

Corporate Champion Circle: Celebrating those who Support our Community

United Way of the Tri-Valley Area launched its Corporate Champion Circle (CCC) in the summer of 2018. CCC members partner with United Way for one year, support their community, and receive unique marketing benefits. Corporate Champion Circle members contribute at one of three giving levels - Platinum (\$5,000), Gold (\$3,000), and Silver (\$1,500). To recognize CCC members, and to get to know those who are passionate about United Way, we have started a series that profiles these dedicated businesses. Please welcome Hilltop Collision Center, Inc. owned by Harvey Calden and operated by Scott Hall located in Jay, Maine.

In 1966 Harvey Calden started Calden's Body Shop in his father's barn on their farm. In 1969 Harvey built a 3-bay garage behind the farm on Jay Hill, renaming it to Hilltop Body Shop. In the early 80's Hilltop Body Shop became incorporated and was now Hilltop Collision Center, Inc. Also, at this time, Harvey gave a young man by the name of Scott Hall a chance to prove himself in his growing body shop. Scott, who was attending Foster Tech at the time, worked after school hours and summers as a body tech. Scott would stick with this position for 10 years before moving to the front office to do estimates for 3 years, then becoming the shop manager, which is a proud title he has held for 24+ years.

Hilltop Collision Center, Inc. mission is to provide reasonably priced repairs, honest work and outstanding customer service. They "treat customer vehicles as they treat their own". Hilltop has 12 employees and has provided this top-notch quality for over 50 years! Hilltop Collision Center provides the following:

- Autobody/Collision Repair
- Vehicle Estimates
- Insurance Claims
- Towing Services
- Frame and Unibody Straightening
- Mechanical Repairs
- Detailing

When asked what challenges and opportunities Scott sees in the community he replied, "It is a challenge recruiting and retaining skilled, dedicated and motivated employees, despite a friendly, flexible and incentivized work environment." "Franklin County is moving to a lower income community and with rising costs and prices, it makes it challenging to continue to offer reasonable prices." "The drug use is more prevalent, making it hard to attract fitting employees." However, Scott noted that one of the biggest challenges for a small business was the ability to offer Health Insurance to employees. Scott went on to say, "even with the challenges of our community come some great opportunities!" "we have a very tight knit community that always steps up when there is a need." Scott went on to talk about how "there is always an opportunity to volunteer, gain experience from it to use for personal or professional growth", noting that he is aware of many youth and senior programs that need volunteers.

When asked about becoming a CCC member, Scott immediately said "being a member of United Way is another way to give back to our community and it provides a much greater reach for our passion of supporting youth." Hilltop Collision has supported local youth programs (Area Youth Sports, Special

Olympics, School Events, Boy/Girl Scouts, 4-H, Operation Santa, Thanksgiving Baskets, etc.) for over 40 years.

Scott lives in Jay with his wife Wendy, they have two grown children whom they like to spend free time with. In his spare time, you can find Scott at the racetrack helping his son (mechanically, with his race car) and cheering him on from the pit!