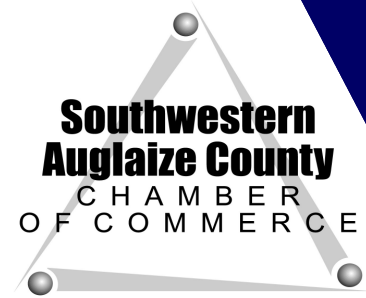


The Chamber Points

Serving Minster, New Bremen and New Knoxville since 1998



Volume 12, Issue 1

January-February 2010

I Challenge you all to try this!

3 "Think about which three independently owned stores you'd miss most if they were gone. Stop in, say hello, and pick a little something up. That's how they stay around."

50 "If just half the US population spent \$50.00 each month in independently owned stores, their purchases would generate \$42,629,700,000.00 in revenue (from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics)."

68 For every \$100.00 spent in independently owned stores, \$68 returns to the community through taxes, payroll, and other expenditures. In a national chain, only \$43.00 stays here (stats courtesy Civic

Economics Study 2008). Spend it online and *nothing comes home.*"

1 The number of people it takes to start the trend... *you.*"

There it all is, right there. Make it a point to spend \$50.00 a month in three local businesses consistently. I am not saying we ought to abandon the large national businesses, and the internet. Just "**think locally first,**" and patronize your local business owners as often as possible!

You can learn more about the project by visiting their site at www.the350project.net.

*Pick 3. Spend 50.
Save your local economy.*

the
3/50
project™

SAVING THE BRICK & MORTARS
OUR NATION IS BUILT ON

the350project.net

Welcome to your new Board Members!!

We've welcomed three new members to the SWAC Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors! They each attended the final meeting of the year in December in preparation to serve their three year terms on the Chamber Board.

Pastor Dennis Gaertner (New Knoxville United Methodist Church) will represent New Knoxville. He's been the pastor there for about a year and a half. His perspective on New Knoxville and our area will be very useful on the Chamber Board.

Ms. Sheila Hirschfeld, a Realtor/Owner with Coldwell Banker South Shore Realty will be the Board Representative from New Bremen. Her years of professional experience in and around the area will serve us well.

Mr. Ben Baumer, co-owner of Baumer Construction will

represent Minster. Mr. Baumer's long-standing relationship with the Minster Community and the Chamber makes him a valuable asset to the board.

Welcome to all three and thank you so much for serving! I am looking forward to working with all of you!

Leaving the board this year will be **Ms. Sue Quellhorst (New Knoxville, Pres); Mr. Ross Brown (New Bremen, VP) and Mr. Neil Wiedeman (Minster)**. Thank you all so very much for your service! You will be missed! We will elect our new Board President at the January meeting.

The Chamber Board of Directors usually meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month 11:30 am at the Chamber office.

"Joining together to do what none of us can do alone..."

Chamber Member Spotlight

Don's Heating/Plumbing/Electric, LLC

05480 State Route 219

New Knoxville, OH 45871

(419) 753-2243 e-mail: dwubler@nktelco.net

Don's Heating and Plumbing, LLC celebrated its 10th year in business in 2009!

Owner and manager Don Wulber has over 35 years experience in the construction trades and has worked on many projects in the heating, air conditioning, electrical and plumbing fields. Don's company is a residential and light commercial HVAC, electrical, and plumbing contracting business in the New Knoxville Community, and services a 7 county area. They do complete installation of heating/cooling systems and can add air conditioning to your existing heating system. They also service and repair most makes of HVAC equipment. In the electrical field, they can do complete electrical, phone, and TV wiring for new construction, as well as upgrading and rewiring for existing construction. In the plumbing field, they can upgrade existing plumbing, install water heaters as well as new fixtures and faucets, and do minor plumbing repairs. In addition to all of the above services, they also install emergency and stand-by generators.

Don aims for customer satisfaction by working closely with customers in order to achieve the results they want from their project.



