

Chamber Newsletter

WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Linking Business with Community

November 2022

In this Issue:

Congrats to all of our Woosterfest 2022 contest winnners during our event on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 in Downtown Wooster. Page 6

377 West Liberty Street • Wooster, Ohio 44691

Visit us online at woosterchamber.com ♀ □ 🛅 🎯

Get ready for the holiday season and be Loyal to Local!

While you are enjoying your favorite holiday traditions this year, we encourage you to be Loyal to Local. The 3rd annual Loyal to Local



Holiday Passport Program supports our small businesses throughout the entire holiday shopping season.

The year's shopping experience kicks off on Monday, November 21 and continues through Thursday, January 5.

Pick up your passport at the Wooster Chamber or at participating businesses.

For additional details visit woosterchamber. com/loyaltolocal.

How do shoppers participate?

- Pick up a passport from one of the participating establishments.
- Present your passport when making a purchase at a participating business to receive stamps in your passport equal to the amount of your purchase.
- Turn in your completed passport at the Chamber office before noon on Thursday, January 5. A winner will be drawn for the Grand Prize!

Passports must be stamped at the time of purchase. Any material other than the passport will not be eligible for the drawing. Customers may turn in multiple completed passports. Each completed passport increases the chance of winning a

Loyal to Local Grand Prizes GRAND PRIZES WILL FEATURE ITEMS FROM THESE BUSINESSES AND MORE! Embellish 😪 SURE HOUSE BULLSEYE S Friendtique

Some of This Year's Participating Businesses

A Cut Above Hair Design

Acres of Fun B. Radiant

Lash Studio Bay Lobsters II Cafe & Fish Market

Omahoma Bob's

Barbeque

Boba Bowl

Boo Bears Brew

Boots, Shoes and More LLC

Broken Rocks Café & Bakery/Rox Gastropub

Buchwalter Greenhouse

Buffalo Wild Wings Bullseye's Axe Throwing

C R Blooms Floral

Canaan Meats Centerra

Country Store Clothing Warehouse, The

Cookie Snob Dollar 1

E&H Ace Hardware

Embellish Tattoo Company

Everything Surplus Expert T's

Flamingo Jacks

Flex Yoga Studios Friendtique/Nest

Graham & Burns Grigio Wine & Cocktail Bar

Goodwill

HighPoint Furniture House of Silva

Ivory Room JAFB - Wooster Brewery

JK Gift Shop

Jump n Shout Lincoln Way

Vineyards MacKenzie's

Silver Lining **Matsos Family** Restaurant

Meatheads Union

Miss Amy's Bakery Olde Jaol Restaurant & Tavern

Ray Crow Cleaners Rhimix Salon and Spa

Ride On

Roomscapes

Sheer Professionals Smokin' Dave's

Spoon Market

& Deli Sport Clips

Steel x Stone Studios

St. Paul Hotel Sure House Coffee Roasting Co.

The Leaf

The Salt & Serenity

Tricor Industrial TJ's Restaurant

Troutman Vinevards

Uptown/Downtown **Emporium**

Vertical Runner Walnut Street

Gallery Wooster **Natural Foods**

Yellow Door **Bird Store** And More!



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For more information contact the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce at (330) 262-5735.

Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce

* New Members



Bee Bungalows was founded by Brian and Olivia Boyer to provide residential housing for middle class tenants within the Wooster area. Bee Bungalows' portfolio of nearly 30 units includes mainly single family homes but also provides duplexes and

They were founded in 2015 and have steadily grown ever since.

Become a Chamber Member!

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



Ivory Room

Ivory Room is a Bridal and Occasion Wear boutique located in the heart of beautiful downtown Wooster. Ivory Room is a meticulously curated collection of designer gowns, custom one-of-a-kind ensembles, vintage masterpieces, and exquisite accessories. Ivory Room will be open Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 11 AM to 5 PM and on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for private appointments. Our stylists pride themselves on professionalism and creating a top notch customer service experience. We can't wait to spread the sparkle to Wooster and beyond

Connect with us on Social Media

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



PJ Operating Corp.

For more than 35 years, P J Operating Corp. has served the oil & gas, industrial, and water & wastewater markets as a manufacturer's representative. With its office in Wooster, PJO represents manufacturers from across the United States and Canada, offering quality customer service and technical expertise to customers in the Midwest.

PJO works closely with distributors to meet the needs of oil and gas producers, pipelines, contractors, utilities, and municipalities by providing quality customer service and technical expertise.

