

New Report Spotlights Lehigh Valley Food and Beverage Industry

By Paul Muschick

LEHIGH VALLEY - The latest issue of the Lehigh Valley Commercial Real Estate Report highlights the newest additions to the marketplace, including the opening of a development that has been years in the making.

The cover article, "Food & Beverage Manufacturers Savor the Lehigh Valley," explores how the Lehigh Valley has become a major center for the production of food and beverages, for people and pets.

"If you're in the Northeastern United States and swigging a Samuel Adams beer, munching on Stuffed Puffs, or pouring preservative-free Freshpet into your dog's bowl, you and Rover are experiencing a taste of Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania," said Don Cunningham, President & CEO of Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corp. (LVEDC).

Producers include iconic brands such as Coca-Cola, Boston Beer, and Ocean Spray in the drink-making space. Just Born, Bimbo Bakeries, Bakery/Norac Foods, and Stuffed Puffs churn out snacks, pastries, and breads, while Freshpet, Spot & Tango, and Nestle Purina fill the bowls of cats and dogs. Nearly half of all dog and cat food production jobs in Pennsylvania are in the Lehigh Valley.

An abundance of fresh water and natural resources, infrastructure to support manufacturing, and a key location amid interstate highways, ports, and airports make the Lehigh Valley an attractive location for those manufacturers.

Published each quarter by LVEDC, the Lehigh Valley Commercial Real Estate Report provides a detailed overview of industrial and office market activity, notable real estate transactions, and population and labor force trends. The newest edition covers data from the third quarter of 2023.

The digital version of the new issue can be downloaded here, and hard copies are available upon request.

Key additions to the commercial real estate landscape include:

Six Fifteen Waterfront, a 109,620-square-foot office and retail building that is the first building completed at The Waterfront, what will be a \$425 million complex of office, retail, and residential properties along the Lehigh River in Allentown.

Carroll Engineering, a large consulting, engineering, planning, and surveying firm in the Philadelphia region, expanded into the Lehigh Valley with an office in Easton.

Deibel Laboratories, an international firm that provides food safety testing and training for manufacturers, acquired a property for a new testing facility in Bethlehem Township.



From Past to Present: A Virtual Tour of Jewish Easton

By Sigal Museum

EASTON - Northampton County Historical & Genealogical Society (NCHGS) is proud to offer a virtual tour of Easton, Pennsylvania's Jewish heritage – past and present.

In the 1650s, Dutchmen from New Amsterdam (present-day New York) were exploring the area that would become Northampton County. Among those explorers was a group of Jewish refugees from Brazil, who had made an agreement with the Dutch West India Company to stay and settle in New Amsterdam. This Brazilian group was the first established Jewish community in North America.

On November 29, 1655, three of those explorers – Abraham de Lucena, Salvator Dandrade, and Jacob Cohen – requested permission from the West India Company to travel and trade along the Delaware River. Although their request was denied, they were granted permission to send two others on a different expedition. This is where Easton's Jewish history begins, and it has flourished ever since.

This tour will move in chronological order, encompassing the downtown area between Scott Park and Sixth Street. Exact addresses and/or approximate locations are provided, should you wish to walk through the sequence of tour stops. Citations, sources, and further reading material are provided at the end of the tour. Additionally, many sections are given short introductions to provide background context relevant to tour stops.

Please note that although this tour is virtual, all tickets must be purchased through Eventbrite. You will receive an access token with your order confirmation – you must use this token in order to access the tour content on the Culture Connect platform. Your token will be valid only during the month in which you purchase access.

Please feel free to call the Sigal Museum at 610-253-1222 with any questions!



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PENNSYLVANIA HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST RATES OF OPIOID OVERDOSE IN THE NATION.

76,975 FROM 2018-2022 DOSES OF NARCAN GIVEN BY EMS

4 OUT OF **10** PILLS BOUGHT ON THE STREET CONTAIN LETHAL DOSES OF FENTANYL

Local NARCAN Trainings

NARCAN is a nasal spray that can be given to a person to reverse a fentanyl overdose. Take a course and learn how to respond to an overdose and get free NARCAN.



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