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## In Lieu of Via All-Star Basketball Classic & Banquet, Via All-Star Selections Will be Announced in March 2021

BETHLEHEM, PA – As a precaution to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the 2021 Via All-Star Basketball Classic Banquet and Games to celebrate high school basketball players and raise funds for Via’s services will not take place this year. Instead, the Via All-Star selection committee will announce Via All-Stars, Via Teams of the Year and Via Players of Year in March 2021 through media outlets and social media.

“This has been a difficult year for all of us and the Via All-Star Basketball Classics wishes to recognize these student athletes for their hard-fought accomplishments,” said Lisa Walkiewicz, Via’s President and Chief Executive Officer.

Past sponsors of this event, including Service Electric, St. Luke’s University Health Network and the Yurconic Agency, will continue supporting Via by donating directly to Via’s services.

John M. Walson, President, Service Electric Cable TV and Communications, said: “My dad always knew how important Via is to the Lehigh Valley, and I’m proud to continue that support in 2021 and for years to come.”

St. Luke’s Health Network’s Sports Medicine Program Manager, Joe Stofanak, reiterated how important the Network’s partnership with Via is. “We support Via’s mission to help people of all abilities and have been proud to sponsor the All-Star Basketball Classic to honor local athletes and raise funds for Via’s services. Because of the pandemic, it is not possible to hold the event this year, but we will continue to support this important agency by sponsoring a week of activities for Via’s Teen Summer program that helps teens prepare for a bright future while enjoying exciting recreational and educational activities.”

Jeff Boardman, Business Insurance Manager at The Yurconic Agency, also expressed support of Via’s mission and services. “As a past sponsor of events such as the Via Golf Classic & Via All-Star Basketball Classic, The Yurconic Agency is grateful to sponsor the Via of the Lehigh Valley Teen Summer and Community Connections programs in 2021. The services that Via provides to children and adults with disabilities throughout the Lehigh Valley is very important to enriching our community. As a longtime partner, we are proud to continue to support this much-needed organization.”

Lisa Walkiewicz added: “While the Via All-Star Classic can’t happen this year as it has in years past, announcing the Via All-Star sections through media outlets and social media will allow the Via All-Stars to receive the recognition they deserve. We appreciate all the companies that sponsored this event over the last 46 years and thank them for supporting Via’s mission to help people with disabilities reach their full potential. We are grateful that we can continue to count upon this support.”

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**Via’s Mission: Helping the people we serve reach their full potential.**



## Via Announces LV Basketball Hall of Fame Inductees

The Lehigh Valley High School Basketball Hall of Fame was established in 1978 and honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to high school basketball in the Lehigh Valley. A complete listing of inductees can be found at [www.ViaNet.org/via-events/hall-of-fame/](http://www.ViaNet.org/via-events/hall-of-fame/).

Via is pleased to announce the 2020-21 Hall of Fame Inductees:

- Anthony Ross | Player – Dieruff High School 1996-2000, East Stroudsburg University 2002-2006
- Rob Thomson | Player – Professional Basketball Player 2004-2011,  
Fairfield University 2000-2004, Saucon Valley High School 1996-2000
- Amy Thomson | Player – Lehigh University 1996-2000, Saucon Valley High School 1993-1996

### About Via of the Lehigh Valley

Serving our community since 1952, Via helps people reach their full potential. In a typical year, Via provides services to 1,250 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon, Monroe, Bucks and Berks counties. These services include vocational exploration, community employment, educational activities, volunteer and recreational opportunities for teens and adults and early intervention therapies and inclusive education for young children. Visit [www.ViaNet.org](http://www.ViaNet.org) to learn more.

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