Inventing the new normal

Writing from my home office today, the sun is shining and I’ve already reflected several times on the fact that I should be with 300 of our organization’s supporters at the Inspirational Breakfast this morning. Several members of The Main Line Chamber of Commerce tell me it’s their favorite event. Now it’s being rescheduled in consideration of a shifting timetable for the day when it’s safe to again bring people together as part of our ongoing commitment to connect members with business, leadership development and talent.

So much has changed since we gathered last year with Olympian and Olympic USA Women’s Basketball Coach Dawn Staley.

In these surreal times, I'd like to reflect on what has not changed.

You are part of an organization made up of 950 businesses that power the economy of the Main Line and surrounding areas. We live in an area with high quality of life and great companies that provide valuable products and services locally and to the world.

The Main Line Chamber staff is made up of professionals who continue to work on your behalf, though differently in the current remote work environment. We are home to some of the best health care facilities in the nation and our professional first responders are being supplemented by volunteer firefighters.

continued on next page
CEO MESSAGE

and emergency medical technicians who are showing up when we need them, despite a Stay-at-Home order.

While these times are unprecedented, our nation has faced challenging periods marked by world war, illness and major loss of life before. The COVID-19 crisis, while devastating, calls on us as Americans to respond with solutions and resilience. So many of those who are ill will recover. So many businesses that are threatened will rebound. None of this is to diminish the loss of life and livelihoods we are seeing. We are working with state, federal and local government to get aid into the hands of those in need. Like anything in life, some will be disproportionately affected.

Recovery is where The Main Line Chamber of Commerce is putting its energies. Our new COVID-19 Recovery Resources newsletter is regularly highlighting opportunities for aid available to businesses and nonprofits, while sharing resources being offered by members to help others and marketing opportunities for members to continue to do business with each other.

Something else that hasn’t changed is my call to staff and member businesses to look to the future, while executing on what matters today. High on my list are:

• Professionally, we want to help member businesses in any way possible, whether that’s accessing state or federal dollars or making sure others know that they are open for business.

• I’m working to stay safe and healthy, while encouraging those close to me, personally and professionally, not to take unnecessary chances.

• Staying focused on the future. We will get through this difficult time and, when we do, my goal is for your Chamber of Commerce to be sharper and more effective than ever.

We will employ our new skills and tools for live virtual events along with our passion for bringing people together.

Your Chamber remains strong and committed during these difficult days to serving you. Please don’t hesitate to reach at bdagenais@mlcc.org.

Have an energizing and profitable day,
President & CEO,

Sponsored by:

Recent EVENTS

Business Card Exchange
February 19, 2020

This free member benefit is a great chance to connect with a larger audience of business professionals.

Main Line Chamber Manager of Events and Communications Stacey Rymal welcomed Chris Bickel to speak.

Centric Bank Chris Bickel welcomed guests and spoke of the bank.

Society of Professional Women
February 20, 2020

CEO of i-g creative and Executive Producer & Host of This is IT TV Cheatin’ Bariatt Rumer shared realistic strategies and tactics to identifying a key marketing presence for businesses and individuals.

Saint Joseph’s University Director of Executive MBA and Industry-Focused MBA programs Terese Waldron spoke of opportunities available in Food and Beverage and Pharmaceutical areas.

Wells Fargo Business Advocate Carolyn Isaacs spoke of the great work Main Line School Night is doing and presented the donation check.

Main Line School Night has provided thought provoking program since 1938.

View more photos from this event

Network at Noon
February 24, 2020

Wells Fargo District Manager and Banker Vice President Todd Gibbs gave insight to Wells Fargo’s business resources.

PECO Small Business Manager Mary Hall gave valuable information regarding PECO’s Small Business Customer Emergency Savings Program.

Saint Joseph’s University Director of Executive MBA and Industry-Focused MBA programs Terese Waldron spoke of opportunities available in Food and Beverage and Pharmaceutical areas.

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Recent EVENTS

Young Professionals
March 3, 2020

Saint Joseph’s University Director of Corporate & Industry Partnership Joe McDonald represented the sponsor. A raffle prize is won at every young professionals event.

