

Block Party and Open House Celebrate Brandywine Center Opening



This summer more than a thousand people at various events celebrated the April 1 opening of the foundation's Brandywine Center, the first major construction in Coatesville in more than three decades.

In July, more than 600 local residents attended our Brandywine Center block party and health fair, while nearly 300 people attended an open house on Aug. 26. That was the final event in a series of celebrations marking the culmination of a three-year-long community collaboration that led to the construction of the impressive building. The result: access to low-cost, affordable medical, dental and behavioral health providers, as well as 24 low-income senior housing units.



State Rep. Tim Hennessey, sponsor of the July Block Party, presents a proclamation recognizing the Brandywine Center opening to Frances Sheehan, foundation president and CEO.

At the open house Frances Sheehan, president and CEO of the Brandywine Health Foundation, recognized the critical roles played by the foundation's board of directors, the center's development team, local, state and federal politicians and agencies, donors, funding organizations and volunteers: "I hope all of you here today feel proud of the part you played in helping us accomplish three goals: to improve the health of those living in the greater Coatesville area, to help meet the need for affordable housing in this affluent county and to aid in the economic development of the city of Coatesville."

During the opening Sheehan revealed the naming of the Kay Conference Room in honor of the leadership gift provided by



A volunteer from Coatesville Bike Works fits a free helmet on a child at the Block Party.

Bill and Brit Kay; noted the fourth-floor terrace has been named Jimmy's Terrace in memory of the son of an anonymous donor; unveiled donor walls listing significant donors on both the first and fourth floors; and thanked folks for bringing books to the McNeil Children's Library, which provides books to children visiting the first-floor ChesPenn Health Services and Community Dental offices, and is named for Jennifer and Bob McNeil.

At the block party 200 bike helmets were distributed to children, Brandywine Hospital's teddy bear clinic distributed 100 teddy bears and more than 80 children participated in Child Guidance Research Center's canvas art project, which Joye Wentz and Kirstin Wentz Taylor of Wentz Funeral Home are sewing together into a quilt to be displayed in the center.

In addition, eight other events beginning in late April introduced representatives of the Coatesville Area School District, Brandywine Hospital, the Coatesville Ministerial Alliance, Chester County's



Mexican folklore dancers entertaining the crowds.

Human Services and Health departments, local nonprofit agencies, Brandywine Center staff, senior residents and the Coatesville-based WORD Youth Group to the center.

With more than 300 seniors on the county's waiting list for low-income housing, the apartments are now fully leased, and – as anticipated – both ChesPenn Health Services and Community Dental have seen an increase in patients since they moved into the center April 1.



Some of the more than 300 guests packing the Brandywine Center's Open House in August for tours of the facility and the unveiling of the new donor appreciation walls.

Trauma Center Initiative Gets \$25,000 Boost

The Brandywine Health Foundation has awarded a \$25,000 grant to support the Chester County Trauma Services Task Force information campaign. In July the campaign, entitled, "It's about time ... to talk about a trauma center in Chester County," launched an informative Web site at www.cctruma.org.

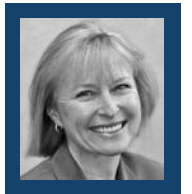
The purpose: to educate county residents about the lack of a trauma center in Chester County and how much longer it takes seriously injured residents to get trauma center care as a result. The campaign is part of an initiative led by state Rep. Carole Rubley to investigate the feasibility – including cost and funding scenarios – for establishing a trauma center at either Brandywine Hospital or The Chester County Hospital.

Besides the Web site – which the BHF urges you to visit – the campaign includes local media coverage, signage, public service announcements, information pamphlets and grassroots activities at county meetings and social events. Schubert Communications, a local marketing firm that is managing the public education effort, deserves special thanks for its extraordinary commitment to community service.

Look for a public opinion poll in the fall to ascertain Chester County residents' support for a trauma center.

