



## Kish Bank Shines Light on Community

STATE COLLEGE, PA – June 22, 2018 – Community shone brightly at Beaver Stadium last night when Kish Bank hosted its fourth annual Kish Celebrates Community gathering, where women’s basketball Head Coach Coquese Washington, three-time Big Ten Coach of the Year, and men’s basketball Head Coach Patrick Chambers, coach of the 2018 NIT championship team, led the celebration before a crowd of nearly 300 community volunteers and supporters.

“We’re here to express our gratitude, celebrate your commitment to our

communities, and hear from some very special guests on the subject of community,” declared William P. Hayes, Chairman and CEO of Kish Bank. “It’s simple, there is no place else we’d rather be,” he said.

Underscoring his strong belief in the value citizen servant leadership provides communities, Hayes remarked that conclusions reached by a Gallup and Knight Commission “Soul of the Community” study on factors that attach people to their communities, made a profound impression on him. The study, which examined 26 small cities across the U.S., was designed to explore the connection between economic growth and residents’ emotional attachment to their communities. The Gallup/Knight Commission study found a significant correlation between the two. But, surprisingly, economic prosperity was not the trump card. It was the inverse: economic growth tended to follow, not precede, what the study defined as “pride in place.”

“‘Pride in place’ is an intangible something and a precious commodity that takes generations to build,” Hayes explained. “It is,” he continued, “precious because ‘pride in place’ is a catalyst that causes community members to ‘lock arms’ and to have a willingness to step up in the midst of adversity to keep the community strong, healthy, and vibrant—for all of us and for all of those who follow.” This pride, he



Pink Zone presented a check to four beneficiary area hospitals. Pictured are: Kirk Thomas, Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital; Wendy Garlock, JC Blair Memorial Hospital; Penny Shope, JC Blair Memorial Hospital; Coach Coquese Washington; Susan Woodring, Executive Director of Pink Zone; Matthew Hardy, Mount Nittany Medical Center; Megan Weber, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center; and William P. Hayes, Chairman and CEO of Kish Bank.

explained, manifests itself in the selfless acts of kindness fellow citizens provide each other and in community organizations that make life better for all those who live in the community.

“We think it is important to stop once a year to come together to recognize the enormous impact all of this community work, driven in large part by volunteers, has on our quality of life and in developing a huge collective ‘pride in place’ around us,” Hayes concluded.

### **Coach Washington and Coach Chambers**

Washington and Chambers spoke about the personal pride they feel in having the privilege to raise their families in State College and to work at Penn State, a world-renowned research university that is solidly committed to the welfare of student athletes.

Chambers said, “There are just so many familiar people [here] that support this community, and obviously Kish Bank, representing all the great things that this community is all about. That’s what makes it so special. That’s what makes myself and my wife want to raise our kids here and keep them here. It’s a simple place, but yet, there are so many caring and loving people here. And that’s what Kish is about, and that’s what this community is about. It’s about the people. Let’s not forget that. You help people out. That’s what makes this area, this community, this university, so incredibly special.”

Regarding Lady Lion Basketball and community, Washington said, “There are so many things that we can hold onto to talk about how are we different—but our core values are the things that we hold onto that bring us together. Our mission as a program is to bring young ladies as teenagers to this campus and help them to develop a strength so that they can leave this university and go on to lives of impact in whatever community they go to. And one of the things that I love about partnering with Kish is that Kish does the same thing. They have core values that they bring out into our community that can help us to focus on what we have in common.”

Washington continued, “Our challenge as we go about our daily lives is to make Happy Valley a stronger community because of the values that we share. To grow a community where our children can be proud of where they are and where they’re from. Pride in place. That’s what we try to do with Lady Lion Basketball, that’s what Pat tries to do with Nittany Lion Basketball, and I’d like to think that’s what everybody in this room is about—helping make this community a stronger, happier, and healthier place to be.”

### **Outstanding Humanitarian of the Year Award**

Highlights of the evening included presentations of Kish’s Humanitarian of the Year Award to Dr. Peter Hudson, Director of the Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences and Willaman Professor of Biology at Penn State, sponsored by *The Centre County Gazette and Town&Gown Magazine*; and Kish’s Outstanding Non-Profit of the Year Award to The Arc of Centre County, PA, Inc., and Strawberry Fields, Inc., sponsored by *The Sentinel*.

