

In The News...

FCADC Industry Appreciation Dinner Held September 22

Guardian Booth Coming to Waynesboro

Letterkenny Army Depot Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged in August

On September 27th it was reported that the local unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.6%. Total jobs in Franklin County reached over 61,100. The local unemployment rate is lower than the statewide average which was reported to be 4.2%. Over the month the national rate was up two-tenths of a point to 3.7%. Additionally, it was also reported that the median advertised salary for open positions in the County was \$22.46 p/hr. for the third quarter.



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...Message from Mike

It's hard to imagine that we are already thinking about the upcoming holiday season ...you know, deer season...but it's a testament to how quickly the year has passed. This has been another whirlwind year, which is reflective of the continuing levels of economic development activities taking place across the County. During just the last quarter, while many of us were on vacation, we saw ribbon cuttings in the greater Mercersburg area for the new Tractor Supply store and the much anticipated Blue Springs Egg Farm; F&M formally cut the ribbon on its new corporate headquarters at 1500 Nitterhouse Drive, Chambersburg; WalMart opened its new distribution center in the United Business Park, Shippensburg (Southampton Township); Thermo Fisher signed a lease for 460,000 square feet in Greencastle (Antrim Township); and Guardian Booth purchased the former Homes by Keystone property in Waynesboro (Washington Township). What is important has been the diversity of the projects which include retail, agriculture, financial services, logistics/distribution, and manufacturing. And, so you know, the aforementioned projects certainly are not all inclusive of the economic activity, rather they are a sampling from the third quarter.



As we approach the fourth quarter and begin preparations for 2023, we are acutely aware of national recessionary economic trends to which we are not immune. We have begun conversations with local business and community leaders to gain a better understanding of the potential impacts and how best the FCADC can assist in meeting the needs of those most affected.

Finally, we are fresh off our 2022 Industry Appreciation Dinner that was held on September 22 at Green Grove Gardens. While there is a more descriptive write-up later in the newsletter, it is important for me to extend my sincere appreciation to all of our sponsors and door prize contributors, and my congratulations to the award recipients, Small Business of the Year-Lehman Construction Services, Inc; Large Business-D.L. George & Sons; and the Zane A. Miller Award winner-Harold Brake. With that, Happy Holidays!

Guardian Booth Acquires Homes by Keystone in Waynesboro

Guardian Booth, an industry leading manufacturer of prefabricated structures, recently announced the acquisition of Waynesboro-based Homes by Keystone. Guardian Booth will be relocating its Orangeburg, NY headquarters to the Midvale Road facility. The acquisition will result in the



retention of 20 existing employees and the creation of 33 new positions. Most of the new positions will be filled by employees who will be relocating with the Company. Guardian Booth manufactures customized security booths, parking attendant structures, cashier booths, modular factory offices, and modular classrooms for some of the most highly recognized companies around the world. The acquisition and corresponding investment in machinery and equipment is in excess of \$4.5 Million. The FCADC helped with the site location search and to facilitate workforce training funds from the Commonwealth in support of the project. For more information on Guardian Booth visit www.guardianbooth.com

Letterkenny Army Depot Celebrates 80th Anniversary *July 28th Ceremony Marks Special Occasion*

On July 28th the Letterkenny Army Depot celebrated its 80th Anniversary during a special ceremony at the installation north of Chambersburg. In addition to remarks from Depot Commander, COL Rick Allbritton and Mike Ross, MG Ken Royar, Commander, Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) offered his praise of the workforce and its continued dedication to the mission of Letterkenny. The Depot is Franklin County's second largest employer with more than 2,600 employees. According to COL Allbritton, "The LEAD workforce is comprised of talented employees with diverse skill sets ranging from skilled artisans to talented engineers to inspirational leaders. Our team is agile, adaptable, dedicated to the warfighter, and we embody the Army values. The Letterkenny Army Depot 80th anniversary ceremony showcases LEAD's past, present and future, and strengthens our bond with the Franklin County community that we call home. LEAD's 80th-anniversary commemoration is not only a celebration for what we stand for it also is an opportunity for us to define how we will embrace the next 80 years of achievement and service to the warfighter."



FCADC Supports Start-up of Hidden Key Brewing Co. in Greencastle

The FCADC Board of Directors has approved a \$100,000 low interest loan via the Franklin County First Fund (FCFF) in support of the start-up of Hidden Key Brewing Company. The loan will be used for leasehold improvements at 101 West Baltimore Street in Greencastle, as well as for the purchase of machinery and equipment. The start-up represents a nearly \$300,000 investment in downtown Greencastle. Hidden Key is partnering with *Belle's Kitchen*, a locally owned and operated restaurant which will share the location with the brewery.



