



IN THIS ISSUE

2021 Woosterfest schedule including live music and community events. Register today to participate in an event. **Page 6 – 7**

377 West Liberty Street • Wooster, Ohio 44691

woosterchamber.com    

Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce named ◆ • 2021 Chamber of the Year by ACCE! • ◆

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce has been named Chamber of the Year by ACCE, the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. ACCE is an association based in Alexandria, Va., that has over 1,600 chambers of commerce and related business and economic development organizations as members, representing more than 9,000 professionals in the industry.



A special thank you to the community and our members for helping us achieve this recognition.

Chamber of the Year, sponsored by MemberClicks, a Personify Company, is the most prestigious and competitive award presented by ACCE and is the only globally-recognized industry award that honors top chambers of commerce. Those honored with the Chamber of the Year designation have demonstrated organizational strength and

made an impact on key community priorities, such as education, transportation, business development and quality of life.

“This achievement reflects how hard chambers work to ensure their impact and success well beyond these difficult times. Congratulations on the Wooster Chamber’s remarkable leadership, commitment to its community and dedication to the chamber profession.”

— *Sherri Anne Kelly,*
ACCE President and CEO

The Wooster Chamber accepted the award July 20 during ACCE’s Chamber Innovation Summit.

“We are thrilled with this national recognition. Being named a national Chamber of the Year would not be possible without the dedication of our hard-working staff, our engaged board of directors, and the support from the diverse businesses that make up our membership,” said Samira



Zimmerly, Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce President. “We’re humbled to have our efforts recognized, especially after the challenges we all have faced in the most recent past. Our team remains motivated to continue to provide leadership and engagement in our local community, and this award confirms that our efforts are making a difference.”

Story continued on page 11

❖ New Members



Hummingbird Hill Flower Farm LLC

Hummingbird Hill Flower Farm is a wholesale cut flower, herb and vegetable farm that also retails to the public. Specializing in planting hope and creating joy. From picking your own bouquets, visiting The Flower Bar retail shop of specialty stems, hosting a private event, attending a workshop, or capturing special moments with a mini photoshoot, the farm is blooming with opportunities to curate a joyful experience you will remember for years to come.

Located at 10055 S. Funk Road in Shreve, Ohio.



Metro Life Flight / Metrohealth

Metro Life Flight is a not-for-profit, CAMTS-accredited, air and ground critical care transport service. Since its inception in 1982, Metro Life Flight's priorities have always been to provide the highest level of care to those in need while implementing the highest safety standards in the industry. With helicopters, critical care ground ambulances and ALS ambulances based throughout the region, Metro Life Flight is readily accessible to the communities they serve throughout Northern Ohio. Metro Life Flight offers the safest transportation with advanced clinical care at the most affordable price around.



Steel x Stone Studio's

Steel x Stone Studio's is a small treasure stop located at 4688 S. Elyria Rd. Shreve, Ohio 44676.

Using reclaimed steel and capturing the history of everyday items, Steel x Stone Studio's transforms it for a new purpose. Bringing history to the present and giving it a future. Unusual lamps, yard accents, tables, fantasy, sci-fi and steampunk.

Steel x Stone Studio's also offers pottery workshops. Visit and embellish your life a little. Phone: (330)264.0944. Open Tuesday – Thursday 10 AM – 4 PM. Visit their website: steelxstonestudios.com or find them on Facebook and Instagram.



Wooster Eye Center

Wooster Eye Center is a private medical eye care practice that has been serving Wayne County and surrounding communities for over fifty years. Their four board-certified physicians see patients of all ages and provide a wide variety of routine, medical, and surgical eye care. The Wooster office houses a spectacle dispensary as well as a state-of-the-art outpatient surgery center. For more information, visit www.woostereyecenter.com.

Apply to be a Member

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 Katie Foster at kfoster@woosterchamber.com with questions.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS							
	April 2021	May 2020	May 2021		April 2021	May 2020	May 2021
Unemployment, United States	5.7%	13.0%	5.5%	Labor Force, Employed Wayne County	57,700	54,200	54,000
Unemployment, Ohio	4.8%	14.6%	5.0%	Labor Force, Unemployed Wayne County	1,900	6,500	1,900
Unemployment, Wayne County	3.2%	10.6%	5.0%	Wayne County Sales Tax by Month	\$1,301,264.43	\$958,753.55	\$1,204,605.37

2021 Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Wayne County Convention & Visitors' Bureau

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Main Street Wooster, Inc.

