### In This Issue:



New VP of Operations Saundra Hale fills out KSI's senior management.

Page 4



### Townsend Church Beautifies KSI

Townsend Church's youth braved 100 degree heat for a special project at KSI.

Page 9



### Lt. Governor Visits KSI

Delaware Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay came to see KSI firsthand.

Page 11

Message from the CEO2
Erica Wildrick Honored4
Heather Juiliano Promoted5
Participants Donate Food5
Milford Lions Donate for Kamp6
New Participant Lending Library.6
KSI Women Hold Tea Party7
WSFS Funds Life Skills7
M&T Bank Helps with Copiers8
KSI Golf Tournament Sponsors8
Recent Contributors10
Calendar Sponsors Needed10
KSI Sends Letters to Seniors11
WOW Science Ignites Minds12

Like us on Facebook. www.facebook.com/KSIWorks



P&G Dover Wipes Custom Pack Line 20 Leader Alan Relaford (left) congratulates Annual Dinner awardees (left to right) Kyle Cahall, Darlene Murray and Arthur Bunting, who are all KSI work crew members at P&G's Dover plant.

# Procter & Gamble Dover Wipes and KSI Celebrate 50 Years Working for Better Lives

Procter & Gamble Dover Wipes and KSI celebrated a 50-year employment partnership that has touched the lives of thousands of individuals with varied abilities during KSI's 2025 Annual Dinner held Wednesday, June 4 at the Modern Maturity Center. The evening featured an address from P&G's Alan Relaford and presentation of achievement awards to three outstanding KSI community-based crew members working at P&G's Dover plant.

KSI's Annual Dinner was made possible in part by Gold Sponsors

National HVAC Service. Also supporting the event were Silver Sponsors Delaware Electric Cooperative, Delaware First Health, L&W Insurance and Sharp Energy. Additional support came from Bronze Sponsors Delaware City Refining Company and i. g. Burton & Company, Inc.

The partnership between Procter & Gamble Dover Wipes and KSI started in 1975 with KSI work crews at the site of the current P&G Dover Wipes plant, which at the time was

Continued on page 3.

### KSI's Mission Is...

to create opportunities for individuals with disabilities to learn and grow. Through training, education and supportive programs and services, we enable individuals to accomplish their personal and work-related goals.

Correspondence regarding KSI News should be directed to KSI News Editor:

MARK REEVE

301 N. REHOBOTH BLVD.

MILFORD, DE 19963

reevem@ksiinc.org

(302) 422-4014

You can also read KSI News on the Web at www.ksiinc.org.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jesse Spampinato, Chair
Shelly Cecchett, Vice Chair
Keith Kahn, Treasurer
Dr. Bobbi Barends, Secretary
Frederick A. Duffy
Charles Hammond
Jason L. James, Sr.
Dr. Thomas E. Kelly III
Bryan Pepper
Patricia Rodriguez
Dr. Donna Smith-Moore, Immediate Past Chair
William Strickland
Heath Chasanov, CEO

### HONORARY BOARD

Joseph Holler Steve Kimpton Nicholas Rodriguez, Esq. Philip Staley



Selected programs have been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities



KSI's United Way Member Agency Designation Number is 340

**Community Partner** 

KSI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

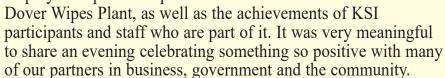
And as such, we are committed to providing equal opportunity in employment without regard to gender, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status or any other protected class. If you have any questions about KSI's efforts in this area, please contact the KSI EOE/AAP Officer at 302-422-4014.

Accommodations—In compliance with ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), should you have a disability and would like to request an accommodation in order to apply for a current open position with KSI, please call (302) 422-4014 ext. 3014 or email us at stumpn@ksiinc.org.

Kent-Sussex Industries, Inc. is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of its transportation services based on race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI in the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4702.1B. For additional information on Kent-Sussex Industries, Inc.'s nondiscrimination policies and procedures, or to file a complaint, please visit the website at www.ksiinc.org or contact Michelle Cain, Director of Funding Opportunities and Board Relations at 301 N Rehoboth Blvd, Milford, DE 19963.