PJO also injection molds guides for sucker rods. assists in spec writing, and offers schoolings and onsite training for their customers' continued education. To learn more about what PJO can do for you, visit www.pjoperating.com.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS							
	July 2022	August 2021	August 2022		July 2022	August 2021	August 2022
Unemployment, United States	3.8%	5.3%	3.8%	Labor Force, Employed Wayne County	58,500	58,500	58,000
Unemployment, Ohio	4.4%	4.8%	4.3%	Labor Force, Unemployed Wayne County	2,000	2,100	2,000
Unemployment, Wayne County	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	Wayne County Sales Tax by Month	\$1,385,817.34	\$1,213,574.38	N/A

2022 Board of Directors

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Jason Carrick

Critchfield

Critchfield

& Johnston

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Armand Massary The Apple Creek ArtiFlex Manufacturing

Don Noble II Stephen Smyth United Titanium, Inc. **GOJO Industries**

Martha Starkey Wavne County & Visitors' Bureau

John Stika Certified Angus Beef

Xcess Limited Shannon Waller Rich Fishburn Main Street E&H Hardware

Jon Jameson Beth Weaver Schaeffler Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County Matthew Long

Wayne Webste The College

Chamber Staff

When finished with this newsletter, please recycle it.



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Grace Howell 330-262-5735

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is on Facebook

330-262-5735

Michelle Rothgery

mrothgerv@woosterchamber.com

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

OUR PARTNERS

















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Small Business Orientation Webinars and Workshops



UPCOMING DATES

Tuesday, November 1 Wednesday, Nov. 30

A small materials fee applies.

* November Newsletter

All members invited for the December Business After Hours at Certified Angus Beef's new warehouse and print shop

All members are welcome to join us for a Business After Hours on December 8 from 5 - 7 p.m. at the new Certified Angus Beef warehouse, located at 147 Riffel Road!

Certified Angus Beef's new 18,000-squarefoot facility houses its warehouse and print shop. The building offers on-site storage, and allows the local company to gain efficiencies in shipping and receiving marketing materials, Brand Store products and more to help partners promote the very best beef.

We are excited for this opportunity to see the new space and network with our members! Register now at www. woosterchamber.com/business-after-hours



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



Remember to take advantage of your membership benefits

Members of the Wooster Area Chamber receive exclusive benefits ranging from promotional opportunities, money-saving programs, networking opportunities, professional development and so much more!

Educational Opportunities

Join us for our Educational Series where speakers discuss relevant topics and provide education to your business. Interested in speaking at an Educational Series? Contact the Chamber team today!

Ribbon Cuttings

Promote your new business through a Ribbon Cutting with the Wooster Chamber! Ribbon Cuttings, Groundbreakings, and Milestones are shared in the Friday Letter, Monthly Newsletter and on the Chamber's Facebook page, which has over 15,750



followers. This allows you to reach a broad audience in our community.

Friday Letter

Receive a weekly e-letter highlighting resources, news, and community happenings! Did you know as a member, you can advertise in the Friday Letter?

Membership Referrals

Members of the Wooster Chamber receive exclusive benefits such as business referrals! Check your email for eReferrals from Chamber staff to track this benefit.

Money-Saving Programs

Members have the opportunity to take part in a number of money saving programs. Whether you are in need of health insurance, workers' compensation, energy savings, office supplies, or reduced rates through Constant Contact, we have got you covered!

Printed Newsletter

Members receive a monthly copy of the Chamber Newsletter. This publication is full of information on upcoming sessions and events, member benefits, community happenings, and so much more! Did we mention you can advertise your business/ organization as a benefit? The newsletter reaches 25,000+ individuals monthly!

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

* November Newsletter

Join the Wooster Young Professionals for a social at JAFB with beer and appetizers on Nov. 10

Join the Wooster Young Professionals at JAFB for a cold one on November 10 from 5-7 p.m.! JAFB will provide a \$1 discount on beers and light appetizers will be available.





We have loved seeing so many new and familiar faces at our recent socials! The Wooster Young Professionals group is comprised of 21-40-year-olds living or working in Wayne County. If you fall under those categories, we would love to see you there! Register at https://www.woosterchamber.com/young-professionals.

Wooster Young Professionals is sponsored by:





Join us to learn tips and resources for getting your new business off the ground

Starting a business can be scary, but it doesn't have to be overwhelming! If you have a business or are considering opening one, join us on November 29 from 8:30 a.m. - to 10:30 a.m. as we discuss resources available to you in Northeast Ohio, legal issues a new entrepreneur needs to be aware of, the business planning process, and some of the ways to fund a new venture. Holly Bolinger, a Certified Business Advisor from the Ohio Small Business Development Center, will be leading the discussion. With 20 years of experience in



commercial lending and twentytwo years of business ownership, she has a wealth of knowledge and is a valuable resource for any business owner.

