

chambermonthly

FOR MEMBERS OF THE WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



In this Issue: Learn more about our 2020 Award Recipients for the 120th Annual Dinner on Thursday, January 23. Pages 8 – 9

January 2020
woosterchamber.com

Board of Directors welcomes Day as 2020 Chair



Kevin Day
Chair,
Western
Reserve Group



Kevin Day, President and CEO of the Western Reserve Group was named the 2020 Wooster Chamber Board of Directors Chair. Recognized nationally, as a leader in the insurance industry, Kevin brings an impressive business management resume to the board along with extensive experience in non-profit oversight, where he has volunteered and assumed board leadership roles on various non-profit organizations. Kevin has identified two initiatives that he has challenged the Chamber Staff and Board to prioritize

during his year of leadership. The first being the implementation of a Leadership Wooster 2.0 program and the second being the establishment of a Wooster Captive Insurance Program. Leadership Wooster 2.0, would be made available on a first come first serve basis to the more than 600 graduates of Leadership Wooster and would offer more intense leadership development training and counsel, along with more in-depth community-based research and discussion. Kevin's second focus area is the establishment of a Wooster Captive Insurance Program which will be a self-funded and managed insurance plan for businesses with more than 25 employees. The Chamber utilized 2019 as an opportunity to perform a case study, that showed significant savings for a company utilizing a captive insurance model over a conventional model.

Welcome incoming 2020 Board of Directors Members

The Chamber is excited to announce the addition of Stephen Smyth, General Manager for GOJO Industries Wooster and Armand Massary, General Manager of ArtiFlex Manufacturing in 2020. Stephen has been a leader in the transformation of the former Rubbermaid facility on Akron Road, into the current day Wooster Campus for GOJO Industries. He resides in Wooster with his wife and two young kids. Armand has held the head position for ArtiFlex's Wooster operation since 2015, after relocating from a manufacturing operation in the Canton area. Previously Armand was a member of the Schaeffler team and has been a long-standing citizen of the Wooster area with his wife and three grown kids.



Stephen Smyth
General Manager,
GOJO Wooster



Armand Massary
General Manager,
ArtiFlex Manufacturing



New Members



Giordano's

Giordano's has been serving its world-famous deep dish pizza since 1974, when founders, Efren and Joseph Boglio introduced their mother's stuffed pizza recipe to Chicago. As one of the originators of what is now internationally known as Chicago-style deep dish pizza, Giordano's has over 70 restaurants nationwide and is proud to be considered Chicago's #1 Deep Dish Pizza!

Giordano's is located at 4370 Belden Village St NW, Canton and can be contacted at (234) 214-6370.



Declaration Fitness: Home of Declaration CrossFit

Declaration Fitness: Home of Declaration CrossFit is a gym for anyone at any fitness level! Classes range from beginners to elite athletes. Faith is priority, family is their roots and fitness is a way of life! Let Declaration Fitness help pave the way to be the best that you can be. Located at 1909 Old Mansfield Road in Wooster. Contact Declaration Fitness at (330) 988-0907 to get started today!



EJ Therapy

EJ Therapy is a premier pediatric therapy clinic located in Wooster, also serving many area school districts with Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Therapy professionals. Their goal is to provide high quality, expert therapy services to communities most vulnerable children. The team at EJ Therapy strives to impact young lives with increased functional skills, expanded communication, and ability to interact effectively in their communities, families, and schools. EJ Therapy has been a part of Wayne County for over 20 years, and recently moved into their new permanent home on Akron Rd. EJ Therapy is excited to join the Wooster Chamber of Commerce and expand their ability to understand and impact our community. Contact EJ Therapy at 330-262-4449.

Interested in becoming a member of the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce? Visit us online at woosterchamber.com.