### A Message from KSI's CEO Heath B. Chasanov

We came off of spring with a momentous event—the return of the KSI Annual Dinner on June 4. KSI had the opportunity that evening to highlight the success of our 50-year employment partnership with Procter & Gamble



This summer, we're continuing to move forward with improvements to the Milford Skill Development Center. We're preparing to move Pre-Vocational participants into the recently-renovated central section of the center. The area includes a new Life Skills Room to help participants and area students learn skills of daily living. This portion of the renovation was generously funded for the most part by a grant from Kent County Levy Court.

Thanks are also due to continuing support from state legislators, in particular Senator David Wilson, and Representatives Bryan Shupe and Charles Postles. KSI received \$75,000 from the State FY2026 Community Reinvestment Fund that will support additional repairs and upgrades to the Milford center, and \$158,113 in Grant In Aid funding to bolster programming for participants.

KSI is especially grateful to Kent County Levy Court and the State Legislature for their contributions to making our facilities more effective and comfortable for the people we serve. But, it will take greater community investment to help us move forward with the remaining parts of the Milford center renovation, for which plans are being formulated now. You will be hearing more from me in the near future about our Capital Campaign to fund this emerging section of improvement that will ensure our participants continue to fully benefit from services to better their lives.

In the meantime, we're gearing up for the KSI Annual Clifford T. Crouch Memorial 3 Club Golf Tournament on September 5 at Jonathan's Landing. It should be a fantastic day of play on a great course. Your business can still benefit from sponsorships for this premier tournament. See the article on page 8 to learn how.

Enjoy the rest of the summer. I look forward to working together with many of you as the year progresses to make KSI more impactful than ever.

Det & Clasm

Annual Dinner continued from page 1. still owned by Scott Paper. Participants worked at Scott bagging paper towels and providing custodial services. Procter & Gamble bought the



KSI Director of Community-Based Operations Randy Wroten (left) received a special award from CEO Heath Chasanov.

plant from Scott Paper in the mid-1990s, and developed their operation into a prominent manufacturer in Delaware. P&G management saw the value of KSI's workers staying as part of the labor mix at the plant. KSI work crews progressively improved their performance with each task they were given. Eventually, KSI workers provided shifts performing all the repack work on multi-pack lines for baby wipes.

Healthy relationships on the job make a huge difference in the success of KSI's participant crew members. Alan Relaford is currently the P&G Dover Wipes Custom Pack Line 20 Leader and works directly with KSI's crew on the multi-pack line. It was the first time he had the opportunity to work alongside people with varied abilities. For Mr. Relaford, the special experience of relating with a unique group of KSI

participants adds a lot to the workplace. He has forged relationships with a number of KSI crew members, helping them find a friend within the P&G work environment while enabling them to achieve workplace success.

"They bring an attention to detail and their overall work ethic can't be found anywhere else," Relaford related. "I get a lot of good laughs and they keep me on my toes."

The dedication of P&G management and staff has continued a beneficial cooperation helping many people with varied abilities move ahead in life. In return, KSI crews have provided reliable, efficient and safe labor solutions to help P&G achieve production rates that satisfy customer demand and keep the P&G Dover plant competitive nationally.

Three KSI Pre-Vocational Training participants were featured during the KSI Annual Dinner for their dedication as crew members at P&G. Randy Wroten is KSI Director of Community-Based Operations. He is responsible for day-to-day performance, staffing and scheduling for all of KSI's community-based work sites. Wroten manages relationships and contracts with all host companies for KSI work crews. as well as ensuring safety and operational compliance for KSI workers within those companies' sites. He's had plenty of experience with the

majority of KSI participants who have benefited from the P&G Dover Wipes relationship.

Mr. Wroten introduced the three KSI crew members featured for their performance excellence. Honored with a plaque was Kyle Cahall, one of the longest-standing KSI crew members working at P&G Dover Wipes. Since the mid-1990s, he's built a reputation for being reliable, consistent, responsive and safe.

"We named Kyle the 'clean-up man' because he worked the end of the straight packing line and would encourage the rest of the crew to pack quicker," Mr. Wroten said of Kyle.

