



# Regional Reporter

Volume 22, Issue 144

October, 2022

Three Mon Valley Businesses were honored along with Retired Chamber Executive Director, Debra Keefer, at the 2022 Annual MVRCC Awards Gala. Nearly 80 guests were in attendance for the celebration which was held on the Gateway Clipper Princess Cruise Line. The boat set sail for an evening on the Mon at 6pm. The Captain's Dinner was served and an open bar was held for the first hour of the cruise. A brief awards ceremony was conducted by Executive Director of the Chamber, Leanna Spada. "This event is by far one of our favorites because it celebrates our members," Spada remarked, "After all they are the whole reason the chamber exists." The 2022 Outstanding Business Development Award was presented to Diann Donaldson, owner of Jazzy Boutique located at 1049 Broad Avenue in Belle Vernon. This award is given to a business that has successfully expanded a product line and shown significant growth. Since opening its doors in 2016. The 2022 Excellence in Business Award was awarded to Joseph's Nursery and Garden Center located at 921 Rostraver Street, Monessen, a fourth generation family business operating since 1954. This award recognizes a business that continually and consistently provides outstanding products and services as well as demonstrates longevity operating over 20 years. The 2022 Regional Service Award went to Life's Work of Western PA. Edward Frye, Director, Mon Valley Division, accepted the award. Life's Work, since its inception, has serviced a broad range of individuals seeking to become part of the work force who have employment barriers. This agency services over 2,000 employees a year ranging from the ages of 14 to adult. The top honor of the night went to Debra Keefer, the recipient of the "Shining Star" Award. Keefer's career spans over 4 decades and includes a 21 year tenure at the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce before retiring in 2018. Debbie was instrumental in the economic growth projects in the Mon Valley during this time as well as playing a major role in the restructuring of the chamber to become regionalized. Today she is still involved in many community organizations such as the Belle Vernon Rotary, Washington County Community Foundation Board and serves as the Administrator for both the Charleroi Park Trustees and Plaza Management for the Chamber.



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## New Memberships

**Country Care Manor**  
205 Coldren Rd  
Fayette City, PA 15438  
724-326-4909  
countrycaremanor.net

**Collin's Corner**  
407 Fallowfield Ave  
Charleroi, PA 15022  
724-565-5620  
www.facebook.com/  
collinscornerlb

**Ripepi Winery**  
93 Van Voorhis Lane  
Monongahela, PA 15063  
724-292-8351  
www.ripepiwine.com

**Wild Buffalo Trading Co.**  
55 Gosai Dr  
Bentleyville, PA 15314  
724-350-1840  
Wildbuffalotradingco.com

**Ace of Spades Fitness**  
301 Fallowfield Ave  
Charleroi, PA 15022  
724-808-8148  
www.facebook.com/  
aceofspadesfitness

**Domenico's On Grand**  
1565 Grand Blvd  
Monessen, PA 15062  
724-314-8062  
domenicongsongrand.com

**Boarded Up**  
417 S. Center Ave  
New Stanton, PA 15672  
724-331-0026  
www.boardedupdiy.com

**Poochtique & Spaw**  
725 Main Street  
Bentleyville, PA 15314  
412-997-8771  
discoverpethealth.com

**Rollin Stogies**  
Jeff Dascenzo  
412-897-9441

## Ribbon Cuttings

**Life'sWork**  
of Western PA

**Life's Work, Mon Valley Division  
Eastgate 9, Monessen**

Tim Park, President & CEO and Ed Frye, Director, Mon Valley Division. Life's Work renovated the old Valley Independent building in Monessen, and made a beautiful facility.



**Zero Café & Market**  
**790 Tri County Lane, Belle Vernon**

L to R: Katie Mixter, Tommy Mixter III, Tom Mixter, Jr

Zero Café & Market is a vegan/vegetarian café that offers traditional and plant based breakfast and lunch.

They are open Saturday through Thursday, 7am to 3pm. Closed on Fridays.



## Chamber Out and About



Mon Valley Alliance 6th Annual Luncheon at the Monongahela Aquatorium. Leanna with Jamie Colecchi



MMVTA announces a new stop at Spartan Surgical Center



September's Monthly Member Meeting. Max Miller discussing IGNITE Business Incubator and Co-Working Space.



