



**NOW SEEKING NOMINATIONS!** 2017 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

PAGE 8

WOOSTERCHAMBER.COM / 330-262-5735

#### MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER



### Calling all Exhibitors: Register Now!

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to seeing you at the 27th Annual Wayne County Home and Garden Show on April 29th and 30th, 2017, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds. This home and garden show is known for providing the perfect place for over 200 exhibitors to feature their products and services to the general public at the lowest exhibit price in the region with the largest attendance in the region. We always look forward to this event and hope that you will join us by registering to participate this year!

The Home and Garden show will bring in approximately 20,000 visitors, allowing your business to reap excellent exposure. In addition to exhibits, the show will feature new car displays, floral displays, a floral competition, a children's garden with free activities, and traditional fair food concessions from a variety of our local vendors.

By participating in the show, your business will receive exhibit space, backdrops and side curtains, electric and water, plus advertising to over 40,000 households through our various promotions throughout surrounding counties including radio, local cable TV, billboards, flyers, posters, and newspaper advertisements.

If you're interested in participating, visit our website http://www.woosterchamber.com/ events/whg for a copy of the event contract and application.

We look forward to having you join us for this fun-filled weekend!

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Tim Swift The Wooster Brush Company

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Beth Weaver Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County

377 West Liberty Street

Wooster, Ohio 44691

		ECO

DEC. 2016 NOV. 2016 DEC. 2015 Unemployment, U.S. 4.7% 4.4% 4.8% Unemployment, Ohio 4.9% 4.4% 4.6% Unemployment, 3.9% 3.8% 3.6% Wayne County Labor Force, Employed 57,900 57,100 58,400 Wayne County Labor Force, Unemployed 2,300 2,200 2,300 Wayne County Wavne County Sales Tax \$983,896.00 \$893,072.00 \$1,033,215.00 by Month

### Welcome New Members



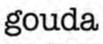
 Planet Fitness: 2312 Akron Rd, Wooster, OH 44691- (330) 601-1000 - Planet Fitness offers a wide variety of cardio equipment, free weights, tanning beds, and massage chairs and lounges. They are also known for their judgment free atmosphere.



• Meatheads Union: 147 S Market St, Wooster, OH 4469 - (330) 601-1147 - Ol' fashion butcher shop providing locally sourced meats and smoked and fresh sausages.



• Liberty Studios: 1344 Heyl Rd. Wooster, OH 44691 -330-264-8309 - Full service tuxedo, men's formal wear & photography for family, wedding, children, pets, engagement, senior pictures, anniversaries, and business events.



• Gouda L.L.C.: 150 W. Liberty St. Wooster, OH 44691 - Build your own burgers and melts restaurant with bar.

## pcoming **2017 Events**

Mark your calendars for this year's following Chamber events:

WAYNE COUNTY HOME & GARDEN SHOW Saturday-Sunday, April 29-30

CHAMBER GOLF OUTING Friday, May 19th

FIELD OF DREAMS Saturday, July 8th

WOOSTERFEST Friday-Saturday, September 29-30 MANUFACTURING DAY Friday, October 6th

WAYNE ECONOMIC FORUM





Small The Ohio Business Development Center at Kent State University at Stark conducts a workshop each month at the Chamber office for individuals interested in starting a small business or those in the early stages of business formation. This information-packed program provides an overview of all issues related to starting a business.

### WHEN & WHERE

Wednesday, April 5th 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 377 West Liberty Street Wooster, Ohio 44691

> Register online at: www.cantonsbdc.org A small materials fee applies

Thursday, October 27th

OMIC INDICATORS



## Members Enjoy an Evening on South Market Street



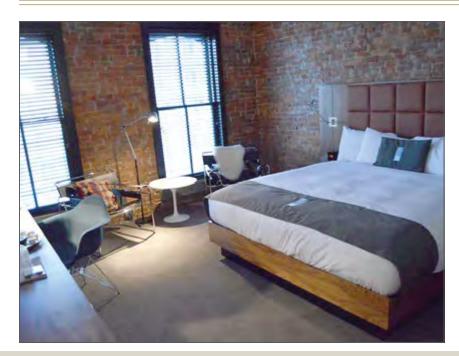
The Chamber was thrilled to invite its membership to a Business After Hours at St. Paul Hotel on February 16, 2017.

