## **Bridgeton Area Chamber**

Coming Dec. 1 ... 2020 Community Heroes Awards Honoring Heroes with A Hometown Heart

## December 1, 2020, 5:00 to 7:30 PM

Arrival, food and parking starts at 5 PM. Celebration begins at 5:30 PM. DRIVE-IN, IN-CAR, OUTDOOR CELEBRATION IN THE PARKING LOT OF CUMBERLAND MUTUAL, 633 SHILOH PIKE, HOPEWELL \$35.00 Per Person Includes Dinner in Your Vehicle, Beverage, Popcorn, Stadium Blanket & More Giant HD Screen & Audio Broadcast to Your Auto's FM Radio

## FEATURING THE HERO AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- Dr. Robin Weinstein (Gary F. Simmerman Leadership Award)
- Mayor Bruce Hankins (Francis Sharp Achievement Award)
- Angelia Edwards and Martha Price, Manna from Heaven
- Rylee Howerton, Madison Stiles and Queens 4 a Cause

Cumberland Mutual Drive-In Theater Presents HERO AWARDS

Admit One Dec. 1 \$35

- Chris Hannah & Cole, the Deaf Dog - The Team Cole Project
- Marco Cruz
- Betty Shrouder
- Millie Irizarry Sanchez
- ★ CompleteCare Health Network
- Inspira Health

- Cumberland County Government and Health Departments
- ★ The Heroes Foundation and Pepi Dragotta
- ★ The Salvation Army Bridgeton Corps and Lt. Melissa Lowell
- ☆ Golden Pigeon Restaurant
- **☆** Innovation Foods

Reservations Required. Deadline for Reservations & Payments is Nov. 24. Register & Pay Online:

https://form.jotform.com/bacccdc/heroes More Information: www.baccnj.com/hero

siness Name:	Auto Type:		
Names of	Those Attending and	I Include the Food Cl	hoice Number:
Meal options cate	red by Dilisi Ristoran	te, Upper Deerfield F	Plaza, <u>www.dilisi.com</u> :
#1 - Grilled Sa	almon with roasted p	otatoes and mixed ve	egetables and roll.
#2 -Penne Vodka w	ith grilled chicken wi	ith roasted potatoes	and vegetables and roll.
#3 - Spinaci	h Salad, walnuts, stra	awberries, crumbled	blue cheese and
		ette dressing and rol	
	#4 – Same Salad as #		
Water, coffee or h	ot chocolate, and a c	ookie for dessert inc	luded with each meal.
1	Food #	_ 2	Food #
3	Food #	_ 4	Food #
TOTAL AMOUNT OF ORDER: \$			
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**Presenting Sponsors:** Century Savings Bank and Inspira Health







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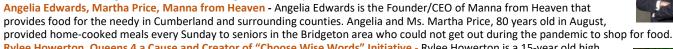
## **Honoring These Community Heroes on Dec. 1**



Mayor Bruce Hankins to Receive the Francis Sharp Lifetime Achievement Award - Bruce Hankins is completing 33 years on Hopewell Township Committee, 13 of which serving as Mayor. He and his brother Brent, a previous Francis Sharp Award winner, have led H.H. Hankins & Bro., New Jersey's oldest family-owned lumberyard, since 1972. He is a community hero because he has served with high ethical standards, strong faith, and a sincere concern for his community.

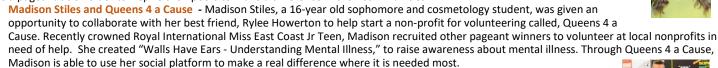
**Dr. Robin Weinstein to Receive the Gary F. Simmerman Community Leadership Award** - Dr. Robin Weinstein is the founder and President of the M25 Initiative, a nonprofit that employs innovative and cooperative solutions to feed the hungry, end poverty, reduce crime, revitalize a spirit of community and transform lives. He is founding Pastor of Bethany Grace Community Church

and is Associate Professor in the College of Business at Wilmington University.



Rylee Howerton, Queens 4 a Cause and Creator of "Choose Wise Words" Initiative - Rylee Howerton is a 15-year old high school freshman, who is involved with many clubs and organizations, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. She was recently crowned International United Miss New Jersey Jr. Teen and is a nine-time recipient of the Gold Presidential Volunteer Service award

and other awards. Rylee's aspiration to co-create Queens 4 a Cause was born from her desire to use her volunteering experience and exposure as a pageant title holder to inspire their peers to make a difference in their communities.



