

Chamber Newsletter February 2024

Linking **Business with** Community

woosterchamber.com **A B m 6** 

In this Issue:

The Chamber is thrilled to recognize these individuals and organizations at the 124th Annual Dinner Meeting in 2024! Page 6 & 7

377 West Liberty Street · Wooster, Ohio 44691



When finished with this newsletter, please recycle it.



## You are invited to the 33rd Annual Wayne County Home & Garden Show



Join us for Wayne County's premier Home & Garden Show on April 27, and April 28 at the Wayne County Fairgrounds. This family-friendly event is well-known in the area and has featured over 200 exhibitors in the past. The show offers a myriad of services that will transform homes and lawns, and it is free and open to the public. It is the perfect venue to help turn home improvement projects into reality.

With children's activities, a plant sale, and traditional fair food concessions in addition to exhibits, the event offers something for everyone. We anticipate an attendance of approximately 15,000 visitors to the show throughout the weekend, which ensures ultimate exposure for businesses.

Participation in the show includes exhibit space, backdrops and side curtains (where applicable), electric and water, plus advertising to over 60,000 households. The show will also be promoted to surrounding counties through radio, billboards, flyers, posters, and newspaper advertisements.

### Participate in this years event!

If you're interested in participating, please visit our website woosterchamber.com/waynecounty-homegarden-show. Applications received by Friday, Feb. 16 will receive an early bird discount. We look forward to having you join us for this fun-filled weekend!



Presenting Sponsor:



Platinum Sponsor:



Silver Sponsors:







To learn more and register to be a vendor, visit woosterchamber.com/wayne-county-home-garden-show. 🛞

Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce woosterchamber.com | 1

### \* New Members



#### **Country Roofing**

Welcome to Country Roofing, your go-to source for top-notch roofing, roof repairs, siding, gutters/spouting, windows, and deck solutions. Their commitment to service and quality is at the core of everything they do. As your trusted home exterior experts, they don't just fix leaks and enhance curb appeal - they're here to add some magic to your sanctuary, ensuring it stays safe and sound through all weather. Whether it's a stubborn window or a desire to elevate your home's aesthetics, they're a friendly team that delivers excellence with a smile. At Country Roofing, they're not just building roofs and decks; they're building lasting relationships, one project at a time.



#### **Home Builders Association** of Wayne & Holmes Co.

The Home Builders Association of Wayne & Holmes Counties is dedicated to boosting your brand visibility and strengthening the industry. As an HBA member, you'll enjoy numerous benefits such as exclusive discounts through the National Association of Home Builders and National Purchasing Partners, and much more. Additionally, you'll have access to participation in their renowned Parade of Homes. Network with industry professionals at their 12 exciting events throughout the year and connect with like-minded individuals to elevate your business. Join the HBA today and build a brighter future for the industry!



#### Jimmy John's

Jimmy John's is one of the fastestgrowing restaurant chains in America. Why? It's simple - people love their sandwiches! They are an Employer of choice and passionately believe in being actively involved in the communities they are fortunate enough to serve. They have fresh, high-quality sandwiches made with their all-natural meats and vegetables that are hand-sliced every day, and their fresh bread that is baked daily. They do their best to provide outstanding customer service, they welcome all to come by. They are open every day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and are located at 4299 Burbank Road Suite 60 in Wooster.



#### Kona Ice of Central Canton

They're mobile. They're fun. They're stocked with the most delicious flavors you've ever tasted. Need a moment of pure bliss? Kona Ice has you covered. Come visit them, let their sweet tunes sweep you away to an island in the middle of the ocean. And while you're there, kick up your feet and enjoy a nice cup of their premium shaved ice. Fundraising for schools, non-profits,

churches, and youth sports is their specialty. Kona Ice of Central Canton gave back over \$64k last year - Shaved Ice is what they do, Fundraising is who they are!

### \* New Members



#### **Martins Miniature Marketplace**

Martins Miniature Marketplace is a multi-generational family owned small business. They bring scale miniatures to life with their Craftsman Collection of hardwood furniture, natureinspired Garden Collection pieces, and everything you need to weave miniature rugs in their Weaving Collection. Their workshop houses a laser cutter, 3D printer, and CNC router to help make all of their custom creations. Along with their original pieces, they offer laser cutting services to create custom laser cut projects or custom acrylic display cases. All of their products are designed, produced, assembled, and finished by them in their workshop.



