



Toast to the Stars

**37th Annual
AWARDS LUNCHEON
to Honor
Sussex County's Outstanding
Businesses, Individuals, & Organizations**

2024



**Thursday, April 25, 2024
Grand Cascades Lodge
at Crystal Springs Resort
Hamburg, NJ**

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President's Message for the 2024 Annual Awards



It is my utmost pleasure to extend a warm welcome to each one of you to the highly anticipated 2024 Toast to the Stars Awards Luncheon. Today, we gather in celebration of excellence, innovation, and dedication within our vibrant business community.

As we embark on this extraordinary event, filled with anticipation and excitement, I assure you that you are in for a truly awe-inspiring experience. The nominees present here today embody the epitome of talent, intellect, heart, soul, grit, determination, and unmistakable brilliance. It is their remarkable achievements that we come together to honor and celebrate.

For 37 years, this prestigious awards program has served as a beacon of recognition for outstanding individuals, companies, and organizations in both the private sector and nonprofit community. Today, we not only applaud their accomplishments but also take a moment to reflect on the collective impact they have had on our society. I invite each of you to immerse yourselves in the stories of perseverance, innovation, and success that will unfold throughout this luncheon. Get ready to be inspired, moved, and motivated by the remarkable tales that await you.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt welcome to all our distinguished guests, nominees, and supporters. Let us embark on this journey of celebration and recognition with enthusiasm and admiration. Here's to a truly unforgettable 2024 Toast to the Stars Awards Luncheon!

Thank you for your membership in the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce and for your continued support.

*Sincerely,
Tammie*

Tammie A. Haysfield

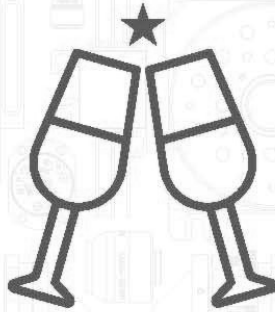
THORLABS

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TOAST TO THE STARS

Awards Luncheon by

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Perry Bonadies, Secretary of the Board
Thomas Ryan, Past Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Tammie Horsfield, President

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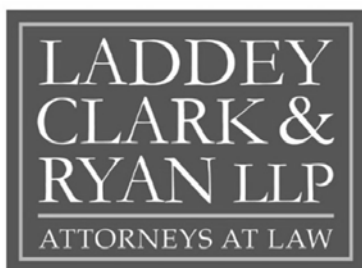
Thomas Ryan
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Deena Smith
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Congratulations to all of the honorees!

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LUNCH AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

WELCOME AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

*Tammie Horsfield
President, Sussex County Chamber of Commerce*



MENU

Entrée Selections

- ◆ *Chicken Marsala*
- ◆ *Pasta Primavera*
- ◆ *Chicken Caesar Salad*

Dessert will be a delicious brownie

Coffee, tea and water will be served; *additional beverages are available for purchase.*



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Paterson
www.CCPaterson.org

**Congratulations to the
Honorees and Stars
of our Sussex County
Community!**



fx

@ccharitiespat

Description of Awards & Nominees

SPECIAL RECOGNITION - COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This special award recognizes an organization that went above and beyond to assist a community member and his family in need.

Hampton Township Education Foundation for Brandon's House

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT: This award recognizes an individual that has made an extraordinary, long-term contribution to the community for many years.

NOMINEES

- Lori Space Day - Space Farms Zoo & Museum
- Drs. Douglas and Larry Harte - Harte Orthodontics
- Hatzinas Family - Yetter's Diner
- Jan Jorritsma - Ideal Farm & Garden Center
- Elizabeth Morgan - Coldwell Banker Realty
- Julia Duane Quinlan - Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice
- Thomas Ryan - Laddey, Clark and Ryan, LLP



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Congratulates
Deena Smith

on her nomination for
Chamber Champion,
as well as all of the other
nominees this afternoon

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NOMINEES AND WINNERS!



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Description of Awards & Nominees

QUALITY IN BUSINESS AWARD: Awarded in recognition of a business organization which began as a small enterprise and has continued in its original form for many years or grown larger because of fair customer practices and/or exceptional quality of service.

