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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **UNIONTOWN MALL VITAL PART OF FAYETTE COUNTY**

**Uniontown, PA** – Despite recent store closures, Uniontown Mall general manager Pam Moore said the longtime Fayette County staple is here to stay.

A retail fixture in the community since 1972, Moore said the mall has successfully navigated through difficult times in the past.

“That is the unfortunate side of the retail industry - stores come and go, but we change and adapt with the times,” Moore said.

The Bon-Ton Stores Inc. recently closed all of its stores as a result of bankruptcy and subsequent liquidation of the entire company’s assets.

Last year, Sears corporate owners, Sears Holdings, closed the Uniontown location, opening approximately 100,000 square feet of highly-marketable mall space.

“The loss of longtime tenants such as Sears and The Bon-Ton does provide challenges,” Moore said. “However, the ownership of the mall is committed to finding replacement tenants.”

Both vacant spaces have been actively marketed since their closures and, while the tenant-finding process may be slow, the mall continues to provide a positive shopping experience for the community, she added.

While the closings, which have been common in shopping malls nationwide, have sparked many rumors, Moore said the “full truth of the matter” is that the mall is only seeking new tenants, continuing to host community events and moving forward with operations.

“I think it is very important for everyone to know the reality of the situation,” she said. “Yes, Sears and Bon-Ton closed, which was a loss to our area ... but we need to remember, this does not mean the end to the mall.

“We have the space and resources available to bring in other tenants.”



Positives continue to happen at Uniontown Mall, with the former Teletch - now called TTEC - continuing to perform as one of the area's largest employers and J.C. Penney department store adding a Sephora to its offerings.

The Fayette Chamber of Commerce, Fayette County Community Action, VITA Tax Assistance Program, Fayette County Drug and Alcohol, scout troops and countless other community organizations continue to choose Uniontown Mall for their events.

Moore remains hopeful that Fayette County and surrounding communities will continue to support Uniontown Mall and look forward to new developments throughout the year.

"The management and staff of the Uniontown Mall are confident that there is great promise for the future of this facility," she said. "Uniontown Mall has been a vital part of our community for many years and will remain that way for years to come."

For more on everything the mall has to offer, visit [www.shopuniontownmall.com](http://www.shopuniontownmall.com).

To learn more about Fayette County, visit [www.fayettecountypa.info](http://www.fayettecountypa.info).

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