



**Brown
to speak
at DPC
forum D3**

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SECTION D

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Award-winning experience Lahaska’s Skin ’n Tonic is as popular as ever

David Campbell

In the case of Skin ’n Tonic, looks can indeed be deceiving.

A glance at the storefront on Route 263 in Peddler’s Village (Shop 56), Lahaska, gives the impression of a modest-sized spa and salon. Inside, though, co-owner

Kerian Bray is engulfed by nearly 3,000 square feet of space that oozes comfort and relaxation.

Skin ’n Tonic opened in 2005. It has accumulated a faithful clientele.

“We have many clients who travel,” said Bray, mentioning she has steady customers from New York City, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. “It’s unheard of. I’ve got a good collection of clients from the Lehigh Valley.”

Why? For the experience and the education, Bray said.

“What’s different about us here is we educate,” she said. “For example, in massages, we explain how you got that injury, why it happened and what exercises or stretches you could do to help ease it.”

Bray and her staff of 11 take a similar approach to their other offerings. Skin ’n Tonic specializes in hair, facials, manicures and pedicures, and skin care, too. Bray employs three stylists for hair cuts, coloring and extensions. The facility is equipped with five treatment rooms, including two that can function as one for couples looking to share a massage experience.

“We have different services, but they’re all the same quality,” Bray said. “They’re all above the normal quality you would get. And I think the big thing is we spend one-on-one time with our clients, we invest our time in our clients, and we support our clients and we listen to our clients. There is no cookie-cutter here.”

Bray is seasoned in her craft. This is her fourth Skin ’n Tonic, though she eventually sold the other three, all in her native Australia. She moved to the States in 1995 and



Kerian Bray, who opened Skin ’n Tonic in Peddler’s Village in 2005.

worked as the director of training for two large skin care companies and in product development, traveling the globe.

Bray’s work in oncology – interestingly, she was Pennsylvania’s first oncology certified aesthetician – is a labor of love.

“I have a vast amount of knowledge,” she said.

Skin ’n Tonic carries an assortment of skin care products, each carefully selected by Bray, who said, “There are reasons why I choose things; it’s not done on a whim,” i.e. there are has to be a benefit to use the product.

Although Bray has made great strides in oncology over the years, she has been unable to have the impact she desires in her own backyard. Her spring goal, she said, is to get into Buckingham’s Fox Chase Cancer Center and talk to its oncologists.

“I’m just one of those woodpeckers that keeps chipping away; I’ll get through,” Bray said. “I can work with people going through cancer treatment.”

Skin ’n Tonic is an award-winning business. It was recognized in 2006 by DaySpa Magazine with its Top Honors Award for the best boutique. Philadelphia Magazine chose Skin ’n Tonic as its Best of Philly 2009 recipient in the Spa and Salon category.

“It was an amazing thing to achieve in our first year,” Bray said of being feted by DaySpa Magazine. “It’s been a very enjoyable ride since.”

Bray said she’s considered opening another Skin ’n Tonic, but it remains in the planning stages. In the meantime, she’ll continue to do what she and her staff at Skin ’n Tonic in Peddler’s Village do best: educate and enlighten.

“There are places you can go to get cheaper services, sure,” Bray said. “But are you going to get the experience, are you going to get the expertise?”

She concluded: “What we are doing here is different, but what I would be expecting all places to be doing but they’re not.”

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Iacobucci retires as president of First Fed

First Federal of Bucks County announced Bruce Iacobucci, president and CEO, will retire at the end of June. Jeane M. Coyle, the bank’s executive vice president and chief administrative officer, and a 30-year financial industry veteran, will become the next president and CEO and the bank’s first female leader.

Iacobucci started working in banking in 1970 with Provident National Bank after graduating from Haverford College. Before joining First Federal of Bucks County in October 2006, he spent many years at various banks – several of which merged – as a commercial lender and retail banker.

“Bruce has led us to a platform of stability and performance that the bank has not seen before,” Coyle said. “We have grown significantly under Bruce’s leadership. In each of the past three years, we achieved record net profits while growing the bank.”

“I am thankful to work with an amazing team of bankers, professionals and customers at First Federal of Bucks County and don’t plan on going far,”

Iacobucci said. “I look forward to serving an important role for the bank’s commercial customers as a member of the Board Loan Committee.”

Coyle will take over as president and CEO on July 1. Her vision for the bank is to continue to serve as an important part of the Bucks County community, to continue to provide convenience and value for the bank’s business and individual customers, to maintain profitability for long-term growth and sustainability as a local bank and employer, and to continue to give back to the community.

“Jeane was unanimously chosen as the next president and CEO,” Iacobucci said. “We are all confident that Jeane, the supporting management team and board of directors will continue to guide First Federal of Bucks County into another era of success.”