#### **MYS Organizing**

MYS Organizing offers professional residential and business organizing services, including decluttering, unpacking, move management, downsizing, coaching, and skill building. Melissa Schultz, Owner, applies 20+ years of experience in communication, design, user experience, and usability to transform chaotic spaces into calm, easy-to-manage environments that make life and work easier, more efficient, and more enjoyable. Melissa is a Certified Professional Organizer and an active member of NAPO. It takes trust to let someone see the messiest parts of your home or business. MYS Organizing services are delivered with compassion and free of judgment. You are unique. Your clutter is not.



#### Whitefeather Meats

Whitefeather Meats, is located in Creston, Ohio where The Bearded Butcher brothers invest countless hours meticulously butchering premium meat cuts for their loyal retail customers. They specialize in Bison, Elk, Venison, 100% Grass-fed Beef, Non-GMO Pork, Free Range Chicken, Lamb, Hickory Smoked Meats, Homemade Sausages and Bratwursts, and 100% American Wagyu Beef! With 5 million followers across social media platforms, the butcher shop also serves as the primary stage for producing content that graces their social media, allowing them to showcase their skill and passion to a wider audience.



#### **Wooster ENT Associates**

For more than 50 years, Wooster ENT has specialized in providing expert ear, nose and throat care. They work hard to fit people in for same-day appointments for urgent needs and to prioritize surgical procedures.

They are thorough and focused, but also laid back. They take the time to explain treatment options in a way that you and your loved ones will understand. Their highly trained, compassionate doctors and staff are ready to help serve you on the journey toward wellness.

#### **ECONOMIC INDICATORS** October 2022 November 2022 November 2023 October 2022 November 2022 November 2023 Unemployment, Labor Force, Employed 3.5% 58.000 58.600 3.4% 3.4% 59.400 United States Wayne County Unemployment Labor Force, Unemployed 3.4% 1,600 1,500 3.0% 1.800 Ohio Wayne County Unemployment Wayne County Sales 2.4% 3.0% 2.7% \$1,338,012.19 \$1,280,873.65 \$1,291,848,73 Wayne County Tax by Month

#### 2024 Board of Directors

Council

Jason Carrick

Xcess Limited

Rich Fishburn

F&H Hardware

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Amy Marinello Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Professional Realty

Michael McClintock Past Chair McClintock Electric

Dr. Sharon Marcanthony Chair-Elect, Bloomingtor Women's Care

Susan Marlar Meaden & Moore Stephen Smyth

**GOJO** Industries

John Stika Kimberly Hall Critchfield, Critchfield Certified Angus Beef Rodd Welker

Chad Kauffman Eagle Advisor Kitty Poo Club Armand Massary **BOARD MEMBERS** 

ArtiFlex Manufacturing Seth Buckwalter Dr. Andrew Michel The Ohio State

University CFAES Maribeth Burns Wayne Economic Don Noble II

United Titanium, Inc. Chris Shamie

> Shannon Waller Main Street Wooster, Inc

#### Chamber Staff





Cortney Starr 330-262-5735



Michelle Rothgery 330-262-5735



The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is on Facebook at facebook.com/woosterchambe YouTube, LinkedIn and @woosterchamber

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

#### **Our Partners**















Visit us online at woosterchamber.com

#### **Small Business** Development Centers



#### Small Business **Development Centers**

at Kent State University at Tuscarawas

UPCOMING DATES

Tuesday, February 6 Wednesday, March 6

A small materials fee applies

Register online at sbdcksut.org

## Apply to be a Member today!

- 1. Apply online at woosterchamber.com
- 2. Chamber staff will contact you with more information regarding the approval process, member benefits, opportunities, and rates.
- 3. Once approved, begin utilizing the many valuable resources available to you through Chamber membership.

Contact the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce team at (330) 262-5735.



