



Chamber Newsletter

January 2024



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. ♻️

Board of Directors welcomes Amy Marinello as the 2024 Chair



Amy Marinello
Broker,
Berkshire Hathaway
HomeServices
Professional Realty



Amy Marinello, Broker, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Professional Realty, has been named as the 2024 Wooster Chamber Board of Directors Chair.

She has been a Real Estate Broker/Agent for 29 years. She owned an independent brokerage for 13 years and recently merged with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Professional Realty located in downtown Wooster. Currently, Amy is a Broker partner with the organization, and she is a full time Realtor working daily with Buyers and Sellers and a Regional Manager for the company.

In her year as Board Chair, she is hopeful to keep the Chamber engaged in the community with the collaborative partnerships that

have been created over the years. The main goal of course is always the Chamber's members! Her focus will be on maintaining communication and sharing the ins and outs of what the Chamber has to offer to current members and new members the same.

Outside the Chamber, Amy is also on the Board of the local Wayne-Holmes Association of Realtors. She also loves spending time with her 2 adult children and traveling when there is time.

From the Chamber Board and staff, we welcome Amy in her new role and look forward to her guidance in 2024.

Welcome to our new Board of Directors members

The Chamber is excited to announce the addition of Andrew Michel, Associate Dean and Director of The Ohio State University CFAES Wooster Campus, and Seth Buckwalter, Vice President/Principal Whitaker-Myers Group to the Board of Directors.

Dr. Andy Michel has been with The Ohio State University on the CFAES Wooster Campus since 2007. His research focuses on insect pests of corn and soybean, and helping farmers manage these insects. In 2023, Dr. Michel became the Assistant Dean and Director of the CFAES Wooster Campus. In this role, Dr. Michel hopes to expand research and teaching opportunities and grow partnerships with Wooster and the community. Dr. Michel lives in Wooster with his wife Erin and 4 children: Tim, Elizabeth, Emily and Henry.

Seth is a principal at Whitaker-Myers Group, having been with the firm since 2017. Seth brings a strong business background and a desire to help individuals and businesses identify and manage risk. He resides in Wooster with his wife, Betsy, and their three energetic young children. When not attending their myriad performing arts or sporting events, he appreciates the opportunity to get outside and play what would be considered very



Andrew Michel
Associate Dean
and Director,
OSU CFAES
Wooster Campus



Seth Buckwalter
Vice President/
Principal,
Whitaker-Myers
Group



average golf. He's been known to enjoy an early morning bike ride, always including a stop for coffee. Seth also serves on the board of West View Healthy Living, and in his spare time is a pastor at Oaks Church.

These individuals bring unique perspectives to the Board of Directors and the Chamber is looking forward to their involvement in the coming years.

❖ New Members



Baltic Trucking

Baltic Trucking makes in-home furniture deliveries east of the Mississippi. Headquartered in Smithville, OH their in-home delivery service is top rated. They can pick up furniture at any shops/stores in Ohio. They use furniture blankets to meticulously and carefully package furniture into their enclosed trailers. They will then unpack, setup and arrange everything in your home. Being a family owned and operated business, they strive to make their in-home delivery services the best they can be.

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.

Become a Chamber Member!

The Chamber offers many valuable and exclusive benefits to its members. To learn more, visit woosterchamber.com/benefits.



ECONOMIC INDICATORS							
	September 2022	October 2022	October 2023		September 2022	October 2022	October 2023
Unemployment, United States	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%	Labor Force, Employed Wayne County	57,500	58,000	58,300
Unemployment, Ohio	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%	Labor Force, Unemployed Wayne County	1,800	1,800	1,700
Unemployment, Wayne County	3.0%	3.0%	2.8%	Wayne County Sales Tax by Month	\$1,406,827.90	\$1,338,012.19	N/A