Bowman Development Planning Local Industrial Flex Project

Williamsport, MD based Bowman Development Corporation is in the approval stages with Antrim Township on the development of an up to 140,000 square foot industrial flex building in the Township. Located at the intersection of Grindstone Hill Road and Leitersburg Street, the property is zoned for light industrial and commercial uses. The building will include loading docks, drive in doors, and 24' clear ceiling heights. For more information contact Rob Ferree with Bowman Development at 301-223-1090 or rferree@dm Bowman.com.



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South Main Ventures Executes two Leases for 20 S. Main St. in Chambersburg *Professional Office Space Still Available*

South Main Ventures, a joint partnership between the FCADC and the Chambersburg Area Development Corporation (CADC), recently executed two leases for professional office space at 20 S. Main St. in downtown Chambersburg. South Main Ventures acquired the property from F&M Trust. F&M recently celebrated the opening of its new corporate headquarters on Nitterhouse Drive in Chambersburg. DYNOSI Government Services executed a four year lease for 3,700 square feet on the second floor. Additionally, the US Armed Services is occupying the first floor as a new location for its local recruiting stations for the Army, Air Force, Marines, and Navy. For more information on leasing opportunities, visit the FCADC website <https://fcadc.com/20-s-main-st-chambersburg/>.



Ribbon Cut on Blue Springs Egg Farm *August 11 Ceremony Marks Special Day*

On Aug. 11, 2016, around 100 people met with leaders of a Michigan-based company that wanted to build a massive egg production farm in the Mercersburg area. Exactly six years later, Herbruck's Poultry Ranch on August 11, 2022 celebrated the ribbon-cutting of Blue Springs Egg Farm in Montgomery Township. The 335-acre farm's initial 1.5 million cage-free chickens will produce eggs for Herbruck's customers on the East

Coast, including McDonald's. It will be Franklin County's largest egg producer. The Herbruck family invested \$100 million to develop Blue Springs Egg Farm. It will employ about 190 people. The 18-month construction phase alone employed 995 people, most of them local. Production of eggs and fertilizer is expected to start in the fall. "I've been involved in more than 850 projects in Franklin County during my tenure at the FCADC and I can state that we have never worked with any company or any family that has been as transparent or willing to do things right more so than Herbruck's Poultry Ranch. Quite simply, the Herbrucks talk the talk and walk the walk." -Mike Ross

York Water Company Acquires Water System at CVBP

York Water Company has closed on the acquisition of the water and wastewater systems jointly owned by the Letterkenny Industrial Development Authority (LIDA) and Franklin County General Authority (FCGA) and began serving its newest customers in Greene and Hamilton Townships in Franklin County. Customers include the Letterkenny Army Depot and businesses within the Cumberland Valley Business Park (CVBP). This is York Water's first water system and second wastewater system in Franklin County. York Water acquired the wastewater assets of the Letterkenny Township Municipal Authority in 2020. FCGA Executive Director, Kip Feldman, stated, "LIDA/FCGA chose York Water because of their high standards and commitment to quality products and services for our customers. We needed a proven utility ally who delivers exceptional levels of operational expertise, along with the financial muscle to take our systems into the future, and that's York Water."



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34th Annual Industry Appreciation Dinner Held September 22

On September 22nd the FCADC celebrated its 34th Annual Industry Appreciation Dinner. After a two-year COVID induced hiatus, the event was back and bigger than ever. The dinner is one of the most anticipated annual events in Franklin County. The evening honors those employers...large and small...who make Franklin County's economy prosper. The event, which was attended by nearly 500 people was held at the Green Grove Gardens event center and featured a Franklin County news report by WTFI Senior Anchor Rock Sterling and cub-reporter, Bosco, as well as an entertaining episode of Franklin County Squares, the FCADC's very own spin on the iconic game show Hollywood Squares. The special part of the evening included the presentations of the 2022 Large and Small Business of the Year Awards and the 2022 Zane A. Miller Award. To view the award presentations, check out the FCADC website at this link: <https://fcadc.com/who-we-are/34th-annual-industry-appreciation-dinner/>



Dave George (center) accepts the 2022 Large Business of the Year Award on behalf of DL George and Sons, Inc.



Jay Finkenbinder (third from right) accepts the 2022 Small Business of the Year Award on behalf of Lehman Construction Services, Inc.



Harold Brake accepts the 2022 Zane A. Miller Award.

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