From the President and CEO

County Trauma Center, Coatesville Youth Initiative: Insurance Policies for the Future



Frances M. Sheehan

Have you ever passed the scene of a serious auto accident and wondered where the victims will be taken and how long it will take to get there? Most people would assume such victims would be taken to a certified trauma center at a Chester County hospital as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately, since the trauma center at Brandywine Hospital closed primarily for financial reasons in mid-2002, Chester County residents involved in serious falls or car accidents have to be taken outside of the county. That transportation takes, on average, 70 to 75 minutes, well-above the long-established benchmark of 60 minutes – the so-called “Golden Hour” for most effective treatment. That’s also 15 to 20 minutes longer than in our surrounding Southeast Pennsylvania counties.

Chester County is the most populous county in the state, and the only one in Southeastern Pennsylvania, without a certified trauma center. Nearly 5,700 times a year, a 17 percent increase in five years, our EMS personnel do a terrific job stabilizing and treating seriously injured patients en route to out-of-county trauma centers. Meanwhile, to try to trim the time gap for the most seriously injured, expensive helicopter transports have increased 450 percent, from 120 in 2001 to 660 in 2006.

But as our population continues to increase, the need for trauma care and the increasing traffic that often makes road transportation difficult – and even increases the chances that ambulances and their accident victims will get involved in motor vehicle accidents en route – will continue to increase. The currently long drive times not only delay needed care but mean ambulances are out of service and unavailable to other emergency victims for longer periods of time.

For all of these reasons, the Brandywine Health Foundation is a strong supporter of the Chester County Trauma Center Initiative (www.cctraina.org). The initiative is currently raising awareness amongst county residents while exploring the feasibility of re-establishing a certified Level II trauma center at either Brandywine Hospital or The Chester County Hospital.

Unfortunately, estimated annual operating losses range between \$5 million and \$8 million. One possible funding source could be a dedicated county tax. No one likes more taxes, but you might view it as an insurance policy to cover you in case you do need such critical, swift care. “What is more important than our health or our life?,” wonders John Felicetti, president of Emergency Medical Services for Chester County and a member of the Chester County Trauma Services Task Force that is promoting the initiative.

“What is more important than our health or our life?”

John Felicetti, president of Emergency Medical Services for Chester County

The foundation also views the Coatesville Youth Development Initiative as sort of an insurance policy – an insurance policy to help guarantee that our local youths succeed and thrive in the face of formidable challenges while helping them avoid becoming victims of violence who need EMS transport.

Thanks to generous gifts from the William Penn Foundation, ArcelorMittal and the United Way of Chester County, we’ve put together a terrific team of consultants and an impressive, ever-growing steering committee comprised of representatives from several dozen organizations already targeting youths in the Coatesville area. They all share one of the foundation’s key priorities: helping the hardest-to-reach young people in our community succeed in life.

A strategic planning process currently underway to identify our youths’ actual needs will culminate next year in a better coordinated collaboration that will give our young people the tools, resources and programs they most need.

To paraphrase John Felicetti, what is more important than the future of our youth?

Egville Scholarship Awarded

Congratulations to Coatesville resident Amanda Van Horn, the 2008 Egville Scholarship winner. Now entering her second year at the Brandywine School of Nursing, VanHorn has been financing her own education by working part-time jobs at both a day-care facility and as an EKG technologist at Brandywine Hospital.

Established in memory of Richard Egville, M.D., a former medical director of Brandywine Hospital and well-respected family physician from Honey Brook, the scholarship for a deserving nursing student normally is worth \$8,500. This year, however, Van Horn will receive a grant of \$10,000, thanks to additional support from Barbara Egville, Dr. Egville’s widow, and the Brandywine Health Foundation, which administers the scholarship.



Barbara Egville (left), Frances Sheehan and Raida Rabah, M.D., Brandywine Hospital’s chief of staff (far right), congratulate Amanda Van Horn (third from left), the 2008 Egville Scholar.

“Since I was a small child, the medical field is all that I have ever wanted to go into,” Van Horn wrote in her application essay. “Not many three-year-olds I know will sit around and watch the gory shows of The

Learning Channel and the like, but you could not keep me away from them. I remember declaring that I wanted to be a doctor, then a surgeon, then an obstetrician – all within the span of a few years.

“I finally came to rest firmly on the career choice of nursing because I believe that it is the most fulfilling of all of the health professions ... I do not believe that any other part of the healthcare team is able to establish such an intimate connection with their patients.”

