

**PENNSYLVANIA  
FREE  
ENTERPRISE  
WEEK**



# TAKE <sup>THE</sup> LEAD

*in your future*

**PROGRAM BROCHURE**



**Week 1**

June 28 – July 3  
Lycoming College

**Week 2**

July 5 – 10  
Lycoming College

**Week 3**

July 19 – 24  
Lycoming College

**Week 4**

July 26 – July 31  
Lycoming College  
Pennsylvania  
College  
of Technology



## **WEEK 1** Keynote Speaker Lycoming College

### **SARA KALLNER** President, Smith Provision Co., Inc.

Sara serves as President of Smith Provision Co., Inc., a meat processing manufacturer located in Erie, PA. Smith's, known best for its flagship item – the natural casing hot dog – is preparing to celebrate 100 years as a 4th generation family-owned and operated business. Smith's is proud to make premium smoked meats, which include hot dogs, sausages, bacon, deli meats and award-winning hams.

Sara began her professional journey as a financial advisor with Prudential Securities, working with individuals on estate planning, ultimately focusing her practice on corporate 401(k) plans and retirement planning. After several years with Prudential, Sara joined the financial planning team of HBK-Sorce Financial, a boutique investment firm, where she worked to develop custom retirement and estate plans in tandem with accounting and legal professionals. In 2006, Sara ultimately felt called back to the family business at Smith's, where she has served in many roles, including those that touch operations, HR, finance, and sales, to where she now leads the business as President.

A graduate of Allegheny College, where she played soccer and lacrosse, Sara is committed to community service, both through her long-term commitment to the United Way's Community Schools' endeavor, and directly through her past volunteer service leading the Villa Maria Cathedral Preparatory School's Board of Trustees as both member and Chairperson. Sara's greatest joy and source of pride is her role as a mom to three amazing daughters: Olivia, pursuing her BSN in Nursing in her Junior year at the University of Pittsburgh; Eliza, a Senior at Cathedral Prep High School; and Camille, a soon-to-be freshman at McDowell High School. Sara also works in the business alongside her husband, Ray, who serves as the VP of Sales and Marketing, and two of her sisters: Emily, VP of Plant Operations and Mary, Director of Processing and R&D.

## **Week 1** Company Advisors

- Sandra Aloguin**  
Four Seasons Produce
- Anthony Bennett**  
Tennessee State Finance and Administration Agency
- Cody Chan, CPA**  
Ernst & Young
- McKenna S. Chan**  
Ernst & Young
- Dennis Chevalier**  
AbbVie (ret.)
- Kevin R. Connor**  
Modern SBC
- Matthew Fennell**  
The Leota Peters Memorial Foundation
- David R. Hall, Col., USAF (ret.)**  
DRH Pilot Services, LLC
- William Henderson**  
Beiters, Inc. (ret.)
- Nylah M. Hill**  
Consultant
- Mikyla S. Johnson**  
PNC Financial Services Group
- Jill M. Komar**  
Geisinger
- Michael Komar**  
Geisinger
- Tara Murray**  
Benjamin Obdyke
- Linda T. Nguyen**  
Unilever
- Nina Palfy**  
Consultant
- Jacob Peifer**  
Open Road Capital Advisors
- Elizabeth Remelius**  
Villanova University
- Frederick P. Remelius**  
Consultant
- Joseph S. Rogers, M.S., ABD**  
Pope John Paul II High School
- Carl R. Shamburg**  
Erie Bronze & Aluminum Co. (ret.)
- Anthony Stevenson**  
Stephano & Slack



## **WEEK 2** Keynote Speaker Lycoming College

### **CHARLES W. EDMONDS** President, Lycoming College

Charles (Chip) is president of Lycoming College, bringing more than 25 years of leadership in higher education, strategic planning, program innovation, financial management, enrollment, fundraising, marketing, and alumni engagement. Known for his authentic and inclusive leadership style, he is deeply committed to undergraduate residential education, academic excellence, community engagement, and responsible financial stewardship. He has championed access for the College's increasingly diverse student population and removed barriers for high-achieving students pursuing a liberal arts education.

Appointed Executive VP of Lycoming College in 2017, Chip oversaw advancement, enrollment management, marketing and communications, government and community relations, and institutional initiatives. During his tenure, the College secured significant philanthropic support and strengthened its relationships with alumni, the Williamsport community, and regional and state leaders.

