Express your interest in diving deeper into whatever issue is in contention with the other person. Listen to their point of view, express your own, and ask something like "Have you considered ..." and gently bring up an alternative angle - not an argument, but something to discuss.
- Gently explain your experience with the issue, rather than simply giving blanket statements. Why do you have the position you have? What does the issue mean to you personally? This gives personal context. Use those "I" statements to say "In my experience ..."
- Recognize the merit of someone else's argument, even if you disagree strongly with it. They have come to their view through some process that is important to them. Use words of validation for that, even if you can't validate their perspective. "I hear your point and I see you've thought this through. I wonder if..." is a gentle way of introducing more context to the discussion.
- Ask questions, and not just "yes" or "no" ones. This stimulates conversation in general, and when the topic is contentious you might find more common ground if you get more information. A good question to ask could be "What led you to that point of view?"
- Most issues that people disagree about are complex. Presenting your point of view gently and as a possibility (rather than a certainty) is a humble way of advancing a conversation with someone with a different perspective. Ask "Is it possible. ..." or "Could it be that .."
- Make sure that you are valuing the person you are talking to - telling them clearly that they matter to you and you respect them. Your dialogue will be better in nearly every way if they know you care about them and don't just want to pick a fight.

Interpersonal communication can be tough, and when you disagree, it can be hard to make things go well in a discussion, but it's worth it to strengthen relationships rather than tear them down. Somehow, many of us have gotten into the habit of not respecting other's points of view, and participating in a we/them thought pattern that's destructive and disrespectful, and tears families and communities apart.

If you need help teasing this out, or your family needs some help communicating, we are here to assist you. At Sanctuary Christian Counseling we help grieving individuals, distressed kids and teens and couples in conflict find peace, solutions and connection.

Sanctuary Christian Counseling  
9974 Molly Pitcher Highway, Suite 4  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

[info@sanctuarychristiancounseling.com](mailto:info@sanctuarychristiancounseling.com)  
717-200-3158

DECEMBER 2024

## Celebrate and Educate Local Businesses and Nonprofits with SHIPPENSBURG SPOTLIGHT!

We're spotlighting the amazing businesses that make Downtown Shippensburg (and beyond!) thrive! Each month, we'll share stories of entrepreneurs, innovators, and locals who bring heart and hustle to our community. Know a business that deserves the spotlight? Looking to share your own story or specials? Let us know or fill out the form to help us organize interviews for 2025.



Follow the QR Code for the form!

*Economic Vitality Committee*  
**JOIN US 1/3 @ 11 AM @ THE CHAMBER!**  
 Work alongside fellow community members to celebrate and strengthen local businesses, attract new opportunities, and create a thriving downtown. Whether you're passionate about events, interested in business recruitment, or just looking to be heard, we'd love to have you!

Looking to use your current skills and passions in the community? Have an eye for design, a green thumb, or just a passion for helping design, celebrate, and restore storefronts? We invite you to join us! Come help revitalize our community and bring new life to our downtown!

**JOIN US 1/3 @ 4 PM @ THE CHAMBER!**  
*Downtown Beautification Committee*

**JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS!**

Have an event coming up, a special running, or just something you'd like the community to add to their calendar? Let us know to get featured on

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WEDNESDAY!

**FOLLOW THE QR CODE AND SUBMIT YOURS!**



**Michaela Wetzel**  
Community Coordinator

As the year comes to a close, *Downtown Ship and Beyond* has been hard at work fulfilling our mission to connect community and business from the heart of downtown and beyond, fostering growth, collaboration, and local pride. We remain committed to celebrating not only our downtown, but all the incredible businesses and communities that contribute to Shippensburg's history, culture, and sense of community.

As we head into the new year, there are plenty of ways to get involved and spread the word! We're always looking for passionate business owners, students, and community members to **join our Economic Vitality or Downtown Beautification Committees**. Next month, we're kicking off our **Shippensburg Spotlight** promotion, where we'll interview local businesses and nonprofits to celebrate their brands and bring awareness to all they have to offer. Plus, don't forget about our weekly **What's Happening Wednesday** posts, where we highlight local specials, events, and more on social media. Information for all of these, along with QR codes for their respective forms, can be found to the left.

For questions about committees, promotions, or anything else, feel free to reach me at **communitycoordinator@shippensburg.org**. Here's to another year of growth and celebrating everything that makes Shippensburg special!

Happy Holidays!



# HR Support for Our Clients

Adding Value to Your Employee Benefits Program

MYBENEFIT  
ADVISOR

LEARN MORE

## Remote Work: A Complicated and Evolving Concept

Just as many workers have been getting comfortable enjoying the benefits that remote work brings, employees are increasingly feeling pressure to return to the office. Numerous companies are beginning to cut back on various aspects of the hybrid work environment, either eliminating it entirely or bringing employees back into the office on a more frequent basis.

