

Local T.G.I. Friday's franchisee receives top honors

Dallas-based Northeast Restaurant Group was recognized by T.G.I. Friday's, Inc. during the 2003 T.G.I. Friday's® Owners Conference held last month in San Francisco. Owned by John C. Metz, Northeast Restaurant Group is a licensed T.G.I. Friday's, Inc. franchisee that operates eight T.G.I. Friday's restaurants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, including the Wilkes-Barre location.

Jeff Metz, vice president of operations for Northeast Restaurant Group, was honored as Domestic Franchise Operator of the Year, a recognition that is based on outstanding achievement in sales, profit and people. In addition, the company was recognized for Highest Percentage Comp Store Sales (total sales \$20 million or greater).

Curtis Nelson, president and chief operating officer for Carlson Companies, parent company of Carlson Restaurant Worldwide, presented John C. Metz with the Carlson Sword of Excellence. Metz received the award in honor of his dedication to the industry and in recognition for being named 2002 MUFISO operator of the year.

Pictured, from left: Don Dube, Regional Manager; John C. Metz, Chairman and CEO; Kip Meyer, GM-Toms River; Jeffrey Metz, Vice President of Operations, and Pete Jurta, Director of Operations.



Metz & Associates, Ltd. among Food Management Magazine's Top 50

Metz & Associates, Ltd., Dallas, was recently named number 22 among Food Management Magazine's (FM) Top 50 Food Contract Management Companies in the country. This list is compiled from a detailed study of national and significant regional companies that operate in non-commercial food service areas, primarily schools, colleges, healthcare, business and industry and recreation.

In citing Metz & Associates, the magazine noted that technology was a key target of attention at Metz during the past year. A new online reporting system allowed upper management to access and review unit-level financial activity around

the clock, and a nutritional software program called NutriNet that customizes menus in their healthcare segment was implemented. Bok Choy, an Asian cooking concept, as well as a partnership with the upscale coffee concept Starbucks, are also new to the company. In addition, Metz's Krispy Kreme franchises ranked second in the country in fund-raising sales.

Formed in 1994 by John C. Metz, Harold S. Leininger and Robert L. Aughenbaugh, Metz & Associates, Ltd. is committed to providing custom dining management services for the health care, education and business and industry sectors

with a special emphasis on service. In nine years, Metz & Associates has grown from a company with three employees to one that employs over 2,000 in the food service industry in Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey.

Metz & Associates, Ltd. currently manages volume in excess of \$50 million for 92 clients in a variety of settings including major hospitals, public and private schools, colleges, long-term care facilities, corporate offices and manufacturing facilities.

For more information on Metz & Associates, Ltd., visit their website at www.metzLtd.com.

SCID Corrections Counselor presented award for valor

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) has honored 11 individuals with Outstanding Performance Awards; five with Medals of Valor; and one with the Thomas Fulcomer Award. The awards are presented each year to employees who are nominated by their co-workers for their exceptional job performance, heroic deeds performed in the community, and for embodying the character and dedication of Thomas a. Fulcomer, a DOC deputy secretary who died last year following a battle with Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The award ceremony took place at the DOC's Elizabethtown Training Academy in Lancaster County.

This year Dianna Dean, corrections counselor at SCI Dallas, will receive the Medal of Valor.

On Friday, January 2 of this year, while on her way home from work, Dianna came upon a motor vehicle accident. Diana witnessed the driver being ejected through the back windshield of a Chevy Blazer.

Without hesitation or concern for her own safety, Dianna responded as her years of experience as an EMT would dictate. While another responder

dialled 911, Dianna literally dug the driver out of the snow, wrapped her in coats and whatever else she could find. A passing motorist threw a coat out the window, telling her to keep it and apologized for not staying.

Dianna sat with the injured woman for approximately 20 minutes until the EMTs arrived. During this time, she held the woman's head, stroked her hair, calmed, and comforted her. She kept her conscious by having her talk about herself and her family. At one point, she even was able to make this seriously injured woman laugh.

Despite the efforts of all who came to the aid of this woman, the internal injuries she sustained were too great and were ultimately the cause of her death. She was pronounced dead on arrival at Scranton Community Medical Center.

Dianna attended the viewing where she was able to tell grieving family members the woman's last moments and thoughts.

Dianna has been an employee of the Department of Corrections for four years and was a key player in assisting SCI Dallas achieve reaccreditation recently.

SERVICE NOTES

Navy Ensign Timothy P. O'Donnell, son of Barbara A. and Gerard T. O'Donnell of Shavertown, recently graduated from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and was commissioned to his current rank in the United States Navy.

O'Donnell successfully completed four years of intensive academic, physical and professional training, resulting in a bachelor of science degree with a major in Naval Architecture. As a graduate of the Naval Academy, O'Donnell completed a four-year, total-immersion program where a strong, balanced academic program focused on the educational needs of the Navy and Marine Corps, is superimposed on a strict, professional military training environment emphasizing the development of leadership skills.

