May 2015

Allentown Chamber of Commerce
Letter from the President

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It's a great time to be a business in Allentown.

The City of Allentown is ranked 11th in the U.S. for expected job hiring growth. Standard and Poor's (S&P) upgraded the city's rating from a 'BBB+" to an 'A+' rating. Thanks to the Neighborhood Improvement Zone legislation, Allentown is undergoing a major renaissance. A new, high-tech, professional hockey arena was constructed to house the Lehigh Valley Phantoms. Lehigh Valley Health Network built a high-tech fitness center; Renaissance Allentown Hotel came to downtown; many high-end restaurants opened their doors. National Penn Bank located its corporate headquarters in a brand new, Class A seven-story office building across from the arena. Trifecta Technologies renovated the former Schoen's building for their corporate headquarters. The list of accomplishments goes on and on...

Can the Allentown Chamber of Commerce take credit for this growth? Sure we can because WE are the Chamber of Commerce. You and I are the ones creating this change and making a difference - every day.

The expanding business community in the City of Allentown is made up of thousands of transactions that occur each day between chamber members, as well as their customers. Multiple times each month, we provide opportunities for businesses to come together in various venues to foster this economic growth.

One of our signature events is our Annual Meeting and the Joseph S. Daddona and Linda M. Anthony Scholarship Awards Dinner where we honor businesses and people who are making a positive impact in our great city.

Join me in congratulating all of the award winners as we celebrate on May 27 at the Renaissance Allentown Hotel in honoring the following Daddona award recipients:
• New Commitment - Lehigh Valley Phantoms/PPL Center
• Downtown Commitment - Trifecta Technologies
• Dedication - J. S. Burkholder Funeral Home, Inc.
• Good Neighbor - Santo Napoli

We will also be awarding the Linda M. Anthony scholarships to three high school seniors: Antonyous Chakif of Dieruff, Evan Quinter of William Allen and John Alvarez of Allentown Central Catholic.

The mission of the Allentown Chamber is to create, maintain and expand an environment conducive to the economic growth and benefit for both the Allentown Chamber members and the City of Allentown as a whole.

We are here to serve you - our members, our Chamber, in our Allentown!