

THE SOCIETY PAGES

Bi-Monthly Newsletter for Supporters of The Society of Professional Women

FEBRUARY 2023



On Thursday, February 16, The Society of Professional Women featured Executive Head Coach and Entrepreneur Christine Gallagher at The Radnor Valley Country Club.

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“Culture happens whether we plan for it or not.” - Christine Gallagher



As the largest program at The Main Line Chamber of Commerce (MLCC) for over a decade, the Society of Professional Women (SPW), has continued to advance its mission to accelerate the advancement and expand the influence of women leaders of all professions and generations, strengthen our business community, and support the region’s non-profit organizations.

We were thrilled to sell out our first Lunch & Share event of 2023, with a growing wait list hoping to join us. As many of you may remember, SPW would sell out our events frequently, and our waiting lists were common. Of course, the pandemic limited attendance initially with virtual attendees and then at in-person events. The good news is that the MLCC and SPW are seeing an increasingly strong return of individuals wanting to be together. The enthusiasm for personal interaction at our last two events was obvious, and we are optimistic that many of our events moving forward will be equally successful. In an environment in which we see increased attention being paid to mental health, bringing together motivated and successful business people is energizing and empowering.

Our keynote speaker this month, Christine Gallagher of FeedForward Coach, shared the importance of culture within organizations to win the hearts and minds of their employees. Culture is established,

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Director MESSAGE

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communicated and executed by leadership. When a company invests time and money into employees, it is reflected in the organization. We learned that it's less about helping employees do their job better and more about helping them be better people. When individuals have a purpose and can use their talents fully, greater happiness and increased productivity are among the results.

The support of our members and sponsors makes this possible. Those who invest time and money into SPW demonstrate that they value talent and seek to nurture inclusive environments. There are still sponsorships available to support this important work and share it with your team. Please reach out to me personally at nstephenson@mlcc.org if you are interested in learning more.

I hope to see you at our next event on Thursday, March 23rd, for "Mindset To Asset: The Power of W.O.R.K." with Dr. Jamisa McIvor-Bennett.

Nicole Stephenson
Executive Director, Society of Professional Women (SPW)
The Main Line Chamber of Commerce
nstephenson@mlcc.org

Featured EVENT

Trademark

Lead Inspired, Live Inspired™ Thursday, February 16, 2023



Christine Gallagher at FeedForward Coach recently shared the importance of culture within organizations to win the hearts and minds of employees.



Integrate for Good founder and Executive Director Bev Weinberg spoke of the nonprofit's values and mission.



Comcast Business Enterprise Account Manager Lisa Harmon Michalas (pictured center-right) presented the donation check to featured nonprofit, Integrate for Good Founder and Executive Director Bev Wienberg (pictured Center-left) alongside SPW Executive Director Nicole Stephenson (left) and Integrate for Good Host of Hanging Out With Heather, Heather Michaelson.

For a recording please contact
Executive Director, Nicole Stephenson at nstephenson@mlcc.org

Past EVENT

Lunch and Share

Mastering Intention Wednesday, January 25, 2023



Shana Francesca at Concinnate provided an insightful and thought-provoking presentation about how to "Master Intention" by exploring the meanings of intention, alignment and excellence in our daily lives through the intersectionality between our individual experience both personally and professionally.



Firsttrust Bank Assistant Vice President Community Banking Syreeta Smith shared a few words about our Champion Sponsor and introduced Shana.



Thank you to Autograph Brasserie for graciously hosting the event.