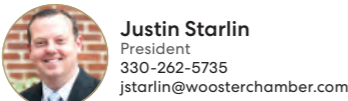
Economic Indicators	Sept. 2019	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2018		Sept. 2019	Oct. 2018	Oct. 2019
	Unemployment, United States	3.3%	3.3%		3.5%	Labor Force, Employed Wayne County	59,100
Unemployment, Ohio	4.1%	3.9%	4.3%	Labor Force, Unemployed Wayne County	2,100	2,000	2,100
Unemployment, Wayne County	3.4%	3.2%	3.5%	Wayne County Sales Tax by Month	\$1,008,074.94	\$1,019,527.71	\$933,475.99

2020 Board of Directors

- Executive Board**
- Kevin Day**
Chair,
Western Reserve Group
- Bill Sheron**
Past Chair,
Wooster Community Hospital
- Susan Marlar**
Chair-Elect,
Meaden & Moore
- Dr. John Cook**
Treasurer
Long, Cook, & Samsa, LLC
- Chad Boreman**
Boreman-Norton-Cook Wealth Partners
- Amy Marinello**
Marinello Realty
- James Smail**
Farmer's National Bank
- Board Members**
- Jon Jameson**
Schaeffler
- Matthew Long**
Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston
- Armand Massary**
ArtiFlex Manufacturing
- Michael McClintock**
McClintock Electric
- Jack Nebesky**
BCI Buckeye Division
- Don Noble II**
United Titanium, Inc.
- Tom Pukys**
Wayne Economic Development Council
- Jeff Smith**
The Apple Creek Banking Co.
- Stephen Smyth**
GOJO Industries
- Martha Starkey**
Wayne Co. Convention & Visitors' Bureau
- Shannon Waller**
Main Street Wooster, Inc.
- Beth Weaver**
Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County
- Wayne Webster**
The College of Wooster
- Thomas White**

Chamber Staff

When finished with this newsletter, please recycle it. ♻️



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377 West Liberty Street - Wooster, Ohio 44691



The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is on Facebook, YouTube and @woosterchamber on Instagram.



Visit us online at woosterchamber.com

Small Business Counseling



Small Business Development Centers

Wednesday, January 15
Appointments available
9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

at The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce

A small materials fee applies.

Register online
cantonsbdc.org

Business After Hours

February Business After Hours at HER Realtors

WHERE:

4146 Burbank Road, Suite A
Wooster, Ohio 44691



WHEN:

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Join the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce and HER Realtors on February 18! Come meet with the team and the Wooster business community for an evening of networking and camaraderie. Enjoy appetizers and refreshments as you tour the office. We look forward to having you!

To register for this event visit bit.ly/chamberbahfeb2020

April Business After Hours to be held at Wayne Habitat for Humanity ReStore

WHERE:

2700 Akron Road
Wooster, Ohio 44691



See their new location
on Akron Road
in Wooster!

WHEN:

Thursday, April 2, 2020
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

To register for this event visit bit.ly/bahapril2020

Interested in speaking at a Wooster Chamber Educational Series?

The Wooster Chamber holds Educational Series breakfasts or luncheons on a bi-monthly basis. These series focus on issues, special interests, and education that brings value to the Wooster Chamber membership. These are not-to-miss events and opportunities to learn new tools that will benefit your business!

Staff are currently scheduling for the 2020 year and want you to share topics you would like to see and share if you have a topic you would like to present to our membership!

Requests and questions can be directed to Katie Foster, Communication & Events Coordinator at kfoster@woosterchamber.com.



Representatives of Wooster Chamber members gather for the first Educational Series in March 2019 with Scott Holter, Director of Business Solutions at Meaden & Moore.



January Newsletter

Chamber to host Chamber 101 for members on January 30!

Join the Wooster Chamber for Chamber 101 on January 30 from 8 AM - 9 AM. Members will be given the opportunity to learn about the history, events, programs, and many benefits the Chamber offers. Attendees will also have the chance to introduce themselves and network with local business professionals. Coffee and pastries will be provided!



WHERE:
377 West Liberty Street
Wooster, Ohio 44691

WHEN:
Thursday, Jan. 30, 2020
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

The Wooster Chamber highly encourages you to RSVP in advance so staff have the opportunity to tailor information to your business for the best experience possible.