Hudson, awarded Penn State’s Honorary Alumnus Award earlier this month, is widely recognized for his work on the ecology of wildlife diseases as they affect population dynamics, heterogeneities (the identification of variation in transmission between infected individuals and the role of “superspreaders” in disease dynamics), and parasite interactions.

“His studies not only include the diseases that affect wildlife, but also the role of wildlife in transmitting diseases to other animals, including ourselves,” Hayes said, noting his deep respect for the impact Hudson’s work and life have had on global populations that are under serious duress from the spread of infectious and transmittable disease.

Hayes also saluted Hudson’s establishment of the Penn State Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics, an internationally recognized interdisciplinary center that is considered to be a global leader in solving infectious disease problems.

### **2018 Outstanding Non-Profit of the Year Award**

The Arc of Centre County, PA, Inc., founded as a grassroots organization in 1953 by a small group of parents, is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the needs of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy, and other diagnoses. The Arc assists individuals so diagnosed to achieve their life goals by creating opportunities for education, employment, housing, and recreation.



**William P. Hayes presented the Outstanding Non-Profit of the Year Award to The Arc of Centre County, PA, Inc. and Strawberry Fields. Pictured are: Laurie Jordan, The Arc; Rebekah Cunningham, The Arc; William P. Hayes, Kish Bank Chairman and CEO; Andrea Cook, Strawberry Fields; and Fran McDermott, Strawberry Fields.**

Strawberry Fields is a non-profit organization founded on a farm in Yarnell, PA in 1972 by family members wanting to find a way to make life better for their children with intellectual disabilities at a time when the primary alternative for many such children was placement in institutions, often with histories of isolation and social segregation. The founding families had a dream and a vision of the time when people with disabilities would be accepted and recognized for their unique contributions to their communities.

In making the award, which recognized two organizations this year, Hayes said, “We are delighted to recognize two organizations with common missions. Both The Arc and Strawberry Fields started modestly and grew to serve people with needs who are making impactful contributions to quality of life for not only themselves, but others. We applaud the services they have expanded upon over the years and, especially, the triumphs they have helped their clients achieve.”

Other outstanding non-profit finalists were Huntingdon County PRIDE, Inc., an independent agency that provides programs for persons with disabilities caused by birth defects, injury, disease, learning and developmental disorders, and other disabling conditions to function at their optimal level of

performance; and Relay for Life of Mifflin Juniata, the year-round, community-based fundraising effort that culminates in a 24-hour-long walk-a-thon for the American Cancer Society.

### **Pink Zone Presentation to Area Hospitals**

Coach Washington also presented a Pink Zone check in the amount of \$142,441.01 to representatives of four beneficiary area hospitals (Mount Nittany Medical Center; Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital; J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital; and Penn State Health's Milton S. Hershey Medical Center). Pink Zone and Lady Lion Basketball are a unified force in the fight against breast cancer. During Washington's tenure at Penn State, more than \$2.3 million have been raised to support the cause; of that, Kish Bank clients, employees, friends, and family have raised more than \$166,000.

### **Kish's Community Impact Award**

Kish's Community Impact Award, a prestigious award made annually to a Kish employee, was presented by Coach Washington and Kish Bank President and COO Greg Hayes to Denise Quinn, Vice President and Commercial Relationship Manager at Kish Bank. Quinn previously chaired the Centre County Heart Walk for the American Heart Association. She is the immediate past president and current board member of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the Risk Management Association, an international association for the banking industry. She has served on the CBICC Revolving Loan Committee for the past ten years, is a member of the Finance Committee for Clearwater Conservancy, volunteers for the natural garden maintenance at the Clearwater Conservancy's building in State College, and is a volunteer at her church, Our Lady of Victory, including serving as a Eucharistic Minister there.



Also awarded was the Kish Community Impact Award. Pictured are: Greg Hayes, Kish Bank President and COO; Heidi Leonard, Huntingdon Branch Manager, finalist; Denise Quinn, VP and Commercial Relationship Manager, winner; Coach Washington; and Crystal Yoder, Personal Banker, finalist.

### **About Kish Bank**

*Kish Bank is an \$819 million regional community bank that operates fifteen offices and financial centers in Centre, Mifflin, and Huntingdon counties. Affiliates of Kish Bank include: Kish Insurance, Kish Financial Solutions, Benefit Management Group, and Kish Travel. For additional information, please visit [www.kishbank.com](http://www.kishbank.com). Kish Bank is a subsidiary of Kish Bancorp, Inc., trading under the OTC stock ticker symbol of KISB.*