October's Monthly Member Meeting. Reimagine Main Street gave a great workshop on Social Media, and how to get better results for your business

## Upcoming Events

**October 15, 9am—2pm**  
514 McKean Ave, Charleroi  
**Blood Drive**  
Sponsored by the Chamber

**vitalant** 

**November 5, 11am**  
**Toys for Tots, Stuff a Bus**  
BV Walmart

Bring an unwrapped Toy  
Sponsored By:  
Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority  
Mon Valley Jeepers  
Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce



**October 30, 12:30 pm**  
Giant Oaks Winery  
3540 Washington Ave  
Finleyville  
**Spiritual Medium**  
**Reading**

**November 12, 9am**  
**Magical Mystery Tour**  
Board @ MMVTA  
1300 McKean Ave, Charleroi

**Mystery**  
**Tour!**

**December 1**  
**Christmas Party**  
Stay Tuned for  
**Details**





# Awards Event



Outstanding Business Development  
Jazzy Boutique  
Armand Ferrara, Diann Donaldson



Regional Service Award  
Life's Work  
Armand Ferrara, Ed Frye



"Shining Star"  
Armand Ferrara, Debra Keefer, Leanna Spada



Excellence in Business Award  
Joseph's Nursery & Garden Center  
L-R, Lennie Boso, Kristen Keller, George Joseph, Michael Joseph, Rick Malaybi



Jeff Imbrescia, Kim Claassen



Kelly & Brian Moore



Denise & Dave Mornak





Tom Vilella



Ashley Seman, April Cacia, Jamie Colecchi



Mike Tetteris, Armand Ferrara, Rep. Eric Davanzo

**Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors for making  
our 2022 MVRCC Awards Gala Possible**

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### **MESSAGES FROM SPIRIT**

*with medium*

**Carole J. Obley**  
**Soulvisions, LLC**



Experience evidential mediumship through this outstanding program that offers you the opportunity to connect with loved ones who have crossed over. Professional spiritual medium and author Carole J. Obley will deliver accurate, specific, evidential messages from your loved ones in spirit. Come with your questions about the Other Side and be open to receive healing in a powerful group setting! \* Due to the nature of mediumship, messages to all in attendance cannot be guaranteed.

**October 30, 2022**

**12:30pm – 4pm**

**Giant Oaks Winery**  
**3540 Washington Ave**  
**Finleyville, PA 15332**

**Cost is \$55 – Only 30 Slots Available**

**Heavy hors d'oeuvre, book signing, books for purchase and of course Giant Oaks Wine will be available.**

Register by calling or emailing MVRCC@724-483-3507 or  
members@mvrchamber.org



Carole J. Obley, Soulvisions, LLC - is a professional spiritual medium from Pittsburgh, Pa. who has done over 14,000 readings for people seeking confirmation, guidance, and healing from the spirit world. She has been the subject of newspaper articles, spoken on both radio and TV and is the author of four books on mediumship and healing. She has also published articles on spiritual and metaphysical subjects and taught workshops at Lilydale, N.Y., the largest US center for Spiritualism. She has produced audio programs to help people with spiritual development and offers webinars on intuition and mediumship. [www.soulvisions.net](http://www.soulvisions.net).

## Upcoming Events



Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

### **Love Local Mystery Bus Tour**

**Saturday, November 12th, 2022, 9am—approx. 5pm**

**Board the Bus at 9am at the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority**

**1300 McKean Ave, Charleroi**

**Cost is \$45, Space is limited**

***Attendees will board 2 buses and travel to several "Bus Stops" in the Mon Valley. Lunch will be provided.***

#### ***Several Ways to Participate:***

1. Be a Stop or Pop Up—Stops are \$100, Pop Ups are \$50 (Pop Ups consist of a member that is out of the area of the tour but would still like to participate by setting up at one of the stops with a small sampling of what your company offers.
2. Provide a Basket for the Chinese Auction with your company name. Will be included in after event advertising.
3. Provide an item for the Swag Bag. Provide 100 small items for in the Participant's Swag Bags that are handed out at the beginning of the Tour. Will be mentioned during the bus tour.
4. Be a Participant. Cost is \$45. Call the Chamber to reserve your spot and arrange payment.

**Any Questions, Call the Chamber at 724-483-3507 or stop in during office hours at 1 Chamber Plaza, Charleroi**





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**REGIONAL REPORTER**

One Chamber Plaza  
Charleroi, PA 15022  
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[members@mvrchamber.org](mailto:members@mvrchamber.org)

**Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce**

One Chamber Plaza, Charleroi, PA 15022  
724-483-3507 E-mail: [members@mvrchamber.org](mailto:members@mvrchamber.org)  
website: [www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)

President: Armand Ferrara

V. President: Rick Mudrick

Treasurer: Deborah Buck

Secretary: Diann Donaldson

Executive Committee Member at Large: Alyssa Mendola

**Chamber Staff:**

Executive Director: Leanna Spada

Executive Assistant: Melissa Trombley

Solicitor: Bassi, Vreeland & Assoc, PC

We regret any errors or omissions in this newsletter.



We deliver unique and cost effective products and services in these key areas:

- ✦ Health Insurance and Employee Benefits
- ✦ ACA/ERISA Compliance
- ✦ Business Insurance
- ✦ Energy Purchasing
- ✦ Discount Programs

**We are here to help.  
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Watch the US mail, e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and our Chamber Website for information on all Chamber and Members news  
[www.mvrchamber.org](http://www.mvrchamber.org)