

Chamber Newsletter

WOOSTER OOSTER OOSTER

Linking Business with Community

August 2023

In this Issue:

2023 Woosterfest schedule including live music and community events. Register today to participate in an event. Pages 6 - 8

377 West Liberty Street • Wooster, Ohio 44691

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WHAT IS A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?



Beyond ribbon cuttings and groundbreakings, do you know what your local chamber of commerce is or has to offer? Read on to discover not only what a chamber is but also what we consider to be the top benefits of investing in your local chamber of commerce.

As an organization of businesses within a community, a chamber of commerce operates as a 501(c)6, which means they do not operate for profit and none of the net earnings benefit any private shareholder or individual. All of the money a chamber of commerce

raises is funneled back into the community it serves. The first chamber of commerce, the Chambre de Commerce founded in Marseille, France in 1599, was a collection of local businesses coming together to address the issues and challenges they were facing.

While chambers of commerce work to promote the business community as a whole, there are significant benefits to being a member of your local chamber of commerce. Here are some of the top benefits of investing in your local chamber of commerce!



Networking Opportunities

One of the most often-cited reasons for joining chambers of commerce is the networking opportunities they are known for providing. In fact, when the first chamber of commerce formed, it was a collection of business members getting together to address their collective issues and concerns. Chambers today exist for largely the same reason. Like many local chambers, the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce offers members a variety of opportunities to network. Between Business After Hours, Young Professionals, and Chamber Travel opportunities, there is no shortage of ways for business and community members to regularly network with other professionals. The Annual Dinner Meeting is the largest gathering of the membership each year, seeing more than 800 people in attendance.

Targeted Marketing Opportunities

As an organization formed for the purpose of promoting the interests of its business members, your local chamber of commerce provides several outlets for targeted marketing opportunities. The Wooster Chamber offers its members many promotional opportunities. The monthly printed

newsletter provides updates on what's happening around the Chamber and with the businesses within our community and is distributed to 24,000 homes within Wayne County. Members are not only regularly featured in our printed newsletter, but they also have the opportunity to place ads that will connect them with the community at large. The Chamber also sends a weekly email blast to members, featuring updates on upcoming events within the Chamber, and members are welcome to share updates happening within their businesses.

Community Involvement

As a community organization, a chamber of commerce will provide its members with many opportunities to get involved with the community. In fact, this is often a reason businesses decide to join their local chamber — they see this as the most direct way of giving back to and supporting the community that supports their businesses. By hosting several community-wide events each year, including Woosterfest, the Wayne County Home & Garden Show, and Lemonade Day, the Wooster Chamber draws tens of thousands of visitors to the local area each year, promoting local businesses and encouraging entrepreneurial endeavors.

Professional Development

As an organization dedicated to business growth, a chamber of commerce is keenly focused on helping businesses — and business professionals — thrive. To support this effort, the Wooster Chamber offers the Leadership Wooster program each year to train leaders who will build a stronger community. The Wooster Chamber also offers Educational Series touching on a variety of topics related to business development and operation.

Money-Saving Programs

Chambers of commerce originally organized – and continue to operate – under the notion that a group is stronger than the individual. By pooling their buying power, members of the Wooster Chamber are able to take advantage of money-saving programs for things like health insurance, energy rates, and workers' compensation programs. In some cases, these money-savings programs can save individual members tens of thousands of dollars each year.

Gaining a Voice in Public Advocacy

In their earliest form, chambers of commerce were a coalition of traders who joined together to

protect themselves from common threats, including robbery and abuse from governing bodies. In a similar fashion, today's local chamber of commerce uses its collective voice to enact change at the government level, advocating for businesses and the surrounding community. Such advocacy may include things like lobbying for zoning changes to allow more residential property to be built, and allowing space for a community (and its businesses) to grow

Promoting the Community in which You Live, Work, and Play

By investing in your local chamber of commerce, you gain access to a great number of services that directly and significantly benefit your business. But you also support an organization that is working tirelessly to promote and grow the surrounding community. Without the support of its members, your local chamber of commerce — and all of the benefits, services, and advocacy it provides — would struggle to survive. Chambers of commerce strengthen their surrounding communities, creating a space that fosters unity, growth, and progress.

For more information about the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce, visit woosterchamber.com.

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* New Members



Fleet Feet

Fleet Feet is excited to carry on the tradition of the well-known local running store, Vertical Runner located on W. Liberty St. With 3 established stores in Columbus, Fleet Feet is eager to expand its services to the Wooster running community. Fleet Feet is here to equip you with the tools needed to finish your first race or get you through your day pain-free. Their 3D foot scanning technology, FitID, measures the unique shape of your foot making sure you're outfitted in the right gear, and carry shoes from all the brands. They're looking forward to being a part of the community and seeing you all out on the roads and trails!