To register for this event visit bit.ly/woochambercoffeejan2020

Five Ways to Save

FIVE ways to save with the Wooster Area Chamber!

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce offers active members an array of money-saving programs and benefits! Members have the potential to save thousands each year on necessary business expenses when utilizing Chamber member benefits.



HEALTH INSURANCE

As a Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce member with 2 - 50 employees, you are eligible for a discount on any health plan from Anthem® Blue Cross® and Blue Shield®! Despite the ongoing changes and confusion surrounding health care reform, the Chamber continues to offer employer discounted health insurance options exclusively for members! Not only will you save money, but you also have your choice of plans, administrative convenience, extensive selection of providers, as well as strong local service!

OFFICE SUPPLIES

Introducing the Staples Business Advantage® program, brought to you by the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce. Now, you have exclusive access to national contract pricing, thanks to your chamber membership. One stop shopping, free next-day delivery (orders over \$50), free returns, and discounts on products you use daily! Plus, SAVE BIG across all product categories from the nation's leading office supply vendor.



Staples Business Advantage



SAFETY COUNCIL

The Wooster Area Safety Council, made up of local companies, meets monthly to examine and resolve potential and existing safety problems. Speakers inform participants about new techniques, products, and services and provide a thorough knowledge of these services. Safety Council members are eligible for a 2% rebate on their BWC premiums if they achieve all program attendance and participation requirements. Companies who improve workplace safety will also be recognized at the Annual Awards Luncheon.



WORKERS' COMPENSATION

The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce has partnered with CareWorks Comp to help members maximize their premium savings. CareWorks Comp is Ohio's leading workers' compensation Third Party Administrator (TPA), offering comprehensive workers' compensation analysis that maximizes their customers' potential BWC savings.

Safety Council
WOOSTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CareWorks

Constant Contact



MARKETING

Constant Contact is the one source for all of your marketing needs! Growing your business does not have to be difficult. All it takes is Constant Contact email marketing. With powerful tools that are so easy to use, you will be able to create professional emails in minutes and reach more customers fast! Chamber Members **SAVE UP TO 25%**!

For more information on any of these programs/benefits, contact Katie Foster at kfoster@woosterchamber.com.

Plant and Pour at the Chamber's next Women in Business event



WHERE:
Buchwalter Greenhouse
6554 Back Orrville Road
Wooster, Ohio 44691

WHEN:
February 6, 2020 from
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

COST: \$40.00



Join the Wooster Chamber on February 6 from 5 PM - 7 PM for a Plant and Pour! Tiffany Sustar from Buchwalter Greenhouse will share tips and tricks on caring for terrariums and demonstrate how to create a terrarium using easy to grow succulents and tiny houseplants. No previous plant knowledge is required!

Sip wine with Deanna Troutman from Troutman Vineyards! Deanna will hold a wine tasting and share the story of Troutman Vineyards and their wines.

The cost to register is \$40 which will include material for your very own terrarium, wine, and appetizers. Space is limited so register today!

To register for this event visit bit.ly/woochamberplantandpour2020

January Newsletter

So Fresh and So Clean

We appreciate your continued support and hope that you will proudly display the shiny new 2020 membership plaque inserts and window clings at your place of business.

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 displaying them throughout town.

Become a member of the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce! Learn more by visiting woosterchamber.com



Chamber holds past chair luncheon

The Chamber was pleased to welcome past chairs to a luncheon on Tuesday, December 17, which focused on sharing updates on the organization and the overall community. With an impressive list of past board leaders, these luncheons will offer a unique opportunity to gain invaluable insight on strategic planning efforts for the organization and to gather input on relevant and timely community initiatives. Many past chairs remain engaged leaders in the community and this and future luncheons will ensure that their voices are being heard and past experiences are being considered.