He secured investment for the Krapf Gateway Building and the Gateway Economic Development Project, helping revitalize Williamsport's Old City neighborhood. Chip also led Lycoming's most successful campaign, raising \$79.2 million to enhance academic programs, scholarships, and campus development. A co-architect of the College's 2021 Strategic Plan, Chip shaped long-term facilities strategy and guided efforts to construct a new baseball stadium.

Chip chairs the Lycoming County United Way and the Lycoming Economic Development Foundation, is a trustee at Wyoming Seminary and Preparatory School, vice president of Williamsport Symphony Orchestra, and board member of the Williamsport Chamber of Commerce and Pennsylvania Economy League.

Chip previously held positions at Yale, Duke Divinity School, and Lycoming's Admissions and Advancement offices. He holds degrees from Lycoming College, Duke University, and the University of Pennsylvania. He lives in Williamsport with his spouse Erin and their sons, Jacob and Luke.

## **Week 2** Company Advisors

- J. Rody Borg, Ph.D.**  
J. Rody Borg, Ph.D.
- Alberto L. Casadei**  
Westinghouse Electric Company (ret.)
- Jeremy M. Chobot**  
Universal Display Corporation
- Arthur Cohen**  
All the Best Catering/  
The Pittsburgh Barbecue Company (ret.)
- Alexander Connor**  
McKinsey & Co.
- Kathleen Dormer**  
Suitable
- John C. Folga**  
Ameridrives,  
a Regal Rexnord Brand
- Michael Gecht**  
Travel Ease, Ltd. (ret.)
- Joseph A. Giedgowl**  
Byers Choice Ltd. (ret.)
- Phillip Green**  
Hometown Auto Rentals
- Denzel Henderson**  
State Farm
- Thomas C. Hermanowski**  
J.K. Sam Real Estate Group
- Janell Hinton**  
J.K. Sam Real Estate Group
- Austin S. Lyons**  
Stone Fortress
- Patricia A. Martin, PHR**  
DVL Group, Inc. (ret.)
- J. David Murphy**  
Consultant
- Amir Mustafic**  
Universal Display Corporation
- Eric D. Shannon**  
Big Barker (ret.)
- David J. Sterrett, P.E., P.L.S.**  
PA Department of Environmental Protection (ret.)
- Dwayne W. Waite, Jr.**  
Schell Games
- Mrs. Kristin Zarnoch**  
KMZen Creative LLC

# TAKE THE LEAD THAT'S RIGHT, PFEW 2026 IS Your Time

Through real world business simulations, leadership roles, and career exploration, you are about to learn what it means to make decisions, lead a team, and prepare for a great future. This year's theme, **Take the Lead**, challenges you and every one of your peers to step forward with confidence and discover the leader you can become.

**This week is your moment.**

**PFEW is your opportunity to:**

Make *real* decisions  
Work with a team  
Solve real challenges  
Develop lifelong skills

And most importantly, discover that leadership is not about waiting for a title. It is about stepping into the spotlight, exploring what your future can be, and having the confidence to Take the Lead. Your journey starts NOW.

PFEW 2026 would not be possible without the thousands of dedicated people and organizations who have given so generously of their time, talent and treasure to make the program you are about to experience the most impactful program of its kind in the world.

**At PFEW, students don't wait for opportunity.  
They step forward and take it..**

**To our donors,**  
who year after year provide the financial resources and sponsorships to get you here,  
**Thank You.**

**To our board of directors,**  
whose wisdom and insight provide invaluable direction and support,  
**Thank You.**

**To our volunteers,**  
dedicated and passionate people who mentor, guide and encourage,  
**Thank You.**

**To our partners,**  
who provide invaluable outreach to the business community that secures financial and program support,  
**Thank You.**

**To our educators,**  
who champion PFEW each year in their schools,  
**Thank You.**

And finally...  
**To you,**  
who took the risk to come this week,  
**Thank You.**

**You Took the Lead.**



**WEEK 3** Keynote Speaker  
Lycoming College

**HAYLEY PAINTER**  
Co-Founder and Co-CEO, The Painterland Sisters

Recognized by Forbes as one of its prestigious 30 Under 30 honorees, Hayley Painter is a visionary leader driving transformative change in food and farming. As Co-CEO and Co-Founder of Painterland Sisters, an organic skyr yogurt brand, Hayley is building a business rooted in her family's fourth-generation regenerative dairy farm in rural Pennsylvania.