Flourish Beauty Bar

Flourish Beauty Bar is a full service salon with a passion for the industry and a desire to deliver consistent and modernized trends in the beauty industry. They offer an array of exclusive services, including custom color and cuts for men and women texturizing services, skincare (including custom facials and chemical peels). hair removal, nail services, and pedicures. They also offer lash lifts, tints, extensions and spray tanning! They are committed to providing an elite environment for clients and peers alike, cultivating a sense of community presence, and flourishing every year.



JDM Structures

JDM Outdoors of Wooster is a part of JDM Structures, a local family-owned and operated company in business since 1992. JDM provides storage sheds, outdoor furniture, homes, garages, pavilions and pergolas. The JDM team works hard to provide a 5 star experience at every part of the journey starting with JDM Shedbuilder, a robust yet user-friendly 3D configuration tool that empowers you to bring your vision to life. With the expertise of their seasoned staff, you'll receive invaluable guidance throughout the entire process. You can learn more at jdmstructures.com or visit their newly renovated sales center across from the new Meijer on Burbank Road, Wooster.

meijer

Born and raised in the Midwest and family-owned since 1934, the newly opened Meijer is ready to serve the Wooster community. Meijer is now offering low prices and rewards on fresh food and great brands across more than a dozen departments. The Wooster store features pickup and delivery options, a pharmacy with divethru service, a deli, a bakery, and a gas station. Stop in to see all that they have to offer and download the Meijer app to receive exclusive savings, weekly deals, and to start accruing mPerks with every purchase to claim personalized rewards. Meijer is located at 4845 Burbank Rd.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS April 2022 May 2022 May 2023 April 2022 May 2022 May 2023 Labor Force, Employed Unemployment, 3.3% 3.4% 3.4% 58.400 58.900 59.800 **United States** Wayne County Unemployment, Labor Force, Unemployed 3.7% 3.4% 1,700 1,700 1,600 **Wayne County Wayne County Sales** Unemployment 2.8% 2.8% 2.6% \$1.321.525.59 \$1,200,791,97 Wayne County

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Michelle Rothgery

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is on Facebook @woosterchamber on Instagram.

Located near downtown at 377 West Liberty Street • Wooster, Ohio 44691

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A small materials fee applies ister online at sbdcksut.org

UPCOMING DATES

Monday, August 28

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Small Business

Webinars and

Orientation

Workshops

* August Newsletter

Join us at the Wayne County Fairgrounds for our upcoming August Business After Hours event for members

Join us for a Business After Hours at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, August 9 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Attendees will get an exciting preview of the Wayne County Fair Junior Livestock and Dairy Products Auction. There will be animals on display and 4-H and FFA young leaders will be showcasing the hard work they have invested in projects this summer.

Enjoy the famous dairy barn milk shakes and appetizers. Raffle drawings for Wayne Country Fair Event Tickets and more!

See you at the Wayne County Fair Event Center! Register to attend at www.woosterchamber.com/business-after-hours

What is the Wooster Chamber Business After Hours program?

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours are premier networking events designed to connect local professionals and foster business relationships in a relaxed and engaging environment. This program offers an excellent opportunity for new and current chamber members to expand their professional networks, showcase their businesses, and stay updated on the latest developments in the local business community.







To register for this upcoming Business After Hours event, visit woosterchamber.com/business-after-hours.

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* Wayne Economic Forum

Register now for the 2023 Wayne Economic Forum taking place on Thursday, October 26!



The tenth annual Wayne Economic Forum will be held on Thursday, October 26, at Greystone Event Center! This annual forum event features top executives from the regional business community who will share a variety of perspectives and ideas ranging from business growth, human behavior, and economic development. Attendees will learn about recent economic trends and developments throughout the global market.

We are excited to feature five extraordinary speakers at this year's event. With registration, you will be able to listen to all of these talks and gain new insights over lunch and drinks. Don't miss out on this great networking and learning opportunity! To register and learn more, please visit www.woosterchamber.com/wayne-economic-forum.

2023 Wayne Economic Forum Speakers

Four topics and presentations with five different speakers!







Scott Dalenberg EVP, SRC Holdings



Amy Brady
CIO,
Retd. President



Jodi Berg VIP, Name to be soon disclosed & CEO, Vitamix



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To register for the Wayne Economic Forum, please visit woosterchamber.com/wayne-economic-forum.

Safety Council

Ptl. Hall to present on Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events



Ptl. Hall Community Resource Officer, Wooster Police Department

Every year, thousands of workers report having been victims of workplace violence. No matter who initiates the confrontation, the deadliest situations involve an active shooter. Whether you are a patron or an employee, it's

important to be alert and prepared to respond to an active shooter event.