Also honored was Arthur Bunting, who started with the KSI work crew at Procter & Gamble Dover Wipes plant in 2004. He's utilized his income to contribute to his family's care and have greater independence.

"Arthur has come a long way with his knowledge on the job,"



P&G's Alan Relaford shares his inspiration working with KSI participants during the Annual Dinner.

said Mr. Wroten. "He's always wanting to learn new tasks and he's grown into one professional industrial athlete. He does

Continued on page 12.

### Erica Gets Highlighted for Volunteer Work



Erica Wildrick shines brights as a volunteer.

Erica Wildrick is an exuberant and motivated volunteer at The Food Bank of Delaware's Milford location. She goes there quite a bit with the KSI Explore group, enjoying experiences in the community with her peers to help her regain her abilities after an acquired brain injury while she does good deeds for others. Recently, Erica was featured on the Food Bank of Delaware's Facebook page for her love of helping other people.

"Erica's energy lights up our volunteer room in Milford," the post stated. That really says it all. Erica volunteers at a number of sites like the Food Bank's Milford location, where she often helps sort food to be used in the site's pantry. She also helps with Meals on Wheels through the CHEER

Center in Georgetown and the Georgetown SPCA. These experiences give her a chance to be part of a team and do something meaningful for others. Getting out into the community with the support of KSI staff and her peers in the Explore Program also gives her opportunities to build her communication skills and personal confidence. In the process, she's providing nonprofits like The Food Bank of Delaware quality volunteer hours with a wonderfully positive attitude.

### **KSI Promotes Saundra Hale to Vice President of Operations**

KSI announced the promotion of Saundra Hale to Vice President of Operations. Reporting directly to KSI CEO Heath Chasanov, Ms. Hale will have primary management related to all program operations and facility management.

Ms. Hale was hired as KSI Assistant Vice President of Operations in fall of 2024, overseeing and maintaining compliance programs in accordance with funding standards in policy creation and revision. Additionally, she directed training, documentation and database maintenance in coordination with Case Managers and Direct Support Professionals, and supervised Program Directors at KSI's Milford Skill Development



Center and Georgetown Southern Campus. Due in part to Ms. Hale's efforts to reorganize the admissions process, program participant numbers in the organization increased 14 percent her first six months.

As Vice President of Operations, Ms. Hale will have over-arching responsibility for all facility-based and communitybased programming, operations, staffing, facility management, participant health and safety, food service, and more. She also will oversee purchase and implementation of structured curriculum providing the substance of employment preparation and life skills training programs.

Her previous background as the Delaware State Long-Term Care Ombudsman and working for the Division of Developmental Disabilities gives her a focus on preventing abuse and neglect of people with disabilities, as well as ensuring individuals' rights are prioritized in Medicaid waivered settings. Saundra Hale's elevation in the KSI team will help the nonprofit better support the hundreds of individuals with disabilities it serves, as well as their families.

### KSI's Heather Juiliano is Promoted to Director of Quality Assurance

KSI has announced the promotion of Heather Juiliano to Director of Quality Assurance, answering directly to the Vice President of Operations. Ms. Juiliano had 30 years working with the Rehabilitation Center in New York, including 21 years involvement with Subcon Industries under the Rehabilitation Center. Subcon is a vocational rehabilitation agency offering similar employment training services to KSI's. Starting as a Direct Support Professional in residential settings, she moved to Case Management, Service Coordinator and eventually



Manager of Service Coordination within the organization. Her experience encompassed programming quality assurance management. Ms. Juiliano joined KSI in spring of 2025 as a Case Manager for the Life Enrichment Program from her previous

position as Supervisor of treatment programs with Delaware Division of Family Services.

As Director of Quality
Assurance, Ms. Juiliano will
be responsible for all program
compliance, quality assurance,
safety, transportation and case
management matters. Her
position includes policy creation
and revision, supervision of
Program Directors at KSI's
Milford and Georgetown centers,
presiding over the Case Record
Review Committee, and being
lead contact for all compliance
reviews and program audits by
accrediting agencies.