0

**Members** 





**WEBSITE VISITS** 





16.000

Facebook Followers

1.783

Instagram Followers

1,057

LinkedIn Followers











89 Businesses save on insurance

76 Businesses save on workers compensation

34 Businesses and individuals save on gas and electric bills

2 | woosterchamber.com Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce woosterchamber.com | 3

## \* February Newsletter

## Take a tour of Jarrett's latest expansion when they **host Business Before Hours**

Join us for a Business Before Hours at Jarrett from 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13! Tour the newest addition to the 400,000 sq. ft. warehouse space and see how AI technology combined with the company's cloud-based management system is helping streamline the process of inventory, fulfillment and warehouse management. Mingle and enjoy refreshments at 1781 N. Main St. in Orrville.

Jarrett is a third-party logistics partner that helps manage and optimize supply chains. They are committed to providing hands-on,



end-to-end transportation and logistics management solutions that maximize supply chain efficiency

We look forward to celebrating with them!

Register online at bit.ly/woochamberbbhjarrett

## **Join the Young Professionals this month** for 'Greater Peace in 2024' Join the Young Professionals



**Amv Mast** 

Director of

Corporate Growth,

**GIANT** 

for a professional development session on February 14 at noon at the Wooster Chamber! Lunch will be provided



Amy Mast, the Director of Corporate Growth with GiANT,

will be leading a session titled "Greater Peace in 2024" She will cover:

- · Learning how to conquer chaos and find fulfillment
- · Identifying where there is no peace and why
- · Learning how our level of peace affects our work

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Register at woosterchamber.com/young-professionals

## **Upcoming Safety Council** focuses on De-escalation

De-escalation techniques are important to prevent and resolve conflict in a constructive and peaceful way. Through de-escalation, you can reduce the risk of physical or verbal violence and harm, protect yourself and others from stress, and enhance your



Wednesday, February 28 from 11:30 a.m. - 1

p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Wooster to learn more about De-escalation in the Workplace. Tiffany White, Program Development and Fidelity Director, The Village Network, will be discussing why the brain matters, stress and self-regulation, and tips and reminders to keep in mind. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Register for this event at woosterchamber.com/ wooster-area-safety-council

## **Young Professionals will** gather at Meatheads in March

Join the Young Professionals on Wednesday, March 13 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. for a social at Meatheads Union. Enjoy beverages and appetizers while building your network with other YPs.



The Young Professionals meet each month for a social, activity, or professional development session. This program is designed for individuals between 21-40 years old who are living or working in Wayne County and want to meet other community-minded individuals who are developing their careers. We hope you can join us!

Thank you to our sponsors:

**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY** 





Register at for this Young Professional event online at bit.ly/woochamberypmarch2024

## \* Lemonade Day

## Support the next generation of business leaders through a Lemonade Day sponsorship



The Wooster Chamber is proud to, once again, bring Lemonade Day to Wayne County and to be among the nearly 100 communities hosting the day locally in 2024! Save the date for Saturday, June 8, when kids will set up their lemonade stands across Wayne County.

Due to the support of our generous sponsors in 2023, we were able to engage over 27 youth across Wayne County and we are looking to help an even greater number of youth realize their potential in 2024! Last year, we hosted two Lemonade Day Workshops to help kids and their mentors brainstorm for their businesses and we look forward to facilitating those again this year. We invite you to share in this opportunity to plant the seed of entrepreneurship within the next generation and create the business leaders, social advocates, community volunteers, and forwardthinking citizens of tomorrow.

MAIN SQUEEZE INVESTOR:



much fun out of the experience

as possible!

Lemonade

WAYNE COUNTY

SATURDAY JUNE 8, 2024

An investment in Lemonade Day will

ensure the materials, curriculum,

and all events are free to every kid

who participates in Wayne County.

one-of-a-kind experiential learning

opportunity that impacts character,

teaches financial literacy and business

As a supporter, you will foster a

acumen, engages mentors, and

provides hands-on experiences for

kids to make a profit, save some for a

rainy day, and give some to a charity

of their choice - all while squeezing as

For more information about Wayne County Lemonade Day! Visit woosterchamber.com/lemonade-day.

#### Proud Economic Development Partner



#### **Community Banking for 120 Years!**

Same Name. Same Service. Same Stability.



applecreekbank.com



**Providing LOCAL** Security and Fire Services *Since* 1976

419-526-4747

www.schmidtsecurity.com

### **BUSINESS OWNERS**

Accept card payments anywhere: in person, online, or on the go.