We want to thank these past chairs for joining us:

<p>Steve Webster 1987</p> <p>Tim Zuercher 1989</p> <p>Doug Drushal 2002</p> <p>Greg Long 2006</p>	<p>Ted Bogner 2007</p> <p>Peggy Schmitz 2008</p> <p>Mike Pallotta 2009</p> <p>Steve Matthew 2010</p>	<p>Dan Plumly 2011</p> <p>Pat Neyhart 2012</p> <p>Dee Vaidya 2013</p> <p>Paul Williams 2017</p>
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OUR MISSION

The mission of the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce is to foster economic prosperity in the Wooster area by advancing community leadership and supporting the interests of our members and the business community.

Wooster Young Professionals

Let's go bowling!

Join the Wooster Young Professionals group on Wednesday, January 15 for our next social at Wayne Lanes! Wayne Lanes will be offering a special to Wooster Young Professionals, \$2 games with shoe rental included. Light refreshments will be provided and a cash bar will be available.

We had so much fun with you all at last year's bowling social, we hope you will join us again!

Wayne Lanes

WHERE:
Wayne Lanes
1983 Lincoln Way East
Wooster, Ohio 44691

WHEN:
January 15, 2020
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

COST: \$2.00 per game



To register this Young Professional event visit bit.ly/woochamberypjanuary2020

Wooster YP's yearly tradition at Coccia House!

The Wooster Young Professionals closed out the 2019 year at Coccia House on Wednesday, December 18. Those in attendance enjoyed pizza and appetizers as they celebrated the holiday season together. We would like to thank the YP's who joined us as well as Coccia House for graciously hosting. See you all in 2020!



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2020 ANNUAL DINNER

Join us for a Roaring Good Time!




MICHAEL STEINER
Wall of Fame Award



ALICIA WALLACE
Jack O' Donnell Award



MIKE TEPE
Mike Lezak Award




ARMAND MASSARY
Leadership Wooster Distinguished Alumni Award



Business of the Year Award



Accepted by:
Dave Hershberger,
President/CEO

DEE VAIDYA
Board of Directors Award

Small Business of the Year Award – More than 15 Employees



Accepted by:
Mark Robinson,
Owner



Small Business of the Year Award – Fewer than 15 Employees



Accepted by:
Lorrie Tignor,
Owner



WorthyWorks Award



Accepted by:
Stan Popp,
Executive Director



The Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce 120th Annual Dinner Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2020.

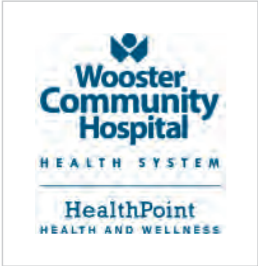
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Our Sponsors

Leadership Wooster

Leadership students focus on health, wellness & recreation

The Leadership Wooster class met on Wednesday, December 4 to focus on Health, Wellness & Recreation in the community. The day began at HealthPoint where the class toured the facility and learned about the services offered with Director, Brian Coote. Dr. Nicole Labor, Director of Rehabilitation at OneEighty discussed addiction and the misconceptions of it. The next activity on the agenda included a dance lesson with local dance instructor, Susan English. The day continued on to the Cleveland Clinic where Amanda Roth gave an overview of the clinic. Dr. Susan Albers, New York Times



Best Selling Author gave a presentation on Mindful Eating. The class then learned about Holistic & Alternative Medicine from Rev. Brooke Winkler, Owner of Engaging the Spirit. The final stop was at the Wooster Community Hospital where the class heard from CEO, Bill Sheron on his leadership experience and the direction the hospital is heading along with a leadership insight discussion with Dr. Sharon Marcanthony. Executive Director, Jaime Parsons presented the class with an overview of the Viola Startzman Clinic and their offerings. The day ended with City of Wooster Recreation Supervisor, Ashley Hershberger, giving an overview of recreation opportunities in Wooster. The Wooster Community is very fortunate to have such dynamic health & wellness offerings available!



BIG changes coming to the 2020 Home & Garden Show

The 30th Annual Wayne County Home and Garden Show will be held on April 25 and 26, 2020, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds and will feature some exciting new changes. The event will undergo a reconfiguration that will feature utilizing the NEW Wayne County Event Center and Agricultural Building, along with significant changes to the overall layout of the event's outdoor vendor spaces. The Chamber is confident that these changes will only improve the event, as newer and nicer facilities are made available to not only the vendors but the attendees as well. The event center building, which features heat, bright LED light vendor space and new restrooms will be offered on a first come first serve basis, so act fast in claiming your spot.

