New members in 2018 of the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce:

- The Young Agency
- Uprising Physical Therapy
- Main Street Sports Bar & Grill
- The Frisk Law Firm
- DiMarco Construction Co.
- Milk House Meats
- Kathy’s Barber Shop
- Metro PCS
- Vasudevan Rajasenan
- Davita, Ellwood City
- Fombell General Store & Grille
- Wetmore Specialized Plumbing Services DBA Roto Rooter
- Lindy Paving
- Ellport Diner
- Velocity Magnetics
- Lawrence County Social Services
- MedExpress Urgent Care

Springing into action!

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Don’t miss updates on facebook.com/EllwoodCityChamber/
By William V. Foley
For The Chamber

ELLWOOD CITY – Her selection as one of the Top 5 under-40 Young Professionals of Lawrence County highlights not her own achievements, Caroline Golmic says, but those of “all the work being done by many volunteers in our town” of Ellwood City.

Golmic, 31, of Ellwood City, received the honor on March 14 at the Lawrence County Regional Chamber’s annual dinner.

“I’m sure the many volunteers in our town can tell you that none of us are serving the community to be recognized,” said Golmic, past president of the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors, co-chair of Ellwood City’s Fall Fest & Car Cruise and chairwoman of the borough’s Let There Be Lights weekend.

“We simply understand the importance of feeding into the place you call home. Being recognized by the Young Professionals of Lawrence County was an honor, but it was most exciting because it brought attention to all of the work being done by many volunteers in our town.”

Golmic said she spoke with another young professional at the Lawrence County Regional Chamber’s annual dinner who told her that “Ellwood City keeps coming up in conversations because it seems like the right things are happening here.”

“Nothing, Golmic said, “compares to seeing the joy the events bring to the families young and old in the town. You can sense the pride they have in Ellwood City and the events just give an opportunity for that pride to grow. I love that the youth of the town will grow up with memories of downtown events and seasonal parades. I believe those memories help draw young people back to the town when they start building families of their own.”

Chamber boss: Golmic inspires

Golmic is a 2005 graduate of Lincoln High School who in 2009 earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Robert Morris University. She and her husband, Scott, own Aflac, Sweet Caroline’s and Golmic Ventures.

Her hours spent with her business, as a volunteer, and as a volunteer with the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce “all blur into one another and truly feed one another,” Golmic said. “The more we serve it seems the more opportunity finds us.”

Raymond Santillo, executive director of the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce, says he has learned from and been inspired by Golmic.

“The greatest joy, giving,” San-
ELLWOOD CITY – While humankind should care about the environment every day, Jillian Court says, those who attend Lawrence County Earth Day should “take what they learn and practice it throughout the whole year.”

Lawrence County Earth Day, which drew hundreds of visitors in 2017, will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 21 in Ewing Park.

The free community event, sponsored by INMETCO and Ellwood City Community Enrichment, “has activities for all ages,” said Court, the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce’s executive assistant and coordinator for Ellwood City Community Enrichment, a chamber subsidiary.

“Kids can make walking sticks or pine cone bird feeders to take home,” Court said. “There are many vendors and exhibitors that tailor to adults and children. Many exhibits are interactive, which makes it fun and interesting.”

Among the lineup of events for children is one in which they can find painted rocks that will be placed along the Nature Trail descending toward the nearby Connoquenessing Creek.

“Boy Scout Troop 806 will hide the rocks along the Nature Trail,” Court said. “When someone finds a rock, they can take it to the information booth for a small prize.”

“Try and find their rock”

Boy Scouts will also conduct guided tours along the Nature Trail.

“They are going to research historic facts that they can share while leading the tours,” Court said. “Someone may spot a rock and notice foliage that is blooming or a strange-looking insect that they’ve never seen. This allows people to appreciate the environment around them. We hope that the school children come as well to try and find their rock.”

Rick Bruening, Noah Rectenwald and Ron Drago are among the musicians scheduled to perform on Foilino Stage, where the second annual Trashion show – in which contestants will compete in clothing made entirely

“Small Town, Big Living” The Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce
Earth Day to be rockin’

Rockin From Page 3

of garbage — will be held at 11 a.m. Winners in 2017 were Lauren Stich, first place; Caitlin Stich, second place; and Brooke Bartolomeo, third place. Other participants were Jennifer Eller, Cassandra Douglas, Layla Brewer, Shammy T. Gorilla, Sophia Minkus, Sam Kelly, and Alyssa Simpson.

A Wild World of Animals show is scheduled for 1 p.m., and horse and trolley rides will be available.

More than 1 billion people from up to 190 countries globally participate in Earth Day.

“It’s such an important day to celebrate and learn about how we can save the planet for the next generations,” Court said. “It is important for adults and children to be exposed to the realities of what our day-to-day lives do to the environment.”

Earth Day, however, isn’t just about the environment, Court said. It’s also about families spending time together, she said, “and enjoying Ewing Park.”

Ewing Park.

She said, “and enjoying spending time together,”

“Why not Ellwood City?”

