

CHAMBER NOTES

A monthly newsletter of the
Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce

June 2021

Sustaining Members

*Industry Exclusive
Platinum Level*



Gold Level



Silver Level



Bronze Level



*The Delaware Area
Chamber of Commerce
Established 1907*

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ACCREDITED



2021 Golf Outing

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**Friday, June 18
Kings Mill Golf Club**

2500 Berringer Road
Waldo OH 43356

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Breakfast Sponsor



Drink Cart Sponsor



**Deadline to register is
Wednesday, June 9, 2021**

Check-in and breakfast 8:00am
The event will not be a shotgun start. Tee times will be assigned prior to the event. Golfers may enjoy lunch as they round the course.

\$100 per golfer

\$125 hole sign sponsorship
\$125 goody table on the hole sponsorship

\$200 hole sign AND goody table on the hole

\$50 skill prize sponsorship

Skins \$20 per team

Mulligans \$5 each

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facebook

June another busy month for the Chamber

Networking, ribbon cutting and education continue as the Chamber welcomes summer and pairs in-person and virtual events.



We start on Wednesday, June 2 at

1:00 as we celebrate with [Northwest Title Family of Companies](#)

and cut the ribbon at 92 North

Sandusky Street, Suite 200. [Let us know you'll](#)

[be joining us.](#)



And keep your congratulations warm as we celebrate a long overdue ribbon cutting with [Emergency Plumbing Services](#) on Friday, June 4 at 11:00 at their facility at 3354 U.S. Highway 23 North. [Click here to let us know you'll be joining us.](#)



It was so much fun we're gonna do it again!

We've planned a second virtual networking event that we'll share with the Marion Area Chamber of Commerce. Here's how it will work:

- Event will take place on Friday, June 4 from noon to 1:15.
- [Register using this link.](#)
- **There is a \$10 registration fee that must be paid by credit card at the time of registration.**
- There is a limit of five attendees per business.
- The event will flow like speed dating with attendees making multiple contacts around virtual tables, with four table assignment rotations guaranteeing that attendees will ALWAYS meet NEW representatives at every table.
- **Approximately two days prior to the event attendees will receive an email requiring the downloading of the platform, called Remo. Be sure to watch for it!**
- The event is for Chamber members who want to nurture new contacts, expand their client base and make new friends. Space is limited so register today.



Marion Area
Chamber of Commerce

**June Business AFTER Hours annual event with Sunbury/
Big Walnut Chamber**

Then join us in person for our 8th annual Business AFTER Hours with our pals at the Sunbury/Big Walnut Chamber. Our host is [Tanger](#)

[Outlet Mall](#), 400 South Wilson Rd. Sunbury, OH 43074

(171 and 36/37) on Thursday,

June 17 from 5:00–6:30pm.

Look for the tents and tables

near Rise Pies Pizza. Food, net-

working– bring lots of business cards to share. Please

let us know you'll be attending. [Click here to register.](#)



Tanger
Outlets

Next is our annual golf outing on Friday, June 18. Read all about it on the front page of this newsletter or [click here to register.](#)



Citizens' Climate Lobby

And we wrap the month upon
Tuesday, June 23 at 10:00 am

with a virtual presentation about what you need to know about climate change and how new policies will impact your business, no matter your industry or size. Presenters from the Citizens Climate Lobby will discuss how the new administration's policies will effect business and communities. [Click here to register.](#)

Chamber accepting Leadership Delaware program applications for class of 2022

Leadership Delaware is now accepting applications for the class of 2022. This prestigious program has become a must-have experience for emerging leaders in Delaware County. Through Leadership Delaware, class participants learn first-hand about the challenges and opportunities facing the community. Participants are exposed to people and places they could not on their own and discover a perspective unavailable in the normal course of their work. Even participants who've lived their entire lives in Delaware County are amazed at what they learn.



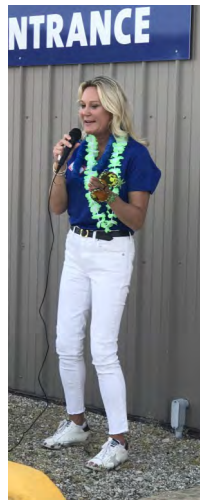
The nine-month program, which is held on the second Thursday of each month September through May, focuses on various topics, including

Spectrum Leadership	Social Services,	Law Enforcement and the
Delaware County History and Tour	Volunteerism & Board Service	Courts
Agriculture	Government	Health Care
Education		Economic Development

Over 725 Delaware County professionals have graduated from the program since its inception in 1992. These alumni serve on local boards and committees helping to shape the future of the Delaware area.

[Click here to view the program brochure](#) and [click here to apply on-line](#). Get more information at DelawareAreaChamber.com or by calling the Chamber at 740-369-6221. All applicants will be notified as to their acceptance by mid-July. Space in the program is limited and it fills up fast. Consider this the year that you or a valuable member of your staff should experience Leadership Delaware.

May Business After Hours



Chamber members networked in person again in May on Thursday, May 20 when the Chamber's 2020 Small Business of the Year, [Cummins Facility Services](#), hosted the After Hours. And it was all fun and silli-



ness, food, drink, swans wandering a pond on a warm spring late afternoon. Cummins certainly knows how to throw a party.

Earlier in the day they had cut the ribbon on their new facility. This beautiful office and campus will serve their growing business.

Thank you to Jill Valentine and her amazing staff for showing us such a great time. [Click here for more photos.](#)



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Connections Volunteer Center celebrates 25 years of service!

Connections Volunteer Center (Connections), a program of [Help-Line](#), is celebrating 25 years of service to the Delaware County community. Founded in 1996 through a grant provided by the [United Way of Delaware County](#) and [SourcePoint](#) (then Council for Older Adults), Connections opened its doors at the [Andrews House](#) – where it's still located today – to match volunteers of all ages and backgrounds with meaningful experiences.



Today, Connections coordinates the referral and placement of volunteers for more than 60 different agencies who offer hundreds of ongoing and special event opportunities. “We’re always excited to connect volunteers with local needs. Volunteers are essential to nonprofit agencies and volunteering is also a great way to stay physically and emotionally healthy. It’s a win-win,” said Suzanne Pingry, Program Director at Connections Volunteer Center.