### KSI Participants Help People's Place with Food Drive

On April 21, KSI participants delivered supplies from an Overdose Awareness food drive to benefit community clients served by the Milford location of People's Place. The food and personal supplies were collected by KSI's participants, staff and members of the public to do a good deed in memory of staff family members who were lost to drug overdoses. KSI staff member Crystal Hughes started the drive in 2021 to commemorate her son Jake's birthday each year. The majority of the donations went to People's Place's food pantry, where it would supply domestic violence survivor safe houses for mothers and children.



Pictured during the delivery (left to right) are People's Place Public Relations and Event Coordinator Lisa Obermire, KSI participants Loren Moore, Kiana Smith, James Johnson, Erika Klase, KSI Case Manager Jehnna Moore and KSI Director of Transportation Ron Harris.

### Milford Lions Club Grants \$5,000 for Kamp Lenape Upgrades



The Milford Lions Club granted disability service provider KSI \$5,000 in May through the Eunice S. Reed Fund to upgrade kitchen appliances at Kamp Lenape. The funds went towards purchasing a new ice machine and other items to replace failing appliances crucial to serving campers during the summer season. The ice machine was especially important to replace given the intense temperatures that summers have brought in recent years.

Eunice Smith Reed left the bulk of her estate to the Milford Lions Club upon her passing in 2004. The Eunice S. Reed Fund was developed by the Milford Lions Club in 2006 to create a way to support other community organizations looking to develop or expand projects benefiting the greater Milford area. The fund distributes tens of thousands of dollars annually to area nonprofits working to better life in the community. Kamp Lenape is in the club's general focus area, and it serves students from Milford School District with summer programs.

## KSI Participants Get Onsite Library

Thanks to an initial donation from New York-based The Lisa Libraries, KSI is starting a lending library to both create a literacy resource for participants as well as a volunteer training opportunity to help build skills and confidence.

The Lisa Libraries effort was started by children's author Ann M. Martin in 1990 to help organizations that served low-income or underserved populations to rebuild or create libraries. Donations of books are free, and are usually new books donated by publishers, authors, reviewers and illustrators. The Lisa



KSI Director of Funding Opportunities and Board Relations Michelle Cain works with participant volunteers Kiana Smith and Erin Fountain.

Libraries has donated books to organizations in every American state, primarily to benefit children's literacy. The organization donated 140 books valued at \$1,541 to KSI, which kick-started other donations from Milford Senior Center, Harrington Public Library, Bridgeville Public Library, Milford Public Library, Dr. Donna Smith-Moore and R.



Alan Moore, Richard Hughey, Jody Clendaniel, Elizabeth Given, Brandy Markland, Norm and Millie Remick, Pablo Reyes, Don and Judy Bair, Michelle R. Cain, Dakota Hollar, and Ken Takemoto.

The donations have been used to build a participant lending library that will include applications for library cards and staffing by participant "librarians." It will offer a volunteer experience in-house that will help participants learn customer service skills and to contribute in a special way. The library set up has already involved a number of KSI participants, including Emily Sharp, Erin Fountain, Kiana Smith, Suzanne Blackwell, Megan Behorner, Tracy Morgan and Natasha Burton. The team helped sort by categories, label and color-code a large portion of the hundreds of donated books.

If you're interested in donating books to the KSI participant library, contact Michelle Cain at 302-422-4014 Ext. 3009; cainm@ksiinc.org to learn more about books that can be part of the project.

## Women of Empowerment Holds Special Tea Party

The KSI Women of Empowerment group hosted its Second Annual Tea Party Social at Kamp Lenape on June 11th. It was a chance to socialize and celebrate their past year's achievements, as well as practice the skills they've learned in Pre-Vocational training. They were joined by Pastor Neyda Albarran from Avenue United Methodist Church in Milford, who holds a Masters of Art in Education. She gave them pointers on how they can carry and present themselves to reflect their social awareness, self-worth, self-awareness, self-confidence and self-esteem.

The KSI Women of Empowerment is a women's participant group that plans and achieves projects that both share with others in the community as well as help members learn skills for better day-to-day living. Recently, the group collected and donated 224 personal care items for Home of the Brave, a residential program serving veterans. Direct Support Professional Shelaine Wright and Case Manager Jehnna Moore coordinated with the women's group to define and achieve their goals.

