

## In The News...

FCADC Celebrates  
35th Industry  
Appreciation Dinner

DCED Secretary Visits  
FCADC

Keystone Sheets  
Opening Production in  
Chambersburg

Volvo Opens  
Expanded Tech/Dealer  
Training Center

## County Unemployment Rate 3.0%

On August 29th the PA Department of Labor & Industry reported that the Chambersburg-Waynesboro unemployment rate was 3.0% in July which is lower than the national and statewide averages of 3.5%. Additionally, it was reported that the number of jobs increased by 900 over the last 12 months to a record high of 62,900.



1900 Wayne Road  
Chambersburg, PA 17202

Phone: 717-263-8282  
www.fcadc.com  
E-mail: info@fcadc.com

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### ...Message from Mike

So, what did the FCADC staff do during the summer of 2023? As you will read in this edition of *The Developer*, we were busy. But your next question might be, what are the FCADC priorities for the rest of the year? The two priority redevelopment projects involve the Chambersburg Mall and the former Scotland School for Veterans Children. We are working collaboratively with Namdar Realty Group, owners of the mall, to develop a master plan for the 127-acre site. The plan is expected to include a complimentary mix of housing, commercial/retail, and health care uses among other possibilities. What the plan **will not** include is a mega warehouse/distribution center. With respect to the nearly 170-acre Scotland school, the reuse will likely be a mix of housing and institutional uses such as education, human services, etc. In addition to the two projects, we will be working with Walmart, Amazon, and Thermo-Fisher among others in trying to support their staffing challenges. I have been highlighting the labor shortages for the past several years and to put it succinctly, they have not been ameliorated.



Changing the subject. As you will read, we hosted our 35<sup>th</sup> annual Industry Appreciation Dinner on September 14. It was the most well-attended with 462 business and civic leaders from across the County and beyond. This event is intended to recognize the contributions made by businesses to the economic growth of Franklin County; and to honor a specific large and small business as well as present our Zane A. Miller Award to an individual who has made uniquely outstanding contributions to the economic and community well-being of the County. Fil Tec, Inc. was recognized as the Large Business of the Year and Rodney B. Smith Plumbing and Heating was recognized as the Small Business of the Year. Bonnie Zehler, Executive Director of Lumines Community Development was recognized as the recipient of the Zane A. Miller Award. This year also generated record sponsorship support and it is important for me to say THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! We are humbled and never take our corporate mission for granted, which is to "formulate, implement, and promote a comprehensive strategy that strives to create an atmosphere that nourishes planned growth and family-sustainable employment opportunities." So, if our office can be helpful to your business, please do not hesitate to contact us.

It's hard to believe that the next edition of "*The Developer*" will be in early 2024 so in closing, I wish you all the best for a happy holiday season.

## DCED Secretary Rick Siger Visits FCADC

*Meets with Senior Management of Martin's Pastry Shoppe, Inc.*



L to R: David Mackley, Mike Ross, Sec. Rick Siger, Brent Vernon

On August 2nd, DCED Secretary Rick Siger and Director of the Governor's Action Team (GAT), Brent Vernon visited the FCADC to discuss economic development efforts in Franklin County. Siger and Vernon also met with senior management of Martin's Famous Pastry Shoppe to learn more about Martin's significant facility expansion on Wayne Road. The visit also included a tour of the new construction. Siger's visit marked the first time that a cabinet level secretary has visited the FCADC. Siger and Vernon discussed several key topics including workforce development and public infrastructure needs throughout the region.

## Volvo Construction Equipment Opens Expanded Technician Center

On August 18th, Volvo Construction Equipment officially opened its newly expanded technician training center at its North American Headquarters in Shippensburg. The \$6.4 Million expansion includes machine bays, classrooms and virtual labs with augmented reality that provide unique training opportunities for Volvo dealer technicians. Training sessions on heavy equipment, machine control systems, and zero emission and electric vehicles. Volvo dealerships have already started receiving all electric heavy construction equipment. Local engineering firm HRG, Inc. and local general contractor Waynesboro Construction were both critical partners in the completion of the expansion.



## MANTEC Provides Resources to Manufacturers

Manufacturers across Franklin County have access to resources that can help their business grow thanks to MANTEC, the industrial resource center serving small and medium-sized companies in South-Central Pennsylvania. MANTEC offers expert resources in Sales & Marketing, Process Improvement, Manufacturing Technology, and Workforce Engagement. The team comes alongside companies to help them find the "right-sized solutions" in any of these and other areas to help them thrive and strive. These solutions come in many forms: in-house expertise, access to third-party experts, private and public training classes, peer discussion groups, and more. For more information or to schedule a conversation or site visit, please reach out to Abby Wurzbach, Business Solutions Specialist at 717-801-4781 or [abby@mantec.org](mailto:abby@mantec.org).