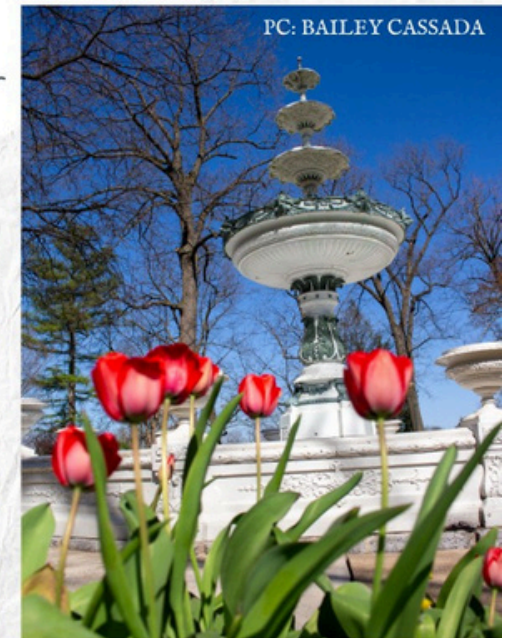
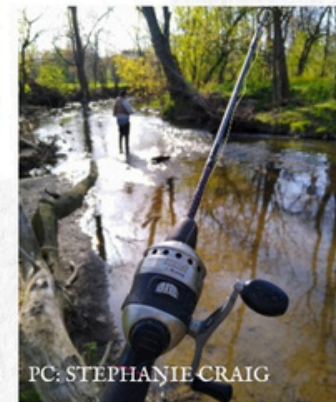
There may be several factors serving as motivation behind the change. As recession fears mount, business owners have begun placing an increased emphasis on worker productivity and many feel that the in-office experience yields better results than the work-from-home model. Additionally, many believe that it's important to have employees face-to-face with management for improved results when mentoring and training both new and existing employees.

Adding to the push to return workers to the office is a growing awareness that innovation, creativity and collaboration are more apt to suffer when teams within their organization are apart. The general consensus among corporate management personnel is that in-person time helps build relationships and enable greater accomplishments. Some also point out that it is easier to build trust in-person and that those trusted relationships help teams work more effectively.

Although hybrid work arrangements are unlikely to entirely disappear, the degree to which employers allow workers to work from home in the future appears to be unclear.

*The Shippensburg Area Chamber of Commerce offers its members access to My Benefit Advisor as a solution for employee benefits, including voluntary offerings. For more information about My Benefit Advisor, visit our website at [sacc.mybenefitadvisor.com](http://sacc.mybenefitadvisor.com) or contact Rob Higginbotham at (800) 377-3536.*

# Shippensburg Photo Contest 2024



SHIPPENSBURG  
Area Chamber of Commerce

The Shippensburg Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the winners of the 2nd Ship Life Photo Contest: Bailey Cassada (2), Stephanie Craig, Michael Illo, and Kimberly Spencer. This year's entries celebrated the vibrant spirit of Shippensburg, highlighting festivals, recreation, arts, nature, and architecture. Thank you to everyone who shared your creative perspectives.

## BUSINESS COACH, TEACHER & TEAM BUILDER

25 Year USAF Veteran

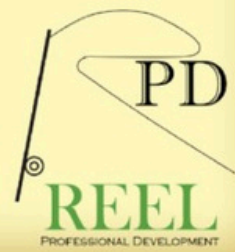


Do You & Your Team Need Help with...

- Leadership Development?
- Teamwork & Communications?
- Understanding Self & Others?
- Strategic Planning?
- Declining Morale?

LET'S PARTNER - I CAN HELP YOU!

Certified with John Maxwell  
#1 Leadership Guru In The World



RANDY WILSON | 717.414.6064 | REELPD.com

Growing Area Professionals Since July 2015



KEYSTONE  
BUSINESS  
SUMMIT  
at Shippensburg University

Save the date!  
May 9, 2025



### Blissfully Brewed Cafe LLC

Blissfully Brewed Cafe LLC is a mobile trailer that serves a delightful selection of coffees, teas, hot chocolate, baked goods, and more to the Shippensburg area. Whether you're craving a morning pick-me-up or an afternoon treat, stop by for your perfect beverage and snack. You can find them at 10000 Molly Pitcher Hwy, Shippensburg, open Monday through Friday from 6:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

### Circle of Love

Circle of Love is a community-based outreach program serving the Shippensburg area. They are dedicated to providing essential resources to individuals and families in need, including clothing, food, personal care items, and more. By redistributing donated items, Circle of Love ensures these vital resources reach those who need them the most. For more information, visit [www.circleoflove.org](http://www.circleoflove.org).