O'Donnell is a 1999 graduate of Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School.

Army Spec. Emily M. Mathers has graduated from nine weeks of basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Mathers is the daughter of Daniel Mathers of Trucksville, and Dorothea Mathers of Factoryville.

Mathers graduated from Dallas High School in 1998, and in 2002, received a bachelor's de-

gree from College Misericordia.

Navy Seaman Joshua C. Nicol, son of Norman Nicol of Shavertown, recently graduated from the Basic Enlisted Submarine Course at the Naval Submarine School in Groton, Conn.

During the six-week course, Nicol learned the basic theory, construction, and operation of nuclear-powered submarines. Nicol also learned shipboard organization, damage control, and submarine safety and escape procedures.

Nicol participated in hands-on training with reality simulators, practicing firefighting and flood control on board a submarine. Nicol also learned about a submarine's basic hydraulic, water and air systems, and practiced escaping from a simulated sinking submarine.

Nicol is a 1998 graduate of Cardinal High School of Santa Rosa, Calif.

Marine Corps Reserve Sgt. Gene L. Simon, whose wife, Brittany, is the daughter of Brenda and Alpha Hilbert of Dallas, Pa., recently was promoted to his current rank while serving with Marine Wing Support Squadron 472, Detachment A., Wyoming, Pa.

Simon was promoted based on sustained superior job performance and proficiency in his designated specialty.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

The state's leading small-business watchdog group recently honored state Senator Charles Lemmond (R-20) for his voting record during the 2001-02 legislative session.

Lemmond is among a group of state legislators named as "Guardians of Small Business" by the National Federation of Independent Business.

Lawmakers were selected based on individual voting records on small business issues such as health care, legal reform and a variety of tax-relief proposals, according to NFIB State Director Kevin Shivers.

Daniel Downey, Dallas, has been appointed regional Vocational Career Services Coordinator for the Penn State campuses in Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, and Worthington Scranton. Downey will oversee the campuses' collaboration as they provide career related services to students. This service is sponsored by a grant from PA Dept. of Education through the Carl D. Perkins Vocation & Applied Technology Education Act of 1990.

Downey received his bachelor's degree from Penn State University and his master's degree in social work from Rut-

gers University. Previously, he was employed as an adjunct faculty member, therapist, and program development specialist. He is a member of the Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association, National Association of Social Workers, and the American Legion.

Downey will coordinate mock interviews, workshops on resume writing, interviewing, job search strategies, and will provide individual counseling to Penn State students from the three northeast campuses. The Career Services Center places students in full- and part-time positions, internships, and seasonal work.

Sharon M. Reishus has been appointed Commissioner of the Maine Public Utilities Commission by Governor Baldacci of Maine. Reishus graduated from Dallas High School in 1980. She then attended and graduated from Stanford University with a degree in Applied Earth Sciences.

Following her graduation from Stanford, Ms Reishus was an Intelligence Officer for the CIA and a Senior Duty Officer for the White House Situation Room at the National Security Council. After resigning from that position, she received her

MBA in strategic Planning from the Wharton School in Philadelphia. She worked for a time at the MPUC, but left there to become the director of North American Power at CERA (Cambridge Energy Research Associates) in Cambridge, MA. Reishus has been frequently quoted in national news publications about her views on energy issues. She will be sworn in as the Commissioner of the MPUC on July 2 in Augusta, Maine. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Reishus of Dallas and the late Audrey Reishus.

Ronald W. Simms, chairman, and James M. O'Brien, CEO, recently announced that **Robert P. Matley** of Dallas, has been promoted to president of First Heritage Bank and will also serve as a member of the bank's board of directors. Matley was among the founding members of First Heritage having served since its inception in 1994 as executive vice president and corporate secretary. He will continue as the bank's chief operating officer with responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the bank.

Matley began his banking career in 1974 at the former United Penn Bank and later joined

Hanover Bank where he held positions of increasing responsibility including that of executive vice president and senior lending officer.

Matley received his B.S. and M.B.A. from Wilkes University, and is also a graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at the University of Delaware. He plays an active role in the community having served as a volunteer for Wilkes University and the United Way, and currently serves on the boards of directors of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry and Earth Conservancy. He is also past chairman of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund.

Matley lives in Dallas with his wife and two daughters. He is the second president in the nine-year history of First Heritage. He succeeds O'Brien who will continue to serve as the bank's chief executive officer and a member of its board of directors.

First Heritage Bank is locally owned and managed with headquarters at 64 North Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre. The bank also has branch offices in Hazleton and Kingston. Assets of the bank currently exceed \$284 million.

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For additional information contact Waste Management at 1-800-222-2028

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