Following her scheduled graduation next year, Van Horn hopes to work as a nurse in Chester County while pursuing a bachelor’s degree and possibly a master’s degree.

Garden Party and Strawberry Festival Once Again Break Records

Once again, our deepest thanks to the countless volunteers and donors who made this past spring's Garden Party and Strawberry Festival such record-breaking successes. This year, the two events netted more than \$150,000.

We especially thank Drs. Christine and Christopher Lyons, who hosted The "Horse of a Different Color" Garden Party at their Waverton Farm in Coatesville. The party, which included the General Warren Inne's victory in the popular "Battle of the Berries at Brandywine" restaurant dessert contest, netted nearly \$58,000. That record amount exceeded the previous year's record by about \$1,000.

Despite a tornado watch that closed the Strawberry Festival during Saturday daytime hours, record crowds that exceeded 25,000 people attended the May 29-June 1 festival presented by Brandywine Hospital and Willow Financial Bank.

Of the record \$97,515 in net income generated by the festival, \$45,000 of it was given to the following valuable community groups:

Brandywine YMCA, \$8,250
Coatesville Public Library, \$4,500
Rotary Club of Coatesville, \$17,500
Thorndale Volunteer Fire Company, \$14,750

The remaining \$52,515, along with the Garden Party proceeds – a total of more than \$100,000 – will be used to continue the foundation's critical support of deserving health programs throughout the greater Coatesville area.

"The continued success of both events is a result of the special commitment of hundreds of loyal, generous supporters of this annual community tradition," says Frances M. Sheehan, president and CEO of the Brandywine Health Foundation. "We're tremendously appreciative of our donors and the more than 600 Garden Party and Strawberry Festival volunteers who are helping us target the toughest health problems our community faces."



DON'T MISS OUT ON THE 2009 GARDEN PARTY

Check the foundation's Web site, www.brandywinefoundation.org, for up-to-date details as plans are finalized.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL THURSDAY, MAY 28 – SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2009

Visit www.brandywinestrawberryfestival.com for up-to-date details about this "berry" sweet event.

A Big Thank You

Thanks to the following for ensuring the success of the Strawberry Festival and Garden Party:

Co-Presenting Sponsors:

Brandywine Hospital and Willow Financial Bank

Strawberry Festival Host Sponsor:

Brandywine Hospital

Strawberry Festival Co-chairs:

Judy Good and Chris Saello

Designer and Manager of

www.brandywinestrawberryfestival.com:

Julie Friedman Bacchini,
Neptune Moon Design

The Strawberry Festival, Marketing Advisory and Garden Party committees

Willow Financial Bank:

Festival cash management coordination

Garden Party Co-chairs:

Mary Holleran and Kathy Lovell

Garden Party Hosts:

Drs. Christine and Christopher Lyons

Artist and Designer of Promotional Materials:

Bonnie Timmons and Twist'nShout

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Capital Manufacturing (Signage)

Cenero LLC

Citadel (Strawberry Shortcake Sponsor)

Commerce Bank (Berry Blast Zone Sponsor)

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Liberty Anesthesia Associates, P.C.

Sam Slater and Lornie Forbes

Springbank Foundation

"We're tremendously appreciative of our donors and the more than 600 Garden Party and Strawberry Festival volunteers who are helping us target the toughest health problems our community faces."



Denise James, Marketing Advisory Committee chairperson and Garden Party committee member, with Bill Johnson.



State Rep. Chris Ross (left); his wife, Cecilia Ross; Dallas Krapf; and Ed Simpson, Coatesville city councilman, at the party.



Christine Lyons, M.D., Garden Party host (left) with Patrick Byrne, proprietor of Malvern's General Warren Inn; and Garden Party co-chairs Kathy Lovell and Mary Holleran. The entry of Byrne's restaurant in the "Battle of the Berries at Brandywine" local restaurant dessert contest – an old-fashioned buttermilk strawberry shortcake (pastry chef Denise Schott's grandmother's recipe with a little twist!) – was voted best by the guests.