S

cott Golmic is the volunteer director of the Ellwood City Christmas parade, helps to manage Christmas in the Park and, Caroline said, “is a never-ending dreamer with me about what’s next.”

Those dreams about what is next reflect Ellwood City’s “unique charm, tight-knit community and its walkable downtown,” Caroline said.

“Scott and I can truly envision a town with filled storefronts, with young families flocking to the housing market. It takes a village, but every member of the village has a role to play and we want to play ours as well as we can. As malls close and online shopping becomes the only option, people are going to be thirsty for relational business. Small towns and small businesses are going to fill that need. Why not Ellwood City?”

“Small Town, Big Living”

The Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce
OMBELL — Tracy Jacobs is a learner.

The 2005 Lincoln High School graduate, holder of bachelor of science degrees in public health, and in recreational therapy, from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, listened to the suggestions of community members when contemplating her inventory at Fombell General Store & Grille, and has joined the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce to “educate myself on other companies around me” with whom her business can work.

Jacobs, of Fombell, was taking time off from her graduate studies at Slippery Rock University in epidemiology when she and her father, Jerry Shaffer, of Ellwood City, opened the store in 2016. She believed that her patrons would appreciate a drive-through, and a nearby outlet from which they could purchase fishing and hunting supplies.

“As my father and I were talking and brainstorming, he reminded me of how I always used to say that grocery stores should deliver or have drive-throughs, so, we decided to offer a store that has one, making it easier for new moms, the elderly, the disabled” and for those who did not want to leave their vehicles during bad weather, she said.

While her inventory is constantly being updated, she is “devoted” to hunters and anglers, to whom she sells licenses and for whom she carries a wide variety of Bass Pro Shop supplies, ammunition and live bait.

“You can’t go anywhere else and get ammo, live bait, work pants and boots, homemade dinner, milk and bread,” she said.

Owner Tracy Jacobs is shown in Fombell General Store & Grille along Route 288 in Fombell. “Our customers love the store,” she says.

Among the eclectic inventory at Fombell General Store & Grille are supplies for hunters and anglers, and canned and jarred goods that include salsa.

“Our customers love the store”

Alongside those options in her store off Route 288 are lottery and ATM machines, shelves and coolers filled with homemade crafts, cookies, pies and jarred goods; fresh bread and donuts from Kimmel’s Bakery; confessions from The Sweet Shop; and daily deliveries from Marburger Dairy Farm and from Wright Meat Packing.

“I pride myself on how fresh things are,” she said.

Those who visit her store when it opens at 5 a.m. can also get a taste of her homemade break-
ORTH SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP — The Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce’s April 25 employee appreciation luncheon will offer guests the opportunity to network, enjoy one another’s company and win from a wide variety of gift baskets, said Kristin McKelvey, a member of the chamber’s board of directors and organizer of the 2018 event.

The luncheon, which last year drew 100 guests, will begin at noon at the Connoquenessing Country Club and include slider sandwiches, soup and salad, and desserts, McKelvey said.

Shauna Dorwarth, owner of Diamond Dance Academy on First Street and a member of the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce for nine years, was among those who attended the 2017 luncheon.

“I really appreciate this event,” said Dorwarth, a native of Warren, Ohio. “I have a chance to honor my employees and bring them here, which helps us to network and communicate with other people. Being that we are not on Lawrence Avenue, we get to know some of the people that aren’t as well.”

Her comments were echoed by Mary Ford, Megan McClintick and Melissa Crepp, who attended the 2017 luncheon with Andrew Beneigh, president and CEO of the Beneigh Insurance Group.

“It’s a nice event, and to get out of the office and have lunch,” Crepp said. The employee appreciation luncheon was the second for McClintick, who echoed Crepp and added that it “gives me a chance to network a little bit.”

Everyone has chance to win

The deadline to register for the luncheon, whose tickets cost $25, is April 13.

“We will have a wide variety of gift baskets and table centerpieces to win,” McKelvey said. “For our grand prize this year, the Connoquenessing Country Club generously donated a foursome of golf with lunch and dinner included. Everyone in attendance will have the opportunity to win the grand prize.”

Leymarie Clark Long, P.C is the sponsor of the 2018 luncheon.

Among donors of baskets to be raffled are Northview Estates, Campers Inn RV of Pittsburgh, Butler County Community College, Blank Concrete & Supply, The Car Wash of Ellwood City, McElwain Motor Car Co., Mary Jo’s Catering, Wampanowug Underground and Good Samaritan Hospice.

FOMBELL GENERAL STORE & GRILLE JOINS E.C. AREA CHAMBER!

‘A home away from home’

Jacobs became one of the newest members of the Ellwood City Area Chamber of Commerce “in hopes to connect with other business owners,” she said. “I like to support other local businesses and keep my money local. By joining the chamber, I can get informed on events happening in Ellwood City and be invited to them and network with other businesses.”

She plans to revamp the store in 2018, “adding a lot of new items to our shelves as well as to our menu,” she said. “I gave myself a year to figure out what the community wanted and now that I know, I plan to make everything happen.”

Fombell General Store & Grille is open from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday; 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and is closed on Sundays.