

## **Seventh Annual Holiday Benefit Luncheon Was Great Success!**

More than 450 guests attended the annual Holiday Benefit Luncheon hosted by the Reading Chapter of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Law Foundation of Berks County on December 5, 2014.

The event included the presentation of the Sidney D. Kline, Jr. Award for Outstanding Community Service to Ann and Chris Kraras by Law Foundation President John J. Speicher. Both have been incredibly active in support of many community endeavors. As **President Speicher said, "Ann and Chris lead by example. They are the warmest and most generous people I know. If anyone should follow Sid in receiving this award, it is Ann and Chris."**

A former member of the board of directors of Alvernia University, Chris currently serves as a member of the board of trustees of Albright College and is chairing its Campaign Committee. In addition to being a member of the boards of Fulton Bank, Hispanic Center and Reading Health Systems, he is chair of the board of directors for Berks Encore. He is also a member and ex-chair of the board of the Greater Reading Convention and Visitors Bureau and a member of the Penn Corridor Initiative. He presently serves as the chair of the board for the United Way of Berks County and, along with Ann, chaired the 2008 Annual Campaign.

**Ann's voluntarism extends into the community through her membership in the Junior League of Reading**, chairing various committees, including the Town Hall Lecture Series. She served as League president in 1994-1995. Ann has served on the board of directors for the Berks County Food Bank, Reading-Berks Conference of Churches, Berks Chapter of the American Red Cross and the United Way of Berks County. She currently serves as a Peace Trust Partner for Berks Women in Crisis. They were presented with a beautiful, handcrafted vase, designed and created at the GoggleWorks.

Highlight of the luncheon was the appearance of Jamie Moyer, a key member of the 2008 Philadelphia Phillies World Championship Team and Phillies broadcaster for the 2014 season. Jamie responded to questions by Event Chair Mark Caltagirone and Baseball Aficionado Brian Engelhardt, as well as from the audience.

Very articulate in his responses, Jamie spoke from the heart in describing the work of his Foundation and the Grief Camps for children who have suffered a loss of a family member. He also shared insights on his pitching style which allowed him to compete in the professional leagues for 25 years, setting a record for being the oldest pitcher to earn a win.

A great beginning to the Holiday Season, please plan on attending next year- **December 4, 2015** at the Crowne Plaza Reading.