



# *Toast to the Stars*

AWARDS LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 12, 2022 • 12 pm

The Lafayette House

Lafayette, NJ

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*The 35th Annual  
Toast to the Stars  
Awards Luncheon*

*Presented by  
the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce*



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# *President's Message*

## *About the Awards*



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2022 Toast to the Stars Awards Luncheon. I, along with the Chamber Board of Trustees, thank you for being here with us. I appreciate your support of the Chamber's mission and your continued investment in the future of the Sussex County business community.

This is the Chamber's 35th awards program. It would have been our 37th had the celebration not been paused for two years due to the pandemic. Today feels extra special because we can finally be together again to recognize and honor our region's leading companies, organizations, and individuals who continue to raise the bar in their industries and in their commitment to our community.

This annual awards program is one of the most direct ways to honor those companies and individuals who have unconditionally provided exemplary service to Sussex County. They have been role models of idealism and integrity both in their ethical business practices and in their humanitarian lifestyles. They are innovative change agents, reaching beyond the status quo to accomplish goals others often think are impossible.

The program we are enjoying this afternoon is a true celebration of the ideals for business and living we are so grateful for in Sussex County. I am pleased to join all of you in publicly thanking and acknowledging these leaders for their dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammie A. Horsfield".

Tammie Horsfield, President

# *Congratulations to John Quinlan and all the Nominees.*

*Let's continue working together to improve the  
quality of lives in Sussex County.*



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**Thomas N. Ryan**, *Vice- Chairman of the Board of Trustees*

**Mike Richards**, *Secretary of the Board of Trustees*

**Jamie LaCouture**, *Treasurer of the Board of Trustees*

**Buffie Dobbs**, *Past Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees*

**Tammie Horsfield**, *President of the Board of Trustees*

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## LUNCH AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

### WELCOME AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

*Tammie Horsfield*

*President Sussex County Chamber of Commerce*

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## Menu

*Minestrone Soup served with warm rolls and butter*

*Entrees (Choice of 3):*

*Caesar Salad served with Grilled Chicken*

*Beef Stroganoff served over Egg Noodles*

*Salmon Dijon Buerre Blanc served with Vegetable Du Jour & Rice Pilaf*

*Dessert: Chocolate Mousse served with coffee/tea*

*Thank you to our Sponsors!*

# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

**COVID-19 LEADERSHIP AWARD:** This award is a tribute to a company, organization or individual who provided exceptional leadership through the extremely challenging circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **NOMINEES**

- Robert Adams - Atlantic Health System
- Atlantic Health System / Newton Medical Center
- County of Sussex
- James Hoffman - Newton Robotics Team
- Primerica - Trapp Team
- Sussex County Board of County Commissioners
- Sussex County Department of Environmental and Public Health Services
- Sussex County Nursing / Health Care Centers

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*Congratulations to the Award Winners!*

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- Home to beautiful Lake Mohawk and 10 additional private lake communities.
- The Lake Mohawk Boardwalk and Plaza are listed on the State and National Historic Registers.
- Wonderful area restaurants, cafes, pubs, and eateries along with highly rated B & B's.
- Resident demographics include business professionals, sales and office workers, and managers.
- Health Care, Education, Financial Services, Health and Fitness, and Investment Management are some of the region's strongest employment sectors.
- There's lots to do! Enjoy events on Lake Mohawk and its boardwalk, golf, festivals, community activities, a water park, hiking/ biking trails, outdoor concerts, and historical sites.

[www.spartanjersey.org](http://www.spartanjersey.org)



# *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**

- Andersen Farms
- The Center for Prevention & Counseling
- Comet Security
- Elizabethtown Gas Company
- EM Electrical Contractors, LLC
- First Hope Bank
- Franklin Mutual Insurance Company
- Franklin Sussex Auto Mall, Inc.
- Kymer's Camping Resort
- Perona Farms
- Realty Executives Exceptional Realtors
- Sparta Farmers Market
- Sussexpress, LLC
- The Lafayette Mill Antiques Center
- Windy Brow Farms
- Wm. H. Wilson Enterprises, Inc.



# *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**

- The Center for Prevention
- Family Partners of Morris & Sussex Counties
- Family Promise of Sussex County
- First Hope Bank
- Market Street Mission – Sussex County
- Pass It Along
- Sparta Education Foundation
- The Newton Theatre
- United Way of Northern New Jersey
- Winter4Kids

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# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

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**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**

- Kristi Becker -The Farmer's Daughter
- Sue-Ni and Ethan DiStefano - Broad Street Books
- Owen Dykstra - Dykstra Associates
- Patrick Harrison - HarBee Beekeeping
- Abdul Mohiby - Midtown Collision
- David and Kelly Noguerol - Fresh Pickins
- Jonathan Peirce - Newton Theatre
- Steve Scro - Mohawk House
- Brendan Ullmann and Tyler O'Toole - The Circle
- Rachel Wesling - Wesselhof Farm

