



chambermonthly

A PUBLICATION BY THE WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

377 West Liberty Street
Wooster, Ohio 44691

In this Issue: Chamber announces award recipients
for the 121st Annual Dinner! Page 6 – 7

December 2020
woosterchamber.com

LET IT *Glow* Chamber Holiday Light Competition

There's nothing better than seeing thousands of twinkling lights on a cold, frosty night. Join us this holiday season by beautifying your home in our Let it Glow Competition!

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce encourages you to deck your homes with lights, lawn ornaments, wreaths, and more to help bring holiday cheer to families in Wooster. You even have a chance of winning one of the three cash prizes!



REGISTRATION INFO:

- Deadline to register: Wednesday, December 9th. It's FREE to register!
- Homes MUST be decorated by: Sunday, December 13th
- Contact the Chamber to register: Email Michelle at mrothgery@woosterchamber.com
- To learn more visit: woosterchamber.com/let-it-glow

VOTING INFO:

- A map will be available marking the location of each participating house.
- Each house entry will have a number displayed on a yard sign.
- Text the house entry number to (507) 873-5203 to vote
- Vote anytime from December 14 – December 29
- Winners will be contacted as well as posted on social media.

PRIZE CATEGORIES:

- **Best in Show: \$100 prize**
Chosen by: MCTV
- **Clark Griswold (most lights): \$100 prize**
Chosen by: HER Realtors
- **People's Choice: \$100 prize**
Chosen by: Community Vote

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Register Today! Contact the Chamber by emailing Michelle at mrothgery@woosterchamber.com.

New Members



Bloomington Medical Services, LLC

Bloomington Medical Services, LLC is a multispecialty physician practice that is part of the Wooster Community Hospital Health System. Bloomington Medical Services provides a variety of healthcare services to Wooster and surrounding communities, such as NowClinic (walk-in care), Bloomington Internal Medicine, hospitalists care, Wooster Surgical Associates, Bloomington and OSU Orthopedics, Wooster Heart Group, Home Helpers, Bloomington Endocrinology, Wooster Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Bloomington Neurology, Wooster Cancer Care, Pulmonary Medicine of Wooster and Bloomington Women's Care specialties.

For more information contact Bloomington Medical Services at (330) 263-8428.



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Starlin Commodity Services is owned and operated by Brad Starlin. Brad offers 37 years of Grain Marketing expertise. Starlin Commodity Services offers Grain Marketing knowledge to Farmers along with connections to Processors. Crop Insurance is also offered as part of the Total Commodity Marketing Package. For more information please call Brad Starlin with Starlin Commodity Services at (330)465-8126.

THANK YOU to all of the businesses/organizations who joined as new members in 2020!

Give the gift of membership!

Do you know of a new or existing small business that would benefit from membership with the Wooster Chamber? Spread some holiday cheer and give the gift of membership this year!

Happy Holidays!

Contact Membership Services Coordinator, Katie Foster at kfoster@woosterchamber.com.

December Newsletter

Join us in being #LoyaltoLocal this holiday season!

This year, the Wooster Chamber plans to rally around small businesses the ENTIRE holiday season through the Loyal to Local Holiday Passport Program. This program will be held Thursday, November 26-Monday, January 4. Passports are available to print on the Chamber's website, or can be picked up at the Chamber or at participating businesses.

GRAND PRIZES

- One night stay at the St. Paul Hotel in downtown Wooster
- Brunch at The Leaf
- Dinner at The City Square Steakhouse
- Drinks at Broken Rocks Café
- JK Gift Shop \$25 Gift Card & Nora Fleming Cutie Container
- Cut & Color or Highlights
- Classic Custom Mask Facial
- Makeup Application
- Shellac Manicure & Spa Pedicure



Participating Businesses Include

- A Cut Above Hair Design
- Acres of Fun
- Artfind Tile
- Auntie Anne's
- Basil Asian Bistro
- Bay Lobsters II Café & Fish Market
- Boots, Shoes and More
- Broken Rocks Café & Bakery/Rox Gastropub
- Buchwalter Greenhouse
- C R Blooms Floral
- Clothing Warehouse
- Clow9 Hair Studio
- Coccia House Ristorante - Pizzeria
- Dollar1
- Everything Engraved
- Everything Rubbermaid
- Everything Surplus
- Expert T's
- Flamingo Jack's Market Grill
- Flex Yoga Studios
- Friendtique/Nest
- Goodwill Industries
- Graham & Burns
- Green Thumb Floral
- H&R Fotostudio
- Hartzler's Ice Cream Shop
- House of Silva
- JAFB Wooster Brewery
- Jerry's Home Furnishings
- JK Gift Shop
- Joyful Café
- Jump N SHOUT!
- Larry's Music Center
- Leroy's Place
- Liberty Studios
- Lincoln Way Vineyards
- Local Roots Market and Café
- MacKenzie's Silver Lining
- Matsos Family Restaurant
- Meatheads Union
- Minglewood Distilling Co.
- Miss Amy's Bakery
- Muddy's
- Olde Jaol Restaurant & Tavern
- Omaha Bob's BBQ
- Pine Tree Barn
- Pulp Juice & Smoothie Bar
- Ray Crow Cleaners
- ReStore - Habitat for Humanity
- Rhimix Salon and Spa
- Ride On
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- Spoon Market & Deli
- St. Paul Hotel
- The City Square Steakhouse
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- Troutman Vineyards
- Uptown/Downtown Emporium
- Vertical Runner of Wooster
- Village Catering Company
- Walnut Street Gallery
- White Jewelers
- Wooster Gift Corner
- Wooster Natural Foods
- "Your" Pizza Shop



For more information, please visit woosterchamber.com/loyaltolocal.