A fourth-generation farmer, Hayley has always been deeply connected to the land. During her college years, she recognized a growing disconnect between consumers and the source of their food, an insight that inspired her to return home with a mission: to reconnect people with the American farmer. Together with her sister Stephanie, she co-founded Painterland Sisters to create a value-added dairy product that is both nutrient-rich and environmentally responsible.

Under their leadership, Painterland Sisters has experienced rapid growth, scaling from \$0 to over \$1.3 million in sales within its first year and expanding into nearly 2,000 retail locations nationwide. The brand continues to grow as it champions regenerative agriculture, animal welfare, and fair economic opportunities for family farms.

Hayley is a passionate advocate for sustainable food systems and rural communities. She serves on the board of Team Pennsylvania and is a member of the Organic Center of Excellence Advisory Committee. She actively engages in state and national initiatives, working alongside policymakers, industry leaders, and consumers to advance regenerative practices and equitable food production.

Through Painterland Sisters, Hayley is not only redefining dairy but also fostering a deeper connection between people, their food, and the farmers who produce it, helping to preserve family farming for generations to come.

## Week 3 Company Advisors

**Thomas S. Born**  
Huntington National Bank (ret.)

**Jodi L. Brandon**  
Jodi Brandon Editorial

**Matthew Cordell**  
Abercrombie & Fitch

**Alvin Couch**  
Consultant

**Amber L. Evanoff**  
Erie Bronze and Aluminum Co.

**Karen L. Grady**  
Slippery Rock University

**Linda L. Greek**  
Hudson Business Service LLC

**Joseph P. Harford, Ph.D., CSDS**  
Reclamere, Inc.

**Christopher Hoffman**  
Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits

**Carl A. Marrara**  
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association

**Richard S. Musante**  
Parkson Corp

**Joan M. Norelli**  
Tropicana

**Ferlin E. Patrick**  
CSD Co-Packers, Inc. (ret.)

**Mark J. Pietrusinski**  
Parker LORD Corporation (ret.)

**Mark Puzdrak, CPA**  
Puzdrak and Stortz CPAs

**Jeremy A. Raichle, CFA**  
Bank of America

**Christine E. Schaeffer**  
OneHope

**Mark Seyfried**  
Oracle Corporation

**Jamie Sheets**  
Reach Cyber Charter School

**Kenneth W. Snyder, Jr.**  
K. Snyder & Associates (ret.)

**Abigail Zlockie**  
Pennsylvania State University



## **WEEK 4** Keynote Speaker Lycoming College

### **MICHAEL THOMAS** President & CEO, Service 1st Federal Credit Union

Michael Thomas serves as President/CEO of Service 1st Federal Credit Union in Danville, Pennsylvania. He joined the credit union in 2011 and has advanced with the organization, beginning as Accounting Manager, then advancing to Vice President of Finance, and becoming Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in 2013. He has now served as President & CEO since September 2023.

Mr. Thomas supports the credit union movement and the community through volunteer leadership. He served as Service 1st Duck Derby Committee Chair and as a Pennsylvania Credit Union Association Hike the Hill Committee member. He is Board Treasurer for Driving Real Innovation for a Vibrant Economy (DRIVE), an economic redevelopment council of governments serving Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union Counties. He also serves on the boards of the Susquehanna Valley United Way and the Ronald McDonald House of Danville. Mr. Thomas has previously served as Board Treasurer and head girls coach for the Northumberland Sunbury Soccer Club.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance from Susquehanna University's Sigmund Weis School of Business. Mr. Thomas lives in Northumberland with his wife, Tabitha, and their three children, Brayden, Sierra, and Mason. He and his family also enjoy time with their two dogs, Sadie (a goldendoodle) and Chloe (a golden retriever).

Outside of work, he prioritizes family time and is often found at a soccer field or basketball court cheering on his children and volunteering when needed. His daughter, Sierra, has competed in two national championship soccer tournaments with the CSSC Phoenix soccer team based in Danville, PA. He values service, teamwork, and strong community connections—principles that also shape his leadership style at the credit union.