Society of Professional Women
March 19, 2020

On Thursday, March 19 The Society of Professional Women virtually hosted Author, Historian and Leadership Expert Robin Gerber in a first-time online format. SPW Director Nicole Stephenson welcomes guests virtually. Main Line Chamber President and CEO Bernard Dagenais conducted the virtual interview with Robin Gerber.

Recent EVENTS

Sponsored by: 

Hosted by: 

Member NEWS

DMAX Foundation
DMAX Responds to COVID-19 Anxieties

DMAX’s mission is to create connections and conversations that matter to strengthen mental health and emotional well-being for young people. During this difficult time when social distancing is being practiced but the need for social connection is greater than ever, DMAX is going virtual with its support through its community events and DMAX Clubs on college campuses.

Link to full article here

Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line
Interfaith Hospitality Network Continuing Service Amid Pandemic

Interfaith Hospitality Network remains committed to helping families during the COVID-19 pandemic. While normally its network of partnering congregations host families overnight, the nonprofit must now shelter families at its Day Center in Norristown. The nonprofit has been overwhelmed with emails and calls of encouragement from caring friends and neighbors. It thanks those that have sent supplies.

Link to full article here

Main Line Today
Main Line Today to Host Ladies Night Out

On Thursday, June 18 from 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm Main Line Today will host its third annual Ladies Night Out presented by AME Salon and Spa at Aronimink Golf Club. Learn from fashion, beauty, health and finance experts all while enjoying live entertainment, complimentary hors d’oeuvres, wine & beer and desserts. This event is in support of Breastcancer.org.

Link to full article here

AIM Institute
AIM Welcomes Dawn Brookhart as Associate Director of AIM Institute

AIM is pleased to welcome Dawn Brookhart to the new leadership role of Associate Director of the AIM Institute for Learning & Research. Dawn’s efforts will allow AIM Institute to further its vision and mission helping scale its AIM Pathways online teacher training platform and related training and coaching to more school partners and organizations throughout the country. “We are pleased to welcome Dawn to the AIM Institute team,” said Pat Roberts AIM executive director and co-founder.

Link to full article here

Brinker Simpson
Brinker Simpson Publishes COVID-19 Business Relief Article

Brinker Simpson has compiled resources for businesses amid the COVID-19 outbreak in a continued effort to support the community. Brinker Simpson & Company CPAs and Business Consultants concentrate on handling the specific challenges, compliance needs and industry standard tax practices across a spectrum of business industries. Brinker can help setup and maintain non-profit organization’s tax-exempt status by handling all IRS reporting.

Link to full article here

View more photos from this event

View more photos from this event
Immaculata University
Immaculata University Implements Contingency Operating Plan
Following the guidance from the PA Governor’s office to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Immaculata University is operating on a contingency plan for a two-week period which began on Monday, March 16 at 12:00 pm. Immaculata will transition in-person course instruction to online course delivery through March 29. All online courses will continue to operate as scheduled.
Link to full article here

Drexelbrook Catering and Special Event
Drexelbrook Catering offers family take-out and delivery meals
Special Occasions, the online delivery division of Drexelbrook is providing affordable menus for families. Drexelbrook will deliver within a twenty-five mile radius of its Drexel Hill location for a $15 delivery fee. In addition to serving up meals for the community, with every order, Drexelbrook donates $5 of the proceeds to CityTeam. CityTeam is a nonprofit organization that assists those experiencing homelessness, poverty, hunger, and addiction in Chester.
Link to full article here

Stradley Ronon Stevens and Young
Stradley Ronon provides COVID-19 Impact on Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Insights
The economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are being felt across every sector throughout Pennsylvania, resulting in furloughs, layoffs and a significant increase in the number of applications for unemployment compensation benefits. Stradley Ronon has published articles to assist in navigating Pennsylvania unemployment compensation.
Link to full article here

The Baldwin School
Baldwin Welcomes New Senior Faculty Member
Baldwin has appointed Christie Reed as Director of Upper School, effective July 1, 2020. Reed has been a science teacher at Baldwin for 22 years and currently teaches Upper School biology. During that tenure, she has also served as Chair of the Science Department, Grade Dean, College Counselor, Faculty Trustee, student club advisor and more. The Baldwin School has temporarily transitioned to online learning in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Link to full article here