Plans emerged for a Berghon KSI Men's Group coordinated by Case Manager Jody Clendaniel starting on June 18. Like the Women of Empowerment, the men's group will plan community service projects that will help nurture personal responsibility and servant leadership qualities in the





Above left to right are KSI Direct Support Professional (DSP) and Tea Party co-organizer Shelaine Wright, participants Angelia Barnes, Natasha Burton, Gilliean Walsh, Erika Klase, presenter Pastor Neyda Albarran, participants Angilica May, Jennifer Laboski, Tiesha Johnson, Ashley Webb, Evelyn Moore, Deborah Hrupsa, Annie Brown, Case Manager Jehnna Moore, participants Sierra Golden and Dominica Pierce. Below left to right are participants Kiana Smith, Annie Momot, Pastor Neyda Albarran, participants Alyssa Baker, Winifred Scott, Cami Houck, Na'Shauna Johnson, Donna Berghorn, Tracy Morgan and Judith Downing.

group's members. It will also provide members with peer support and fraternity to foster better presentation of themselves in the modern world. These participant-led groups help members develop personal virtues and values that will be foundational in their life journeys.

### WSFS Cares Grants Funds for Life Skills Room

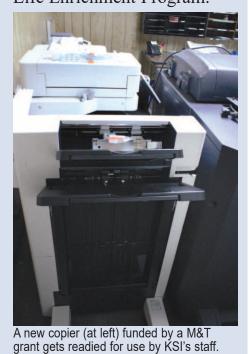


KSI received a grant of \$10,000 from WSFS Cares Foundation to help purchase several appliances
necessary to outfit the
new KSI Life Skills
Room. The daily
life skills center has
been constructed as
part of the second
stage of the full Milford
Skill Development
Center renovation
project. Included
in the room will be

laundry machines, a cooking station, refrigerator and other appliances that individuals need to know how to safely operate for more independent living. Skills training in the room will encompass cooking skills, bed making, cleaning and other activities to better manage home life. In addition to the Life Skills Room being a training center for KSI participants looking to be more responsible in their daily living needs, the center will also be available to students transitioning from area schools into independent living.

### M&T Bank Grants \$2,500 to Support Tech for Pre-Vocational and Other Programs

In June, KSI received a \$2,500 grant to support the purchase of two new printers/copiers/scanners for creating materials serving multiple programs. KSI staff have soldiered on with one color copier located in the northern corner of the Milford Skill Development Center. The M&T funds will help with the purchase of new units that will allow one machine to be used for programming materials in Pre-Vocational Training in the north of the building and another unit to be located in the southern wing of the center that can be easier accessed for materials needed to support the Life Enrichment Program.



### There's Still Time to Be Part of the 2025 KSI Golf Tournament

The KSI Annual Clifford
T. Crouch Memorial 3 Club Golf
Tournament returns again on
Friday, September 5, 2025 at
Jonathan's Landing in Magnolia,
Delaware. It will be a great day
of camaraderie, enjoyable play,
food and drink on one of
Delaware's finest golf courses.
There are limited player spots
available, so contact Michelle
Cain at cainm@ksiinc.org to

register your team or as a player while the spots last.

Special thanks goes to our Major Sponsors for the 2025 tournament, which to date are Atlantic Aluminum Products, L&W Insurance and WSFS

Bank. We're grateful for their special investment in the event's success.

Gratitude also goes to our other sponsors who've stepped up so far to make the KSI tournament its best. Play It Forward Sponsor is Vaughn Crouch in loving memory of Clifford T. Crouch, B. Craig Crouch and Jan Crouch. Tee & Green Sponsors are Heath Chasanov; Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc.; Four Paws Animal Hospital; Mark & Susan Kelly; Philip Kraus; Mid-State Insurance; Gregg Landis; Mohawk Electrical Systems, Inc.; and William T. Wadkins Garage, Inc. Putting Contest Sponsors to date are

Best Ace Hardware, i. g. Burton & Company and Tidewater Utilities. The Flamingo Fling Ring Toss Contest Sponsor is Faw Casson CPAs. Food Sponsors so far are Delaware City Refining Company, SPI Pharma and Tidewater Utilities. Pin Flag Sponsors to date are Chesapeake Utilities Corporation; Delaware Electric Cooperative; and Lank,



Johnson & Tull. Also thanks to donor Ruth Abbate for their support.

