



The Chamber Chatter Box



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dear Fellow Chamber Members,

One of the things I like both the most and the least about being President of the Chamber of Commerce is that I am required to write this message every month. Sometimes I struggle to find anything worthy of being read by the business community that the Chamber represents. Today, however, I did not struggle.

Today I am feeling grateful that being President is a pleasure instead of a burden. It occurred to me that maybe our membership is not aware that it is a pleasure because of the many hands that make the chamber run smoothly and my job easy.

First up is the Chamber's secretary Mary Dilla who is quietly behind the scenes reminding me of my duties and supporting not only me but any initiative that the board of director's tackles. All of the required administrative work is completed timely and accurately. Things simply would not run without Mary. Second up is Dottie Coll. Every month she takes on the responsibility of coming up with the fabulous speakers not only for the main Chamber, but for the Women's networking group. Every Month! In case you don't know, this is not an easy task. Third is the Board of Directors. These individuals volunteer their time to make the decisions and determine the strategic direction of the Chamber. Their creative ideas keep our Chamber fresh and relevant.

And last, but not least by any means is the wonderful membership of the BBW Chamber. **Thank you to all of you that have renewed your membership this year.** Thank you for coming to our lunches and volunteering for committees. Thank you for making new members feel welcome and for networking and sharing services with other members. We are a great chamber because of the great people who comprise it!

All my best for your continued success,

President

LUNCHEON & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 2, 2017

South Hills Country Club

4305 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236



Noon

Guest Speaker

Richard Hudic

Executive Director

Allegheny Regional Asset District

Richard Hudic was appointed as Executive Director of the Allegheny Regional Asset District (RAD) in June 2015. He most recently served as Executive Deputy Secretary of the PA Department of Community & Economic Development, an agency he has collaborated with spanning multiple Administrations in various capacities. RAD is responsible for investing ½ of the additional 1 percent sales tax collected in Allegheny County in assets that bolster the quality of life and provide an economic boost to the Greater Pittsburgh community. These organizations include libraries, parks, civic & sports facilities, arts & culture organizations and transportation. RAD has provided over \$1.6B of support since its first year of operation in 1994. Rich is a native Pittsburgher and has been instrumental in many projects in southwest PA including the Shell cracker plant, East Liberty transportation corridor and the Lower Hill site development. He managed and co-authored Keystone Opportunity Zone legislation, crafted the Discovered and Developed in PA and Innovate in PA programs as well as PA's STEM initiative.

Advance reservations requested:

\$20 with reservation

\$25 for non-members and those without a reservation

Contact Mary Dilla - secretary@bbwchamber.com

Next luncheon and general meeting April 6th

**Educational Grant Presentations and
High School Musical Previews**

Welcome New Members!

Caring Castle Childcare — Debbie A. Donaldson

412-884-2400, caringcastledeb@gmail.com

Shields Embroidery & Promos — Michael Shields

412-5361-2321, shieldsemb@gmail.com

The Scheuermann's Disease Fund—Doug Strott

724-436-1271, dstrott@sdfund.org

WOMEN'S NETWORKING LUNCHEON

March 10, 2017
South Hills Country Club
 4305 Brownsville Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Noon
 Guest Speaker
Lillie Leonardi
 Author & Lecturer
In The Shadow Of A Badge

After serving for more than 25 years, Lillie Leonardi retired from law enforcement to pursue her lifetime passion for writing. Her first non-fiction book about her experience as a responder on 9/11 entitled, *In the Shadow of a Badge* was released in 2013. She is also a regular contributor to The Huffington Post and Heal Your Life digital publications.

After more than nine years and as a result of her personal experiences at the Flight 93 crash site in Shanksville (PA), Lillie completed her book detailing a deeply spiritual event that took place at the site on 9/11. Entitled *In the Shadow of a Badge: A Memoir about Flight 93, a Field of Angels, and My Spiritual Homecoming*, the book reflects her story about the visitation of Angels during the first hours at the crash site.

It is a first-hand account of the spiritual experience Lillie encountered while serving in her professional capacity as the Community Outreach Specialist with the FBI (Pittsburgh Division). What she saw and heard is a personal interpretation of the events leading up to and following 9/11 and, in particular, the Flight 93 crash.

Lunch for Chamber Members - \$20 - Bring a friend!
Lunch for Non-Members - \$25

Please make a reservation by contacting our secretary:
Mary Dilla - secretary@bbwchamber.com

Note: there will not be a luncheon in April at the luncheon date falls on Good Friday.



BBW Chamber Book Club will meet Wednesday April 19th, 6:30 at Craffhouse Stage & Grill 5024 Curry Road Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Our Book Club pick is *In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin* by Erik Larson

William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Nazi Germany in a year that proved to be a turning point in history. A mild-mannered professor from Chicago, Dodd brings along his wife, son, and daughter. As that first year unfolds the family experiences days

2016-2017 Officers

President Mary Ann Laudato, Pittsburgh Asphalt Co.
 Vice President Virginia Weida, Virginia Weida Design
 Treasurer Sean J. Hayes DC, Hayes Chiropractic
 Secretary Mary Dilla



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT!

Flowers By Terry offers handcrafted floral arrangements that are perfect for any occasion. Whether you are looking to commemorate a special event or honor a special someone, our designers work with you to select the flowers, colors, and styles for an unforgettable arrangement. With delivery throughout the Pittsburgh area, our mission is to bring fresh, high quality cut flowers and plants to our customers. We do weddings, funerals, proms, and more, and are happy to schedule a one-on-one consultation to turn your dreams into a reality.

With wedding and prom season coming up, stop by Flowers By Terry to learn about exciting new trends for bouquets and corsages! Jeweled wristbands, vibrant orchids, ribbons to match any dress, and roses in a wide array of colors offer you plenty of options for your special day. Make sure to bring a swatch of the dress color for an even more personalized result.

Flowers By Terry is there for you for the best of occasions, and for difficult times as well. With a large variety of sympathy arrangements and gifts, we can create a memorable tribute for loved ones and pets. Wreaths and baskets are made to order, with the option of adding angels, chimes, blankets, and other items for families to keep. Sympathy orders can be delivered straight to the funeral home, or to the family.

While we are happy to create arrangements for you, Flowers By Terry also offers monthly flower arranging classes. Sign up today!

To learn more about all that Flowers By Terry has to offer, stop into our store, and follow us on Facebook!

Terry Unger
 412-884-0800

<http://www.flowersbyterrypittsburgh.com>
 Caste Village, 5301 Grove Road, Ste 623 Pgh, PA 15236

full of excitement, intrigue, romance. But evidence of Jewish persecution mounts. Dodd watches with alarm as Jews are attacked, the press is censored, and drafts of frightening new laws begin to circulate. He telegraphs his concerns to a largely indifferent State Department back home amid a climactic spasm of violence and murder that reveals Hitler's true character and ruthless ambition. ***In the Garden of Beasts*** lends a stunning, eyewitness perspective on events as they unfold in real time that speaks volumes about why the world did not recognize the grave threat posed by Hitler until Berlin, and Europe, were awash in blood and terror.

Board of Directors

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