Fun FACTS

31 Little-Known Black History Facts You May Not Have Learned in School OprahDaily.com

- Phillis Wheatley was the first African American to publish a book of poetry, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, in 1773.
- "Bars Fight," written by poet and activist Lucy Terry in 1746, was the first known poem written by a Black American.
- *Clotel: The President's Daughter* was the first novel published by an African American, in 1853. It was written by abolitionist and lecturer William Wells Brown.
- The creator of Black History Month was historian Carter G. Woodson. Often referred to as the "Father of Black History," he was notably the second African American to graduate from Harvard University with a doctorate degree.
- After years of remarkable work as an attorney, Thurgood Marshall became the first African American to serve in the U.S. Supreme Court. Officially nominated by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967, he served as a justice until 1991.
- In 1854, John Mercer Langston notably became the first African American lawyer in the state of Ohio. He went on to serve as the dean of the law department and vice president of Howard University.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. started as a freshman at Morehouse College at the young age of 15.
- After attending Barnard College, Lila Fenwick graduated from Harvard Law School in 1956, becoming the first African American woman to graduate from the prestigious legal institution. She also later studied at the London School of Economics and worked at the United Nations.
- Guion Bluford became the first Black person in space in 1983, and would spend 688 hours there over the course of his career as an astronaut.
- Computer scientist Lisa Gelobter assisted with the 1995 creation of Shockwave, essential technology that led to the development of web animation. (So we have her to thank for GIFs.)

Learn more



FIRSTRUST BANK NAMED IN PHILADELPHIA BUSINESS JOURNAL LIST, “FACES OF PHILANTHROPY 2023”

Firstrust Bank is proud to be recognized in the Philadelphia Business Journal's 2023 Faces of Philanthropy program through our partnership with Anti-Defamation League Philadelphia 30 Partnerships in Greater Philadelphia were nominated by the public and selected by the Business Journal's editorial board based on community impact over the past year, as well as for the organizations' body of charitable work over multiple years.

Read more 

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Using Technology to Power New Possibilities

Technology is the backbone of a company's infrastructure and gives organizations the ability to prepare for what's next. As hybrid and remote work becomes increasingly popular, businesses of all sizes are evaluating their relationship with technology to reinvent how to achieve collaboration, while keeping pace with innovation.

Flexible work environments require reliable connectivity, security and agility to support a workforce that may be spread out across the state, country or globe. Without proper technology, companies' risk being outdated and limiting collaboration among employees to a physical setting and specific time of the day. When collaboration is restricted, so is innovation. To avoid this pitfall, organizations need to adopt an agile, cross-functional operating model powered by connectivity to support frictionless engagements and encourage teamwork.

The key to driving innovation is the integration and management of business resources and processes. For example, using fully integrated management and reporting tools for unified communications, companies can seamlessly add applications to meet business and user goals. By implementing a unified communications solution and reducing the burden for IT teams, organizations can reallocate those resources to other activities rather than just hardware and system maintenance and upgrades.

Additionally, when it comes to any business network, security should not be an afterthought. According to the 2021 Comcast Business DDoS Threat Report, 2021 was another record year for distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks. While the 9.84 million DDoS attacks in 2021 was lower than the 10.1 million reported in 2020, it still represented a 14% increase over 2019.

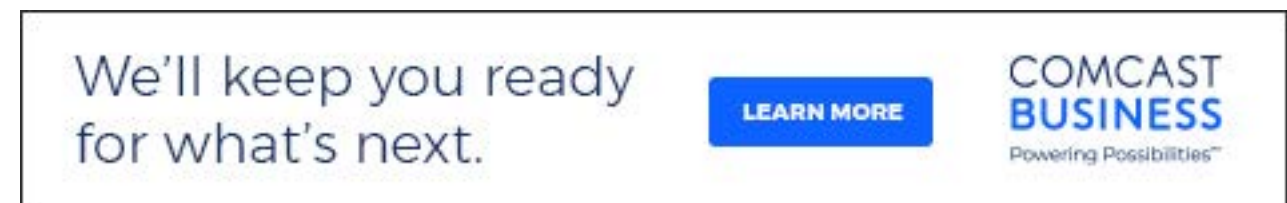
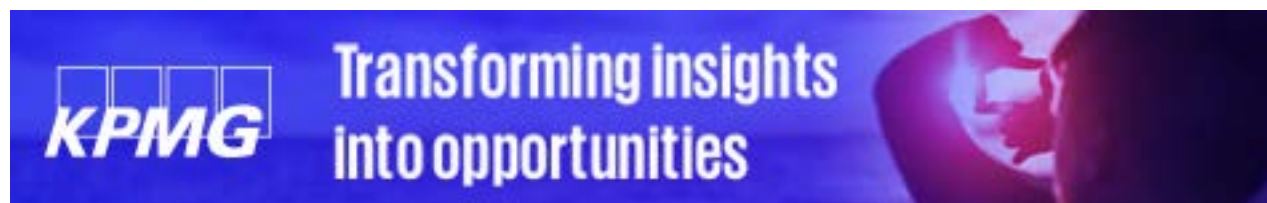
Remote connectivity and the increased hiring pool have heightened concerns about network security, and as security perimeters evolve, every access point and network element becomes a potential risk for security breaches. The growing importance and evolution of networks beyond traditional perimeters are driving companies to rethink how to best integrate networks with cybersecurity. Security protocol guidelines must be