**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**

- Garret Barcheski - Father John's Animal House
- Sue- Ni and Ethan DiStefano - Broad Street Books
- Jacob Gaeta - Market Street Mission- Sussex County
- Orlando Rodriguez, - Law Office of Orlando R. Rodriguez, LLC
- Terri Trapp- Primerica
- Jay Upadhyay - Holiday Inn Express
- Eric Wilson - Wm. H. Wilson Enterprises, Inc
- Chris Wolverton - HQW Architects

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# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

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## **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**

- German Christmas Market of New Jersey
- SCARC Honors - SCARC
- Skylands Stadium Light Show and Christmas Village
- Sparta NJ Renaissance Festival at Camp Sacajawea
- Taste of Talent - Project Self Sufficiency
- Oktoberfest- Mountain Creek

## **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD:**

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

### **NOMINEES**

- The Center for Prevention & Counseling
- Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Intervention Services
- Family Promise of Sussex County
- Father John's Animal House
- German Christmas Market of New Jersey
- Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center
- SCARC, Inc
- Sparta Township Police Department – Jr. Police Academy
- The Grateful Shed Food Pantry
- Winter4kids

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# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

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**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

- Andy Ball
- Gerry Cantalupo
- Elizabeth Morgan
- John Quinlan
- Orlando Rodriguez
- Lidia Zdunek

**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

- Atlantic Health System
- Fresh Pickins
- Get Juiced/ Inner Love
- Green Life Market
- Sunrise House Treatment Center
- Tobacco Free- Center for Prevention
- Winter4kids
- Zufall Health Center

# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

**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**

- Atlantic Health System/ Newton Medical Center
- CP Engineers LLC
- Nisivoccia LLP


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

## **Nominees**

- Milk Street Distillery
- Pandora's Box Toys & Collectibles
- Perona Farms
- Sussexpress LLC
- Windy Brow Farms

**Anthony Sessa**  
Agent

**New York Life Insurance Company**  
250 Pehle Avenue, Suite 500  
Park 80 West - Plaza Two  
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663  
R 201 845 5900 M 862-201-9655  
F 201 845 6747  
amsessa@fl.newyorklife.com



# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

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**BUSINESSPERSON 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**

- Robert Adams
- Mark Avondoglio
- Dr. Jon Connolly
- Thomas N. Ryan

**CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD:** Awarded in recognition of a business/organization that best demonstrates 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**

- First Hope Bank
- Primerica - Trapp Team
- Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative
- Visions Federal Credit Union
- Wm. H. Wilson Enterprises, Inc.

*Congratulations to the all the  
winners and nominees!*



## *Chamber Committees*

**Make the most of your Chamber membership by joining a committee. Get involved!**

- Education Committee
- Human Resources Development Committee
- Non Profit Committee
- Sussex County Trails Partnership
- Technology Committee
- Tourism Committee
- Wellness Committee

***Join a Chamber Committee Today!***

## *Chamber Council Affiliates*

The Sussex County Chamber of Commerce has six Chamber Councils, each offering members of the Council's area opportunities to work together to better their communities.

- Branchville-Frankford-Lafayette Chamber Council
- Central Sussex Chamber Council
- Franklin Hardyston Area Chamber Council
- Southern Sussex Chamber Council
- Sparta Chamber Council
- Sussex-Wantage Chamber Council

***Join a Chamber Council Today!***

# *Description of Awards & Nominees*

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

## NOMINEES

- Francis A. Koch
- Elizabeth Morgan
- Harold E. Pellow
- Charles Roberts



CONGRATULATIONS OWEN DYKSTRA & ALL CHAMBER  
AWARD WINNERS AND NOMINEES!



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# *Don't Miss Out...* *on these future Chamber events*

- 6/14/22 BUSINESS TO BUSINESS BREAKFAST**  
LOCATION TBD / DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 AM
- 6/22/22 BUSINESS EXPO**  
SUSSEX COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS (RICHARDS BUILDING)  
4-7 PM
- 9/7/22 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**  
TIME, LOCATION, TOPIC TBA
- 9/18/22 SUSSEX COUNTY DAY**  
SUSSEX COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS / 12-5 PM
- 10/12/22 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OCTOBERFEST SOCIAL**  
KROGHS / 5:30 PM
- SAVE THE DATE:**  
**11/30/22 SC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM**
- 12/8/22 HOLIDAY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**
- 12/14/22 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS HOLIDAY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

**CHAMBER BUSINESS TO BUSINESS BREAKFASTS**  
are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month  
(except in July and August) at various locations.  
Doors open at 7:30 am. Reservations are required.



## **INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A BREAKFAST?**

Contact Mary Carroll, director of Member services,  
at 973-579-1811 or [mcarroll@sussexcountychamber.org](mailto:mcarroll@sussexcountychamber.org)  
to learn more about this exciting sponsorship.

Limited 2022 opportunities available. Booking for 2023 has begun.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

PLEASE CALL THE CHAMBER AT 973-579-1811  
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:  
[WWW.SUSSEXCOUNTYCHAMBER.ORG](http://WWW.SUSSEXCOUNTYCHAMBER.ORG)