Despite obstacles during the COVID-19 pandemic, Connections still managed to recruit 695 volunteers and 142 senior volunteers in 2020, which adds up to a total of 3,914 volunteer hours. “While the pandemic presented challenges to the work we do, it certainly hasn't diminished the spirit of our small but mighty team,” Pingry said.

One of the ways in which the pandemic reshaped service delivery at Connections was on its training program. Pingry said it has always been a part of the strategic plan to move from in-person to online training options. However, the timeline quickly changed when stay-at-home orders were issued. Because community professionals continued to have the need and desire to learn new skills, the training program was adapted to take place online.

The Connections professional development program offers affordable, local training and a way to connect to other professionals in our community. Since adding the training component, Connections has trained an average of 250 social workers, clinicians, counselors and community members each year. Since Connections launched, it has matched and referred 19,242 volunteers from church/social groups, corporations and the community to local nonprofits, homes of older adults and public spaces. With the current estimated value of one volunteer hour as \$24.60, Connections has invested more than \$8 million back into the community over its 25-year history.

Connections introduced several community-wide programs including Make A Difference Delaware County (MDDC) – the largest single day of volunteering in Delaware. In 2015 and 2018, Connections won national awards for the event and was featured in a national video by then sponsor Tegna. This year will mark the 15th year for MDDC which will be held on



Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021 from 9 a.m. to noon. Other programs that Connections pioneered to engage volunteers are Family Volunteer Day, The Pen Pal Program and Do Good Date Night.

The newest program, Sages & Seekers, is a free 8-week intergenerational program designed to bring together teens and adults aged 55 or older to share their unique gifts. The goal of this program is to decrease ageism and increase empathy while connecting with someone of another generation. Sages & Seekers emphasizes the importance of one-on-one in-person conversations and students present a tribute to their class at the end of the program.

Continued on next page



Bill Rogers, CPA
Principal



"40 Years of serving family owned businesses in the Delaware Area."

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Connections continued

“We are proud of everything we’ve accomplished at Connections over our quarter century in existence and look forward to continuing to engage community members in a way that provides valuable experiences, learning opportunities and human connection,” Pingry said.

In the coming weeks, Connections will unveil exciting new changes to its brand which will include a new logo, redesigned website and a new online, volunteer engagement platform called Get Connected, an easier way to connect to the causes and organizations in Delaware County. Watch their social media pages on Facebook and Twitter @ConnectionsVolunteerCenter for updates.

If you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities, enrolling in training classes, sponsoring an event or program, or making a donation, please contact Connections at connections@helplinedelmor.org or visit them online at www.ConnectionsVolunteerCenter.org.

Chamber president Holly Quaine says, “It is impossible to overstate the impact HelpLine’s fifty-one years generates on our community. The partnerships among the social service agencies in Delaware County are unmatched in any community anywhere and HelpLine is among those strongest and most relentlessly devoted to the welfare and quality of the lives they steward. Everyone is touched by the work they do either directly or indirectly as they interact with neighbors and coworkers and friends who have been recipients of the compassion and care of the remarkable leadership and staff of HelpLine and their community partners. It is with deep and heartfelt gratitude that the Chamber congratulates Connections on their 25th anniversary of uniting the giving hearts of volunteers with the needs of the community through innovative programming and creative resources. “

About Connections Volunteer Center: Connections Volunteer Center is a program of HelpLine, funded by SourcePoint, HelpLine, and private donations. HelpLine is a contract provider of the [Delaware Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board](#), a partner with United Ways of Delaware, Morrow, and Union Counties, and recipient of various state and federal grants as well as contributions that support its mission and services.

To learn more, visit www.ConnectionsVolunteerCenter.org. About HelpLine As the community’s only 24/7 resource, they are the go-to for supporting and empowering change. Their highly trained specialists offer compassionate support to help meet the needs of anyone in crisis, connecting them with the right resources and empowering them to thrive. Their prevention programs address suicide and depression, sexual assault, child sexual abuse and family violence to influence change in our community. These programs are rooted in their relationships with local non-profits and agencies,

giving them the connections and knowledge to get community members the support, education and volunteer opportunities they’re looking for.

For more information, visit www.helplinedelmor.org.

Contacts: Suzanne Pingry, Connections Program Director Connections Volunteer Center P: 740.363.5000
E: spingry@helplinedelmor.org W: connectionsvolunteercenter.org

Tamika Vinson-Reid, Marketing and Development Director HelpLine P: 740.363.1835, ext. 305
E: tvinson@helplinedelmor.org W: helplinedelmor.org

County offers relief programs

[Delaware County](#) launched an Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund application to the Delaware County business community.

Powell-based Buckeye State Bank will administer the program, which will provide loans between \$10,000 and \$25,000 over a five-year term. The loan principal can equal up to six months’ of rent, mortgage and/or utility payments. The interest rate is 4 percent with a \$1,000 fee that will be added to the loan principal. Interest-only payments will be required during the first six months of repayment. Review and approval of the loan application will take no more than 10 business days. If you apply for other local loans, we will ask you to withdraw from our program, in order to give other businesses a chance to use local funds.

The fund was engineered by the Commissioner-appointed Delaware County Economic Recovery Advisory Team, a committee that was established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Delaware County officials, including Clerk of Courts Natalie Frael, have contributed \$2.5 million to get the fund started. The Delaware County Finance Authority, [Orange Township](#) and [Liberty Township](#) have each contributed \$250,000. The committee continues to seek additional contributions to the fund.

To apply for the loan, visit <https://BSBDelCo.com>. For more information about Delaware County’s response to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, [visit their website](#).



Chamber helps with vaccination efforts

The Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce participated in two vaccine initiatives. On April 22 and 29, the Leadership Delaware Class of 2021 supplied volunteers necessary to assist with an open clinic at [SourcePoint](#). A total of 22 Leadership Delaware participants contributed 130 volunteer hours to vaccinate 817 patients.

The [Delaware Public Health District](#) (DPHD) Nursing Director Emily Baucher expressed her gratitude. “I'd just like to extend a huge thank you to the Leadership Delaware class of 2021!! We absolutely would not be able to vaccinate nearly the amount of people we are without assistance from our community, and it is so much appreciated!”

On May 4 the Chamber partnered with the Delaware Public Health Department to hold a clinic for any and all Chamber members and their families and sixty-four doses were administered. The event was held with the generosity of John Lewis, [Symmetry One](#), who provided the venue in a vacant facility in his commercial park off US 42 and Sawmill Road. The clinic for the second dose will be held May 25.