We offer premier payment technology solutions that

- · EMV, NFC, contactless and QR code acceptance
- · Protection against rate increases and billing errors
- · Instant and next day funding

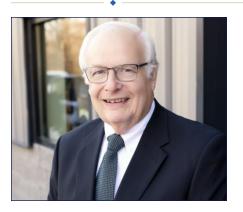
What makes our approach different? We are Consultative, Secure, and Client-centric

- Assess current and future needs
- Provide detail pricing analysis
- · PCI Certified Point to Point Encryption



4 woosterchamber.com Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce woosterchamber.com | 5

## \* CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS \*



## Bill DeRodes

Wall of Fame Recipient

## Ashley Hershberger

Jack O'Donnell Award Recipient for Community Service



Leo Miller

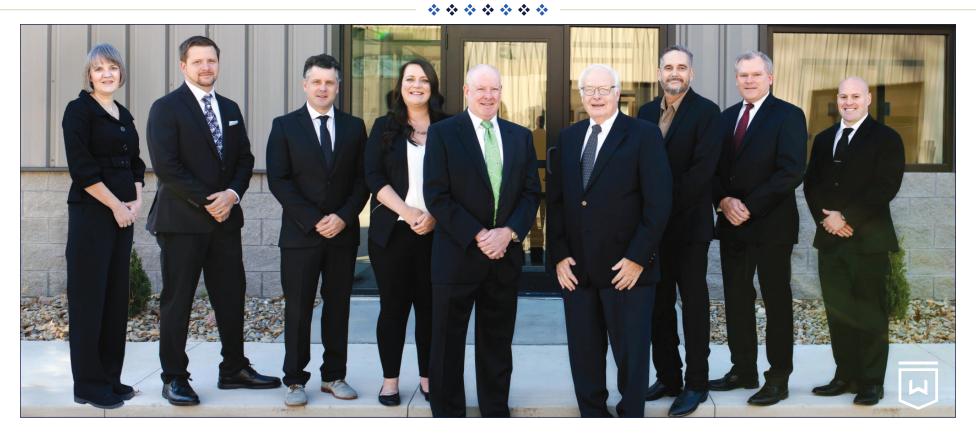
Leadership Wooster

Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient

Andrew Guidetti

Mike Lezak Award Recipient for Volunteer Service





The 124th Annual Dinner Meeting of the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce will be held on February 22.

Social Hour will begin at 5 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m. and awards at 7 p.m. We look forward to honoring these award recipients!

Learn more about the Annual Dinner at www.woosterchamber.com/annual-dinner-meeting

#### PLATINUM SPONSOR

















#### SILVER SPONSORS



CRITCHFIELD

















#### BRONZE SPONSORS







WAYNE Insurance Group WESTFIELD WOOSTER. Whitaker Myers UNITED TITANIUM





THE GIRO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHAEFFLER STIFEL ARISE RECHEIT WEIGHT Management Group







Accepted by: Robin Wisner

In partnership with Wayne County Community Foundation





Accepted by: Dan Freeman



Board of Directors Award



Accepted by: Chad Kauffman



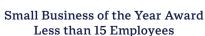
SMETZER'S TIRE CENTER, INC.

Greater than 15 Employees

Celebrationg Our 65th Year in Business!

Accepted by: Chad Kiefer

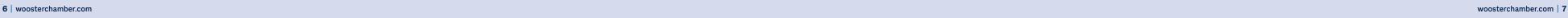






Accepted by: Paul Fryman





## \* February Newsletter

## Lowe and Young celebrates their recent expansion with a ribbon cutting

Congratulations to Lowe & Young on their official ribbon cutting for their expanded parts and service center!

In 1949, Roy Lowe Jr and Don Young started the legacy of Lowe and Young. They first started selling Minneapolis Moline tractors and operated a gas station in front of the dealership. In 1952, they began selling New Holland hay and forage line of equipment, and in 1959, they took on the Massey Ferguson line of equipment. As Lowe and Young grew with the additional lines, they added a 25 x 100 ft addition on the west side

of the building for sales and accounting offices. Since then, they have continued to add new lines of equipment and grow the business. The latest expansion is the product of a dream that started in 2017 to expand their parts and service centers.