NOMINEES

- Dolan & Dolan, P.A.
- Farmside Gardens
- Father John's Animal House
- Hart & Iliff Fuel & Energy Systems
- Iliff-Ruggiero Funeral Home
- J. Caldwell & Associates
- Gravity DesignWorks, Inc.
- Panera Bread – Newton
- Planet Networks
- Rock, Ribs and Ridges Festival
- R.S. Phillips Steel
- Sparta's Shack
- The Cupboard Shop
- Weis Markets – Newton
- Wild West City
- Wm. H. Wilson Enterprises, Inc.





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- Charity gift cards for guests
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- Food & hygiene donations for
- Weekend Bag Program
- No-cost meeting space available to non-profit orgs
- Artists' & authors' work showcased throughout the inn
- Gift certificates donated to non-profit org staff & volunteers
- Rooms named annually to honor community members

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The Ampersand Inn



Description of Awards & Nominees

QUALITY IN LIVING AWARD: Awarded in recognition of a non-profit health, educational, social service, or recreational organization or agency whose activities produce broad personal benefits for large numbers of County residents, thereby contributing significantly to the quality of living in Sussex County.

NOMINEES

- Avenues in Motion
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson
- The Center for Prevention & Counseling
- Family Promise of Sussex County
- Lafayette Federated Church
- Patriots' Path Council, Boy Scouts of America
- Ridge and Valley Conservancy
- SCARC, Inc.
- Skylands Museum of Art
- Sussex County Fairgrounds
- Sussex County Library System
- Sussex County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management
- Sussex County YMCA

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR: Awarded to an individual who demonstrates outstanding enterprise, innovation, and entrepreneurial flair. A business leader with exceptional vision and leadership.

NOMINEES

- Perry and Michele Bonadies - Bear Brook Valley and Rock Island Lake Club
- Robert Boyle - Planet Networks
- Trevor Current - Life in Sussex
- Andre and Tracey de Waal - Andre's Lakeside Dining
- Karen Kymer - Kymer's Camping Resort
- Rafael Payano - Skyview Golf Club
- Alexandra Patino - Sparta's Shack
- Alice & Bela Szigethy - Live the Lake NJ/Camp Six

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The Chamber is proud to spotlight the phenomenal sponsors of the Awards Luncheon. Their unwavering support not only allows this organization to present these prestigious awards but also fuels our mission to inspire and recognize excellence. We are truly grateful for their partnership and thankful for their support.

Description of Awards & Nominees

RISING STAR AWARD: Awarded to an emerging leader whose achievements reflect exceptional growth in their profession, increased levels of leadership/responsibility, and high potential for future impact.

NOMINEES

- Robert Boyle - Planet Networks
- Colby DeBellis - The Cupboard Shop
- Thomas J. Drongoski - Edward Jones Investments
- Laura Ferri - Laura Ferri Client Services
- Kathlyn Moore - Ridge and Valley Conservancy
- Andrea Ryker - Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center
- Athena Storm - Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Intervention Services (DASI)
- Landon Tanyeri - Hardyston Historical
- Raj Trivedi - Trivedi Consulting
- Jay Upadhyay - Holiday Inn Express
- Belle Ward - Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center
- Chris Wolverton - HQW Architects

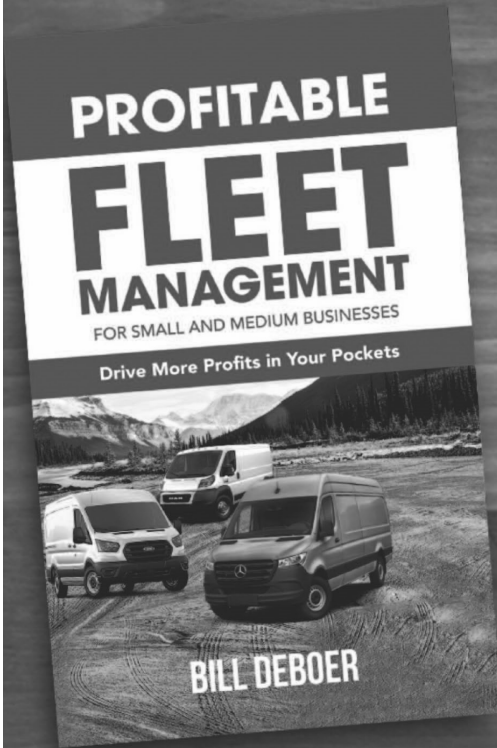
OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Awarded in recognition of conceiving, planning, and implementing an outstanding event for the Sussex County area. All types of events are eligible (social, cultural, recreational, educational, etc.)