put in place and followed from the start to determine how to execute best, review and protect systems and assets, wherever employees may be located.

To enable collaboration and innovation, network reliability and connectivity are key. If network infrastructure is not secure or does not have the bandwidth to support organizations, the business's ability to transform and innovate will be blocked. When building a network meant to enable innovation, organizations need to think about their strategy holistically – it needs to allow reliable connectivity while blocking cybersecurity threats no matter where employees are located. Remember, collaboration, connectivity, innovation and security work best together.

Read more 

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2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



MLCC GOLD MEMBERS \$45 • MLCC MEMBERS \$50 • NON-MLCC MEMBERS \$60



MINDSET TO ASSET: THE POWER OF W.O.R.K.

Dr. Jamisa McIvor-Bennett, *CEO and Keynote Speaker*

Thursday, March 23, 2023

By age 27, Dr. Jamisa McIvor-Bennett has become one of the most powerful and self-starting female millennial entrepreneurs that have taken the real estate industry by storm. Dr. Bennett has mastered the art of trust building, character development, and motivating audiences by bridging the gap between mindset development and financial literacy. Gain insight on how to transform your way of thinking, apply knowledge and the action behind it to create power and wealth. Leading by example and through experience with W.O.R.K., which stands for Wisdom, Opportunity, Resources and Knowledge, has always been her approach. And, with the right mindset, the destination will always be in your control to maximize the result.

11:00AM-1:30PM | THE DESMOND HOTEL MALVERN | FEATURED NONPROFIT: CASAY YOUTH ADVOCATES INC. DELAWARE & CESTER COUNTIES



LUNCH AND SHARE: WINNING IN YOUR OWN COURT: 10 LAWS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAREER WITHOUT BURNING OUT OR SELLING OUT

Dena Lefkowitz, Esq., *PCC, Achievement By Design*

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Join Dena Lefkowitz as she shares the 10 laws she developed during her 20-plus years as a successful attorney and subsequently as a coach. You will learn how to assess where you are, determine what needs to change to get where you want to be and create a plan to do so. Every situation has its a solution, and you will learn how to find your own.

11:00AM-1:30PM | VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED | REGISTER AT WWW.SPWMAINLINE.COM



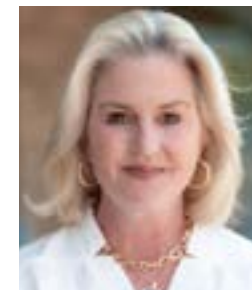
THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BETTER BUSINESS OUTCOMES: HOW AND WHY SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENTS ARE GOOD FOR BUSINESS

Susan Jin Davis, *Social Impact Officer and Senior Executive*

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Susan Jin Davis has 30 years of experience in the telecommunications, media, entertainment and technology industries. As Comcast NBCUniversal's first Chief Sustainability Officer, Ms. Jin Davis was responsible for identifying sustainable strategies and priorities and for implementing the company's Sustainability Program across all of their business units and functions. With creativity and innovation, she transformed ideas into frameworks and necessary solutions. She is also a well-experienced and well-respected executive in diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. This engaging interview will identify how businesses can do more to positively impact the communities they serve and how that translates into better business practices and outcomes.