Chamber president Holly Quaine says, “The Chamber is pleased to have been able to play a part in moving our community forward by using our resources to participate in the vaccination of our members’ staff, families and residents. We know the incredible efforts our members have taken in the past 14 months to keep their businesses running and their employees safe and

know that every vaccine a step in the direction of easing that burden and meeting the goals of the CDC, Delaware Public Health Department and the State of Ohio.”

[Click here for more photos.](#)



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Chamber seeks ambassadors

The Delaware Area Chamber is looking to revive its Ambassador program. What is a Chamber ambassador? Their main function is to help promote the Chamber, welcome new members to the Chamber, and make Chamber events successful and enjoyable for everyone. They are a special group of people who volunteer their time to help promote and support Chamber functions.

Ambassadors are those members who have a lively, engaging, and proactive personality and can make the shyest person feel comfortable and welcome. Ambassadors project a positive image for their company and the Chamber and enjoy having fun in a professional environment. Ambassadors have the confidence to make personal contact with any Chamber member, encourage others to become Chamber members and attend ribbon cuttings and other Chamber events. These duties also provide a great opportunity to have a few minutes of fun and network with other movers and shakers in the community. Chamber Ambassadors are often the first community representative a new Chamber member meets so it's the perfect opportunity to make new business connections through an avenue that is not a cold call. Ambassadors may also reach out to members who haven't been active to encourage them to attend events or just to touch base, say hello and hear what's on their mind.

Ambassadors have flexible work schedules that allow for attendance at Chamber events that are held during working hours. They help celebrate ribbon cuttings, greet members at Before and After Hours and volunteer at other Chamber events.

Being a Chamber Ambassador not only helps the Chamber but offers an opportunity to get your foot in the door. Meeting new people by representing the Chamber is a great ice breaker for you and a great way to share the Chamber culture.

Does this sound like you? If you think a commitment to being a Chamber Ambassador sounds like a good fit for you, email hquaine@DelawareAreaChamber.com.



City adopts new comp plan

[City of Delaware](#) City Council in May adopted a new comprehensive plan, Delaware Together.

This Plan replaces the current Comprehensive Plan which has served the community well since 2003. Over the next 10-15 years, this new Plan will help shape and direct growth and development.



The document incorporates input collected over more than two years from a wide range of community members and stake holders. It integrates more than 2,000 comments on a range of topics, including character and land use, economic development, housing, transportation, parks and recreation, and much more.

The Comprehensive Plan was developed thoughtfully and deliberately. The 31-person Steering Committee was carefully selected by City Council to reflect diverse backgrounds, interests, and areas of the City itself. It has resulted in 6 high-level goals, almost 60 objectives, and over 230 specific recommendations that will be pursued, monitored, and adjusted as needed over time. It is meant to be a living document that will be revisited through the years and can be modified as needed while its core vision and goals continue to guide decision-making.

Outcomes can be measured individually, but the plan also leverages the potential for synergies between the individual recommendations. For example, land use decisions directly relate to fiscal health; and providing housing opportunities in a broad spectrum reflects the overall quality of life in the community and the City's distinctive character.

"The City of Delaware is a great place, with a rich history, and exciting future. It will take each of us working individually and collectively to bring the Plan to reality in our ongoing effort to make Delaware the best it can be," said Planning and Community Development Director Dave Efland.



..is a program that rewards current members for referring new member businesses. Your efforts to grow your organization will earn you \$50 in **Chamber Referral Buck\$\$**. You'll receive a certificate good for *any* Chamber invoice. You may use more than one Chamber Referral Buck\$\$ certificate for any invoice. Redeem your **Buck\$\$** for advertising, sponsorships, event attendance or membership renewal.

The more we are, the stronger we are.

Member receives platinum status

[Clarity Technology Solutions](#), today announced it has achieved the exclusive Platinum partner status with Datto, the leading global provider of cloud-based software and technology solutions purpose-built for delivery by managed service providers (MSPs). Datto's Platinum status represents the top 10 percent of the company's partners, worldwide.

Clarity has exceeded high standards of performance to qualify for Platinum status within Datto's Global Partner Program. Platinum status includes many exclusive programs and benefits designed to support further enablement and business growth.

Clarity has been a long-standing Datto partner servicing the Central Ohio region's needs for secure backup and recovery of data in the event of file loss. Additionally, Clarity and Datto are able to provide rapid recovery in the event of a malware or ransomware attack.

"It's an honor to be part of an elite group of successful Datto partners. The company has played an integral role in our ability to hit our business continuity and security objectives for our clients," said Jason Comstock, President/CEO of Clarity Technology Solutions.

"We are thrilled that Clarity Technology Solutions has reached Platinum Partner Status," said Rob Rae, senior vice president of business development, Datto. "It's been fantastic to see Clarity leveraging our training, support, and marketing resources to take their business to the next level. We look forward to more success as we continue to roll out new partner services."

About Clarity Technology Solutions

Clarity (www.clarityts.com) is a network management, Cloud and systems technology integrator providing end-to-end solutions that ensure business integrity for small, medium and enterprise-level clients. From design through deployment Clarity is an advocate for our clients to strategically align their business and IT objectives. We architect, implement and manage IT solutions spanning computing infrastructure, enterprise management, VoIP, security and cloud solutions. The company is headquartered in Plain City, Ohio.



Looking for product or service? Look to your fellow Chamber members *first*.
The Chamber exists for and by its members— [check here](#) before you buy.