Executive Board

Pending Election

President

Rob Albers

Vice President

Chris Fyock

Treasurer

Board Members:

Lisa Davidson

Jeff Eschmeyer

Jay Purdy

Sean Stroh

Sheila Hirschfeld

Ben Baumer

Dennis Gaertner

Staff:

Scott M. Frey

Executive Director

Pam Sager

Administrative Assistant

Chamber Calendar of Events

January 2010

- 1 Happy New Year 2010!
- 6 Retail/Restaurant networking Group 8-9 am at the Chamber office
- 12 Chamber Board Meeting 11:30 am at the Chamber office
- 17 Mostly Mozart, by Candlelight LSO 4:00 pm at St Augustine Church, Minster
- 21 VALU Class: "Health/Human Serv." Tour Auglaize County health services
- 28 State of the Villages Breakfast 7:30-9 am New Knoxville American Legion
- 28 Business After Hours 5-7 pm at Paul Chiropractic in New Bremen

February 2010

- 9 Chamber Board Meeting 11:30 am at the Chamber office
- 16 Fasching Fest 4-9 pm New Bremen American Legion
- 11 VALU Class: "Justice/Safety" Tour Auglaize County Law/Safety Services

Faith Alliance Church in New Bremen Presents: "The Mild, Mild West"

On Saturday, Feb 13, *kaleidoscope*, the drama ministry of Faith Alliance, will present a Mystery Dinner Theater at 6 PM at the Community Youth Center, 212 S. Walnut St. An evil villain is trying to wrestle control of the Bar-B-Q Dude Ranch from Sweet Sue Sobright. Her only hope rests with a clumsy, not so bright cowboy named Tex Toogood. Can the hero save the ranch? Compete with other tables to see who can solve the mystery that unfolds. Tickets are \$12.50 which includes dinner! What a sweet treat for your Valentine! Don't miss out on the fun--call Pam at the chamber office for details and reservations (419) 629-0313.



The mission of the Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce is to foster cooperation within the communities of Minster, New Bremen and New Knoxville, actively working to strengthen and promote the growth of our businesses, support our citizens through local activities, and enhance the quality of life in each community.

Welcome your newest Chamber Member!!

Coldwater Lumber Company, Inc 215 E North St Coldwater, OH recently joined the Chamber. They offer pre-finished building products, design services, exterior doors and windows, interior doors and trim, kitchen and bath, building materials, siding/soffit and roofing materials. You can visit their web-site at www.coldwaterlumber.net or call them at (419) 678-2306. "Coldwater Lumber Co. and Professional Finish: You can Build on our Experience!" Welcome to the Golden Triangle!

An Important History Lesson...

I recently attended the unveiling of the new Historical Marker in New Knoxville. The marker is titled "New Knoxville: The Ladbergen Kinship" and commemorates the "chain migration" settlement of New Knoxville by German Immigrants from Ladbergen, Germany. The Auglaize County and New Knoxville Historical Societies teamed up with the Kuck family Foundation to raise the funding needed for the marker. During the ceremony we heard a German prayer from a former Pastor in New Knoxville, a letter (read in German) from the Burgermeister (Mayor) of Ladbergen, Germany congratulating the Village of New Knoxville. We also enjoyed remarks from the Mayor of New Knoxville, a representative from the Ohio Historical Society and the Auglaize County Historical Society. I think the things that touched me most about the event was the presence of the third-grade students from New Knoxville and the singing of our National Anthem, led by a New Knoxville high school student. It's the strong connection to our German traditions and heritage that make our communities such a great place to live, raise a family and do business!

Shop Locally -
Support Chamber Members



Look for the Chamber logo
on the door!

Chamber Members work together to enrich the lives of local Seniors

The Otterbein Retirement Living Community in St Marys and the Auglaize-Mercer YMCA are teaming up on an exciting new project that will benefit area seniors. Otterbein will kick off a fundraising campaign for the new Life Enrichment Center in the very near future. The facility, when complete, will be available to anyone in the area 50 years and older.

The YMCA will help manage and operate the facility, Otterbein will construct it as an addition to the Otterbein Community on SR 364 in St Marys. The project is slated to break ground in mid 2011 and be ready by mid 2012. H.A Dorsten of Minster is the General Contractor on the project.

Otterbein residents will have access to the facility. Non residents from around the area can get access to the new facility with a YMCA membership. That same membership would allow access to the two YMCA branches as well.

New Networking Group to form!!

Recently, some chamber members came to me with a great idea for a networking group within the county. Marissa Lundstrom (Locust St. Designs) and Randy Fisher (United Way of Auglaize County) suggested that we look into forming a "Young Professionals" Networking Group in Auglaize County. We've had a couple of brief organizational meetings to get some ideas together on activities, structure and so forth. At the time of this writing, we do not have a date for the first "official meeting. But keep an eye on the Chamber website at www.auglaize.org for details as this group develops.

The group will not be an "official part" of this Chamber of Commerce, but will be supported by the SWAC Chamber of Commerce and the St Marys Chamber of Commerce. We're looking for ways to connect young professionals in a vital, dynamic way in hopes of strengthening the business community in and around Auglaize County.