Wooster Area Safety Council will meet on Wednesday, August 23 to hear from Ptl. Donald Hall about C.R.A.S.E. Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events.

Ptl. Hall currently serves as the Community Resource Officer for the Wooster Police Department. Prior to his career in law enforcement, Ptl. Hall served active duty in the United States Marine Corps with the 2nd Battalion 8th Marines, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and active reserves with the 3rd Battalion 25th Marines. Ptl. Hall attained the rank of Sergeant and was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal.

Ptl. Hall began his 26-year career in law enforcement with the Wayne County



MEETING DETAILS

Topic: C.R.A.S.E. Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events

Speaker: Ptl. Donald Hall, Wooster Police Department

Date: Wednesday, August 23 Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location:

First Presbyterian Church 621 College Avenue, Wooster, Ohio

Cost: \$20 for Chamber members \$25 for non-members Lunch will be provided.

Sheriff's Office in December 1995.
Ptl Hall was hired by the Wooster Police
Department and served 9.5 years as
a Patrolman and Task Force Officer
(MEDWAY DEA) with a focus on drug
trafficking investigations. Ptl. Hall was
twice named Wooster P.D. Officer
of the Year, Wayne County Children
Services Officer of the year, and has
received numerous other awards and
commendations.

Ptl. Hall volunteers at the Wayne County Humane Society and is a member of the 555th Honors Detachment, which performs military burial services at the Western Reserve National Cemetery.



To register, visit woosterchamber.com/wooster-area-safety-council.

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STEIN HOLDING **COMPETITION 8:30 P.M**

TOURNAMENT 6 P.M.

TYLER REID 6 - 8 P.M.

PIG MAC EATING

COMPETITION 8 P.M.

WET BANDITS 9 - 11 P.M.

PLUS ARTS AND CRAFTS, FOOD VENDORS, BIERGARTEN WEINGARTEN ???

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT WOOSTERFEST.COM



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SATURDAY, SEPT. 30TH SCHEDULE

CRUISE-IN 11 A.M. - 7 P.M

DAN PYNE 2 - 4 P.M.

BEER STEIN

RACE 6 P.

RACE

SAUSAGE TOSS

IENER DOG

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* Woosterfest

Register today for these Woosterfest contests to take part in the fun!

Cornhole Tournament Friday, Sept. 29 @ 6 p.m.

Grab a partner and see if you can out-toss the other teams to win 1st prize!

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Pig Mac Eating Competition Friday, Sept. 29 @ 8 p.m.

If you love mac and cheese, pulled pork, and BBQ sauce, this competition is for you! Whoever eats the most pig mac in a set amount of time will be crowned the champion!

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Stein Holding Contest Friday, Sept. 29 @ 8:30 p.m.

Sign up for the Woosterfest Steinholding Competition! Participants will compete to see who can hold a full beer stein with a straight arm, parallel to the ground the longest.

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Wiener Dog Race

Saturday, Sept. 30 at 12 p.m.

Join us for the Woosterfest Wiener Dog Race & Costume Contest! All wiener dogs are eligible to participate, regardless of age or size. Enter to see which wiener will be the winner!



Sausage Toss Saturday, Sept. 30 @ 4 p.m.

Think you can outdo sausage tossers from throughout the Wooster area? Teams of two compete to see who can toss the Sausage back and forth the farthest while keeping it intact.

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Beer Stein Race Saturday, Sept. 30 @ 6 p.m.

Register for this friendly, fast-paced competition! Two team members carry six beer steins down a race lane covered in obstacles to fill the barrel faster than their opponents.

Sponsored by:



ALL CONTEST REGISTRATIONS AND MORE CAN BE FOUND ON WOOSTERFEST.COM

Order your anniversary Woosterfest t-shirt today!



NEW! To celebrate 40 years of Woosterfest, there will be special anniversary T-shirts for purchase this year! Order your T-shirt now and sport the iconic Woosterfest logo throughout the event. Order online at woosterfest.com and pick up your shirt at the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce once you are contacted.



R YOUR SPECIAL 40TH ANNIVERSARY WOOSTERFEST T-SHIRT ONLINE AT WOOSTERFEST.COM

* August Newsletter

Congratulations to this year's Wayne County Lemonade Day winners!



2023 Wayne County Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Matilynn - Mattie's Country Lemonade

Selected By: Kitty Poo Club

Matilynn enjoyed a successful Lemonade Day with her stand set up at E&H Ace Hardware in Orrville. Matilynn donated a portion of her proceeds to Patios for Patriots because it is a local organization that helps veterans relax at home. She

also received a matching donation to increase her contribution to the organization. Matilynn decided to save a portion of her earnings. Her candy straws sold really well and if she could change something she would get more of her friends to help with the stand.