June Calendar

HR Council

Wednesday, June 2
8:30 am via Zoom

Ribbon Cutting

Northwest Title Family of
Companies
Wednesday, June 2, 1:00
pm

[Click here to register](#)

Ribbon Cutting

Emergency Plumbing
Service
Friday, June 4 11:00 am
[Click here to register](#)

Networking at Noon with the Marion Chamber

Friday, June 4, 12:00 pm
[Click here to register](#)



Government Affairs Committee

Tuesday, June 8
8:00 am via Zoom

Safety Council

Wednesday, June 9
9:00 am via Zoom
[Click here to receive link](#)

Chamber Board of Directors

Wednesday, June 16, 7:30 am

Business After Hours Annual Joint Event with the Sunbury Chamber

Thursday, June 17
5:00-6:30 pm
Tanger Outlet Mall
[Click here to register](#)

Annual Golf Outing

Friday, June 18
[Click here to register](#)

Manufacturers' Council

Wednesday, June 23
7:30 am via Zoom

Climate Change and Your Business

Wednesday, June 23, 10 am
VIRTUAL

[Click here to register](#)

Business Before Hours

Alpha Group
Thursday, July 1 8:00-9:30am
[Click here to register](#)

SAVE THE DATES

Clay Classic
Friday, October 8, 2021

Annual Dinner
Thursday, February 3, 2022

[Click here to visit the chamber's
interactive calendar of events](#)

Chamber announces new advertising opportunity

Advertising in the Chamber newsletter has always been a great deal. With its distribution list of over 1200 Chamber members and its archival on our website, your ad has a long shelf life. Advertising in our annual Community Profile and Membership Directory is vehicle to use the your Chamber membership to reach an audience throughout the county. The beautiful, full color 64-page one-of-its-kind publication with its description of the county and Chamber membership directory is sent to new movers and distributed in public places for people to browse and learn about Delaware County featuring photos of our members and ultimately a reference guide to goods and services through the membership directory. Linked on our website, anyone searching for a profile of our community accesses the directory.

Today the Chamber announces a third means of advertising that reaches a third type of audience: the Chamber website. You can now place a banner ad on the Chamber's website where it will be seen via 3500 viewers per month on the website pages that get the most attention: Website's home page, any calendar event, any business search, Hot Deal search, any Job search, and Member Login. That's hundreds of combinations of searches that expose your ad. And just like our newsletter ad pricing, banner ads will come in a one-month run or discounted multi-month run. In addition, if you choose the multi-month option, you can choose the three months or run them consecutively. And just like the newsletter multi-run option, you can change up your banner at any time.

Banner ads will be \$125 for one month or \$300 for three months. Questions? Contact Sarah at dachamber@delawareAreaChamber.com or call 740-369-6221.

Chamber resumes lunch series to discuss Ohio's budget

The Chamber held its first in-person luncheon since last September when is met in May to hear about the State's biennium budget. The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee invited Tony Long, VP of Tax and Economic Policy, Ohio Chamber of Commerce, to discuss what's on the line for business in the Ohio General Assembly's upcoming biennium budget. Here are his highlights:

Fair School Funding Plan: The House budget proposal includes a major school funding reform initiative – the Fair School Funding Plan – that is the result of more than three years of work by educators and policymakers. The proposed formula is predictable, sustainable and transparent. Most of all, it is fair to all of Ohio's public schools.

Tax Relief: The legislation also includes a 2 percent across the board personal income tax rate cut, which will reduce taxes by approximately \$380 million over the biennium. Coupled with recently passed legislation (Senate Bill 18) conforming Ohio's tax code with federal law, the House is providing a nearly \$500 million personal income tax cut this biennium.

COVID-19 Relief Grants: The House plan continues \$155 million in grants for industries negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including newly formed businesses. This is an ongoing commitment to Ohio industries as Ohio recovers from the economic impacts of the pandemic.

The Ohio Senate has already begun its own hearings on the legislation. The General Assembly must send the final bill to Gov. DeWine for signature by the end of June as Ohio's fiscal year begins July 1.

Thank you to our event sponsor



Member welcomes new staff



Dr. Sarah Viselli has joined the [Foot and Ankle Wellness Center](#) (FFAWC) team. A graduate of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, Dr. Viselli completed her surgical residency at Grant Medical Center. She joins FFAWC with over 11 years of experience treating foot and ankle conditions, including sports injuries, wound care, and adult and pediatric conditions. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Viselli, call 740.363.4373 to speak to a receptionist or request an appointment online.

Welcome to Delaware, Dr. V.!



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Welcome

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Next TechCred round launches June 1st

The next round of TechCred opens on June 1st and closes on June 30th at 3:00 p.m.



Ohio businesses can visit

TechCred.Ohio.gov to apply and help their employees earn a short-term, technology-focused credential at no cost. Not only can businesses upskill their current employees, but they can upskill those they plan to hire as long as they are on the payroll at the time of reimbursement.

More than 1,100 Ohio businesses have used TechCred, some having used it multiple times, creating the opportunity for 19,841 technology-focused credentials to be earned by Ohio employees.

The results from the April application period will be announced in the near future.

Visit TechCred.Ohio.gov to learn more!

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Leadership Delaware Class of 2021 Community Projects and Graduation

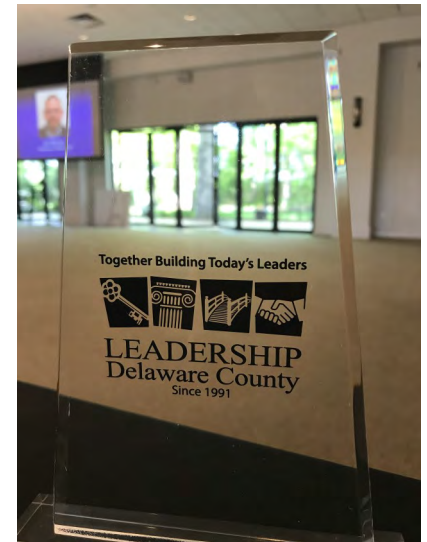
On April 22 and 29, the Leadership Delaware Class of 2021 supplied volunteers necessary to assist with an open clinic at [SourcePoint](#). A total of 22 Leadership Delaware participants contributed 130 volunteer hours to vaccinate 817 patients.

The [Delaware Public Health District](#) (DPHD) Nursing Director Emily Baucher expressed her gratitude. "I'd just like to extend a huge thank you to the Leadership Delaware class of 2021!! We absolutely would not be able to vaccinate nearly the amount of people we are without assistance from our community, and it is so much appreciated!"

On March 27th members of the Leadership Delaware class of 2021 showed up to get their hands dirty and help [Alpha Group](#) with clean-up for the new community housing for individuals with disabilities. The new community housing for individuals with disabilities will be located on David Street in Delaware. The houses will be two units with three bedrooms and in a duplex. Each house will have two to three individuals that will share a home. "The goal of these new homes is to encourage independence and build financial responsibility, while providing home and community-based services" Said Liz Owens, Alpha CEO & TAG Executive Director.