8:30AM-11:00AM | VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED | FEATURED NONPROFIT: FOOD MOXIE



HOW THE CEO WHO BUILT THE CONSTITUTION CENTER HAS FOSTERED GROWTH IN THE MALE-DOMINATED CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Emily Bittenbender, *Owner and Managing Partner of Bittenbender Construction, LP*

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Bittenbender Construction is one of the only women-owned and operated General Contractors in the region and will be celebrating its 20th year in business this Fall. According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2021 only 9.9% of construction professionals were women. Emily's career focus has always been the Design, Construction and Renovations of public buildings and spaces. The Philadelphia chapter of the General Building Contractors Association named Emily as its new chairwoman, the first female to hold the top post in the organization's 124-year history. During a live interview, Emily will be sharing how inclusive and diverse infrastructure investments support closing the opportunity gaps in our region and beyond.

11:00AM-1:30PM | RADNOR VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB | FEATURED NONPROFIT: GIRLS SPARK

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LUNCH AND SHARE: CRAZY ABOUT MONEY, HOW EMOTIONS CONFUSE OUR MONEY CHOICES AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

Maggie Baker, Ph.D., Psychologist-Financial Therapist
Thursday, July 20, 2023

Many of us are crazy about money. We spend too much of it and save too little. We hoard it and we sink into debt over it. We lavish it and are stingy with it. We lie about it and fight over it. We think about it all the time and we avoid thinking about it at all. What makes us act this way? In today's economic climate, it is crucial that we understand how we make our money decisions and how we can improve them. We like to believe that our choices and actions are guided by rationality and common sense. But in fact, reason and common sense often have little to do with our money behavior. If our money emotions and beliefs are balanced and clear, we will act wisely with it. If our feelings/beliefs are confused, we will make poor decisions, creating financial havoc and deep unhappiness. If you want to build wealth, if you want to manage money effectively, or if you just want to stop worrying about it, you can learn to do that. Dr. Maggie Baker uses real and composite cases drawn from her 30 years of psychology practice to share how.

11:00AM-1:30PM | VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED | REGISTER AT WWW.SPWMAINLINE.COM



THE WAY OF A LOVABLE LEADER

Jeff Gibbard, *Superhero, Strategist and Speaker*
Thursday, September 14, 2023

We need extraordinary leaders now more than ever yet new leaders rarely get the guidance they need to thrive. In one hour, you will learn a profound, yet simple framework for becoming a great leader who inspires loyalty and has the tools to build a world-class team. Jeff Gibbard is the author of *The Lovable Leader*, a book about building great teams with trust, respect and kindness. This talk is for all those who aspire to be the type of leader that people will move mountains to follow, who want to live their purpose, who value collaboration and the joy of watching others reach their potential but struggle with knowing the steps that it takes to get there. Learn how to stay in the "leadership zone" every single day and stop guessing what to do next.

11:00AM-1:30PM | VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED | REGISTER AT WWW.SPWMAINLINE.COM



LUNCH AND SHARE: FROM CRITIC TO CHAMPION: CLAIM YOUR LEADERSHIP VOICE

Cheryl Rice, MS, PCC, *President of Cheryl Rice Leadership*
Thursday, October 19, 2023

It is hard to take risks, increase your influence, and ask for what you want when plagued by self-doubt and self-criticism. Yet if you want to reach your goals, make a difference, and feel truly connected to yourself and others, you must learn how to quell the voice of the inner critic and turn up the volume on your inner champion –your abiding voice of wisdom, wit, and self-endorsement. For over 20 years as coach, speaker, and writer, Cheryl has helped women cultivate leadership presence, develop confidence, and establish mindful approaches to work and life.

11:00AM 1:30PM | VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED | REGISTER AT WWW.SPWMAINLINE.COM

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