Economic Indicators	Aug. 2020			Sept. 2019			Sept. 2020		
	Unemployment, United States	8.5%	3.3%	7.7%	Labor Force, Employed Wayne County	58,200	59,600	58,600	
	Unemployment, Ohio	8.8%	3.9%	8.0%	Labor Force, Unemployed Wayne County	3,800	1,900	3,300	
	Unemployment, Wayne County	6.1%	3.2%	5.4%	Wayne County Sales Tax by Month	\$1,071,059.73	\$1,008,074.94	\$1,095,556.34	

2020 Board of Directors

- Executive Board**
- Kevin Day**, Chair, Western Reserve Group
- Bill Sheron**, Past Chair, Wooster Community Hospital
- Susan Marlar**, Chair-Elect, Meaden & Moore
- Dr. John Cook**, Treasurer, Long, Cook, & Samsa, LLC
- Chad Boreman**, Boreman-Norton-Cook Wealth Partners
- Amy Marinello**, Marinello Realty
- James Smail**, Farmer's National Bank
- Jon Jameson**, Schaeffler
- Matthew Long**, Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston
- Armand Massary**, ArtiFlex Manufacturing
- Michael McClintock**, McClintock Electric
- Jack Nebesky**, BCI Buckeye Division
- Don Noble II**, United Titanium, Inc.
- Tom Pukys**, Wayne Economic Development Council
- Jeff Smith**, The Apple Creek Banking Co.
- Stephen Smyth**, GOJO Industries
- Martha Starkey**, Wayne Co. Convention & Visitors' Bureau
- Shannon Waller**, Main Street Wooster, Inc.
- Beth Weaver**, Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County
- Wayne Webster**, The College of Wooster
- Thomas White**

Chamber Staff

When finished with this newsletter, please recycle it. ♻️



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

Visit us online at woosterchamber.com

Small Business Orientation Remote Sessions



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Wayne Amateur Radio Club flips the switch!



Russ McQuate flips the switch on the Wooster square to light the Community Christmas Tree as Tom Zilko, left, Duane Hart, Mary Hart and Gary Foster watch. Photo courtesy of The Daily Record.

To honor the 13 years spent behind the scenes caring for the Community Christmas Tree, the Wayne Amateur Radio Club has flipped the switch for 2020.

Each year, these dedicated volunteers inspect the 1,300 LED bulbs before putting them in place to be lit for the holiday season.

“(WARC) put in a lot of time and energy into making sure we’re able to keep this holiday tradition alive in Wooster,” said Chamber President Samira Zimmerly. “Over the years we wouldn’t have been able to do it without them. We’re very thankful for the time they’ve dedicated.”

The WARC has announced that 2020 will be the final year they help coordinate the lighting.

Because it was not possible to hold the traditional ceremony this year, a private tree lighting was held and recorded. In an effort to continue sharing the annual tree lighting with the community, the Chamber composed a video, which can be viewed on the Chamber’s Facebook and YouTube pages, featuring the WARC and the history of the tree.

The Chamber would like to thank the Wayne Amateur Radio Club for their commitment and dedication to the Community Christmas Tree over the years.

Upcoming Webinars



COVID-19 update for employers and businesses

Join us in conversation to discuss COVID-19 updates for employers and businesses. Kim Hall, Member of Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston Attorneys will be sharing updates pertaining to your business and employees. Kim will answer questions regarding closures if an employee tests positive for the virus, employee compensation if time must be taken off due to contracting COVID-19 and much more. Submit your questions to Katie Foster at kfoster@woosterchamber.com!



WHEN: December 9, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Register online at: woosterchamber.com/educationalseries

Tackling Essential Hiring Issues for Small Businesses

Even before COVID-19 wreaked havoc on the hiring process in 2020, many businesses faced their own internal challenges in knowing the most effective steps to take to compete for and hire the best talent. This educational webinar will cover four essential practices to improving the hiring process for businesses including: development and use of job descriptions and essential function statements, meaningful job advertising, do’s and don’ts of navigating an effective interviewing and hiring process, and key elements of a solid onboarding program. These practices can be implemented in businesses of any size, with or without an HRIS in place.



WHEN: January 12, 2021 at 10:00 AM

Register online at: woosterchamber.com/educationalseries

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THE WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER 2021 AWARD RECIPIENTS



MARY ALICE STREETER
Wall of Fame Recipient



GREG TIECHE
*Jack O'Donnell Award Recipient
for Community Service*



VICKY PUSTER
*Mike Lezak Award Recipient
for Volunteer Service*



BEN MAIBACH
*Leadership Wooster
Distinguished Alumni
Award Recipient*



The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the 2021 Award Recipients.