They trust that you will find Lowe & Young to be a valuable resource for new and used farm equipment. They offer a large selection of New Holland, Massey Ferguson and Fendt tractors as well as New Holland and Krone hay and forage equipment with the service and parts to back them up.



# Learn How to Maximize Grants and Incentives for Energy Efficiency Projects and Reduce Your Energy Costs

CHAMBER

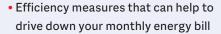
ENERGY PROGRAM

With electric and natural gas rates skyrocketing, many businesses are turning to energy efficiency measures to reduce their energy costs. During this session, we will discuss what options are available from solar to LED lighting and why now is a great time to take advantage of all of the new rebates, incentives, and grants available.

On Thursday, March 14, Rick Davidson and
Kathy Elseser with Community Energy Advisors
will share how they can connect you with
opportunities to save on your energy efficiency
upgrades. This session will be held at the Wooster Chamber from
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. lunch will be provided.

The Chamber Energy Program provides energy supply solutions for our members' homes, small businesses, and large commercial operations. The Chamber Sustainability Program helps members reduce their energy costs by connecting them with effective efficiency solutions and project funding and financing.

### In this free educational seminar, you will learn:



 Maximizing your project ROI with incentives and grants available through a combination of federal, state, and local programs

- Financing options to fit your budget and objectives (including on-bill financing)
- Best practices for responding to vendor and customer pressures to become sustainable
- Electric and natural gas supply procurement strategies to lower your remaining utility costs

In 2023, we assisted customers in applying for over \$2,000,000 in state and federal grants. Don't miss out on these project funding opportunities.

Attend our seminar to learn more!

Register at woosterchamber.com/educationalseries

## \* February Newsletter

## Boys and Girls Club of Wooster is celebrating 10 years!

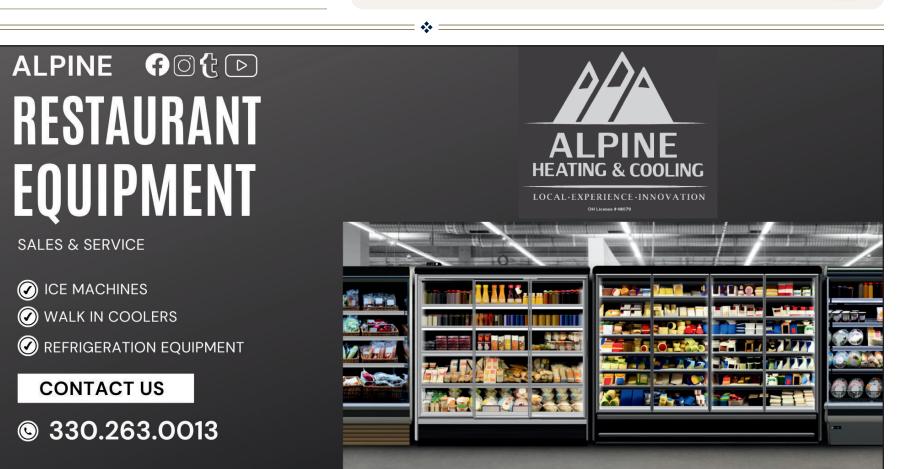
Ten years ago, the world was very different for kids. Options for quality after-school programs and necessary services for families were not as available. It was in that world that caring, concerned school staff and community leaders banded together to form a fledgling nonprofit that would grow into a change-making, innovative organization that positively affected and improved the landscape for children and families of all abilities throughout Wooster.

2024 marks the 10th anniversary of Boys & Girls Club of Wooster. Since their



first day of Club in January of 2014, they have worked hard to make a difference in the lives of young people by providing safe places and structured programming. And now it's time to celebrate! All of Wooster played a crucial role in the enduring history of the Club and they encourage you to participate in the storytelling and celebration this coming year.





8 | wooster Area Chamber of Commerce wooster Area Chamber of Comme

## MedPro GROUP

Keeping Your Workplace Healthy, Safe & Productive!

www.theMedProGroup.com

330-263-7270





## \* Leadership Wooster

## Leadership Wooster explores Arts, Religion and Inclusion





The January Leadership Wooster session was focused on Arts, Religion, and Inclusion in our area.