Wayne County Home & Garden Show
BIG CHANGES COMING IN 2020
SIGN UP TODAY!

Applications for the event are currently available at:
woosterchamber.com/wayne-county-home-garden-show

Applications for the event are currently available at
woosterchamber.com/wayne-county-home-garden-show

The ever-popular **EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT** for vendors ends on **February 28!**



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 Sarah Scherdt Marketing & Comm. Specialist, Christian Children's Home of Ohio <p>What is your favorite thing about Wooster/Wayne County? Wooster is a small but mighty town. As a newbie, I continue to be pleasantly surprised by the many local resources available in our own background as well as our proximity to other great Ohio communities. I am also appreciative of the kindness and compassion of fellow residents making a difference here and around the world.</p>	 Ben Valentine Senior Accountant, The College of Wooster <p>Why did you decide to participate in Leadership Wooster? This program provides a great opportunity to learn more about my personal leadership style and skills. I also wanted a chance to network with other professionals in the area and learn some of the history of Wooster.</p>	 Efewongbe Oleghe, MD Bloomington Internal Medicine <p>What do you hope to get out of the program? I hope to know the community more and learn what makes Wooster and Wayne County such a thriving community/place.</p>	 Mick Bolon Vice President Operations, D+S Distribution <p>Why did you decide to participate in Leadership Wooster? The Leadership Wooster program not only provides extensive exposure to the many industries and companies in Wayne County, it is also a great opportunity to make connections with other business professionals.</p>
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Safety Council

Safety Recap: Heroin and opiates in the Wayne County area

Captain Doug Hunter, of the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, spoke at the December Safety Council meeting about heroin and other opiates in the Wayne County area.



Captain Hunter has witnessed how drug use has changed over his 40-year career with the Sheriff's Office. When he began recreational use of opiates was nearly unheard of in the area. He largely attributes the rise in opiate abuse to the overprescribing of prescription pain medications. He pointed out that many people who have developed a drug addiction did not set out to abuse drugs. They may have been injured and prescribed a medication that led to the addiction.

He shared several stories of his experiences involving people struggling with drug addiction. Because of his position with the Sheriff's Office, most of his experiences have a tragic ending.



The group learned about different signs to watch for in employees and coworkers that could indicate a drug problem. Captain Hunter also cautioned that not everyone will show the obvious signs of drug abuse.

January Safety Council Meeting: Safe Winter Driving Tips



The first Safety Council meeting of 2020 will be held on January 29.

Manuel Vazquez Ederra, with Federated Insurance, will speak about Safe Winter Driving.

Across most of our country, winter brings with it snow, sleet, fog, and ice. These weather conditions often result in hazardous roadways, poor visibility, and stressed-out drivers — not a safe combination.

 **Drive according to road and weather conditions.**

Manuel will cover ways to help navigate safely through winter's challenges by making sure both you and your vehicle are prepared.

He will share ways to ensure your vehicle is in optimal winter condition, what to keep stocked in your car in case of any winter-related situations and tips to make your winter journeys safer.

The meeting will take place at First Presbyterian Church 621 College Ave. Wooster, OH 44691 and lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Get to know the Wooster Chamber Board members!



Tom White
2020 Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Board Member

Tom White first became familiar with Wooster through his district manager role with Quality Farm and Fleet. When Quality went out of business in the early 2000s, Tom had the vision to reopen the Wooster store and bring the Wayne County farming community the kind of personalized service and community involvement often lacking in big box retail stores. In the fall of 2004, this vision materialized as Rural King of Ohio or — as most call it — RKO, opened. Tom opened a second store in Elyria in 2011.