The event allowed for participants to tour the new hotel expansion and the addition of H2 Huth and Harris Wine Merchants next door along with visiting Vertical Runner.

The St. Paul Hotel provided generous appetizers and desserts along with beverage service from Bowman Beverage and Blue Barn Farm.

The Chamber offers its congratulations and thanks to the St. Paul Hotel staff for hosting a wonderful event enjoyed by more than 150 members.







### Details on the WARCOG Presented to Safety Council

The Wooster Area Safety Council met on Wednesday, February 22 at 11:30am for a presentation by Cody Post who addressed the topic of emergency 9-1-1 calls. Cody is the Acting Director of the Wooster Ashland Regional Council of Governments (WARCOG) and has over ten years experience in Public Safety. He explained that the WARCOG which includes the cities of Ashland, Orrville, and Wooster, was designed to facilitate collaboration and consolidation. The council is comprised of 12 voting members and serves over 104 square miles and 58,000 people.

He also offered advice to help individuals get much needed assistance should an emergency arise. His first piece of advice is to always know where you are; it is important to be able to give the dispatcher a location of where you are so they know where to send help. Many calls are made from cell phones and the address that registers is that of the cell phone tower which can be miles from where you are physically located. Next, he advised that if you are on the phone with a 9-11 dispatcher, you should answer the questions they ask you and let them lead the conversation. They are trained to ask you certain questions in order to get the information that will be helpful to the emergency professionals when they arrive on site. Last, he talked about paying attention to "big targets" which are more general pieces of information – instead of stating the year, make and model of the car, tell the dispatcher what color it is. If you are describing a person, it is helpful to know that person's race, age range, estimated height, hair color and length, what type of body build, and a description of what they are wearing.

The Chamber would like to thank Cody Post for his time and for sharing his experience and highly practical advice with the Wooster Area Safety Council.





Cody Post, Acting Director of the WARCOG gives an overview of Dispatch in Wooster

### CareworksComp: Life Cycle of a Claim



JIM WIRTH, CPEA Senior Risk Management Consultant

Please join us for the March 22nd Wooster Area Safety Council Luncheon at Memories Party Center at 11:30 a.m. This month's topic is "Life Cycle of a Claim," presented by Jim Wirth of Careworks Consultants.

The presentation will include common mistakes employers make managing their workers' compensation and the many aspects related to preventing injuries and controlling workers' compensation costs. He will review how you can

help your third party administrator (TPA) and managed care organization (MCO) help you.

Jim began his safety career with the Columbus Fire Department where, in addition to firefighting, he was a High Rise Coordinator and was active in the Public Speakers Bureau. He was Safety/Security Manager for Lennox Industries, Eastern Division where Jim was responsible for the implementation of the Hazard Communication, Personal Protective Equipment and Community Right to Know Standards. He also implemented ergonomic teams and worked closely with Division of Safety and Hygiene and the OSU Biodynamics Laboratory to implement ergonomic improvements on the assembly lines and supporting departments.

Working for a large third party administrator Jim managed the implementation of a full safety resource program for a business organization's 30.000 members. Resources included a toll-free help line, quarterly newsletters, safety videos and a safety process guide. Jim initiated the Small Business Section for the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Safety Congress and was chairman for three years. He has given numerous presentations on both safety and workers compensation and also has experience working with NIOSH and OSHA on Research, Alliances and Partnerships.

Jim specializes' in assisting employers with all aspects of safety and Ohio workers compensation and understands the challenge is to translate his knowledge into a language that

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAR. 22** Life Cycle of a Claim -Careworks Consultants Jim Worth

**APR. 19** BWC Awards Ceremony Lorrie Goodnight

**MAY 24** Conceal and Carry Rules and Regulations - Joshua Heiney, Three Sixty Defense

makes good business sense to decision makers. Jim's 30 year experience in safety and workers' compensation has provided him with the experience and knowledge to understand what is necessary to provide a safe workplace which has a positive impact on workers' compensation costs. Jim is also an account executive assisting out-ofstate customers on safety and workers compensation issues.