And on May 18, the Leadership Delaware Class of 2021 officially graduated at a breakfast held at Brookshire Banquet. Class participants had a unique Leadership experience as session facilitators navigated the program during the pandemic but members of the graduating class had plenty of "favorite moments" to share, a graduation tradition.

Congratulations to the Class of 2021!



Leadership Delaware Class of 2021

Chris Baker
[Delaware County Foundation](#)
Matt Brown
[Delaware County](#)
Stephen Cook
[First Citizens National Bank](#)
Chelsea Dean
[Delaware County Sheriff's Office](#)
Rachel Dobney
[Olentangy Local Schools](#)
Tola Francis-Sanusi
[Marion Technical College](#)
Dawn Hall
[Delaware Public Health District](#)
Megan Hammond
[Delaware County Prosecutor](#)
Holly Hanson
[Drama Kids of North Columbus](#)

Craig Heath
[Delaware City Schools](#)
Kenzie Johnston
[Ohio State University Extension](#)
Tricia Kalmar
[Price Farms Organics](#)
Lori Kannally
[Delaware Public Health District](#)
Angi Lee
[Safe Harbor](#)
Kyle Lewis
[Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board](#)
Lindsay Mauter
[Ohio Wesleyan University](#)
Larry McQuain
[Delaware County Court of Common Pleas - Domestic Division](#)

Russ Meade
[Meade & Associates](#)
Morgan Mellen
[The Alpha Group](#)
Jason Sanson
[Environmental Design Group](#)
AJ Santos
[Preferred Benefits Insurance Agency](#)
Melissa Stroupe
[Delaware Historical Society -The Barn at Stratford](#)
Courtney Vanest
[Fidelity Federal Savings & Loan](#)
Joe Wheeler
[Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP](#)
Tonia Wilson
[Family Promise of Delaware County](#)

Unemployment identity theft update

Thank you to Maria Reese, [Small Business Payroll Services](#), for sharing this important update from the Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services:

Employers:

We know that identity theft and unemployment fraud continue to be challenges. Thank you for your efforts to report it to us, so that we can stop payment and take other needed actions. Please continue to follow the steps below, and remember that you also can find this information at unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/IdentityTheftEmployer.

Step One: Report identity theft through the hotline or website.

If you receive an unemployment notification from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services regarding someone you don't know, please notify us as soon as possible by calling our hotline at (833) 658-0394.

If you would like to report identity theft involving one or more of your employees, you can either use the hotline or [complete this secure online form](#). If you use the online form, you will be prompted to download an Excel template, enter the requested data in the template (including your employees' full Social Security numbers), and upload the file as instructed.

Step Two: Continue to respond to any "Request for Separation Information" notices that you receive from us.

Please respond timely to these notices and write "fraud/identity theft" on them so that we can investigate the claims and take appropriate actions. The most expedient way for employers to respond to Request for Separation forms is by responding via your online account or by using the State Information Data Exchange System (SIDES) portal.

Step Three: Share resources with your employees.

Please share the [resources for individuals](#) on this website with the employees at your organization. This web page includes a link to the IRS guidance regarding identity theft involving unemployment benefits and other measures individuals can take to protect themselves.

We recognize that reporting suspected fraud through both Step One and Step Two may be an inconvenience, but both steps are necessary to reduce the likelihood that fraudulent claims will be paid.

As a reminder, you can access the hotline number, the online reporting portal, identity theft resources, and frequently asked questions and answers at unemployment.ohio.gov, by clicking on the red "Report Identity Theft" button.

An educational opportunity for company employees

Since 2016, [Columbus State Community College](#) and Franklin University have partnered to bring the Exact Track program to the Columbus State Delaware Campus. This business program earns students an Associate of Applied Science in Business Management from Columbus State and a B.S. in Business Administration and Management and Leadership from Franklin University. Below are the benefits of the program.



Convenient: Classes are automatically scheduled each semester for Exact Track students by academic advisors.

Predictable: Courses are held the same day and time throughout the program. You'll take two classes every eight weeks: One online class and one in-person class (Tuesday nights at Columbus State's Delaware campus)

Collaborative: Work with same group of peers throughout the program.

Cost Effective: Textbooks and parking are provided free of charge.

Supportive: Advisors are on hand to support you throughout your education.

Streamlined: Coordination between Columbus State and Franklin University means seamless transfer of admission, financial aid, and transcript information.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, you can register for one of our Exact Track info sessions. Registration Link: <https://www.csc.edu/academics/departments/exact-track/index.shtml>

Also, if any businesses are interested in having a virtual presentation for their employees, we can set that up as well.

To learn more about the program, please contact Lawrence James at (740) 203-8224 or email at lames6@csc.edu.

REBUILD MY TOWN

Columbus, Ohio



Help lift up your community by sharing the Columbus virtual mosaic, which encourages consumers to support local this holiday season.

You can still be a part of this campaign by adding your business to our Support Local directory, where local consumers can find you and give you their business.

[Shop Local Now](#)

Show your support by promoting it on your marketing and social channels. Join the movement!

Spectrum Reach stands with our communities. **Together, we will rebuild.**

Is your advertising strategy ready for 2021?

Reach us at [1-844-TO-REACH](tel:1-844-TO-REACH) to schedule a call with a local Account Executive today.

Member staff wins industry awards

For the second year in a row, [The Delaware Gazette](#) has claimed multiple awards in the Ohio Associated Press Media Editors (APME) newspaper contest, the AP announced Tuesday.

The Gazette, which competes against 39 other publications in Division I, earned two first-place awards: Managing Editor Joshua Keeran received top honor in the Best Headline Writer category, while Assistant Editor Gary Budzak placed first in the Best Public Service category.

In the Best Headline Writer category, the judges wrote, “A good headline should entice readers into the story, say a lot in a few words, and show readers the headline-writer is on the tone of the story. Joshua Keeran accomplishes all three with clever, witty, pithy headlines that instantly brings readers in on the fun.”

A winner of multiple AP awards over his career, Keeran placed second last year in the Best Headline Writer category.

A Delaware resident since 2011, Keeran holds a B.A. in journalism from The Ohio State University. He began his journalism career in 2004 as a reporter at the Urbana Daily Citizen, a sister paper of The Gazette. In September 2017, he began working at The Gazette, where he was promoted to managing editor in February 2018.

