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## **Western Chester County Chamber Celebrates 100th Anniversary with Gala Dinner**

(Coatesville, PA) – The Western Chester County Chamber(WCCCC)hosted its 100 Year Anniversary Dinner with more than 200 members and guests at the Coatesville Country Club, an event marked by Chamber highlights, awards and an extensive display of historical business memorabilia.

WCCCC President John H. Lymberis captured the history while engaging attendees to envision the Chamber's future. Lymberis spoke passionately of the Chamber's past accomplishments and current work, and the many parallels throughout its history, from humble beginnings as the Coatesville Chamber of Commerce creating a new community spirit for progress and bringing the Chester County Airport to western Chester County, to current work fighting for transportation improvements to the area. For example, in 1932 the Chamber formed an Egg Producers Exchange in cooperation with farmers from three counties who brought their eggs to Coatesville – and the Chamber still partners with area farmers to help keep farming strong in the region. Promoting business growth has remained a top priority throughout the years.

The Chamber was proud to present Citadel with the Joseph G. Filoromo, Jr. Community Service Award. Citadel was established in 1937 as the Credit Union for Lukens Steel. Today, it has more than 200,000 members and over \$2.6 billion in assets. Citadel has grown to 23 branches and serves customers in Chester, Delaware, Bucks, Montgomery, Lancaster and Philadelphia counties. Its commitment to the communities it serves is evident by its companywide involvement in various community organizations throughout the area.

Jonathan Wright, owner of the Wright Insurance Agency, was awarded the Elliot R. Jones Award for his vision and commitment to producing the 100th Anniversary Commemorative Community Resource Guide and Membership Directory which was a great success. Wright has served the Chamber for many years on the board of directors, golf committee, social media committee and as president in 2015. In 2014, Wright also proposed the establishment of The Young Professionals Group which has introduced many new faces to the Chamber. Incidentally, in 1936 the Chamber's Dynamo Club accomplished the same support and encouragement of young professionals.

Senator Andy Dinniman, State Representative Tim Hennessey, representatives from State Representative Harry Lewis, Jr.'s office, and Chester County Commissioners Kathi Cozzone, Michelle Kichline and Terence Farrell, all attended and presented citations to the award winners and to the Chamber in recognition of the 100th anniversary. A special guest, Kevin Courtois from the US Chamber of Commerce, attended and presented the WCCCC a citation to honor the 100 years, as well.

The Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1916 as the Coatesville Chamber of Commerce, and is one of the oldest chambers of commerce in Chester County. It became the Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce in 1975, and it currently has over 300 members and serves 20 municipal areas in the County's dynamic and growing western region. "WCCCC's mission – Connecting our Members to new ideas, resources and relationships to achieve their goals." #WCCCC100