Margaret Kuo’s
Margaret Kuo’s Offers Takeout and Delivery Services
Due to COVID-19, Margaret Kuo’s is now offering takeout and delivery services only through Caviar. Delaware Valley businesswoman and entrepreneur, Margaret Kuo, a James Beard Foundation featured Chef, heads The Kuo Group, a real estate holding company with three successful restaurants in Delaware County and the Main Line, Mandarin, Media and Wayne.
Link to full article here

Surrey Services for Seniors
Surrey Continues to Care for Older Adults with Meals, Check-Ins, Virtual Programming
Surrey Services for Seniors, the Devon-based nonprofit, is continuing its care for older adults. Although its locations are closed, Surrey is finding new and different ways to help seniors with meals, wellness check-ins, and virtual programming to ease anxiety and social isolation. Grab and Go lunches available at Devon, Havertown and Media - ensure older adults can get a nutritious lunch.
Link to full article here

King of Prussia District
KOP-BID Debuts KOP Quaranteam Virtual Events to Keep Community Safe and Entertained During Social-Distancing Time
King of Prussia District is debuting KOP Quaranteam Virtual Events, a series of events and contests that will be held online in the hopes of keeping the community safe and entertained while self-quarantining. These events will include all-level live workouts with KOP fitness instructors and live performances by talented musicians from the region, among other things.
Link to full article here

Main Line Health
Main Line Health Responds to the Coronavirus, Institutes Visitor Restrictions
Main Line Health continues to closely follow the latest information and updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the coronavirus pandemic that is rapidly evolving in the United States and abroad. “The safety of our patients, staff and community is paramount,” says Jack Lynch, FACHE, president and CEO, Main Line Health. “We remain committed to providing a safe environment for all who seek care at our facilities. In an effort to protect the safety and health of our patients and staff, we have instituted several precautionary measures to reduce the likelihood of COVID-19 infection and community spread.”
Link to full article here

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Link to full article here
Live Virtual Event

The Importance of Maternal Health

We’ll cover the insidious signs of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, ways to advocate for yourself or for loved ones about whom you may be concerned, establishing expectations for treatments, and touch on why this specific topic feels so difficult to discuss. Content will include PMADs in adoptive families, in non-pregnant partners, scary thoughts, post NICU, and infertility.

Date: April 23, 2020
Time: Live Virtual Event: 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM
Location: Zoom Video Conferencing
Cost: $45 MLCC Gold Members
      $50 MLCC Members
      $60 Non-Members
      Men are welcome!

Go To www.SPWMAINLINE.com To Register!

Keynote and Moderator
Hilary Waller, MS, LPC
Director of Programming Psychotherapy at The Postpartum Stress Center

Panelists
Elizabeth Bland
Panelist
Director of Main Line Health Women’s Emotional Health Center

Rebecca Fox Starr
Panelist
Author and Blogger Mommy, Ever After

Featured Nonprofit: March of Dimes
March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies. It believes that every baby deserves the best possible start. Unfortunately, not all babies get one. The nonprofit is changing that. For 80 years, March of Dimes has helped millions of babies survive and thrive. Now we’re building on that legacy to level the playing field for all moms and babies, no matter their age, socio-economic background or demographics.
Meet THE STAFF

Bernard Dagenais
President and CEO
BDagenais@mlcc.org

Kristin Di Lullo
Director, Finance & Event Management
KDiLullo@mlcc.org

Xenia Hewka Scott
Director, Membership Services
XScott@mlcc.org

Nicole Stephenson
Director, Society of Professional Women
NStephenson@mlcc.org

Stacey Rymal
Manager, Events and Communications
SRymal@mlcc.org

Kelly Gray
Manager, Member Services
KGray@mlcc.org

Tetiana Sawchak
Executive Administrator
TSawchak@mlcc.org

Powell Davis
Communications & Marketing Coordinator
PDavis@mlcc.org

Veronica Boyd
Administrative Assistant
Frontdesk@mlcc.org

The Main Line Chamber of Commerce®