WEDnet PA offers grant funding to small businesses in Pennsylvania for certain incumbent worker training programs. The application period is **NOW OPEN**. Shippensburg University is the WEDnet administrator serving Franklin County. Interested companies should contact CJ Ezell, Coordinator, 717-477-1123 or [cjezell@ship.edu](mailto:cjezell@ship.edu) or visit [www.wednetpa.org](http://www.wednetpa.org) for more information.

## Amazon re:Cycle Reverse Logistics Selects Antrim Township for Next Location



A facility to recycle electronic equipment used by Amazon is expected to open in April 2024 in Antrim Township, bringing with it 300 to 500 jobs within the next three years. The 550,000-square-foot building is in the Matrix I-81 Logistics Center situated behind the Instant Brands distribution center, long known as Corning and World Kitchen, just south of Greencastle. *re:Cycle Reverse Logistics* is an electronics processing, reuse and recycling company that works to extend the life of used electronic equipment through reuse, repair and recycling. The company specializes in the handling of valuable electronic equipment like servers used in data centers. Its services are designed to maximize the useful life of electronic equipment. Electronics recycling is one component of Amazon's commitment to sustainability that includes being carbon neutral by 2040, according to the company.



## Corrugated Partners Group

### Keystone Sheets Opening Production in Chambersburg

On July 27th, Governor Josh Shapiro announced that Corrugated Partners Group, a collaborative network of cardboard sheet feeders, will invest \$52.7 million to expand its manufacturing operation creating at least 80 new good-paying jobs in Franklin County within the next three years. The Corrugated Partners Group's manufacturing operation in

Pennsylvania will be known as Keystone Sheets. The company is leasing and renovating a 420,000-square-foot facility at 1465 Nitterhouse Drive in Chambersburg, which will serve customers in the mid-Atlantic region and primarily produce single, double, and triple wall corrugated sheets – materials that form the boxes that carry the necessities of life to businesses, hospitals, pharmacies, and homes across North America.

## Interstate 81 Priorities Report Completed

Many plans have been developed to look at transportation improvement needs along the I-81 corridor. Creating a prioritized list of these projects is necessary, as the Franklin County Municipalities Planning Organization (MPO) in coordination with PennDOT looks to implement and advocate for the many proposed improvements. Michael Baker International recently unveiled a report detailing I-81 Priorities for Franklin County. The report combines data and details from several interstate studies completed over the last three years into one comprehensive document. To review the report and transportation priorities see [www.fcadc.com](http://www.fcadc.com).

### I-81 Franklin County: Project Priorities



## South Central STEM Collective

### STEM Collective Moving to Downtown Chambersburg

The South Central STEM Collective has executed a lease for 2,900 SF of professional space for STEM instruction in downtown Chambersburg. The STEM Collective was created to inspire youth aged K-12 through hands-on education, competitive robotics and

drone teams, maker spaces, and community outreach. They will be located in the lower level suites at 20 S. Main Street. For more information on the STEM Collective please visit [www.scstem.org](http://www.scstem.org).

## FCADC Celebrates its 35th Annual Industry Appreciation Dinner

The FCADC hosted its 35th annual Industry Appreciation Dinner on September 14th. The dinner had a record number of sponsors and attendance. Over 460 community and business leaders were in attendance and helped to honor those employers large and small who help make Franklin County prosper. Rodney B. Smith Plumbing, Heating & Cooling was recognized as the 2023 Small Business of the Year and Fil-Tec, Inc. as the Large Business of the Year. Bonnie Zehler, Executive Director of Luminest, was selected as the Zane A. Miller recipient. We thank the Awards Committee, David Keller, Frank Traver, Chris Ardinger, Scott Brown, Steve Christian, and Jackie Mowen for their efforts. A full breakdown of the evening, including videos of the award winners can be found on the FCADC website at [www.fcadc.com/dinner.com](http://www.fcadc.com/dinner.com)



2023 Large Business of the Year



Bonnie Zehler  
2023 Zane A. Miller Award



2023 Small Business of the Year

## Board Member Spotlight...



**Chuck Sioberg**

Chuck has been the chairman of the FCADC Board since 1995. He is a retired partner and co-founder of Martin & Martin, Inc., a local civil engineering firm in Chambersburg. Chuck graduated from Carnegie Institute of Technology, now Carnegie Mellon University in 1964 and later from the prestigious Pratt Institute. Chuck and his wife, Karen, currently reside at Menno Haven Retirement Community.



**Frank Traver**

Frank is the former president and majority owner of The Eagle Construction Company, Inc., a full service commercial general contractor in Greencastle. Frank received a Bachelor of Science of Engineering from Penn State and has over 37 years of commercial construction in PA, MD, and WVA. Now retired, Frank and his wife spend time between Greencastle and their home-away-from-home in Florida.



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