You and your business can be an integral part of this event, which is the major fundraiser annually for KSI. Become a sponsor and get recognition for your support of Delawareans with developmental disabilities. Scoreboard, Driving Range and Golf Cart Sponsorships are still available, as are Tee & Green Sponsorships and Pin Flag reservations. Contact Mark Reeve at reevem@ksiinc.org to learn more about rates and availability. **Deadline for** sponsorship reservations is Monday, August 18th. So act now.

## Townsend Church Youth and Leaders Brave the Heat to Beautify KSI





Pictured left to right are Hallie Buss, Kirsey Engelman, Brandie Sparrow and Melody Unruh. The group purchased and planted attractive flora to dress up the gazebo area that is enjoyed by KSI participants and staff. At right is the final results of their work.

Members of Townsend Church's youth group showed amazing volunteer spirit when they helped refurbish and landscape the gazebo area outside KSI's Milford Skill Development Center. In 100 degree heat, the group spent the major part of the day June 24 cleaning and re-staining the gazebo itself, trimming back tree limbs from the surrounding picnic table area, and creating two beautifullyplanted beds flanking the ramp up to the gazebo. The group members went to a local garden center to choose the plants for their project, and even bought new chairs and other furnishings for the gazebo interior. The spot is used often as a restful stop by participants doing daily walking outside the facility and by staff looking for a

quiet place during break time.

The group volunteer project was instigated by Townsend Church Associate Pastor Tim Sparrow. Mr. Sparrow previously worked for WSFS Bank, during which he participated in a number of volunteer projects at KSI.

Looking for something different to do with his church youth, Mr. Sparrow contacted KSI about volunteer possibilities. The gazebo project was something unique and the results of their work are gratefully received by those using the rest area during program days.



Pictured left to right are Matt Engelman, Luke Moody, Maxwell Troutman, Brandon Geiger, Trey Sparrow, Christian Luc, Chase Garrett, T. R. Sharrar, Matthew Dooling and Kelly Engelman.

### Recent Contributors March 1 - May 31, 2025

Mr. & Mrs. Tony and Ruth Abbate

Always Advertising, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard and Nora Anicola in Honor of Joseph J. Anicola

Ms. Deborah Armstrong in Honor of the entire staff of KSI

Artesian Water Company

Atlantic Aluminum Products Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. John and Janet Bauer

Bayhealth

Ms. Lauren Balcerak Mr. Benjamin Beckett

Best Ace Hardware Mrs.Virginia Boutin

BNY Mellon Wealth Management

Mr. & Mrs. Peter and Denise Bradley Mr. & Mrs. John

and Judith Brink
Ms. Michelle Cain

in Memory of Mark E. Cain

Carroll Motor Fuels

Mr. George Chaloupka

Mr. Heath Chasanov

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

Chick Harness & Supply, Inc. in Memory of Linda Chick

Mr. James Cohee in Memory of Tyson and Doris Cohee

Mrs. Marlene Collins in Memory of George J. Collins

Mr. William Cooper

Mrs. Vaughn Crouch in Memory of Clifford, Craig, & Jan Crouch

Mrs. Vaughn Crouch in Honor of Connor and Reagan Fitzgerald

Mr. & Mrs. C. Douglas and Karen Crouse

Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc.

Delaware City Refining Company

Delaware Electric Cooperative

Delaware First Health

Mr. J. D. Dennis

Dewey Beach Lions Club

Dover Lions Club

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick A. and Delema Duffy

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick A. and Delema Duffy in Honor of

W. Brooks Duffy Sr. & Nathaniel Powell Jr.

Dr. Kris Failing

Ms. Ida Faucett Faw Casson

Mrs. Lois Finley in Memory of Clem R. Johnson

Mrs. Diane Flanagan in Memory of Douglas Flanagan

> Forest View Nursery, Inc.