The Ohio Small Business Development Center at Kent State University at Tuscarawas offers RESULTS-ORIENTED resources to help you every step of the way in your business's start-up, development and growth phases. They offer personalized business advising, a variety of resources, and workshops just like this one. After attending this seminar, no-charge ongoing counseling is available by appointment to help you develop your idea either in person or virtually. We hope you'll join us! Register at woosterchamber.com/ educationalseries.



Safety Council

Safety Council to cover Forklift and Equipment Safety

Forklifts are an integral part of many workplaces, but there is a certain level of risk involved during operation. Roughly 60,000 workers are injured each year as a result of improper use of forklifts. OSHA estimates that about 70 percent of accidents can be prevented with proper training, knowledge, and equipment.

During our Safety Council meeting on November 23, Benjamin McConahay and Bruce Steiner of the Wayne County Schools Career Center will present on Forklift and Equipment Safety.

Attendees will learn about:

- Do you have a training program or just an introduction?
- Differentiating the roles of management and operators
- Boosting up-time through quality programming

Benjamin McConahay is starting his 6th year as the Diesel Technologies instructor at the Wayne County Schools Career Center. He has 16 years of experience in the transportation and manufacturing industries. Currently, he is working to complete a bachelor's degree in education and to obtain ASE Certified Master Medium-Heavy Truck Technician status.

Bruce Steiner is starting his 15th year at the Wayne County Schools Career Center, Bruce has served in Machining Technologies, RAMTEC CNC programming, customized industrial training, Adult Education, and Apprenticeship coordination tasks designed to enhance the talent pool of skilled tradespersons in Wayne County. Drawing on his manufacturing experience dating back to

1986 and subsequent collegiate and hands-on training, his passion for helping to grow the local economy through developing our human capabilities is central to the mission at the Wayne County Schools Career Center.

To register, visit bit.ly/woochambersafetynov2022

ment Safety

WAYNE COUNTY SCHOOLS CAREER CENTER



MEETING DETAILS

Topic: Forklift and Equipment Safety

Date: Wednesday, November 23

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

Location:

First Presbyterian Church 621 College Avenue, Wooster, Ohio 44691



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* November Newsletter







Woosterfest 2022 Cruise-In Winner

YOUR 2022 WOOSTERFEST EVENT CHAMPIONS!







Woosterfest 2022 Cruise-In Winner

Wiener Dog Race – Grand Champion: Porter May

Woosterfest 2022 Cruise-In Winner

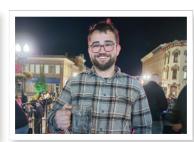


Pig Mac Eating Competition

Champion: Alex Murphy







Cornhole Tournament Champions:
Jim Park & Dave Reese

Sausage Toss Champions: Ben Bentley & Quin Brunner

Stein Holding Competition Champion: Forrest Lang







Youth Free Throw Shootout Champion: Turner Geib



Adult Free Throw Shootout Champion:
Rob McCarter



Woosterfest 2022 Cruise-In Winner

Save the Date for the 2023 Woosterfest – Friday, Sept. 29 and Saturday, Sept. 30!
Thank you to all of our 2022 Woosterfest event sponsors!

• TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS EVENT, VISIT WOOSTERFEST.COM. •

* Leadership Wooster

Leadership Wooster explores the agriculture sector of Wayne County



The current Leadership Wooster class got to explore and learn about many different facets of agriculture in October.

The day began at The Ohio State University - CFAES Wooster Campus where Dr. Kristina Boone, Asst. Dean and Director, gave an overview of the college and the impact it has on the agricultural industry. She offered insight on the careers in agriculture and the programs offered at the college.

Kurt Steiner of Steinhurst Farms then presented on what life looks like as a dairy farmer. He spoke on the importance of good workers, having a succession plan, and how being a strong leader helps their operations.

The class moved outside for a presentation and demonstration on technology in agriculture and learned about the shifts that are happening in the industry from Dr. John Witter, Assoc. Professor & Brian Gwin, Program Director, Research and Graduate Education Administration, CFAES Wooster. At Secrest Arboretum, they learned about horticulture from Dr. Laura Deeter, Professor, Landscape Horticulture and Horticultural Science, and Jason Veil, Curator, Secrest Arboretum.

Lunch was generously provided by Certified Angus Beef, where the class enjoyed a delicious meal and heard from Melissa Brewer, VP of Communications, Sherry Leggett, Director of People & Culture, and Kirsten Nickles, Sustainability & Animal Care Scientist, about the Certified Angus Beef brand, applying servant leadership at work, and sustainability in the industry.

Another fun part of the day was touring Zido Valley Dairy, where the class got to explore an operational dairy farm before traveling to Lincoln Way Vineyards for a wine tasting to wrap up the day. Owner Jim Borton walked the class through the variety of wines produced at Lincoln Way, and Alex Borton, Vineyard Manager, gave a tour of the winery. It was a full day with a lot of knowledge gained about an industry that is so important to the area!