2024 Board of Directors

- EXECUTIVE BOARD**
- Amy Marinello, Chair, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Professional Realty
 - Michael McClintock, Past Chair, McClintock Electric
 - Dr. Sharon Marcanthony, Chair-Elect, Bloomington Women's Care
 - Susan Marlar, Treasurer, Meaden & Moore
 - Stephen Smyth, GOJO Industries
- BOARD MEMBERS**
- John Stika, Certified Angus Beef
 - Rodd Welker, Eagle Advisor Group
 - Seth Buckwalter, Whitaker-Myers Group
 - Maribeth Burns, Wayne Economic Development Council
 - Jason Carrick, Xcess Limited
 - Rich Fishburn, E&H Hardware
 - Kimberly Hall, Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston
 - Chad Kauffman, Kitty Poo Club
 - Armand Massary, ArtiFlex Manufacturing
 - Dr. Andrew Michel, The Ohio State University CFAES Wooster Campus
 - Don Noble II, United Titanium, Inc.
 - Chris Shamie, Schaeffler
 - Shannon Waller, Main Street Wooster, Inc.

Chamber Staff

- Samira Zimmerly, IOM President
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szimmerly@woosterchamber.com
 - Michelle Rothgery, Communications & Office Coordinator
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mrothgery@woosterchamber.com
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cstarr@woosterchamber.com
- Located near downtown at 377 West Liberty Street • Wooster, Ohio 44691

Our Partners



Small Business Development Centers

Small Business Development Centers
at Kent State University at Tuscarawas

UPCOMING DATES

Thursday, January 11
Tuesday, February 6

A small materials fee applies.

Register online at sbdcksut.org

❖ January Newsletter

The Chamber team is growing!

With more than 750 member businesses, we are looking for teammates who will be superstars to support all aspects of our work. We need colleagues who **align with our core values, anticipate needs, and get things done**. Individuals who are **proactive**, are totally comfortable managing multiple priorities with attention to detail, and who are **super positive!** Our perfect candidates **want to change the world**, truly enjoy supporting others, and are ambitious about all that can be done to make our members SHINE!

We're Hiring
Events Coordinator
Outreach Coordinator



For more details and how to apply, please visit woosterchamber.com/chamber-team.

You're invited to a special Chamber Travel presentation!

Join us at the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce to learn more about the opportunity to travel to Rome and the Amalfi Coast in the fall of 2024!

MEETING DETAILS

Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Location: Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce building at 377 W. Liberty Street, Wooster



November 14 - 23
10 Days & 13 Meals:
8 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinners

- HIGHLIGHTS**
- Rome, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Piazza Navona, Colosseum, Montecassino, Amalfi Coast, Sorrento, Farmhouse Visit and Mozzarella - Making Demonstration, Pompeii, Choice on Tour, Winery Visit and Lunch

Register for this special presentation online at bit.ly/woochambertravel2024

❖ January Newsletter

Take a tour of Jarrett's fourth 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.



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

We look forward to celebrating with them!

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

Register online at bit.ly/woochamberbbhjarrett

Join the Young Professionals in January for an Axe-citing time

Join us on Wednesday, January 10 from 5-7 pm at Bullseye's Axe Throwing for a little friendly competition and mingling. Bullseye's, located at 4146 Burbank Rd. in Wooster, is Wayne County's Home for Axe Throwing. They offer fun and exciting experiences for families, couples, friends, and companies.



We will have snacks to enjoy throughout the evening. \$10 per person at the door!

Thank you to our sponsors:



Register online at bit.ly/woochamberypaxe

What should employers know about Seasonal Affective Disorder?

It is estimated that millions of Americans experience Seasonal Affective Disorder, although many may not know they are experiencing this common disorder.

Wooster Area Safety Council will meet on Wednesday, January 24 to learn more about SAD and what employers should be looking for. Tom Brohm MA, LPCCS, Outpatient Therapist and Clinical Supervisor with The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties will discuss that SAD is a form of major depression, it shows up yearly (in the

winter or even the summer), and that it is treatable.