Beth Weaver
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Wayne Webster
The College of Wooster

Thomas White

Chamber Staff

When finished with this newsletter, please recycle it. ♻️

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OUR PARTNERS



Visit us online at woosterchamber.com

Small Business Orientation Remote Sessions



Small Business Development Centers

August 10, 2021
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

September 2, 2021
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

A small materials fee applies.

Register online cantonsbdc.org

❖ New Members

WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER

Let us help your business!



VISIBILITY

STAND OUT and get noticed as an active member of your community!



GROWTH

Economic Growth in bringing people to the area by promoting tourism and events.



VOICE

We advocate on your behalf! Gain access to legislatures through Chamber efforts.



CREDIBILITY

Your reputation matters! Chamber Membership is respected by the community!



MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Member to Member Discounts increase your buying power.



NETWORK

It's not just who you know, it's who others know! Networking is powerful!

For more information on membership with the Wooster Chamber please call (330) 262-5735.



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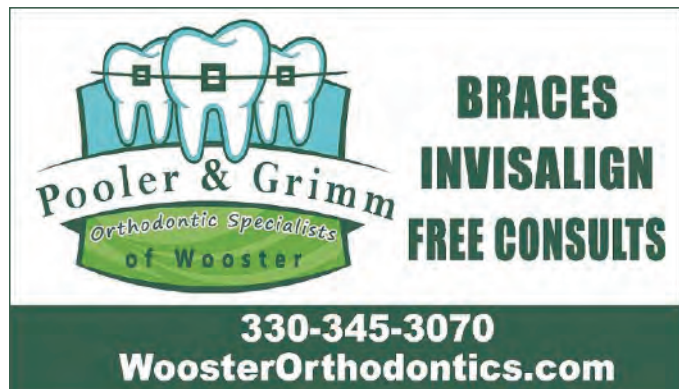
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❖ August Newsletter

Save Thursday, October 28 for the 2021 Wayne Economic Forum!

The 2021 Wayne Economic Forum will not disappoint, with a dynamic slate of speakers set to share their thoughts on business philosophies, community involvement and individual leadership.

Now in its eighth year, the Forum brings recognized business executives to Wayne County for an afternoon of thought-provoking presentations and networking.

With limited seating available, we encourage you to register for what promises to be a unique event.



2021 Wayne Economic Forum event speakers:



David Kennedy
Founder and CEO,
TrustedSec



Topic: The Worsening
Cyber Attacks



Bill Priemer
President and CEO,
Hyland Software



Topic: How We Built a
\$1 Billion Company



Eric Roegner
President,
Amcor Rigid Packaging



Topic: Amcor – Creating a
New World of Packaging



John Hamilton
Ret. VP of Engineering,
Boeing Airplanes



Interview Topic: An Inside
View of the Boeing 737 MAX

A Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce event sponsored by



Register at bit.ly/woochamberwayneforum2021

❖ Safety Council

Enroll in the Wooster Area Safety Council program – it's FREE!

Enroll in the Wooster Area Safety Council program - it's FREE! Just complete the New Enrollment Form at woosterchamber.com/wooster-area-safety-council and return it to Michelle at mrothgery@woosterchamber.com.



This form does not need to be completed if you have enrolled in the past.

Safety Council meeting for fiscal year 2022 is set for Wednesday, August 25



Kelly Ott
Ergonomic Consultant,
Ohio BWC Division of
Safety and Hygiene

The first Virtual Safety Council meeting for FY22 is set for August 25 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



Kelly Ott, Ergonomic Consultant with the Ohio BWC Division of Safety and Hygiene will present Working remotely or from home? How to reduce exposure to ergonomic risk factors.

Ergonomic hazards include working in awkward or uncomfortable postures and using excessive force or high repetition to complete a task. Working remotely

has created a need for good ergonomics when working from home. Good ergonomics ensure comfort and safety, enhanced productivity, all while keeping you healthy and pain-free.