In the Best Public Service category, Budzak submitted 20 articles he wrote on the “We’re in This Together” online course offered by Ohio Wesleyan University in 2020. The course looked at the coronavirus from an academic perspective as professors from many disciplines taught what they knew about prior pandemics and what they knew about COVID-19.

“Drawing on the expertise of local university faculty, this series offers readers detailed looks at many facets of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as its impacts,” judges wrote.



Budzak, who holds a B.A. in journalism from The Ohio State University, has won awards for his work at The Columbus Dispatch and ThisWeek Newspapers. He was previously the managing editor of The Sunbury News. Budzak lives with his wife in Westerville.

In addition to the first-place awards, The Gazette placed third in the Best Special Sports Section category for its 2020 Fall Sports Preview, which featured detailed

stories and photos by Sports Editor Ben Stroup on the county’s seven high school football teams. The section also featured schedules for all fall sports teams.

Fifty-two daily newspapers submitted 1,418 entries in the Ohio APME contest, which featured news and sports stories, features, editorials, columns, graphics, and photos from 2020.

Entries in Division I were judged by editors from the Petoskey (Michigan) News-Review and the Alpena (Michigan) News.



MANOS, MARTIN & PERGRAM CO., LPA Attorneys at Law



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Drawing By Karen Collins

Looking for product or service? Look to your fellow Chamber members *first*. The Chamber exists for and by its members—[check here](#) before you buy.

OhioHealth Grady Memorial Hospital

Quality medical care serving the Delaware community.



Whether you need preventive care, emergency services, a routine test or rehabilitation, OhioHealth Grady Memorial Hospital is here for you. And, if additional care is required, *WE* seamlessly connect you with physicians and facilities from our entire OhioHealth system and then arrange follow-up care in your hometown.

BELIEVE IN *WE*™  OhioHealth

To learn more about all the services offered at Grady Memorial Hospital, visit OhioHealth.com/Grady.

Have YOU signed up for auto-pay and received your FREE newsletter ad? What are you waiting for?

The Chamber offers an recurring, incremental payment option for annual dues investment. Members can choose to deduct the payment from bank account or credit card [securely stored offsite via Authorize.net](#). You'll also be able to opt in to the billing frequency of choice: monthly, quarterly or annually.

Auto pay must be set up at least 30 days prior to the month of your membership renewal date*.

You can sign up now, even if your renewal date is up to twelve months from today. Fill out the [Membership Investment Auto Pay Form](#). Bank account EFT is preferred to avoid credit cards that expire and interrupt the deduction.

Your banking/credit card account is secure; the Chamber renews its PCI compliance annually. Only *membership* invoices are eligible for this option. All other Chamber invoices remain due within 15 days. And remember that you can pay those online as well.

Members who sign up receive a free 1/4 page newsletter ad! Call the office for format details. So sign up today to make paying for your Chamber investment a snap. There are no administration or set-up fees.

* Don't know the month in which your renewal is due? Email dachamber@DelawareAreaChamber.com.

Your Chamber membership: True or False?

- The Chamber receives several requests each year for goods or services provided in our community and recommends Chamber member businesses. **TRUE!** The Chamber encourages members to supply the office with their brochures for display at no charge. The Chamber receives *hundreds* of requests each year by phone, email and in the Chamber office.
- Free for the asking is a prescription discount card that you can distribute to all your employees. **TRUE!** There's nothing to sign; no charge to distribute or to use; accepted at all the big chain pharmacies; and the discount is often a bigger savings than the co-pay. Look like a hero to your staff and contact the Chamber today: 740-369-6221 or dachamber@DelawareAreaChamber.com
- The Chamber's conference room may be reserved at a very reasonable cost to Chamber members. **FALSE!** The conference room sits 25 comfortably and has a screen, projector and Wi-Fi. Also on hand: podium, easel and white board. It's the perfect location for training, strategic planning or meetings you'd rather have off-site; for home-based members it a perfect place to meet your clients. We'll even supply coffee, water and soft drinks. **And best of all, it's FREE.** To schedule the room, contact the Chamber at 740-369-6221 or dachamber@DelawareAreaChamber.com



Looking for product or service? Look to your fellow Chamber members first. The Chamber exists for and

FREE LUNCH
from
Fresh Start CAFE & BAKERY

Workforce Resource Luncheon

Keynote Speakers:

ONE | COLUMBUS
David White
Director of Workforce and Talent Solutions

JobsOhio
Lenee' Pezzano
Sr. Manager, Talent Strategies
John Sherwood
Manager, Talent Strategies

Local Workforce Resources:

- Training/Education
- Transportation
- Grant Funding
- Local Employers
- Professional Organizations

Presented By:

Monday, June 21
12:00 - 2:00 PM
@ The Delaware Area Career Center

Space is limited!
Registration required!

Register at
<https://bit.ly/3ec8m4U>
by June 7, 2021

Did you know you can get a discount on health insurance for your company through your local chamber?



The relationship you have with your employees is key, especially when it comes to your health plan. That's why the Central Ohio Chambers of Commerce (COCC) and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield teamed up to offer you ChamberSaver discounts.

What matters most to you when it comes to your company's health coverage?

An affordable health plan? Healthier employees? A full range of health insurance offerings? That's exactly what you get when you choose ChamberSaver. Companies with 2-50 eligible employees can save 1.4% and companies with 51-500 eligible employees can save 1% on health insurance – and not just on a few plans, but rather, on Anthem's full range of health insurance offerings.*

Access to care that's right for your employees

When employees feel good, they are usually more focused and more likely to perform at a higher level, which can have a positive affect on a company's bottom line. That's why every Anthem plan includes 100% coverage for checkups, flu shots, and other preventive care services for your employees and their families. The reward is peace of mind and better health at no extra cost to your employees.

To learn more specifics about this new offering contact one of the following Chamber members who are Anthem Elite or Champion Brokers:

Creative Financial Insurance Services Agency, Inc.

Jim Roesch
jwroesch@discovercfi.com
740-363-5433
www.discovercfi.com

201 Pennsylvania Avenue, Delaware

Preferred Benefits Services Agency, Inc.

Mark Pettitt
pettitt@prefben.com
740-363-6028
www.prefben.com
611 South Sandusky Street, Delaware



Your chamber membership creates value for your company.

The savings alone is great. But consider what also comes with it.