Tom Brohm is a licensed professional clinical counselor with supervision endorsement in the state of Ohio and has been in the field for 36 years in a variety of settings including his current position as outpatient therapist and clinical supervisor at The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties. His work history includes teaching as an adjunct professor in the counseling program at The Ashland Theological Seminary, working as the director

of employee assistance programs at the source one group, served as a CEO of a Fortune 500 owned and operated - 84 bed facility for adolescent boys and girls who were struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues, and has also served as clinical director at the same institution.

We hope you can join us for this month's session.



MEETING DETAILS

Date: Wednesday, January 24

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: First Presbyterian Church, 621 College Ave., Wooster, OH 44691

Speaker: Tom Brohm MA, LPCCS, Outpatient Therapist and Clinical Supervisor with The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties

Topic: Seasonal Affective Disorder: What Employers Should Know

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

❖ Home & Garden Show

Save the Date for the 33rd Annual Wayne County Home & Garden Show

Warmer days are ahead and the 33rd Annual Wayne County Home & Garden Show will return to the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28.

With children's activities, a plant sale and traditional fair food concessions in addition to exhibits, the event offers something for everyone.

Exhibitors have found it the perfect place to feature their products and services to the public, and participation in the show includes booth space, backdrops and side curtains, electric and water, plus advertising to households all across the area. The event is the longest-running spring show in the area with an amazing variety of innovative home products and services.



Presenting sponsor:



NEW THIS YEAR

Sponsorships are available for the Wayne County Home & Garden Show!

Give your business added exposure by supporting the 33rd Annual Wayne County Home & Garden Show. This long-standing family-friendly event features 200 exhibitors each year and approximately 15,000 visitors throughout the weekend. For more information, visit woosterchamber.com/wayne-county-home-garden-show.

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



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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Bill DeRodes

Wall of Fame Recipient



Ashley Hershberger

Jack O'Donnell Award Recipient for Community Service



Andrew Guidetti

Mike Lezak Award Recipient for Volunteer Service



Leo Miller

Leadership Wooster Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient



The 124th Wooster Chamber Annual Dinner will be held on February 22, 2024. We are excited to gather with our members for an evening of camaraderie and celebration. To learn more about this event, please visit woosterchamber.com/annual-dinner-meeting.

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Business of the Year



Accepted by: Dan Freeman



Board of Directors Award



Accepted by: Chad Kauffman



Small Business of the Year Award Greater than 15 Employees



Accepted by: Chad Kiefer



Small Business of the Year Award Less than 15 Employees



Accepted by: Paul Fryman

WorthyWorks Award



Accepted by: Robin Wisner

In partnership with Wayne County Community Foundation



❖ Ribbon Cuttings

Gregg Orthodontics is officially open at their new location

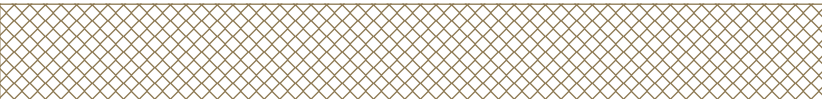


Congratulations to Gregg Orthodontics on their official ribbon cutting at their brand new location! Gregg Orthodontics prides itself on ensuring that patients have a fun experience and can realize their full potential through high-tech, low-profile orthodontic solutions. Their care covers from age 7 to teens and adults. Gregg Orthodontics is located at 2283 Merrit Drive and can be contacted at 330-345-3070 or by visiting greggorthodontics.com.

❖ January Newsletter

Chamber members learn more ways to get the most out of their membership investment

We recently hosted Membership 101 at The Connection Conference and Event Center as a way for members to learn about how to make the most of their investment. The Chamber team discussed ways members can get involved through attending events and programs or volunteering. The team shared about the many advantages of enrolling in the money-saving programs, utilizing the promotional opportunities, and networking opportunities that are available to current members. Special thank you to Community Energy Advisors for attending and sharing about the benefits their program offers to Chamber members.