Leadership Wooster enjoyed a tour and overview of GoJo Industries new Wooster operation at the former Rubbermaid headquarters on Akron Road.

### Leadership Wooster focuses on local Large Enterprises

Leadership Wooster was held on Wednesday, February 1st for a session focused on Large Enterprises throughout the Wooster Area. The day opened at Sprenger Health Care Systems with facility Administrator Tonya Santos giving an overview of their operations throughout Ohio, Indiana and North Carolina. Santos and her staff also offered the class a full deluxe breakfast to start the day and a tour of the various rooms and services that Sprenger offers its residents.

The session continued with The Wooster Brush Company opening its doors to the class and Vice President Keith Hancock presenting an overview of the history, products and philosophies of the 156 year old company. The session also included an in-depth tour of all aspects of The Wooster Brush Company headquarters.

The day continued with GoJo Industries and Schaeffler welcoming the class into their facilities. GoJo, our newest corporate citizen offered an exciting look into their revitalization and reuse efforts at the former Rubbermaid facility on Akron Road and Schaeffler followed by highlighting their continual expansion projects that aim to meet the demands of a growing international market. Schaeffler also provided their training academy and a luncheon to the class.

The day concluded with a panel discussion that included Bob Buehler of Buehler's Fresh Foods, Ron Nagy of Nagys Collision Specialists, Tammy Hoffman of Seaman Corporation and Michael Carroll of Schaeffler. These leaders shared their leadership styles and business philosophies with the class.



The Wooster Brush Company offered tours of their headquarters on Madison Avenue



Tonya Santos of Sprenger Health Care Systems presents to Leadership Wooster.



(L to R) Ron Nagy, Bob Buehler, Tammy Hoffman, and Michael Carroll participate in a panel discussion on Leadership and Business Operations

Leadership Wooster wooster Area chamber of commerce

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## Now Seeking Leadership Wooster Students - Apply Today!

Leadership Wooster is the Chamber's premier leadership program designed to identify leaders and motivate them to take a leadership role in the community. Now in it's 21st year, and with an alumni network totalng over 500 community members, the program has become a network of business leaders who contribute to the area through a variety of ways including volunteering and serving on the boards of local agencies.

Leadership Wooster is a series of 10 day-long sessions each devoted to a community topic. Students learn about the local economy, government, education, medical field, community organizations, volunteerism, arts & religion, and small & large enterprise. Participation is open to anyone in the area who aspires to, or has talent for, leadership positions. To apply, visit <u>woosterchamber.com/programs/leadership-wooster</u> for an application.





Leadership Wooster participate in a panel discussion at the College of Wooster

### Our Featured Students



**AARON SHIELDS** Project Manager, McClintock Electric



Your favorite quote: So live your life that the fear of death can never enter your heart. Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view, and demand that they respect yours. Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people. Prepare a noble death song for the day when you go over the great divide. — Tecumseh



JULIE SEXTEN Pastry Chef, Certified Angus Beef

What do you hope to get out of the program? I hope to feel more connected to the community, more knowledgeable about the county's history and ultimately be excited about the future of Wooster.



ESTHER KULENICH Distribution inc Director of Transportation Operations, D+S Distribution Inc.

Your favorite thing about Wooster/Wayne County? The sense of community; most people who live in the Wooster area have lived in the area a long time. Wayne county people love to share their stories, their knowledge and themselves.



#### MORRISON CUSTOM WELDING

DAVE SAMERDAK Project Manager, Morrison Custom Welding

What do you hope to get out of the program: I hope to get an appreciation of different leadership styles and hopefully learn something about my style and how to use it more effectively.

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## Join the YP's for **St. Patrick's Day**

On Thursday, March 16th, join us for a St. Patrick's Day celebration at Spoon Market. Dress in your most festive outfit to be eligible to win a prize! Please be sure to invite a friend or co-worker! Appetizers will be provided by Spoon and cash bar will be available. We hope to see you there!

The Wooster Young Professionals provides social, networking, and educational opportunities for business professionals 21-40 years old who are establishing a career in Wayne County.