To be considered for Youth Entrepreneur of the Year, Lemonade Day kids had to submit their business results, describe their goals and how

save and share their profits, and share the story of their business including why they did Lemonade Day, what they learned and their plans for the future.

As the Wayne County Youth Entrepreneur of the Year. Matilynn's results will be reviewed by Lemonade Day for a chance to win the National Youth Entrepreneur of the Year contest!



Best Lemonade Stand

Ben, Finn, Marcos, and Arianne Super-Lemonade Selected By: MCTV

The young entrepreneurial team of Super-Lemonade had a fun day selling lemonade and treats. The team split their earnings to purchase art supplies and save some for the

future. They used a portion of their profits to make a donation to the Wayne County Dog Shelter, Ben and Finn used 2/3 of their money to buy cat food to donate to the Wayne County Humane Society. They served many customers throughout the day in downtown Wooster in front of The Leaf Restaurant.





Best Marketing

Rylie - Rylie's Taste of Summer

Rylie was dedicated to her Lemonade Day stand and exceeded her goals. She created letters and videos explaining the goals for her lemonade stand and enlisted the help of her friends to create a commercial. With her earnings,

she donated some to Awareness 22 (A Veteran's Suicide Prevention Program), created a savings account, and purchased a "big" LEGO set. She paid back her investors and friends, and was able to reinvest some for next vear's stand. Rylie's stand was located a the Orrville American Legion.





Best Sales Team

Lydia - Sweet and Sassy

This was Lydia's second Lemonade Day and she assembled a team of friends to help with her lemonade stand this year. Each team member was responsible for a different part of the stand. The team coordinated cheers and dances to encourage

potential customers to stop and had a raffle for a basket of summer-themed items. Her Sweet and Sassy lemonade stand was set up in Shreve.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS FOR PARTICIPATING!

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* Ribbon Cuttings

JDM Structures celebrates with an official ribbon cutting and grand opening



Congratulations to JDM Outdoors of Wooster on their official ribbon cutting and grand opening! JDM Structures is a builder of premier barns, sheds, custom homes, pool houses, and animal shelters.



A company dedicated to engineering quality products that are built to last, they have a unique JDM Virtual Shed Builder where customers can customize their building to be exactly what they want. Stop into the store to go through the process with their team, or begin building it online at https://jdmoutdoors.com/.

They are located at 4964 Burbank Rd. in Wooster. Call (330) 600-8710 or visit https://jdmstructures.com to learn more.

Congratulations to Scott Dental Group on their new Wooster office



Located at 178 E. Milltown Road, Dr. Tyler Scott and his team are committed to advanced dental care delivered with passion, integrity, and respect in a positive friendly

atmosphere. They are a highly trained, energetic team that enjoys working together to accomplish their goal of touching lives by creating smiles.

They deliver comprehensive dentistry that provides excellent results in both health and function. They perform a wide variety of services to help you get the smile you deserve.

Learn more about their services at www.scottdentalgroup.com or call 330-879-8960.

* August Newsletter



Minglewood Distilling Company celebrates the official opening of Ice Plant

Congratulations to Minglewood Distilling Co. on their newly renovated event space, Ice Plant at Minglewood Distilling Co.! This space can accommodate up to 140 guests and includes a spacious patio.

Minglewood Distilling Company is a small batch, micro distillery located in Wooster at 437 E South St.

For more information or to make an inquiry, please contact Event Manager - Jess Bush - jess@minglewooddistilling.com.



Join the YPs for an evening of networking and golf at Junipers

Join the Wooster Young Professionals on August 23 from 5 - 7 p.m. at Junipers and The Pines for an evening of camaraderie and golf! Register to attend at www.woosterchamber.com/ young-professionals.

The Pines Golf Club and Junipers are located at 1319 N. Millborne Road in Orrville.

We hope you can join us! Young Professionals events are open to anyone who lives or works in Wayne



County between the ages of 21 - 40. This program provides opportunities to network, socialize and expand your professional horizons.

Wooster Young Professionals is sponsored by:





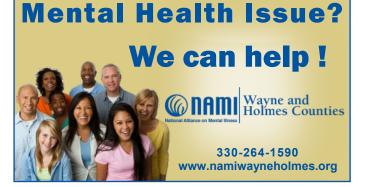
To learn more, visit woosterchamber.com/young-professionals.

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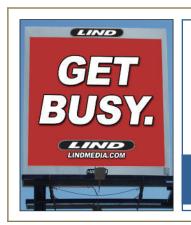
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