Auglaize County Blood Mobile

Wapakoneta	Jan 4th	1 - 6	Am Legion	St Marys	Jan 4th	12 - 6	Wayne St. UMC
New Knoxville	Jan 8th	12 - 6	Am Legion	New Knox	Jan 9th	8 - 2	The Way Learning Ctr
Waynesfield	Jan 25th	1 - 6	Lions Club	Wapakoneta	Jan 28th	11:30 - 5:30	St Paul UCC
St Marys	Feb 1st	12 - 6	Eagles (appt only)	New Bremen	Feb 22nd	12 - 6	American Legion

For appointments, questions or information call:

419-738-3213 or 1-800-GIVE LIFE

CHAMBER SHORTS:

A ROUNDUP OF NOTES FROM CHAMBER BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS FROM AROUND THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE!!!

- **Heritage Manor** November employee of the month **Carol Ferguson** is the Medical Records Coordinator for the company. She has been an employee for one year and was nominated by her co workers and supervisors because of the efficiency she's brought to such an important position within the company. Congratulations Carol!!!

- The Ohio Army National Guard awarded the "Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award" to **Mr. Glenn Fisher** at **The Dannon Co** in Minster. Mr. Fisher was nominated by **Sgt. Andy Sanford** who's been a Dannon employee for 11 years and a guard member for the past nine years. Sanford nominated Fisher for this award based on the "military friendly atmosphere" and everything the company has done for its citizen soldiers over the years.

- **Golden Image Tanning and Fitness (Minster)** recently held their Grand Opening and ribbon cutting, December 12 at the new business located on SR 66 just north of SR 199W. You can reach Golden Image for more info or an appointment at (419) 501-2256. **Staci Bertke** is the owner and plans to offer fitness classes to their various tanning services.

- **JTDMH Hospital and Grand Lake Health System** have been recognized as a **Platinum Level Start! Fit Friendly Company** by the American heart Associations "Start!" movement. This is the second year in a row the company has been awarded this recognition for their **Road to Fitness** year long fitness challenge program, and the other ways in which the company supports fitness in the area.

- **SecurCom, Inc (Minster)** recently opened their fourth **Verizon** retail location at 417 Southeastern Avenue in St Henry. They also have retail locations in Minster, Wapakoneta and St Marys.

- **The Minster Historical Society** was recently awarded a plaque for their "spirit of volunteerism" in and around Minster. The plaque was given to them by Octoberfest Chairman Rick Hausfeld, and was accepted by the Society President Tony Frierott.

- Chamber Member **SaraPaper** recently collaborated with the **Friends of the Library (New Bremen)** to create several sets of holiday greeting cards as a fundraiser for the Friends of the Library. They can be purchased directly from **Sarapaper** by calling (419) 629-1518 or at the **New Bremen**

Public Library and the **New Bremen Coffee Company and Books, Inc.** You can purchase individual cards for \$1 each or a 10 pack for \$10.00. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library. The cards feature beautiful photos in and around New Bremen.

- **Garmann/Miller (Minster)** recently hired Minster resident Kellen Mescher as a part of their landscape architecture dept. Mr. Mescher is a 2005 graduate of Minster high School and a June 2009 graduate of The Ohio State University as a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture.

- **The Crescent Players** have elected their new officers for a two year term: President Christine Ring; VP Brian Winner; Treasurer Diana Seger and Secretary Wendy Rochette. You can get more info on them at www.crescentplayers.blogspot.com. They will present "The Music Man" in April 2010.

- **Buschur Electric (Minster)** received an Award of Excellence at the 2009 Excellence in Construction Award Ceremony. The firm received the award for its work on the Mercer County Community Hospital addition in Coldwater. **Jon Wente** was the estimator/project mgr and **Chris Goubeaux** was the lead foreman.

- **H.A Dorsten (Minster)** and **Garmann/Miller (Minster)** were awarded the Award of Excellence, the highest honor given by the Associated Builders and Contractors. They both received the honor as a result of their work on The Heart Institute of Northwest Ohio, in Lima.

LOOKING AHEAD

- LOOK FOR INFO ON A SPRING/EARLY SUMMER CHAMBER 5K RUN!!
- LOOK AT WWW.AUGLAIZE.ORG AND SEE THE NEWLY RENOVATED CHAMBER WEBSITE!!
- LOOK FOR THE NEW YOUNG PROFESSIONAL'S NETWORKING GROUP!!
- APRIL 2010 THE CRESCENT PLAYERS PRESENT "THE MUSIC MAN"