Membership is free, thanks to our generous sponsors. There are no attendance requirements or committee obligations. Just come to the events that suit your interest and schedule. Sign up by sending an email to Samira Zimmerly at szimmerly@woosterchamber.com

#### REGISTER ON Eventbrite ypsatspoon.eventbrite.com

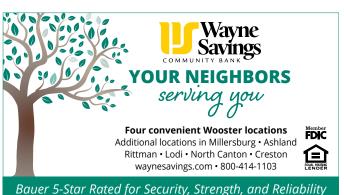




Young Professionals

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WOOSTER AREA



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Thursday, March 16th, 2017



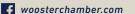


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## Seeking Business of the Year Nominations!

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominees for the 2017 Small Business of the Year. All finalists for this prestigious award will be recognized at the Small Business Reception in June. This event was established in 1987 to recognize the innovation, growth and entrepreneurial spirit of Wooster's small businesses. Nominees will be judged on the history of the business, growth in number of employees, continued growth in sales, improved financial position, innovativeness of product or service and response to adversity. Nomination forms can be found under the events tab at <u>www.woosterchamber.com</u>.



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CRITCHFIELD CRITCHFIELD & JOHNSTON ATTORNEYS



Lesley Mast, Rea & Associates, Bob Gorman, Critchfield, Critchfield and Johnston and Justin Starlin present Ken Bogucki with award.

### SMALL BUSINESS NOMINATIONS

# KNOW A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS?

Nominate them for the **2017 Small Business of the Year**. The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is searching for nominees from 1-50 employees including franchises and independent business owners.

### CRITERIA

History of the business, staying power, sales, continual growth, financial position, and contributions given to the community.

### DEADLINE

Monday, March 13th Awards Ceremony to be held in June







## Chamber Eyes Facility Improvements this Spring

The Chamber is excited to announce plans to improve and update the facility housing the Chamber, Main Street and Farm Bureau this Spring. After a thorough analysis of downtown properties and future needs of the above agencies, it was determined that revitalizing the Chamber facility was a financially prudent plan that would serve all agencies well. The project includes the complete configuration of the office facilities of the three organizations, the creation of an updated community lobby that will welcome visitors and members alike, along with the establishment of a 50 person conference room that can be utilized by the Chamber, Farm Bureau and Main Street membership, both during and after hours. The \$375,000 project will be seeking voluntary contributions from our memberships through naming right opportunities, recognized tiered donations and in-kind contributions. If you would like more information on the project or would like to contribute to the project, please contact the Chamber office at 330-262-5735.





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WE GO THE EXTRA SMILE

## What's Happening March 2017

#### MAR. 11

#### 2017 SPRING CRAFT SHOW

Crafters, demos, drawings, and food. Proceeds support the individuals attending the Nick Amster Sheltered Workshop, Inc. Bring your cameras and keep your eyes open for the Easter Bunny and take your free picture before he hops away. Crafters call for an application. Nick Amster Workshop 9AM-3PM 330-345-7979

#### MAR. 12

#### OPENING RECEPTION EXHIBIT: WAYNE COUNTY IN WWI

Join as we open our newest exhibit highlighting those who served in WW I from Wayne County. Wayne County Historical Society 1:00 PM 330-264-8856 waynehistoricalohio.org

#### MAR. 15

#### MUSIC ON MARKET: "CLARK WILSON, SILENT FILM ORGANIST -SAFETY LAST"

One of the most recognized scorers of silent photoplay in America today. Free-will offering collected. Wooster United Methodist Church 7:00 PM 330-262-5641 fb.com/MusiconMarketWooster

#### MAR. 16 GIRLS' NIGHT OUT!

RSVP for this special event night out just for the ladies. See their website for details. Pine Tree Barn & farm 5-8 PM 330-264-1014 *pinetreebarn.com* 

#### MAR. 17

#### **DORMANT PRUNING WORKSHOP** Hands-on pruning workshop by pre-registration for both the homeowner and commercial landscaper. Secrest Arboretum 8 AM- NOON 740-485-0129 secrest.osu.edu

#### MAR. 17 – OCT. 28 EXHIBIT: WAYNE COUNTY IN WWI

Wayne County Historical Society Fri & Sat 1-4 PM 330-264-8856 waynehistoricalohio.org