Kelly Ott works to assist employers with developing a system-based approach to ergonomics and safety through services such as safety grant application assistance, ergonomic team development, safety culture assessment, and strategic planning.

Over the years, Kelly has directed the implementation of safety, environmental, and health programs focused on preventing injuries, improving communications, identifying risk factors, and training personnel.

Register online at woosterchamber.com/wooster-area-safety-council

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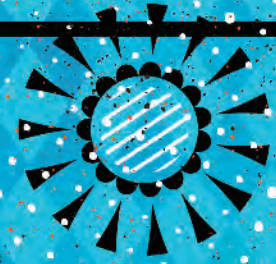
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FRIDAY, OCT. 1 SCHEDULE

- CEREMONIAL KEG TAP 12PM
- TOM'S KITCHEN TABLE 3-5PM
- DYAD 5-6 & 8-9PM
- CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT 6PM
- TYLER REID 6PM-8PM
- PIG MAC EATING COMPETITION 8PM
- STEIN HOLDING COMPETITION 8:30PM
- RUBIX CUBED 9-11 PM
- PLUS ARTS AND CRAFTS, FOOD VENDORS,
BIERGARTEN AND WEINGARTEN



TO LEARN MORE VISIT WOOSTERFEST.COM



Woosterfest



FRIDAY & SATURDAY OCTOBER 1ST & 2ND DOWNTOWN WOOSTER

OUR PLATINUM SPONSORS



SATURDAY, OCT. 2 SCHEDULE

- FREE THROW SHOOTOUT 11AM-3PM
- KINDERPLATZ 11AM-4PM
- CRUISE-IN 11AM-9PM
- WIENER DOG RACE 12PM
- ELECTRIC CIRCUS 3-5PM
- SAUSAGE TOSS 5PM
- DAN PYNE 5-6 & 8-9PM
- BEER STEIN RACE 6PM
- CREAM PUFF STUFF 8PM
- WET BANDITS 6-8PM
- SPAZMATICS 9-11PM



TO LEARN MORE VISIT WOOSTERFEST.COM

Call for Nominations for 2022 Chamber Community Awards



The Chamber is seeking nominations for the 2022 Annual Dinner awards program, scheduled for January 2022. There are two award categories, one focusing on the success of area businesses and the other on individuals making a difference in the community.



Business Category

- ▶ Business of the Year
- ▶ Small Business of the Year
 - 15 employees and under
 - More than 15 employees
- ▶ WorthyWorks Award

Individual Awards

- ▶ Wall of Fame Award
- ▶ Jack O'Donnell Award
- ▶ Mike Lezak Award



2021 Annual Dinner program Award Recipients

Submit a Nomination Today!

Do you know a business or individual that you feel should be recognized for their contributions to making our community so unique? If so, nominations can be made by visiting the Wooster Chamber website at: woosterchamber.com/chamber-awards. All nominations will be collected and the slate of candidates will be reviewed. The deadline for submissions is August 10.

Nominate a business or community individual at:
woosterchamber.com/chamber-awards

Business of the Year Past Recipients

The Gerstenslager Company.....	1982
The Financial Community.....	1983
H. Freedlander Company.....	1984
Rubbermaid Incorporated.....	1985
The Wooster Brush Company.....	1986
The College of Wooster.....	1987
The Daily Record.....	1988
William Annat Company.....	1989
Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce.....	1990
Wayne County National Bank.....	1991
OARDC.....	1992
Wayne Steel.....	1993
LuK USA.....	1994
Buehler's Food Market.....	1995
Wooster Office Plus.....	1996
The Gerstenslager Company.....	1997
Signal Bank.....	1998
Buckeye Container.....	1999
Bogner Construction Company.....	2000
Seaman Corporation.....	2001
Wooster Glass Company.....	2002
Akron Brass Company.....	2003
Magni-Power Company.....	2004
Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston.....	2005
United Titanium.....	2006
Western Reserve Group.....	2007
Wayne Savings Community Bank.....	2008
D+S Distribution.....	2009
Campbell Construction.....	2010
Wooster Community Hospital.....	2011
Sprenger Health Care Systems.....	2012
Wayne Insurance Group.....	2013
Frito Lay.....	2014
Certified Angus Beef.....	2015
Pallotta Ford Lincoln.....	2016
Tekfor USA.....	2017
Schaeffler.....	2018
RBB.....	2019
PRC-Salttillo.....	2020
Wooster Community Hospital.....	2021