### Bridge To HR

Bridge to HR is here to help businesses navigate the complexities of Human Resources. They provide practical guidance, compliance support, and a focus on personal connection to make it easier for companies to thrive. Whether you're looking to revamp your HR strategy, have questions about their services, or just need a friendly chat, Bridge to HR is ready to assist. For more information, visit their website at [www.bridgetohr.com](http://www.bridgetohr.com).



### LUX+

Amanda Ridgway, Broker and Owner of LUX+, leads a premier real estate agency with a strong commitment to serving the Shippensburg community. Specializing in both residential and commercial properties, LUX+ is conveniently located at 9974 Molly Pitcher Highway, Suite 1 in Shippensburg. For real estate inquiries, whether you're buying or selling, Amanda and her team are here to help. For more details, visit [www.lux-ship.com](http://www.lux-ship.com) or call 717-300-7962.



### Wheels For Women

Wheels for Women is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing reliable used vehicles to women in need. Their mission helps women who are overcoming hardships such as loss, addiction recovery, or domestic challenges. By offering reliable transportation, they enable women to focus on what truly matters. To learn more or to make a donation, visit their website at [www.wheelsforwomen.org](http://www.wheelsforwomen.org).



# 85th Annual AWARDS BREAKFAST

**\$30**  
TICKET  
Per Person

Join us for the Annual Awards Breakfast! Enjoy breakfast, an awards presentation, a year-in-review video, a silent auction, and a special guest speaker, Bruce Hockersmith.

**13**  
**MARCH**  
Thursday

**7:30 - 9:30 AM**  
Tuscarora Room,  
Reisner Dining Hall,  
Shippensburg  
University

RSVP BY  
MARCH 5, 2025

 <https://bit.ly/4ff90ep>

 [chamber@shippensburg.org](mailto:chamber@shippensburg.org)



**WINNERS!**

SHIPPENSBURG  
Area Chamber of Commerce

# 24 Parade of Wreaths

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Drew Michael Taylor Foundation**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Oasis of Love Church**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Wheels for Women**

Here are the winners of the Parade of Wreaths contest!

1st Place: **Drew Michael Taylor Foundation**

2nd Place: **Oasis of Love Church Shippensburg**

3rd Place: **Wheels for Women**

Thank you to all 15 participants for your beautiful entries and everyone who stopped by to view and vote.



Thanks to everyone who stopped by for hot chocolate, coffee, and cookies before the Shippensburg Christmas Parade!

**CENTRAL PA**

## CHAINSAW CARVERS Festival

# APRIL 17 - 19, 2025

<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>3 PM - 8 PM</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>10 AM - 9 PM</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>10 AM - 5 PM</b>

**FREE EVENT!**

**Shippensburg Fairgrounds**  
10131 Possum Hollow Rd., Shippensburg, PA 17257

**CHAINSAW ARTISTS, QUICK CARVES, AUCTIONS, CARVINGS FOR SALE**

**FOOD TRUCKS**

**COMMUNITY EGG HUNT**

**CRAFT VENDORS**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**SHIPPENSBURG**  
Area Chamber of Commerce

**MORE INFORMATION:** [717-532-5509](tel:717-532-5509)  
[chamber@shippensburg.org](mailto:chamber@shippensburg.org)  
[shippensburg.org](http://shippensburg.org)



## Community Christmas Party Brings Holiday Cheer

On Thursday, December 12, the Community Christmas Party brought families together to celebrate the season. Hosted in partnership with **Christ Among Neighbors** and held at Shippensburg Area Senior High School, the event was filled with holiday spirit.

A special thank-you goes to **Volvo Construction Equipment, WellSpan Health, Shippensburg Area School District, Dugan Funeral Home and Crematory, Downtown Ship & Beyond, Meet the Needs, Mr. Bill August**, Superintendent of SASD, and **Ms. Deborah Luffy**, Principal of SASHS, for their generous support.

We're also grateful to **Papa John's Pizza, Pepsi, SASHS student groups, SHARPS, Shippensburg Covenant Brethren Church, Truck Mart LLC, Weis Markets, and the Drew Michael Taylor Foundation** for their contributions. Extra appreciation goes to **M&T Bank, Strickler Agency, Inc., and CAN** for their incredible gift-wrapping efforts.

Finally, a heartfelt thank-you to the Community Christmas Party Event Committee and the many volunteers who worked so hard to make this event truly special. Your support and generosity brought holiday magic to Shippensburg and made the season brighter for everyone involved!