#### MAR. 17 – 19 ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Presented by the Wayne County Performing Arts Council. Wooster Foursquare Church 7PM Friday and Saturday, 2PM Sunday wacpac.org

#### MAR. 18 SHREVE MIGRATION SENSATION

Full day of events centering around the annual start of birding in the Killbuck Marsh Area in Shreve. Guest speakers, workshops, vendor hall and special children's educational activities. Shreve Elementary School Rt. 226. Shreve Elementary School 7 AM-4:45 PM 330-464-4382. shreveohio.com

#### MAR. 18 CANAAN TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT/HARRY H. HAWK DAY BENEFIT

Benefit for the Canaan Township Fire Department. Producers Livestock Sales, 256 S. Main St., Creston 8:30 AM

#### MAR. 18 OABGC KIDS' BENEFIT AUCTION AND DINNER

A fun evening with auctions, raffles and buffet dinner benefitting the Orrville Area Boys and Girls Club. The Pines Golf Club & Restaurant 5:30 PM 330-683-4888. *oabgc.org* 

#### MAR. 18 DINNER SHOW

Professional comedians Rick Reader and Jason Dixie will be in the Banquet and Event center. Pre-sale tickets only. \$33 each or \$28 for groups of 8 or more. Ticket includes deluxe dinner buffet, beverage, dessert, tax, gratuity and the show. The Dutch Kitchen 6PM 330-683-0530 dutchkitchen.com

#### MAR. 19 WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD CELEBRATION

A celebration for preschoolers and their families featuring special entertainment and handson activities. Fisher Auditorium, OARDC NOON-3 PM 330-264-8722

#### MAR. 19

VOICES FROM THE PAST: "KELLEY MCRAE, SONGS OF HOPE"

Tickets available at the Historical Society or the Wooster Book Company. Wayne County Historical Society 2:00 PM 330-264-8856 waynehistoricalohio.org

#### MAR. 20 FUNCTIONAL CERAMICS RECEPTION

View the 2017 exhibit and meet the presenters. Wayne Center for the Arts 7-9 PM 330-264-2787 wayneartscenter.org

#### MAR. 21 – 22 FUNCTIONAL CERAMICS WORKSHOP

FWayne Center for the Arts 8:30 AM-8:30 PM 330-264-2787 wayneartscenter.org

#### MAR. 22 – APR. 22 FUNCTIONAL CERAMICS EXHIBIT

An exhibit and sale of ceramics by artists. Wayne Center for the Arts Daily, 330-264-2787 wayneartscenter.org

#### MAR. 24 – 25 WAYNE COUNTY ARTS & CRAFTS GUILD SPRING ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Juried arts and crafts show with over 115 booths of handmade items including jewelry, baskets, floral, wood items, dolls, pet items and more. Free admission and lunch available. Sponsored by the Wayne County Arts and Crafts Guild. Greenbriar Conference & Party Centre Fri 5-9 PM, Sat 9 AM-4 PM 330-345-5962. greenbriarwooster.com

#### MAR. 25

LIFECARE HOSPICE FUNDRAISER

Annual fundraiser dinner and auction benefiting hospice and palliative care for Greater Wayne County. Shisler Conference Center 330-264-4899 *lifecarehospice.org* 

#### MAR. 25 PERFORMANCE SERIES: "LONE RAVEN"

A European Folk music including Celtic music. Sonnenberg Village 2:00 PM 330-857-9111 *kidronhistoricalsociety.org* 

#### MAR. 31

#### JAZZ ENSEMBLE CONCERT

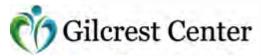
The College of Wooster's Jazz Ensemble will present their spring concert. Freedlander Theatre, College of Wooster 7:30 PM 330-263-2419 wooster.edu

## Area Business **Ribbon Cuttings**

Ribbon Cuttings and Open House events are a great way to promote your new business or a location change. The Chamber promotes these events to increase community involvement.



We are happy to announce the opening of the Gilcrest Center in Wooster. They will be providing a wonderful Adult Care facility that provides many unique opportunities that enhance the quality of life of senior adults from different communities through social, recreational, health and wellness, educational, and nutritional service programs.





We would like to congratulate Cochrell Financial for expanding their company from their Burbank location to Wooster!