Four Paws Animal Hospital

Frederica Spring Creek Lions Club

Mr. & Mrs. Mark and Patricia Ganc

Ms. Caitlyn Gerken

Dr. & Mrs Arthur and Colleen Ann Gilbert Mr. & Mrs. James and Linda Greenwell

Mr. James Haile

Mrs. SaraKate Hammer Mrs. Ethel Harr

> Harrington Senior Center, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. Ron and Jennifer Harris in Memory of Ann Haggerty

Harry Louie Laundry & Cleaners in Memory of Harry Louie

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph and Ellen Holler

Ms. Dorothy Hopkins in Memory of Randy Porter

Ms. Lana Carol Huff in Honor of Winifred Scott

i.g. Burton & Company, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. Karl and Juanita Katz

Mr. & Mrs. Erik and Jennifer Kaufmann

Dr. & Mrs. Thomas and Susan Kelly

Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville

Mr. & Mrs. Philip and Joan Krauss

Mr. & Mrs. Philip and Joan Krauss in Memory of Mary Lee and Tig Krauss

L & W Insurance

Lank, Johnson and Tull, CPAs

Mr. Jeffery Larrimore

Ms. Michele Laux Links Worldwide

Mr. H. Loescher in Memory of Brian E. Loescher Dr. Kevin Long Lord Baltimore Lions Club

Mr. & Mrs. Mike and Cindy McPhail

Mid-State Insurance

Mrs. & Mr. Kathy and Leon Miller Mohawk Electrical

Systems, Inc.

Mr. Bud Mowday
Mr. Bud Mowday

in Memory of Barbara Jean Mowday

National HVAC Service

Mr. Louis Nepa

Ms. Crystal Newcomb Ms. Karen Nickerson

Mr. John Parker

Mr. & Mrs. Wesley and Connie Paulson in Honor of Alicia Hollis

> Mr. Leslie Pitts in Memory of Annie C. Pitts

Mrs. Alta Pontius

Dr. & Mrs. Thomas and Vivian Postlethwait

Mr. Denny Raynes Mr. & Mrs. Jack and Susan Riddle

River Asphalt, LLC

Ms. Battle Robinson Mr. & Mrs. Thomas and

Kathy Roth

Round Table Club of

Round Table Club of Wyoming/Camden

Mrs. & Mr. Brenda and Jerry Rutherford

Ms. Betty Jean Ryder
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen
and Judy Schwartz

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry and Carolyn Scott in Memory of Willard R. Betts, Jr.

> Sharp Energy-Chesapeake Utilities Corp

Mrs. & Mr. Cindy and David Small

Dr. Donna Smith-Moore and Mr. R. Alan Moore in Memory of William Campbell

Mr. & Mrs. Jesse and Amy Spampinato SPI Pharma

Mr. & Mrs. Philip and Tommye Staley

Mrs. Shirley Steele in Memory of Bud Steele

Mr. & Mrs. William and Okemah Strickland

Mrs. Peggy Strine

Mr. & Mrs. Paul and Eileen Sweeney in Memory of Sheila Hickey

Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Lisa Tanielian

The Black Pearl Party Bus

Tidewater Utilities, Inc. United Way of Delaware

> Ms. Gaillyn Wadkins-Berry

William T. Wadkins Garage, Inc.

Mr. Scott R. Ward Mr. & Mrs. Kendall

and Diane Warrington Mrs. & Mr. Earlue and Larry Woodall in Memory of

Diaz Bonville
Mr. & Mrs. W. Eugene
and Beatrice Wright
WSFS Bank

### Be a Part of the Wonderful Stories As a 2026 KSI Annual Calendar Sponsor



We're bringing together the pieces for one of our most important public outreaches that makes the KSI story part of the lives of nearly 4,000 individuals and businesses throughout Delaware—the 2026 KSI Annual Calendar.

Becoming an advertising sponsor in the 2026 edition is still only \$500, and it comes with a month-based banner ad that offers at least 30 days exposure in front of thousands of individuals using the calendar daily. You become part of an inspirational collection of stories that your support helps make happen.

Contact Mark Reeve to reserve your ad today—reevem@ksiinc.org

### LT. GOVERNOR GAY VISITS KSI



Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay (second from right) is joined at KSI by KSI Director of Mission Advancement Kris Failing, Vice President of Operations Saundra Hale, CEO Heath Chasanov and the Lt. Governor's Chief of Staff Sarah Stowens.