- o Your choice of plans, from industry-leading consumer-driven health plans to point-of-service products
- o Administrative convenience of working with one carrier who offers a complete menu of coverage options: prescription drugs, dental, vision, life insurance, long-term and short-term disability and employee assistance programs
- o Extensive selection of providers and lower in-network costs
- o Strong local service

You'll also benefit from access to discounts on Anthem dental, vision, life, and disability products.

Product	Group size	Discount
Dental	2-50	5%
	51-99	4%
	100+	2%
Full-service Blue View Vision plans	2-499	15%
Life and Disability	2-9	5%
	10+	10%

In addition to these great savings, Anthem products offer industry-leading product features and networks.

Dental

- Industry-leading local and national networks with deep discounts, saving members an average of 34% on covered services when they visit an in-network provider
- No waiting periods for major services with employer-paid plans
- Flexible plan designs and optional benefits like annual maximum carryover and brush biopsy
- A dedicated dental service department that provides fast and accurate claims processing that beats the industry average, with the average claim paid in less than 3 days¹
- Expanded care with our clinically integrated program, Anthem Whole Health Connection, is included at no extra cost. This includes additional dental services for members with certain health conditions.

Blue View Vision

- One of the largest vision networks in the nation, with the choice of independent eye doctors or Glasses.com, ContactsDirect, 1-800 CONTACTS, LensCrafters®, Pearle Vision®, Sears Optical®, Target Optical®, or JC Penney® Optical stores
- Members can buy extra pairs of glasses for 40% off from any network provider. And kids under age 19 get UV-blocking Transitions® lenses at no extra cost while adults get a discount.²
- Access to a dedicated and knowledgeable customer support team 7 days a week
- Enhanced care with our clinically integrated program call Anthem Whole Health Connection is included at no extra cost. This includes market-leading collaboration between primary care doctors and eye doctors

Life and Disability

- A broad portfolio of life and disability products and an A.M. Best financial rating of A (Excellent)
- Value-add programs include at no additional charge provide emotional, financial and legal support, along online will preparation and identity theft recovery services
- Telephone claim intake is standard in addition to a dedicated call center with calls answered live during business hours
- Outstanding claims turnaround time and payment accuracy – and we help with Social Security disability filings and approvals
- Integration of short-term disability and our health benefits may improve employee health and productivity



¹ Internal data 2017

² Except when discounting of non-covered services is prohibited by state law.

Standard broker commissions apply. Offer available to Ohio-headquartered businesses adding new Anthem dental, vision, life and/or disability plans. This discount program can be changed or terminated at any time.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Community Insurance Company, An Independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

® Anthem is a registered trademark. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield names and symbols are the registered marks of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.





Program assistance
OSHA compliance
Accident prevention
Leadership
Health & wellness

STAY INFORMED SAFELY

Ohio employers small and large know Ohio Safety Councils offer convenient and affordable access to occupational safety education, resources and networking.



Learn among your business and community peers.
Contact your local safety council today and get involved to proactively prevent injuries, control costs and benefit your workforce.

“

Incidents and accidents do not pause for a pandemic. Taking a year off of Safety Council never crossed our mind.

~ Ryan Mathys,
Preferred Airparts, LCC,
Orville Area Safety Council

Webinars kept the life blood pumping in our safety veins.

~ Kent Sherry,
Bryce Hill Inc.,
Springfield-Clark County Safety Council

Even though the meetings are virtual now, it is still beneficial to meet, to talk, to share, & to learn with other members to continue to get the support we all need.

~ Jim Stephen,
Zemba Bros., Inc.,
Zanesville-Muskingum County
Safety Council

”

[Safety council locations | Bureau of Workers' Compensation \(ohio.gov\)](#)

Who we are

The Chamber is a voluntary organization of businesses investing their time and money to improve the economic, civic and cultural well-being of the community. Through this investment, the individual volunteer, company or corporate sponsor increase their business, expand their profile and value and in turn accomplish their personal and professional goals. Everyone shares in the benefit created by the growth and prosperity generated.

The dues structure is designed to permit even the smallest business to be a member. The work of the Chamber is financed by the investment of individuals and businesses that support it. *The Chamber is not part of the city or the government. It is a unique organization and it belongs to the members.*



What we do

The Chamber provides its members with a platform to accomplish their business goals. Belonging to the Chamber increases a member's opportunity to network, develop professional and personally, build a referral base and increase their visibility. A recent study from the Shapiro Group shows that consumers are 49% more likely to think favorably of a Chamber-member business and 80% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future. A Chamber membership comes with a 73% increase in customer awareness and a 68% increase in local reputation.

Your organization helps create jobs through stimulation of industrial and commercial growth. The Chamber is a voice for small business and keeps abreast of issues that affect the business climate and alerts membership to resources that may assist in their resolution. It also assists in bringing new business to the community by acting as a resource to the business principals and leaders. The Chamber serves as a resource for membership and provides referrals from a trusted network of business men and women.

The program of work is facilitated by the Chamber's member volunteers and committees under the direction of the board of directors. The goal is always to create more prosperity and opportunity for all members. Every member has a voice in determining the Chamber's work, policies and projects- and every member is needed to work to get the job done!

And programming? Your Chamber knows how vital networking and educational programming are to its members. Monthly Before Hours and After Hours, Third Thursday luncheons, ribbon cuttings and other celebrations; annual golf outing and clay classic, the unique annual dinner and awards event; educational series, Safety Council and Leadership Delaware are the organization's sweet spot.

And what of your investment in the organization? In 2018, the Delaware Area Chamber received its second consecutive 5-year, 4-Star accreditation. Only 3% of chambers nationwide (and only four in Ohio!) seek and receive this prestigious recognition. What this means is that from finances to communication; HR to programming your Chamber is run like a business. A solid, well-run business and is committed to the accreditation process every day.

No other organization can do all that the Chamber does. We've been doing it since 1907. Times change but the relevancy of your Chamber endures.

Are you making the most of the freebies that your Chamber membership offers?



The Chamber uses an integrated database system called ChamberMaster. From the staff's point of view, ChamberMaster's integration with our secure accounting system and website, and its use as a database system are only the tip of the iceberg; CM's features are robust and responsive to chambers of commerce who subscribe. But ChamberMaster is also a multi-faceted tool for our members that increases the value of membership to those who use it.