Brandywine Center an *Affordable Housing Finance* Award Finalist

The Brandywine Center was chosen as one of three finalists in *Affordable Housing Finance* magazine's annual Reader's Choice contest to select the best affordable housing developments in the U.S.

With its 24 low-income senior apartments sandwiched between primary care, dental and mental health providers, Regional Housing Legal Services (RHLS) nominated the Brandywine Center in the magazine's Master Planned/Mixed Use category and it was featured in an article in the magazine's August issue as one of three finalists in that category. Overall, the center is one of 32 finalists culled from 135 nominations.

"Not many health clinics come with apartments on top," Liz Enochs wrote in the magazine. "For that matter, not many health clinics come with primary-care providers, mental health specialists, and dentists in the same building, either.

"But that's what Brandywine Health Foundation provided in this formerly thriving Rust Belt town that lost thousands of jobs over the past few decades as the local steel mill, its largest employer, shrank 90 percent in the face of global competition."

The magazine's subscribers had until Aug. 26 to vote on their favorite project in each category, as well as an overall winner, with the winners to be extensively profiled in the magazine's November issue.

Congratulations to all on the Brandywine Center's development team for their contributions to making the project a finalist. To read the complete August magazine article, please visit www.housingfinance.com and search the archives section for the August issue.

Make a Difference with United Way Donation

When considering where to direct your United Way gift, it's easy to make a healthy difference in the greater Coatesville area – just choose the Brandywine Health Foundation in the United Way Donor Choice Campaign and the Combined Federal Campaign. For donations to the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania only, please designate your donation to the foundation's code number: 14448. For the Combined Federal Campaign, please designate your donation to the foundation's code number: 55833.

Also, to allow us to record and acknowledge your gift, please send a copy of your Donor Choice form to the Brandywine Health Foundation, 50 South First Avenue, Coatesville, PA 19382. Thank you so much for making health a priority in your neighborhood.

Volunteer Cerise James Quickly Makes Impact



In a matter of months Cerise James has become a vital volunteer for the Brandywine Health Foundation. After hearing about the Strawberry Festival, the Downingtown resident placed a call to the foundation and quickly was organizing a group of volunteers to help with the mailing of invitations to this spring's Garden Party, then worked in the strawberry shortcake booth at the Strawberry Festival. Next, James successfully contacted a number of local businesses who supported the July block party celebrating the opening of the Brandywine Center. The day of the block party, she was responsible for vendor and exhibitor registration.

James, whose husband Thomas is from the Coatesville area, says that interacting with other volunteers and the foundation staff has been a wonderful experience.

"I like to stay busy and make a positive difference in the community," says James, who has been impressed with both the foundation and the Brandywine Center. "The concept of four providers under one roof with senior housing for the community is a very inclusive concept. Not only is it a great start for this community but it's also a model for other communities facing similar economic challenges."

James, who has a master's degree in public health, is currently pursuing a foreign medical degree and a master's degree in business administration. "My experience with the foundation has motivated me even more to pursue my medical degree and to serve the community," she says.

You Too Can Enjoy the Brandywine Consignment Shop



Ann Katich organizes items in the Brandywine Consignment Shop.

Always looking for a good deal on vintage antiques and old furniture she can refinish, a year-and-a-half ago Ann Katich stopped by the Brandywine Consignment Shop in Downingtown.

She's still shopping at the shop, the proceeds of which benefit the Brandywine Health Foundation. For example, she has purchased some items for her two children's college dorm rooms. But now she also works there one day a week as a volunteer, and she has become the consignment shop committee's vice chairperson.

"It's good to volunteer for your community," explains the Exton resident, who began volunteering at the shop a year ago when her second and last child, Rob, left for college. "I've volunteered all my life and I really enjoy the great atmosphere in the shop, with a lot of people regularly coming to both donate and purchase items.

"And I think the foundation is fabulous. At the open house of the Brandywine Center I toured the facilities, and it's a great opportunity for people to have the healthcare that they need and for the elderly to have a nice place to live."