Rural King's roots began as a small, family-owned farm store in 1960 based in Mattoon, IL., and has grown to serve customers with a large variety of products, such as livestock supplies, clothing, hardware, and compact RK tractors from 19 to 55 horsepower. When RKO first opened it was the only store in Ohio and enjoyed customers that drove from all over the state of Ohio, western Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. When you enter you cannot help but smell the free popcorn, a staple, along with the everyday low prices and friendly service. And your dog, on a leash, is always welcome.

In 2017, Tom sold the business and retired from a 'regular paying job' to a life filled with volunteering and spending time on the family farm in Guernsey County, where he was the 5th generation to grow up.

Along with his Chamber activities, Tom is a Master Gardner at OSU Sequest Arboretum, supports the Wayne County Fair, and serves on the board of Habitat for Humanity. He also loves to spend time restoring antique Ford tractors and — much to his wife's concern — has grown his collection to about 15 tractors (and counting). Only a few more to round out the collection and he will be all set! (At least until the next auction ...)

Tom is a Navy veteran and served a tour of duty in Vietnam. Returning home, he used the GI bill to acquire his degree from Ohio University, the first in his family to attend college. He and his bride of 32 years, Sandy have two children. Will, who will be graduating from The Ohio State University this spring with his law degree, and Katie, who earned her master's degree from Iowa and is teaching at The University of Akron and Mount Union while also working at Starbucks. Before returning to Ohio, the Whites lived in Grand Haven, Michigan for ten years while Tom worked in the corporate offices for Quality. Even then, the family continued to visit the Wayne and Holmes counties area every summer and loved it here.

RKO still holds a special place in Tom's heart and he feels blessed by the support he received from the community when he opened his store. It is with that gratitude that he enjoys giving back to his adopted community of Wooster.



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Major improvements coming to Southeast and Southwest quadrants of public square



Downtown will continue to see improvements, after City Council approved proceeding with the implementation of phase II of an overall downtown streetscape renovation master plan. The first phase, which was completed in 2018, included the redesign of the Northeast Quad of public square and the creation of the new multi-purpose pavilion. The most recent phase will focus on improving the southeast and southwest quads of public square. This project is slated to begin in spring 2020, and will include improving the streetscape along Liberty Street from Market Street east to the first alley, the reconfiguration of both the Southeast and Southwest Quads, and the area along Liberty Street west of Market Street south side to the first alley. This \$1.8M project will complete the reconfiguration and revitalization of Wooster's public square along with the replacement of a larger majority of the original streetscape.



What's happening January 2020

<p>January 4 and January 12 WACPAC presents "The King and I" 7 PM Wayne Center for the Arts 330-264-2787 • www.wacpac.org</p>	<p>January 18 and January 19 June in January, Outdoor Living Preview Sat 10 AM – 4 PM, Sun Noon – 4 PM Buchwalter Greenhouse • 330-669-3489</p>
<p>January 10 – February 10 Wayne-Holmes Artists' Exhibition Daily, Wayne Center for the Arts 330-264-2787</p>	<p>January 19 Voices from the Past: "April Verch Band" 2 PM Wayne County Historical Society 330-264-8856</p>
<p>January 17 Music on Market: "Music by Two" 7 PM Wooster United Methodist Church 330-262-5641</p>	<p>January 25 June in January, Outdoor Living Preview Sat 10 AM – 4 PM Buchwalter Greenhouse 330-669-3489</p>
<p>January 18 Program "Life of Rutherford B. Hayes" Speaker Wayne Enders 1 PM – 3PM Shreve Presbyterian Church 330-464-4382</p>	<p>January 26 Wooster Chamber Music Series – Imani Winds 3 PM Gault Recital Hall, College of Wooster 330-263-2115</p>

**HAPPY
 NEW
 YEAR!**

FROM THE WOOSTER AREA
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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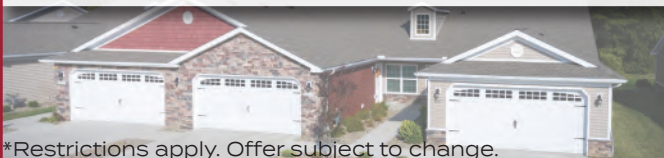


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