Delaware Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay paid a visit to KSI on June 9 to learn more about the organization's efforts to better lives for individuals with intellectual/developmental



The Lt. Governor (center) spends some time with Desiree Myers (left) and Chquwana Taylor in KSI's Life Enrichment Program.

disabilities. With the Governor's focus on workforce development and impacting people as effectively as possible to give them the best employment advantages, the visit had particular relevance.

"Getting people to work is a real priority for Gov. Meyers," emphasized the Lt. Governor. "You're obviously doing good for people. But you're also building economic power for individuals and the rest of the community."

KSI CEO Heath Chasanov outlined the Pre-Vocational programs KSI designed to foster the skills that individuals with disabilities need to thrive in the workplace. The Lt. Governor had the opportunity to interact with KSI program participants in both Pre-Vocational Training and the Life Enrichment Programs, and learned how their life priorities are strengthened by the services they receive.



KSI participant Annie Brown (left) explains to Lt. Governor Gay the Pre-Vocational Training experience she gets at KSI that is helping her prepare for the workforce.

## Participants Send Letters to Alleviate Isolation

KSI participants had the opportunity to create speciallydecorated postcards to help isolated seniors citizens have a little brighter day. Joining the efforts of Letters Against Isolation, 120 postcards with positive messages—custom colored by KSI participants—went out from KSI to assisted living, nursing and senior services facilities nationwide. Participants' voted on which facilities would receive their custom cards. KSI Director of Funding Opportunities and Board Relations Michelle Cain found out about Letters Against Isolation and felt it was a fun way for KSI participants to express their creativity and make someone feel better in the process.

The program started in spring 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic shutdowns. Two Boston high school students and sisters, Shreya and Saffron Patel, were checking in daily on their grandparents to help alleviate their isolation during the ordeal. They started wondering how they could alleviate the loneliness and isolation many senior citizens felt every day in assisted living and nursing facilities. In 2022, they started the nonprofit Letters Against Isolation to provide handpersonalized cards with positive messages that let people know someone thought about them and that there was hope. The nonprofit now involves more than 19,000 volunteers who've written more than 1,000,000 cards to 13,000 senior living in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and other countries.

## Wow Science Brings a Spark to KSI



Wow Science Executive Director Folake Adebi dazzled KSI participants with some special experiments and scientific demonstrations.

Educational enrichment program Wow Science came to spark interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) jobs among KSI's Pre-Vocational participants. WOW Science Executive Director Folake Adebi encouraged individuals to identify their own talents and commit to using them in many ways within STEM

opportunities. She also wowed them with some fun experiments, including an electrical one that really raised some hairs.

Wow Science's primary mission is cultivating and promoting children's interest in

STEM by incorporating hands-on science projects, math lessons, simulations and educational games to reinforce classroom learning. During her demonstration at KSI, Ms. Adebi showed home recipes for everyday products like home insulation. She also gave a couple of staff members a bit of a playful shock with a static electricity demonstration.



KSI Vice President of Operations Saundra Hale got a slightly shocking experience with a static electricity transmission.

Annual Dinner continued from page 3.

packaging, pallet jacking, as well as machine lock out/tag out safety shut-down. And he's helped train a lot of people on the crew."

Fellow honoree Darlene Murray's role as part of KSI's community work crew at the Dover Wipes plant has grown to include operation of various machinery used in the multipack section. She's also an advocate helping others looking to make the leap into community-based work. She expressed to the crowd how happy it made her to accomplish life goals she never thought possible because of her opportunity working at P&G.

"Darlene learned to present herself in a professional manner. She also went to classes and training for machine operation, including lock out/tag out," related Mr. Wroten.

Plaques were also presented to Alan Relaford on behalf of Procter & Gamble Dover Wipes, as well as Randy Wroten for all his dedicated work to keep KSI's community-based employment opportunities running effectively.

Additionally, special Proclamations from members of both the Delaware House of Representatives and the State Senate were presented honoring the KSI/Procter & Gamble partnership.