Chamber celebrates opening of Grigio Wine & Cocktail Bar in downtown Wooster

The Chamber was very excited to welcome Grigio Wine & Cocktail Bar to Downtown Wooster with a Champagne pop!

Enjoy the charcuterie and dessert while sipping a crafted cocktail or glass of wine on the patio or inside the renovated building located beside the St. Paul Hotel.

The historic space is available to rent with full-service planning packages available for Micro Weddings, Showers, Parties, Cocktail Hours, and more.

Grigio is located at 211 South Market Street in Wooster and is open Tuesday – Thursday 4 p.m. – 10 p.m., Friday 4 p.m. – 11 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.



Congratulations to Sheer Professionals Hair Salon on celebrating 45 years in business!



Congratulations to Sheer Professionals on celebrating 45 years in business!



To celebrate, their team will be completing 45 acts of kindness in the coming months. Stay tuned to their social media to see what they're up to!

Sheer Professionals continues to be a nationally recognized leader in the hairdressing industry. The staff is committed to delivering the highest standard of hairdressing and continues to keep up with the latest trends by attending hair shows nationwide, as well as taking part in classes with the nation's top hairdressers.

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❖ Young Professionals

Join the Wooster YP's for a wine and mingle event at Troutman Vineyards

Join the Young Professionals for wine and mingling on August 25 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Troutman Vineyards.



Enjoy the final days of summer by sipping a glass of locally produced wine and meeting other young professionals in the area.

YP is open to anyone between 21-40 years old who is living or working in Wayne County.

YP September social to be held at Flamingo Jack's patio!

The Wooster Young Professionals September social will be held at Flamingo Jack's Market Street Grill & Pub on September 9, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. Join us on the patio, for an evening of friendly conversation! Appetizers will be provided by Flamingo Jack's and a cash bar will be available. Mark your calendars, you won't want to miss this one!



Thank you to our 2021 program sponsors,
Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston, Ltd. and The Commercial & Savings Bank!



To register online for these Wooster Young Professionals social events, visit woosterchamber.com/young-professionals

❖ August Newsletter

❖ Wooster Chamber named 2021 Chamber of the Year! ❖

Continued story from page 1

Chambers of commerce interested in competing for the award first must qualify by participating in a vigorous multi-stage process. Organizations entering the Chamber of the Year competition must meet minimum thresholds in at least three of five key performance areas, including net revenue and assets, membership account retention, and membership dollar retention.



"This national recognition for our Chamber is an incredible honor. On behalf of the Board of Directors, a huge thank you to Samira and her team for their tremendous efforts, the loyal support of the Chamber members, and the community for their involvement. It is an award that is well deserved as evidenced by the programs, projects and visionary ideas the Chamber team puts forth for its members and the community," said 2021 board chair Susan Marlar.

Chambers compete based on meeting key performance criteria on the ACCE Annual Operations Survey. Qualifying chambers enter the competition with a written application addressing all aspects of organizational operation and programmatic work. Applications are scored by peer chamber executives to determine finalists. Winners are selected from among finalists based on an interview before a panel of experienced chamber professionals.

"As a member of the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce, we are so proud of the hard work and commitment Samira and her staff has shown for the betterment of our chamber membership. To hold the title of THE NATIONAL CHAMBER OF THE YEAR is such a great accomplishment. The award is well deserved and such an honor," said board chair elect Chad Boreman.

To ensure the fairest competition, applicants are grouped into four categories based on: annual revenue, membership, area population and other factors.

"Being recognized by ACCE as the Chamber of the Year is a confirmation of the significant value the Chamber's programs and services provides our members, as well as the region. Samira and the team's ability to adapt to meet members needs is extraordinary. Congratulations!" said past board chair Kevin Day.

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