Chris Hannah & Cole, the Deaf Dog, The Team Cole Project - Passed up by countless families at the South Jersey Regional Animal Shelter, Cole quickly began his journey to show that a disability is not an inability. Cole works every school day, alongside his music teacher father, Chris Hannah, at Dr. William Mennies Elementary School in Vineland, developing school togetherness and confidence. Best friends. Chris and Cole, are true Community Heroes.

Marco Cruz - Marco is from Cumberland County and his mother owns Milly's in Vineland. In the midst of the COVID pandemic, Marco voluntarily started working to ensure farm workers and other immigrant families had access to food, providing information and arranging deliveries to ensure the families' needs were met. He organized a drive-by caravan to encourage the workers for being essential to feeding the community. Marco has been a key volunteer and activist in making a difference for the immigrant community.

Betty Shrouder - Betty has selflessly assisted hundreds of seniors while teaching school remotely. During the evenings and weekends, she made and donated cloth masks to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Betty also made hero gifts for local nurses and nurses who work in retirement communities. She gave away produce that she has grown in her garden. Betty has spent her own money for supplies and has not accepted money for making these items. She felt she needed to help and do her part. Betty also made a video showing others how to make a cloth mask. She is a true Community Hero.



Millie Irizarry Sanchez - Millie is a natural born humanitarian who previously worked for the Vineland and Cumberland County
Health Departments. She currently works for the Community Food Bank of NJ as an essential worker and is supervisor of the mobile food
distributions. Millie has worked throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. As an advocate for her community, she hosted several food drives when
others were afraid to do so during the pandemic. Millie is responsible for hosting the farmworkers food drive. She was recognized as a
Cumberland Hometown Hero in 2019, but since then she has gone into overdrive and is a true blessing and Hero to our community.

CompleteCare Health Network - CompleteCare Health Network has provided extraordinary community service throughout

the Coronavirus emergency with CEO Curtis Edwards leadership and with the dedication of his staff. They have been integral in efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus in Cumberland County and surrounding areas. CompleteCare acted quickly and responsibly to ensure patients had access to vital healthcare services throughout the outbreak.

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Inspira Health - Inspira Health played a key role in serving those affected by the Coronavirus, providing high-quality and compassionate health care services, while keeping their employees and the public safe throughout the crisis. They served as the "family and friends" of those hospitalized, when loved ones could not be with patients due to quarantine. During the COVID-19 health crisis, Inspira's leadership team and all of its brave and caring team members have been a source of inspiration and professional health care.

Cumberland County Government and Health Services – With County Commissioner Joe Derella's leadership and that of

County Administrator Kim Wood and Deputy County Administrator Jody Hirata, the County's response to the Coronavirus emergency has been excellent, a true partnership of leaders and experts across the County. These Community Heroes include Cumberland County administrative officials and employees, Cumberland Health officials and staff, Cumberland County EMS and others.



The Heroes Foundation and Pepi Dragotta - Pepi Dragotta survived sudden cardiac arrest while playing soccer with his son. After he made his recovery, he decided to start Heroes Foundation NJ. To date, Pepi has provided youth teams with 100 units to save lives across our community. The Foundation has provided scholarship money to high school students who are looking to continue their education going into the medical field.

The Salvation Army Bridgeton Corps and Lt. Melissa Lowell - For Lt. Melissa Lowell, The Salvation Army Bridgeton Corps, was her first appointment in New Jersey. Her responsibilities in Bridgeton include overseeing the breakfast

program, food pantry, infant supplies personal care pantry, utility/rental assistance, and regular church programing. COVID has created an astounding increase in the need for services in the region. The Salvation Army Bridgeton Corps continues to do its best to meet those needs. In June alone they served over 1,000 breakfast meals, providing food to over 200 local households.

Golden Pigeon Restaurant - The owner of Golden Pigeon Restaurant, Ozkan Akilli, and his employees provided extraordinary service delivering take-outs to the tenants of Upper Deerfield Estates once the virus started and is still providing this much appreciated service to the residents who live in the nearby complex. The Golden Pigeon, like other restaurants, suffered loss of business during the pandemic, but continued to provide take-outs and stayed open 24 hours a day, providing extraordinary service to the people of the Bridgeton area.

Innovation Foods - Nick Catalana and his cousin Andrew Catalana, with a passion to help others, developed a plan to produce, package and distribute hand sanitizer that was donated to various hospitals and organizations in the area. With GoodBelly's donation of the bottles and packaging, they quickly repurposed manufacturing lines to bottle hand sanitizer for the pandemic, while Innovation Foods continued producing cases of juice and plant-based products. The family-owned company produced an alcohol-based hand sanitizer made at its Bridgeton facility. The 12.7-ounce bottles are labeled "Formula71," evoking the factory address of 71 Bridgeton Avenue and family roots to the city.