



2016



*Excellence in Business*  
Vision Dinner and Awards

**Dec 15, 2016**

5 p.m. – Cocktail Reception / 6 p.m. – Dinner / 7 p.m. – Awards  
**Mountain View Country Club**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CBICC/Pennsylvania Business Central Excellence in Business Awards recognize best of Centre County's business community**

STATE COLLEGE, PA, Dec. 15, 2016 – The **Chamber of Business & Industry of Centre County's** 2016 Excellence in Business Awards, presented in partnership with *Pennsylvania Business Central*, was held Thursday, Dec. 15 at Mountain View Country Club. PSECU served as Presenting Sponsor.

The Excellence in Business Awards recognized the best of Centre County's business and entrepreneurial community in six categories:

- Technology Company of the Year – AccuWeather, Inc.
- Entrepreneur of the Year – DiamondBack Truck Covers
- Business Leader of the Year – John Bonislowski, President and CEO, Homeland Manufacturing Services
- Visionary Company of the Year – West Arete
- Small Business of the Year (retail, service/professional service, hospitality, restaurant/caterer) – Goodco Mechanical
- Young Professional of the Year – A. Christian Baum

The CBICC/Centre County Economic Development Partnership also recognized the **2016 Economic Development Champion – State College Borough Manager Thomas Fontaine**. The inaugural award was presented to Penn State University President Dr. Eric J. Barron in 2015.

In addition, the CBICC presented the **2016 Impact Award** to a local company/business leader that is a recognized leader in the business world; making significant contributions within their field; and positively affecting the local community and beyond. **The Impact Award was presented to Dr. Joel N. Myers, Founder, President and Chairman of AccuWeather, Inc.**

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"The Excellence in Business Awards are a wonderful opportunity to showcase the strength and diversity of Centre County's business community," said Vern Squier, CBICC President and CEO, who noted that the event was attended by 250 business, community, government and academic leaders. "We welcomed the opportunity to celebrate local business while specifically acknowledging the achievements of this year's finalists and winners."

Excellence in Business Award sponsors included: FirstEnergy, First National Bank, PNC Bank, PSECU, Homeland Manufacturing Services, CPI Foundation, M&T Bank, Capperella Furniture and OGOVO Communications. Seven Mountains Media is a Media Sponsor.

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