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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 2017 Small Business Person of the Year is....

Lebanon, PA – Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the 2017 Small Business Person of the Year Award as well as this year's Leon Hoover Entrepreneurial Spirit Award will be presented at our Small Business Luncheon on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 11:30 AM at the Foundry.

Small businesses make up approximately 75 percent of the Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce's membership. Join us as we celebrate and show our appreciation and gratitude for these small businesses that support the economy of the Lebanon Valley! The Small Business Person of the Year Award recognizes the accomplishments of a successful area business person. The Small Business Person of the Year has the special entrepreneurial spirit, unique marketing approach, and/or that special customer focus that results in a successful business. This person does the right thing for their customers while still managing a thriving business and supporting the community.

We are excited to announce the 2017 Small Business Person of the Year is Ben Ilgenfritz with Genesis Lighting + Electric. Ben founded the business in 2012 with a passion for saving energy and creating clean energy. He pursued LED Technology in its infancy and become certified. As his business took off, he looked for a name to establish his brand and reflect lighting, led to the Bible and Genesis, "And God said, "Let there be light." "It was a great fit, a new beginning for the lighting industry and a new beginning for the business," stated Ben Ilgenfritz owner of Genesis Electric.

The Leon Hoover Entrepreneurial Spirit Award will also be presented to a small business that embodies the spirit of entrepreneurship in its daily operations. We are excited to announce that this year's Leon Hoover Entrepreneurial Spirit Award goes to Bill and Bob Bering of Bering Real Estate. The Company is locally owned and founded in 2015 by brother's Bill and Bob who live and grew up in Lebanon County and followed their father's footsteps by attaining their auctioneer license to sell automobiles and real estate. "These incredible brothers joined Fortna to become a leading force in the auction industry. I could see it wouldn't be long before they opened the doors to their own enterprise – Bering Real Estate," stated Margie Yohn of BeYond Mail and Marketing.

Register now and help us celebrate and honor these great individuals and their companies. Cost of the event is \$30.00 for LVCC members and \$35.00 for all other participants. Register online at [www.lvchamber.org](http://www.lvchamber.org), by calling 717-273-3727 or email [info@lvchamber.org](mailto:info@lvchamber.org).

### About Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce

The Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce is the vital and vibrant voice for the business community. Working together, its members and staff are committed to the continued economic growth and prosperity of the community and to preserving and further enhancing the area's exceptional quality of life.

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