As a community bank, First Federal of Bucks County donates up to 5 percent of its net income to charitable organizations in Bucks County. In fact, Iacobucci serves on the board of the United Way Bucks County and is its campaign co-chair and Coyle serves as the co-chair of the self-sufficiency panel.



Jeane M. Coyle will succeed Bruce Iacobucci as president and CEO of First Federal of Bucks County.

Noteworthy

Tanya Gillahan was recently promoted to assistant branch manager I of QNB’s Souderton office.



Employed at QNB since 2008, she is responsible for supervising and scheduling staff, assisting the branch manager, as well as effective and efficient management of a branch office. Her former position was financial services representative II at QNB’s Country Square Office in Quakertown.

Gillahan, who lives in Palm with her family, graduated from Quakertown High School. She is active in Quakertown’s National Night Out and participates in Souderton, Pennsburg and Quakertown’s parades.

Mark Cardaci, a senior operations executive whose career path has taken him from stealing bases as a professional baseball player to providing corporate and residential customers with innovative electronic security solutions, has been elected to the board of directors of Developmental Enterprises Corporation.

The nonprofit organization is the area’s largest provider of vocational, habilitation and therapeutic services for adults with intellectual challenges and other developmental disabilities.

Cardaci, a resident of Doylestown, serves as vice president/general manager of the Delaware Valley marketplace for ASG Security, the nation’s ninth largest security company. A former outfielder in the Minnesota Twins organization, Cardaci has worked in an executive capacity at ASG since the Maryland-based company acquired Matrix Security Group in 2007. He is the recipient of the President’s Cup, in recognition of his achievements in business development, strategic planning and customer relations, and has been named on three occasions as Crime Prevention Citizen of the Year. In addition, Cardaci and his wife, Fran, own Pasqualina’s Italian Market and Deli in Blooming Glen.

Wisler Pearlstine announced **Edward F. Murphy**, one of the most experienced zoning and land use lawyers in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area, has joined Wisler Pearlstine as a partner.



Murphy’s addition will enable the firm to open a Newtown office, which will be the firm’s base of operations for Bucks County and the Lehigh Valley.

For more than 30 years, Murphy has practiced zoning and land use law as a partner with McBride and Murphy.

He is a lifelong resident of Bucks County and a member of the Pennsylvania and Bucks County bar associations.

Tastefully Simple consultant **Jacki Pitkow** of Washington Crossing enjoyed the sweet taste of success with her independent business last year. As a result, Pitkow was honored at the easy-to-prepare food company’s Tastefully Simple On Tour event in Baltimore, Md., receiving the Top 10 Sales Achievers award. As part of the honor, Pitkow was recognized for her success, participated in trainings and was present for the unveiling of Tastefully Simple’s new spring-summer product line.

Over the last six months, local businesses have contributed more than \$34,000 to support programs at **Bucks County Community College** that serve the younger set.

Grants from Waste Management, Republic Bank, First Priority Bank, MileStone Bank and Charon Planning have helped to fund Artmobile, the college’s traveling outreach museum, and Kids on Campus innovative summer camps for children ages 5 to early teens.

The contributions since July 2012 were made as part of Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program, which provides tax credits to businesses that make donations to support programs that benefit school-aged children’s educational programs. Companies receive a 75 percent tax credit the first year, which can increase to up to 90 percent.

Childhood friends Mary Broderick and Stacie Atteson reconnected and are now partners in a new business venture in Lahaska: **Shopology 202**, a unique and trendy women’s boutique.

At 5806 Route 202, Shopology 202 boasts styles and designers usually not seen in the Central Bucks County area.



First Federal of Bucks County announced the recent addition of **Richard Loeffler** to its Residential Mortgage and Consumer Loan Origination team.

He will manage the First Federal of Bucks County Loan Origination team and handle the development/implementation of new product lines and services.

Loeffler, formerly with Prospect Mortgage as chief operating officer, resides in Newtown with his wife and children.

FRANC Environmental, a Horsham-based septic system and wastewater management services company, recently merged with SeptiPRO, Inc., a septic system services company in the Delaware Valley.

Both FRANC Environmental and SeptiPRO are represented by the Ferrero name. For more than 50 years, the Ferreros have provided services to customers within Bucks, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties.

Calendar

The Greater Jamison Business Association will hold its monthly breakfast meeting on Tuesday, **March 19**, from 7:30 to 9 a.m., at The Manor at York Town, 2010 York Road, Jamison. Special guest Richard Furlong of the Internal Revenue Service will discuss the “IRS Federal Tax Update: What’s New for 2012 and 2013.”

Business Network International (BNI), Newtown chapter, will host a special Visitors Day Networking Meeting at Chandler Hall, 99 Barclay St., Newtown, on Thursday, **March 28**, at 7 a.m. Tony Kanak, the BNI area director for Bucks and Montgomery counties, will share his insight on building a successful referral-based business through a structured “word of mouth” marketing program. Visit BNIDVR.com or call Jeffrey Beyer at 215-860-3101.