## **Week 4 Company Advisors – Lycoming**

**Wajiha Asad**  
Universal Display  
Corporation

**Marianne J. Beane**  
Ignite Business Services,  
Inc.

**Madison Benner**  
GLG

**Christopher J. Betz**  
Free Press Graphics &  
Publishing

**William G. Caugherty**  
McDowell Intermediate  
High School

**Judith A. Eschberger, Esq.**  
JAE Government  
Relations

**Debi Friedmann**  
Blue Dog Printing &  
Design

**Gary S. Goldstein**  
Project Management  
Institute (ret.)

**David Hutzel, M.D.**  
Greenfield Internal  
Medicine, UPMC

**Nicholas C. Law**  
Randstad

**Adelaine L. Lazzell**  
The Campbell's Company

**Neal R. Leshner**  
Pennsylvania Chamber of  
Business and Industry

**James A. MacKenzie**  
Octoraro Native Plant  
Nursery

**Reginald-Chris Mendoza,  
CMA**  
Friends Select School

**Haley Patrick**  
Vertex, Inc.

**John V. Rafferty, Esq.**  
Highfield Law

**Michael Romano**  
Department of the Navy

**Cameron Suorsa**  
O2 Digital Creative  
Agency

**Stephen E. Turpin**  
First Citizens Community  
Bank

**Paul F. Vizza, PHR**  
JAG Physical Therapy

**Donica M. Wilson**  
Harmelin Media



## **WEEK 4** Keynote Speaker Pennsylvania College of Technology

### **AUSTIN ROYER** Co-Founder and COO, Gilson Snow, Inc.

Austin Royer is the Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Gilson Snow, Inc., a snowboard and ski manufacturer based in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania that has evolved into one of the most loved independent brands in snow sports. Every snowboard and ski is handcrafted in the USA using locally sourced Pennsylvania Poplar, which is lightweight, sustainable,

and grown close to home. Gilson pairs modern technology with generations of American woodworking craftsmanship and builds for the customer rather than warehouses.

Austin earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from Susquehanna University and began his career as a middle school teacher in Nashville, TN. While teaching, he designed a hands-on learning program that helped students grow from 13% proficient to 94% in just four years, a framework he later adapted to improve operational efficiency and workforce development at Gilson.

Since co-founding Gilson, Austin has been responsible for operations, supply chain management, product and process prototyping, and continuous refinement of the company's manufacturing systems. He developed proprietary machinery and lean processes that have enabled the Gilson factory to expand production capacity year over year while reducing error rates and shortening production cycles.

Austin is also a named inventor on the provisional patent for Last Step Sublimation (LSS) - a technology he was instrumental in scaling from R&D through to commercialization. In addition, he works closely with regional technical partners and universities to validate new processes and strengthen Gilson's innovation pipeline.

With more than a decade of experience in product development, manufacturing system design, and supply chain optimization, Austin has helped transform Gilson from a rural startup into one of the fastest-growing snowboard and ski brands in North America. Today, riders in more than 50 countries trust Gilson gear to deliver smooth, playful rides backed by community and craftsmanship.

## **Week 4 Company Advisors – PCT**

**Nate Cooper**  
Komfort Heat (ret.)

**Kevin W. Davis**  
The Davis Group (ret.)

**John M. DeMasi, ChFC**  
Financial Consultant

**Michael Gecht**  
Travel Ease, Ltd. (ret.)

**Julia M. Haigh**  
Center for Opinion  
Research, Franklin &  
Marshall College

**Kevin M. Haigh, CFA, CFP**  
Vanguard

**James D. Kilgallon, CIC,  
ACS, AIC-M, AINS, AIS**  
Erie Insurance

**Lesley J. Kistner**  
The Happy Valley  
Adventure Bureau

**William J. Koehle, Lt. Col.**  
United States Marine  
Corps (ret.)

**J. David Murphy**  
Consultant

**Angel Patel**  
Norristown Area School  
District

**Elizabeth Remelius**  
Villanova University

**Kathryn Rose**  
Northwest Tri-County  
Intermediate Unit 5

**David R. Sawtelle**  
Consultant

**Roxanna S. Seilhamer,  
CIC, CISR, CSRM**  
Strickler Agency Inc.  
(ret.)

**Kevin L. Shivers**  
Pennsylvania Association  
of Community Bankers

**David P. Thiemann**  
Penelec, A FirstEnergy  
Company (ret.)

**Kyle P. Wherrity**  
A Haven

# FUNDING FOR PFEW 2026

The Foundation for Free Enterprise Education is proud to offer the 47th summer of the award-winning Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week program to the future leaders of Pennsylvania. This is possible only because of the hundreds of generous businesses, foundations, civic organizations, and individuals listed here who contributed to this year's success. Thank you for your commitment and willingness to share your gifts to help our students understand and celebrate business and free enterprise, the very foundation of our economic future. You inspire us!

