

be surprised. A fake script was even crafted to keep her in the dark. It wasn't until a video she thought was about the 20th anniversary played that it became clear, with her son, Brett, and several colleagues making the announcement. Click [here](#) to watch the announcement; and click [here](#) to watch the Facebook Live video from the event. DSCC President Mike Quaranta was joined by Senator Chris Coons, along with Martha's family, to present the award.

The Gilman Bowl was established to recognize those who exhibit exceptional small business leadership. It is named in memory of Marvin S. Gilman, who served as an exemplary leader and a paragon of small business and philanthropy in Delaware. Martha has, and continues to, serve her community in various ways. Her involvement includes the 21st Century Children's Fund, a nonprofit that gives grants to children in need so that they can participate in extracurricular and developmental activities that would otherwise have been beyond their financial reach; as well as the Delaware Community Fund, the Rotary Club of Wilmington and the Homebuilders Association of Delaware.

The program included keynote remarks from Scott Kammerer of SoDel Concepts.

"Building something from nothing isn't for everyone, but I wouldn't trade it for anything," said Kammerer in sharing the story behind SoDel's inception, challenges overcome, accomplishments made and the success yet to be had.

The event also honored eight outstanding companies as Superstars in Business and Award of Excellence winners. Winner videos and event information can be found at www.dscc.com/superstarsinbusiness.

Journalism isn't Dead

AND OTHER INSIGHT FROM MIKE FEELEY,
EDITOR OF THE NEWS JOURNAL

» It's common knowledge that print media is declining, more rapidly now than ever before. The Washington Post recently cited that weekday print circulation went from 60 million in 1994 to 35 million in 2018, and that's including digital circulation. With that, newsroom employment dropped nearly 40 percent between 1994 and 2014.

With that negative commentary out of the way, we look to Mike Feeley, executive editor of Delaware's largest print and digital news source, The News Journal and DelawareOnline. "We actually now reach our largest audience ever," said Feeley. "While our print decline is on par with the rest of the nation's newspapers, we're seeing more than 1.7 million unique visitors a month online. As print circulation decreases, we're balancing our need to maintain a strong print product with the need to grow a digital audience."

Feeley took the helm last summer, replacing David Ledford, who retired after 14 years with the news group. He moved to Delaware from Pennsylvania with 30 years of journalism experience and was previously the senior director of content for PennLive and The Patriot-News in Harrisburg. Feeley was also one of the leaders of the team that won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for local reporting for their coverage of the Jerry Sandusky scandal at Penn State University.

As the industry evolves, Feeley remains positive in The News Journal's ability to stay true to its mission

while also staying relevant. "Our industry is going through amazing change. I'm very excited about the future of journalism, but that future is very different from the industry I entered 30 years ago. We need to be where the readers are getting their news – that's online, on their phones, through social media, and in print," he said.

Recent criticism of journalism has also become an issue with a "fake news" narrative sweeping the nation. Feeley shares that it's a constant battle in a time where people don't view news sources as credible or relevant. The News Journal's approach is to provide fair and balanced stories that matter, and in ways that reach people where they are, whether it's a print edition on their doorstep or a URL in their web browser. They staff is committed to giving readers news they can't get elsewhere, and not just covering the news of the day, but providing strong watchdog pieces and unique yet-to-be-told feature stories.

"We're building a newsroom that's light on its feet and understands the different ways people consume. So, when we're looking at changes in the industry, it really comes down to maintaining the high-quality products and services we offer, while figuring out the delivery processes and formats that people prefer," Feeley said.

"This is not about managing a decline in print, it's about preparing for the future of journalism."



Mike Feeley