So if you're looking for a bargain or have clothing, household items or furniture to donate for a good cause, consider the Brandywine Consignment Shop. The shop has something for everyone, with new items arriving almost daily. It is one of the few shops to carry not only quality ladies clothing but clothing for children and men as well. An interesting selection of vintage, costume and fine jewelry and household items in all price ranges, from everyday glassware to fine crystal, can always be found. If you are furnishing your first apartment or on the hunt for antiques and collectables of all types, you might just find it at the Brandywine Consignment Shop. Check often since great bargains don't stay on the shelves for long.

The shop is located just north of the Route 30 Bypass on Route 113 at 368 Uwchlan Avenue in Downingtown. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Wednesday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

New volunteers like Katich also are needed and welcome any time, so join today. For more details, contact Nancy Oliver at 610-269-8622 or visit www.brandywinefoundation.org.

Your Oral Health Mirrors Your Overall Health



Jaclyn Gleber, RDH, Ph.D., a registered dental hygienist, is the director of education and outreach for Chester County Community Dental Center and the president of the Pennsylvania Dental Hygienists' Association. *The Giving Connection* recently spoke with Gleber about oral health.

The Giving Connection: Are there links between oral health and overall health?

Gleber: Yes. The mouth is one area of the body where symptoms of many diseases tend to show up first, including diabetes, anemia, nutritional deficiencies, leukemia and oral cancer.

GC: Are there any direct links to other diseases?

Gleber: Yes. The bacteria and infection that cause gum disease get into the blood stream and lead to an increased risk for heart disease and stroke. Plaque in your blood stream and plaque in your mouth have very similar ingredients. Also, if you have diabetes, the presence of gum infections makes it hard to control blood sugars, and pregnant women with gum disease have a seven to eight times greater risk of giving birth to premature and/or low-birth-weight babies. Some research even indicates links between gum disease and Alzheimer's disease, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoporosis.

GC: How often should a person get his or her teeth cleaned?

Gleber: You should have a thorough cleaning twice a year. Your hygienist will also conduct a gum infection risk assessment, which includes looking for untreated gum disease, which increases your risk for heart attack and stroke, as well as looking for any family history of heart disease, tobacco use and high cholesterol or high blood pressure. Untreated gum disease combined with any of these four risk factors significantly increases your health risk.

GC: What else does a hygienist do?

Gleber: At least once a year during a cleaning we will conduct an oral cancer exam, looking for sores, white or red patches or little wart-like projections that may be pre-cancerous. Since four eyes are better than two, your dentist will conduct

a similar oral cancer exam to check for lesions. The earlier lesions are found, the better the prognosis.

GC: How often should a person brush and floss their teeth?

Gleber: You should brush your teeth twice a day and floss once a day at least five times a week. Most people brush their teeth, but only about 25 percent of people floss regularly. But brushing alone isn't effective in preventing gum disease because bacteria happily live and multiply between your teeth and under your gum line, where only floss can remove it.

GC: How early should children begin brushing?

Gleber: Start your child off even before teeth appear by gently massaging their gums with a washcloth wrapped around a finger. Get your child into the habit of brushing as soon as the first tooth erupts.

GC: When should a child make his or her first dental visit?

Gleber: Have your child see a dentist by the time they are two years old.

GC: What about sealants?

Gleber: Sealants are a thin plastic coating applied to the chewing surfaces of the molars and pre-molars, the back teeth, to keep bacteria from getting trapped in deep crevices in the teeth. At Community Dental, we offer free sealants four times a year.

GC: What effect does diet have on oral health?

Gleber: It's important to eat healthy food and not expose your teeth that much to sugars. Every time you put sugars in your mouth for 20 minutes the bacteria in your mouth eats the sugar and produces acid that eats into your tooth enamel and can cause cavities.

Youth Development Initiative Attracting Tremendous Support

Thanks to extremely generous grants of \$82,500 from the William Penn Foundation, \$20,000 from ArcelorMittal and \$10,000 from the United Way of Chester County, the community planning process geared towards launching the Coatesville Youth Development Initiative is well underway.

Chaired by foundation board member Harry Lewis and underscoring one of the major components of the foundation's strategic plan, the initiative's purpose is to help the hardest-to-reach young people in our community succeed in life.