START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!

Become a member of the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce and grow your business!

✦

Increase your visibility through referrals, promotional opportunities, leadership programs and more

✦

Stay informed and utilize a platform that gives you a voice

✦

Enroll in money saving programs

✦

Access educational and professional development opportunities

✦

Expand your network while building and strengthening relationships with local businesses

WOOSTER
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
woosterchamber.com

Supporting Small Businesses this Holiday Season

This year's Loyal to Local program included 110 small, locally owned businesses across the area. Shoppers took their passports to the participating businesses to collect stamps equal to the amount of their purchases. Passports were collected through January 4 and the grand prize winners will be announced on the Chamber's social media and in the February edition of the newsletter.

Shopping locally supports your friends and neighbors while contributing to the unique character of your community. Each purchase is an investment in a dream and inspires the spirit of your town. We encourage you to continue shopping locally all year long!

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For more information about the Chambers Loyal to Local program, please visit woosterchamber.com/loyaltolocal.

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❖ January Newsletter

Past Board Chairs, current Board members gather to wrap up 2023



Pictured from left to right are Steve Webster 1987, Deb Mosier 2001, Dee Vaidya 2013, Mike Pallotta 2009, Kevin Day 2020, Susan Marlar 2021, Doug Drushal 2002, Steve Matthew 2010, Pat Neyhart 2012, Mike McClintock 2023. Not pictured but also in attendance, Chad Boreman 2022, Stewart Fitz Gibbon 2014, Dan Plumly 2011, Doug Staggs 1997.

Various community leaders, current Board members, and past Board Chairs convened at The Prohibition Room at The Olde Jaol on Thursday, December 7 to recognize Mike McClintock's year of Board leadership. Several past Board Chairs joined McClintock in celebrating a year that moved the organization forward in a number of aspects. We are grateful to Mike for his leadership throughout 2023 and look forward to having him serve as the past Board Chair in 2024!

Employers learn more about evaluating their policies related to Ohio's new marijuana law

The Chamber recently hosted an Educational Series with Attorney Kim Hall from Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston regarding the new recreational marijuana law in Ohio.

Kim presented on the Employee-related provisions in the recreational marijuana law that was recently passed in Ohio through Issue 2. She shared key considerations for employers as they evaluate their policies and practices applicable to Ohio employees.

Kimberly Hall is an attorney out of Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston's Wooster office and is certified as a specialist by the Ohio State Bar Association in Labor and Employment Law.



She assists employers in complying with state and federal employment laws, provides training to employers and assists with developing employment policies.

❖ Leadership Wooster



Leadership Wooster class spends day focusing on health and wellness in Wayne County

In December, the Leadership Wooster Class spent the day learning about health, wellness, and recreation in Wayne County. They started the day at Wooster Community Hospital hearing from Scott Boyes, CFO/COO on the WCH Way. Dr. Cyril Ofori shared the Cardiovascular history at Wooster Community Hospital and then the class took a tour of the Cancer Center. Next up on the agenda was a Leadership discussion with Dr. Sharon Marcanthony followed by a Play-Time Management-Recreation in Wooster Presentation from Ashley Hershberger with the City of Wooster. A salsa dance lesson given by Susan English was enjoyed before the class traveled to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. Debbie Meadows and David Hargrave discussed Interdisciplinary Teamwork in Hospice and Palliative Care before the class toured the facility.

A relaxing break took place while Dee Black of Flex Yoga led a meditation exercise and discussed the benefits of yoga and meditation. The day was finished by hearing from Dr. Denny Davis on improving the quality of life and Dr. Anthony Tizzano on Microaggression- creating a healthier and inclusive environment for yourself and those around you, both of the Cleveland Clinic.



Leadership Wooster is sponsored by: **FARMERS NATIONAL BANK**



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