NOMINEES

- Crystal Springs Resort - New Jersey Wine & Food Festival
- German Christmas Market of NJ
- Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice - Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Luncheon
- Lafayette Township Economic Development Committee - Christmas Event
- Lafayette Township Economic Development Committee - Lafayette Day
- Rock, Ribs and Ridges Festival
- Skylands Stadium - NJ/PA State Police Charity Game
- Sparta NJ Renaissance Festival
- Stillwater Recreation Commission
- Sussex County Fairgrounds
- Sussex County YMCA - Golf Outing
- Town of Newton - Mural

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Description of Awards & Nominees

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

Awarded in recognition of outstanding accomplishments by a non-profit organization with a reputation for excellence within the non-profit community, as well as with the public at large.


NOMINEES

- Benny's Bodega
- Birth Haven
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson
- The Center for Prevention & Counseling
- German Christmas Market of NJ Foundation, Inc.
- Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center
- Karen Ann Quinlan Memorial Foundation
- Lafayette Township Economic Development Committee
- Market Street Mission – Sussex County
- Newton Medical Center Foundation
- Pass It Along
- Peace by Piece NJ, Inc.
- Project Self-Sufficiency
- Ridge and Valley Conservancy
- Sparta Historical Society/ Van Kirk Homestead Museum
- Sussex County Charter School for Technology
- Sussex County YMCA

CHAMBER CHAMPION AWARD: Awarded to a Chamber member who continuously goes above and beyond in contributing their time and talent to the organization, showing exceptional dedication to supporting and staying involved in Chamber programs and events.

NOMINEES

- Irene Dorzback - The Ampersand Inn
- Jackie Espinoza - JCP&L a FirstEnergy Corp.
- Beth Hofgesang - Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services
- Michael Richards - Sussex County Fairgrounds
- Thomas Ryan - Laddey, Clark and Ryan, LLP
- Deena Smith - First Hope Bank



**Congratulations Janet Braen and
all the exceptional nominees on
their well-deserved recognition!**



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Description of Awards & Nominees

HEALTHY LIVING AWARD: Awarded in recognition of an innovative business that supports the health of its consumers and community within its core business model and mission.


NOMINEES

- Camp Nejeda Foundation, Inc.
- Green Cart Catering
- GYMGUYZ Sussex, Warren and Orange Counties
- Ridge and Valley Conservancy
- Sussex County Department of Health & Human Services
- Sussex County Sheriff's Office
- The Weekend Bag Program Inc.
- Winter4Kids
- Zen Acupuncture

WORKPLACE OF THE YEAR AWARD: Awarded in recognition of a company exhibiting outstanding commitment to overall workplace quality and striving to create the best possible workplace for its employees while driving employee engagement.

NOMINEES

- Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center
- Mountain Creek Resort
- Selective Insurance
- Sparta NJ Renaissance Festival
- Town of Newton
- Wm. H. Wilson Enterprises, Inc.



Town of Newton

Thomas S. Russo, Jr., MPA, CPM, PLC
Town Manager

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www.GermanChristmasMarketNJ.org

Description of Awards & Nominees

BUSINESS INNOVATION AWARD: Awarded in recognition of a company initiating new ideas and/or approaches to doing business and challenging the status quo with outside-the-box thinking to improve business processes or services.

NOMINEES

- The Ampersand Inn
- The Barnyard
- Chris Sebes Design, LLC
- DeBoer's Auto
- GYMGUYZ Sussex, Warren and Orange Counties
- Law Office of Orlando R. Rodriguez
- Sparta's Shack
- Stillwater Recreation Commission
- Sussex County Community College Culinary Institute's Arbor Restaurant
- Sussex County Sheriff's Office

BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD: Awarded in recognition of a distinguished business leader with an established track record of significant accomplishments in business and/or community service, whose reputation is based on ethical conduct, corporate responsibility, and a commitment to creating a positive business climate in Sussex County.