Leadership Wooster is sponsored by:



















6 | woosterchamber.com Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce woosterchamber.com | 7

* Ribbon Cuttings

Congratulations to the new team at Cookie Snob

We were excited to celebrate Cookie Snob's new ownership with a ribbon cutting! Michelle Bowman took over the business in August, and is now offering a few new cookie options in addition to the traditional iced

https://cookiesnob.store.











Congratulations to the new team, we are so glad to have you in Wooster!



Congratulations to the Ivory Room on their opening and ribbon cutting! We are so excited about this new business downtown that will offer stunning bridal gowns, occasion wear, and accessories for formal events and celebrations. The grand opening was a celebration of dreams coming true and community support.

The Ivory Room is located at 217 E. Liberty St. Stay tuned on their website at ivoryroomwooster. com or stop in to see all that this beautiful boutique has to offer!















* Ribbon Cuttings

Trillium Creek celebrates their new office **expansion in Wooster**

Congratulations to Trillium Creek Dermatology on their new office expansion at their Wooster location! The new area adds nine more exam rooms, where they can staff additional providers to see more patients every day. They will be able to add more appointments and the additional staff and exam rooms will allow shorter wait times.

Trillium Creek Dermatology offers world-class general dermatology, dermatologic surgery, laser surgery, cosmetic dermatology, skin cancer treatment, and holistic medicine. The center is located inside the Milltown Professional Building











Congratulations to Heartland Title Agency on opening a new Wooster location





Heartland Title Agency recently celebrated the opening of their new Wooster location at 121 N. Market Street with a ribbon cutting and open house. Their new two-story location features stunning office spaces and cozy conference areas.

Heartland offers complete title and closing services for residential and commercial real estate transactions for lenders, realtors, businesses, and consumers. They also provide document retrieval, as well as document walkthrough and recording services.







8 | woosterchamber.com Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce woosterchamber.com | 9



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* November Newsletter

Congratulations to Bowman Beverage on their 40th Anniversary



Congratulations to Bowman Beverage on reaching their 40th anniversary of business!

Bowman Beverage was started when Bret Defibaugh happened upon a building

on East Bowman Street that was a small convenience store. Bret saw the potential in this building, a business he had shopped in many times as a kid and as a young adult. With dreams of success, Bret and a friend, Jerry Szemplak, opened the doors of Bowman Beverage in 1982.

When Bowman Beverage opened, Bret and his mother Jeanne, handled the day-to-day hours at Bowman. As the business flourished and grew, Bret never feared getting his hands dirty and doing the work that needed to be

In 1993, Bret, Deb (his wife) and his friends, Ted Rehard and Jon Zoss, bought the West Lincoln Way Drive Thru. With the addition of this successful venture, Bret had a desire to continue expanding the business. Bret, Deb and son Corbett, opened The Ice House drive thru in 1996.



2019 saw the addition of Gary's Drive Thru and Liquor store, in Orrville. Bret and Corbett ran the businesses with the help of the rest of the family, until Bret's passing in 2020.

"The employees, both past and present are the reason for the continued success of Bowman Beverage and without them and their hard work, we would not be where we are today," said Corbett.

Bowman Beverage handles over 300 weddings and events yearly and without the core of dedicated employees, these numbers would not be possible.

Bowman Beverage has always had a passion for giving back to the community. Each year, they host the 5-0 Cookout, which is held and hosted in conjunction with Wooster Police Department, Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Wooster Fire and multiple other agencies throughout the county.

"Bret always had a love of taking care of anyone that needed help. With our employees' help, we will continue to give back as much as we can," Corbett said. "We hope to continue this tradition of caring for another 40 years."

* Let It Glow

Wooster will shine bright this holiday season with Let it Glow

Let's get in the holiday spirit with the third annual Let it Glow Competition! The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is encouraging you to spread some holiday cheer by adorning your home with lights, lawn ornaments, wreaths, and more!



You even have a chance to win one of the three cash prizes!

REGISTRATION INFO:

• Deadline to register: Friday, December 2. It's FREE to register! Address must be within 44691



 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.
- Vote anytime from Friday, December 16 Sunday, January 1
- Winners will be contacted as well as posted on social media

PRIZE CATEGORIES:

- Best in Show: \$100 prize, Selected by: MCTV
- Clark Griswold (most lights): \$100 prize
- People's Choice: \$100 cash prize, Selected by: Community Vote

The Let it Glow Chamber **Holiday Light Competition** is generously sponsored by:



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

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**

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10 | woosterchamber.com Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce woosterchamber.com | 11



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