## FOUNDER'S CLUB

Members of the Founder's Club hold the highest honor by having made an extraordinary contribution of \$25,000 or more to this year's programming.



**Allegheny Foundation**



**Robert E. Lamb  
Foundation Inc.**



**Mr. Andrew S. Terhune**

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

The following President's Club members have made very generous gifts of \$15,000 to \$24,999 to this year's programming.

**Ed Meell Memorial Endowment Fund**  
**First Quality Enterprises, Inc.**  
**Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.**  
**Justamere Foundation**  
**LeTort Trust Foundation**  
**Lincoln Learning Solutions, Inc.**  
**Philip M. McKenna Foundation**  
**Ptak Family Fund of the Community Foundation of Fayette County**

**Service 1st Federal Credit Union**  
**James M. & Margaret V. Stine Foundation**  
**The Wheeler Family Charitable Foundation**  
**West Chester Area School District**  
**West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc./H. O. West Foundation**

## KEYSTONE CLUB

These organizations and individuals have graciously contributed between \$10,000 and \$14,999 to this year's programming.

**Career Concepts Staffing Services, Inc.**  
**Conewago Enterprises, Inc.**  
**Erie Gives Fund of The Erie Community Foundation**  
**Hudock Capital Group, LLC**  
**Lang Family Foundation**  
**Mill Spring Foundation**  
**The Ann & George Giamalis Memorial Fund**  
**Waste Management**

## STUDENT CHAMPIONS

These organizations and individuals have contributed between \$5,000 and \$9,999 to this year's programming.

**4335 Limited Partnership**  
**Allegheny Mineral Corporation**  
**Angel Grapevine**  
**Baglier Buick GMC Mazda**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth D. Baker**  
**Benjamin Obdyke Inc.**  
**Butler County Community College**  
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**Commonwealth Charitable Management**  
**The D'Avino Family Charitable Gift Fund – In Honor of Dave Murphy**  
**Dollar Bank**  
**EQT Foundation**  
**Expand Energy Corporation**  
**Mr. Donald E. Failor**  
**First Commonwealth Bank**

**Growth Resources of Wellsboro Foundation**  
**Hunter Family Advised Fund of The Erie Community Foundation**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H. Jackson**  
**Justi Group, Inc.**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Alfred E. Kraft**  
**Glen and Diane Meakem Family Fund**  
**Mercer County State Bank**  
**The Sharon Murphy Family**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Ryan L. Newman**  
**NJM Insurance Group**  
**P&G Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation**  
**PA 529 College & Career Savings Program administered by Pennsylvania Treasury**  
**Penn Community Bank**  
**PPL Electric Utilities**

**Range Resources**  
**Reliance Bank**  
**Mr. Don Remmey, Jr.**  
**Roehling Medical Lancaster**  
**Sandmeyer Steel Company Foundation**  
**Sweet Street Desserts, Inc.**  
**Target Corporate**  
**The Brook J. Lenfest Foundation**  
**The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia**  
**The D.M. DiLella Family Foundation**  
**The LINK Foundation**  
**The Richard T. Betts Family Foundation, Inc.**  
**The Wellington Fund**  
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**JEREMY J. KROPF**  
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Program Development  
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**AMBER M. GOSS**  
Schools Manager

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# FOUNDATION FOR FREE ENTERPRISE EDUCATION

*excellence in learning*

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## MISSION

To heighten the awareness of Pennsylvania's youth about their future role in the American free enterprise system by delivering high-quality and practical hands-on learning experiences.

## VISION

To be the recognized leader in providing quality learning opportunities that promotes the understanding of the link between personal freedom and economic opportunity.

*proud presenter of*

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To learn more about PFEW and our other dynamic youth education programs, visit our website

[www.pfew.org](http://www.pfew.org)