NOMINEES

- Janet Braen - Braen Stone
- Jessica Caldwell Dykstra - J. Caldwell & Associates
- Robert Charlton - Nisivoccia
- Jackie Espinoza - JCP&L a FirstEnergy Corp.
- Michael Richards - Sussex County Fairgrounds
- Thomas Russo - Town of Newton
- Lidia Zdunek - Lakeland Bank



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- Post-Surgical Care
- Wound Care



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**Congratulations to all the
nominees & winners!**



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Description of Awards & Nominees

CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD: Awarded in recognition of a business/organization that best demonstrated that it has the customer at the heart of the business and deploys and manages its resources to meet the needs of its customer base most effectively.

NOMINEES

- Elizabethtown Gas Company
- The Farmer's Daughter
- The Green 973
- Halls Tree Care
- HQW Architects
- Law Office of Orlando R. Rodriguez
- Living Pawsitively
- Mark Maruska, Gravity DesignWorks, Inc.
- Panera Bread – Newton
- Sparta's Shack
- Sussex County Community College
- Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCMUA)
- Town of Newton Community Development Office
- Wm. H. Wilson Enterprises, Inc.



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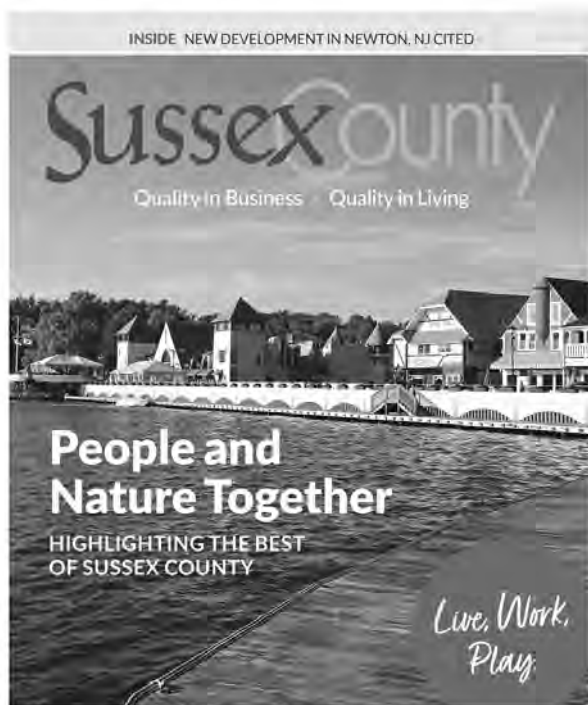


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Chamber office, at Chamber events, and
at various locations throughout the
county. Boxes of 50 are also available
upon request.

Description of Awards & Nominees

DAVID C. HERZENBERG AWARD: This award is a tribute to an organization or individual making a significant contribution to the health and welfare of County residents through the provision of direct health care and/or human service activities.

NOMINEES

- Bentley Assisted Living
- Complete Care at Barn Hill
- Newton Medical Center – Atlantic Behavioral Health
- Newton Medical Center – Cardiac Imaging Unit
- Newton Medical Center – Center for Breast Health
- New Jersey State Police
- Melanie Ruel - The Chelsea at Sparta

CHAIRWOMAN’S AWARD: Awarded in recognition of an individual or organization that has made an exemplary and/or extraordinary contribution to the County. This award is presented by the Chairwoman of the Chamber.

NOMINEES

- Chris Carney - Deputy Director, Board of County Commissioners
- German Christmas Market of NJ Foundation, Inc.
- Optimum
- Sussex County Clerk’s Office
- Sussex County Sheriff’s Office



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**The Toast to the Stars
Award Nominees**

**Sussex County Chamber
Toast to the Stars Awards Luncheon
April 25, 2025**



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Upcoming Chamber Events

Wednesday, May 1, 2024
Women in Business: Paint & Sip
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Painted Grape, Franklin, NJ

Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Business to Business Breakfast
Doors Open at 7:30 AM
Perona Farms, Andover, NJ
Annual Wellness Fair

Wednesday, May 15, 2024
Young Professionals Social
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
The Green 973, Sparta, NJ

Wednesday, May 29, 2024
Sussex County Day Kick Off
12 PM
Romano Conference Center
Newton Medical Center, Newton NJ

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