The day started with a group activity called

"Don't Put People in Boxes". The class then
traveled to Wayne Center for the Arts where
they toured the building and learned about
their various programming opportunities. The
class continued on to Local Roots learning
about the artisans featured and the structure
of the market. Artfind Tile was a quick walk
down the street where the class heard about
the different tiles available and the process
that they offer for design. The class traveled to
First Presbyterian Church to learn about Night



to Shine and how to get involved with the event before a tour of the church.

The team from Certified Angus Beef presented on Diversity in the Workplace before the group enjoyed religion roundtables. The class then traveled to Freedlander Theater to learn about Ohio Light Opera and tour the theater. The day ended with a CQ your Bias activity with Rodd Welker of Eagle Advisor Group.



## \* February Newsletter

## Congratulations to our 2023 Let It Glow award winners

The three winning displays were selected in January for the 2023 Let It Glow holiday light competition. With 38 stops along the route, Let It Glow took participants on a tour through the city and out to the countryside.



Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's contest by entering your home or by voting for your favorite display. We hope you all enjoyed this holiday competition and look forward to next year!



A special thank you to our contest sponsors:





# **Congratulations to Nancy Burkhart and Denim Gibson!**

We are excited to announce the winners of the 2023 Loyal to Local Holiday Passport Program!

Congratulations to Nancy

Burkhart and Denim Gibson! 110 local businesses were recognized as participating locations on this year's passport. Thank you to everyone who supported local this holiday season, we received 692 completed passports and were able to track over \$173,000!

We would like to thank Casa Mirabella Guest House, National Design Mart, Ray Crow Cleaners, Daivim Massage and Wellness, The Curry Pot, Beef 'O' Brady's,
Lincoln Way Vineyards, Ivory
Room, Always Organized by
Design, Plume and Paper, Roffler
Cruise and Travel, Flex Yoga,
The Oaks Lakeside, Muddy's,
Embellish Tattoo Company,
Tricor, E&H Ace Hardware,
Bullseye's Axe Throwing, Lake
Auto Care, and Meatheads Union
for providing this year's grand
prizes!

We encourage you to shop local throughout the year, and watch for the Loyal to Local passport program again in November!





Sponsored by:



## S

#### Logee, Hostetler, Stutzman & Lehman, LLC

Attorneys at Law

Daniel J. Hostetler Christopher N. Finney Morris Stutzman Robert A. Stutzman Ralph Lehman Cowles S. Ostrander

2171 Eagle Pass, Wooster, OH 44691 Ph: 330-264-6115 • Fax: 330-262-5729 www.lhslaw.com

\* Serving the community since 1925 \*



2752 Cleveland Rd, Wooster, OH 44691



10 | wooster Area Chamber of Commerce | Wooster Area Chamber of Chamber of Commerce | Wooster Area Chamber of Chamber



377 West Liberty Street • Wooster, Ohio 44691 



(330)262-2012

Supporting Ohio's Hospice LifeCare Wed-Fri 10am-5pm|Sat 10am-4pm

132 N Walnut Street·Wooster·44691

Supporting Ohio's Hospice LifeCare Wed-Fri 10am-5pm | Sat 10am-4pm







Your Style. Your Vision. Your Day.®

694 Winkler Drive Wooster, OH 44691

Office: 330.345.2001 www.all-events-rental.com





**TOP QUALITY MATERIAL** & INSTALLATION

#### **Free Estimates**

Samples Brought To You

Call

Carpet

**Evening Appointments** 

- Vinyl
- Linoleum
- Tile
- Vinyl Wainscoting

Retail Store

Opening in

Spring 2024 in Apple Creek

#### **Aaron Yoder**

330-464-3305









2363 Eagle Pass, Suite A Wooster, OH 44691

330.264.7307

meadenmoore.com



Bauer 5-Star Rated for Security, Strength, and Reliability



Design-Build construction services for ALL your Commercial, Industrial and Excavation needs.

WWW,SIMONSONCONSTRUCTION,COM



Serving high school students, adults, and businesses in and around Wayne County

### **Advertise** with Us!

Have your business or organization get noticed by our members.

Promote your business through our monthly Chamber member newsletter.

**CALL US AT** 330-262-5735

> Linking Business with Community.