Evette Banfield, the program director of Urban Ventures Group, a Philadelphia-based consulting group that specializes in rebuilding communities, is heading the planning efforts. They are expected to result in an extensive community plan next June. Banfield's consultant team includes Chaya Scott, a Coatesville resident who formerly was the executive director of Phoenixville Area Positive Alternatives nonprofit organization, and Howard Tucker, executive director of the West Philadelphia Childcare Network.

During the coming months various types of data regarding the status of education, health, youth well-being and public safety will be collected and analyzed. "This will enable us," says Banfield, "to get a true sense of how youths are faring within communities in the Coatesville Area School District."

That information will be used, she says, "to develop a powerful plan built upon existing community assets, strengthening programs that work and building an informal network to share information and ideas to bridge any gaps we do identify."

The response from the community, says Scott, "is growing by leaps and bounds." So far, she says, 64 people representing 30 different agencies and organizations that serve area youth have attended steering committee meetings.

Barnes & Noble Book Drive to Benefit Popular McNeil Children's Library

Many children who visit the Brandywine Center's medical and dental offices are delightedly taking home hundreds of new and gently used children's books from the McNeil Children's Library. Each time a child visits the center's offices, he or she may take home and keep a book.

The demand is so great that the foundation encourages you to donate such books to help the library re-stock its shelves. Indeed, we'd like to thank the many people who dropped off books when they attended the Brandywine

Center open house in late August. Donations are welcome during office hours at either the Brandywine Center, 744 E. Lincoln Highway, or the Brandywine Health Foundation at 50 South First Avenue, both in Coatesville.

And now, just in time for the forthcoming holidays, we're excited to announce the McNeil Children's Library will be this year's beneficiary of the annual holiday book drive sponsored by Barnes & Noble on Main Street in Exton, Pa. Each year, the store chooses a non-profit literacy

program in need of books to benefit from the drive.

Beginning Nov. 1, books will be available for purchase on behalf of the McNeil Children's Library. Bookplates will be available to personalize your gift, and the donated books can conveniently be left for the library in a collection box at the store's cash-wrap desk.

Please join us in giving deserving children the gift of reading and having a book to call their own.

Milestones

The foundation's board of directors is pleased to welcome two new members: Cleo Alston and Carolyn E. Johnson.



Cleo Alston



Carolyn E. Johnson

Alston is C.E.O. and president of Alstrun L.L.C. He, his wife, Doris, and one of their two daughters, Erica, own and operate five McDonald's restaurant franchisees. The 17th of 18 children, Alston was born in Coatesville in 1946 and now resides in Downingtown. A 1966 graduate of Scott Senior High School, Alston served as a U.S. Army sergeant in Vietnam and graduated with a degree in sociology from Lincoln University in 1978.

After working in the personnel department of McDonald's Family Restaurants for 12 years, in 1992 he became a McDonald's franchisee. Between 2002 and 2006 he served as the president of the McDonald's Black Owner Operator's Association. Currently he serves on the advertising committee and the board of directors of the McDonald's Philadelphia Combined Owner Operators' Partnership as well as the board of directors of the Ronald McDonald's Children's Charities and the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Coatesville, where he was baptized.

Since 2001 Johnson, an attorney from Pomeroy, has been the executive director of Community Impact Legal Services Inc. in West Chester. CLIS is a private, non-profit program that provides free civil legal services in Bucks, Chester and Montgomery counties to low-income individuals and families. She also serves as president of the Coatesville Center for Community Health.

Between 1993 and 2000 she was the executive director of Legal Aid of Chester County Inc., and previously served as a staff attorney at Keystone Legal Services Inc. in State College, Pa. She was also executive director of a summer youth employment and training program at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., and a research analyst and legislative intern with the Tennessee Senate Health and Human Resources Committee.

A member of Phi Beta Kappa, she graduated from Fisk University in Nashville in 1982 and earned her law degree in 1986 at Howard University.

She has been honored with a number of awards, including the March of Dimes 2001 Public Service Award, the Chester County Bar Foundation Award, Don't Borrow Trouble Suburban Philadelphia Award and the United Way of Chester County Community Partner Award.

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The Giving Connection

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