Platinum Event Sponsor



Business of the Year
Wooster Community Hospital
HEALTH SYSTEM

Accepted by: Bill Sheron



Board of Directors Award
FARMERS
NATIONAL BANK

Accepted by: Kevin Helmick

Small Business of the Year Award
More than 15 Employees

BROKEN ROCKS
CAFE & BAKERY

Accepted by: Glen Grumbling



Small Business of the Year Award
Fewer than 15 Employees

RAY CROW
CLEANERS

Accepted by: Cyd Pleska

WorthyWorks Award
NAMI Wayne and
Holmes Counties

Accepted by: Helen Walkery



Presented by Wayne County Community Foundation

December Newsletter

Zimmerly selected for ACCE's Forty Under 40 program which recognizes top leaders in chamber industry



Samira Zimmerly
President,
Wooster Area Chamber
of Commerce

ACCE's Forty Under 40 program recognizes the top emerging leaders in the chamber of commerce industry nationally who have demonstrated success in their careers and made significant contributions in the communities they represent.

Samira Zimmerly has been selected as one of 2020's Forty Under 40 for her dedication to the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce. Over the past 10 years with the organization she has been the driving force in developing the strong community presence and positive reputation of the Chamber. As of September, she has assumed the role as the first female

President in the Wooster Chamber's 118-year history. Even as 2020 has presented unique challenges, Samira has led the Chamber in adapting to the needs of the community and has ensured the organization remains a resource for local businesses.



Samira is a passionate leader, who believes in the Chamber industry as a whole and the value that it brings to members and the community. This passion has made her the most visible supporter of our nearly 700 members, when it comes to stopping in to say hello, being present at a member milestone or just answering the phone with a welcoming voice that is willing to help no matter what inquiry.

Congratulations to Samira for receiving this recognition.

The Chamber staff thank Kevin Day for his leadership in 2020

Kevin Day, President/CEO of Western Reserve Group, led the Chamber, as Chair of the Board of Directors, through the many changes that occurred in 2020.

When all of the plans for the year had to be changed due to the pandemic restrictions the Chamber team had the support of the board leadership to make the necessary adjustments.

Kevin saw the organization through the leadership transition as Justin Starlin resigned and Samira Zimmerly was named President. His leadership and support helped to make the transition seamless.

The Chamber would like to thank Kevin Day for his Board leadership in 2020.



Kevin Day
President & CEO,
Western Reserve Group
Outgoing Chair-Elect

A special thank you to our outgoing 2020 Board Members



Bill Sheron
CEO, Wooster
Community Hospital
Board Term: 2014-2020



James Smail
Farmer's National
Bank
Board Term: 2015-2020

The Chamber is consistently led by strong leaders that volunteer their time and expertise to the organizations Board of Directors. This year, the Board announced two members who have fulfilled their term, which will conclude at the end of 2020.



The Wayne County Airport celebrates new taxiway project with Chamber ribbon cutting event!

The Wayne County Airport, located at 6020 Honeytown Rd., Smithville, is currently putting the finishing touches on their \$5.2 million project to improve the taxiway. According to Amanda McGee, the airport manager, the project will allow more traffic in and out of the airport. The taxiway runs parallel to the runway and incorporates LED lighting and new signage.

"As far as county airports go, we are leading the way in pavement," McGee said, following a recent awards ceremony where the facility was named 2020 Airport of the Year by the Ohio Aviation Association. "Our runway is newer, it's wider, it's longer, and it's also grooved. It is a lot more favorable to pilots than other county airports. We have more runway than most airports our size."

The Chamber was thrilled to have a ribbon cutting to celebrate the project.



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Get to know the Wooster Chamber Board members!



Jon Jameson
Senior Vice President of General Motors Global Key Account Management, Schaeffler

Jon Jameson is the Senior Vice President

SCHAEFFLER

of General Motors Global Key Account Management for Schaeffler and is located in the Wooster, Ohio office.

Schaeffler is Wayne County's largest employer. GM makes up about 25 percent of Schaeffler's business in Wooster, where the company produces a variety of components for GM

vehicles, mostly torque converters.

Jon grew up in Tallmadge and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Kettering University in Flint, Michigan. Since graduating from Kettering University in 2004, Jon has worked for Schaeffler starting in Product Development where he's obtained over 15 U.S. and global patents. After product development, he transitioned into Program Management and finally ended up working on the commercial side of Schaeffler.

Starting in 2019, Jon has been on the Board of Directors for the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce. He has actively volunteered for many of the events held by the WACC. Jon has also volunteered his time to the Lake Harmony Board of Directors since 2016 and is currently the Vice President.

Jon, his wife; Connie and their two sons Gino (15) and Gavin (5) reside in Dalton, Ohio. The children attend Dalton Local Schools and his wife is a stylist for Stitch Fix. Jon enjoys spending time with his family while traveling, boating and camping.

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