Congratulations to Nova Title Agency for opening their new office in the Liberty Street Commons in downtown Wooster. We are excited to see what they have in store!



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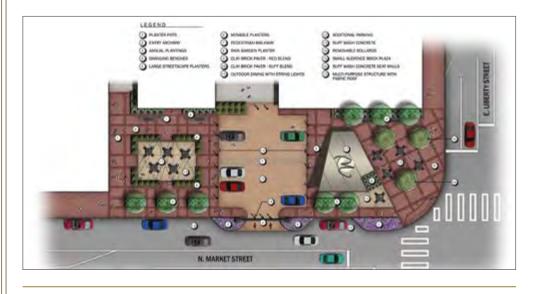
Logee, Hostetler, Stutzman & Lehman, LLC Attorneys at Law

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

2171 Eagle Pass, Wooster, OH 44691 Ph: 330-264-6115 • Fax: 330-262-5729 www.lhslaw.com \* Serving the community since 1925 \*

# Downtown Refresh Starting July 2017





In accordance with the City of Wooster's Comprehensive Plan and the Downtown Wooster Strategic Plan, July of this year will begin to see some changes in the downtown! The NE quadrant of the Public Square will begin it's "refresh" with the construction of a greenspace, a larger entertainment venue, and parking.

In 2013, the results of a residential survey, focus groups and public meetings indicated strong support for downtown Wooster as the cultural center of the city. More than 4,000 residents responded to the survey on the City of Wooster's web site...The result was Downtown Strategic Plan, initiated by the City of Wooster, and, again, requesting input from the citizens on their vision for the beautification of the downtown.

The NE quadrant will undergo a transformation adding trees, shrubs and other plantings to enhance Public Square and the addition of a larger entertainment venue used for many public events. There will be the same number of parking spaces prior to the "refresh" of the quadrant.

Two public alleys will also be revamped, creating attractive pedestrian and vehicular traffic, creating attractive walkable alleys and connectivity to the Public Square and the downtown.

Thank you to the City of Wooster Administration and Wooster City Council for the support of this project, adding ambiance and accessibility for residents and visitors alike to our downtown.



## Highlight Your Business in our Facebook Giveaways

Check out some of our latest Facebook giveaways! Each week we highlight a new member of the Chamber by featuring them as our weekly giveaway! We enjoy getting out in the community and learning more about the services and products that our local members offer. Reach out to us if you would like to be featured on Facebook!

## Find us on



UNLOCKED: ESCAPE ROOM WOOSTER A fun, live adventure game, where players are in a room and they have to use elements of the room to solve puzzles. They have 45 minutes to complete the p



puzzles. They have 45 minutes to complete the puzzles. Perfect for team bonding activities or an evening with friends!



**VERTICAL RUNNER** Vertical Runner Wooster is the local hub for the running community in Wayne, Ashland, Holmes



County & beyond! They are stocked up with all of your running essentials. Be sure to visit this downtown business to get your next pair of running shoes. They will help you find the right fit for your feet!











### WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **2017 INVITATIONAL** FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017 • WOOSTER COUNTRY CLUB



FOUR PERSON SCRAMBLE Registration 9am / Tee Off 10am \$600 Per Team ALL GOLFERS RECEIVE FREE ONE DAY PASS to return to the Wooster County Club

**ENTRY FEE INCLUDES** Continental Breakfast Golf & Buffet Dinner Hot Dogs off the Grill Complimentary Beverages

**Proximity Prizes** 

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Hurry & Sign Up Today! Space is limited to the first 36 teams! To register call 330-262-5735 or email szimmerly@woosterchamber.com **2017 MEMBER OF COMMERCE** 

Since 1908 the Wooster Chamber has been a leader in assuring that the Wooster Area is a community that celebrates the free enterprise system through policies and procedures that support new business development and encourage business retention. Our success as a community organization would not be possible without the support from our membership and we want to annually recognize this support through the presentation of an updated membership insert. We think they look great and are excited to see our members proudly display them throughout town.



FOR MORE INFO ON BECOMING A CHAMBER MEMBER VISIT: WOOSTERCHAMBER.COM

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### applecreekbank.com



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