To use any of the features offered, you will need a username and password. [Click here for instructions.](#)

Your online calendar displays events from other members, Chamber events, and of course, any events that you have posted. You can register online for Chamber events only; to register for another member's event, please contact that member directly. If the event you'd like to register for has a fee associated with it (for example, Third Thursday luncheon is \$20 per person), you can pay online right then and there, select to pay at the door, or let us know you'd like an invoice. [Click here for the full instructions on registering for Chamber events.](#) So, you've attended an event and you opted to be invoiced for it. You can pay that invoice online as well as ANY Chamber invoice. [Click here for instructions on how to pay invoices online.](#)

County Engineer offers annual report

Delaware County Engineer Chris Bauserman and his office have released their 2020 Annual Report. The County's roads, bridges and drainage systems are integral components of quality of life, safety and development and Chris has led these efforts in this fast-growing county for some 25 years.



County Engineer
DELAWARE
COUNTY Ohio

[Click here to read the report.](#) And thanks to Chris and his staff for all they do to get us in and around the County as well as strategically planning for the future.

Did you know...

...that as a member of the Delaware Area Chamber you may use the Chamber's conference room at no cost? The conference room sits 25 comfortably and has a screen, projector and Wi-Fi. Also on hand: podium, easel and white board. It's the perfect location for training, strategic planning or meetings you'd rather have off-site;

for home-based members it a perfect place to meet your clients. We'll even supply

coffee, water and soft drinks. And best of all, it's FREE. To schedule the room, contact the Chamber at 740-369-6221 or dachamber@DelawareAreaChamber.com.



Our Guiding Principle

The Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce acts as a champion of prosperity by influencing policy and regulations that impact the interests of business; researches, communicates, educates and advocates public issues on behalf of the and quality of life and the interests of business.



Our Vision

The Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce shall be the region's business leader and community voice.



Our Mission

The Chamber serves as the visionary leader for programs and services benefiting our members by promoting and advocating a favorable business climate, quality of life and the orderly growth and development of the Delaware area community.



Chamber Referral Buck\$\$...

..is a program that rewards current members for referring new member businesses. Your efforts to grow your organization will earn you \$50 in **Chamber Referral Buck\$\$**. You'll receive a certificate good for *any* Chamber invoice. You may use more than one Chamber Referral Buck\$\$ certificate for any invoice. Redeem your **Buck\$\$** for advertising, sponsorships, event attendance or membership renewal. ***The more we are, the stronger we are. Working together.... It's Good for Business!!***



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Chamber announces new advertising opportunity

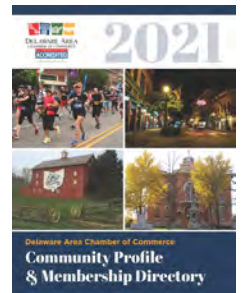
Advertising in the Chamber newsletter has always been a great deal. With its distribution list of over 1200 Chamber members and its archival on our website, your ad has a long shelf life. Advertising in our annual Community Profile and Membership Directory is vehicle to use the your Chamber membership to reach an audience throughout the county. The beautiful, full color 64-page one-of-its-kind publication with its description of the county and Chamber membership directory is sent to new movers and distributed in public places for people to browse and learn about Delaware County featuring photos of our members and ultimately a reference guide to goods and services through the membership directory. Linked on our website, anyone searching for a profile of our community accesses the directory.

Today the Chamber announces a third means of advertising that reaches a third type of audience: the Chamber website. You can now place a banner ad on the Chamber's website where it will be seen via 3500 viewers per month on the website pages that get the most attention: Website's home page, any calendar event, any business search, Hot Deal search, any Job search, and Member Login. That's hundreds of combinations of searches that expose your ad. And just like our newsletter ad pricing, banner ads will come in a one-month run or discounted multi-month run. In addition, if you choose the multi-month option, you can choose the three months or run them consecutively. And just like the newsletter multi-run option, you can change up your banner at any time.

Banner ads will be \$125 for one month or \$300 for three months. Questions? Contact Sarah at dachamber@delawareAreaChamber.com or call 740-369-6221.

2022 directory helps members with **reduced ad prices** and **enhanced website advertising**; early-bird, new member and up-size discounts!

The Delaware Area Chamber's Community Profile and Membership directory is the only publication of its kind in Delaware County. This glossy, full-color directory starts with sections on community culture, education, health care, industry and commerce and more. Following is a cross-referenced listing of our members. Some 1000 copies are mailed to new movers, every chamber member and distributed throughout the county all year long. Members are encouraged to request (always free) copies for their lobbies, clients and new-to-the-area staff. And, of course, it's [accessible on our website](#). Advertising in the directory reaches thousands of potential customers and all photos in the publication are straight from our members; there's no stock photography.



Understanding the challenges you've faced this year, the Chamber is making it easier for you to advertise AND offers an opportunity for NEW website banners ads. Here's how it works:

- **Ad prices for the 2022 directory REMAIN AT THE 2021 REDUCED PRICES.**
- For an additional \$50, your ad can be posted for one month on the **Chamber's website**, getting your ad roughly **3500 views**.
- If you ran an ad last year and up-size your ad this year, you'll receive an **additional discount**.
- **New member** since last year's directory? Discount there as well.
- And our always-popular **early-bird discount**.

[Click here for a price list and ad agreement form](#). Don't miss these incredible offers as the Chamber's way of recognizing your need to advertise and the way you've been tested this year. Questions? Contact the Chamber at dachamber@DelawareAreaChamber.com.

Chamber newsletter advertising a good value

More than 1200 readers at over 450 businesses receive our electronic monthly newsletter. The newsletter is also linked to and archived on our website for even more exposure. Using the Chamber newsletter to reach hundreds of customers is a terrific value. All ads are in full color and should be sent electronically in either a Publisher, png, jpeg or PDF format **ONLY** by the 20th of the month for placement in the next month's edition. **And if you prepay for 10 months, you'll receive two additional months of the same size ad FREE!** Email your ad to hquaine@DelawareAreaChamber.com

Ad prices are for one run:

Full page: 8.5 x 11 portrait	\$125	Quarter page: 4 x 5.25 H	\$75
Half page: 8 x 5.25 H	\$90	Eighth page: 4 X 2.62 H/V	\$50

A message from the Government Affairs Committee

Educating our membership about important issues that impact business and community is the foundation of the Government Affairs Committee. The issue of redistricting is certainly one of those matters that will have a significant effect in the State no matter how it lands. What follows is an article that does a great job of explaining the redistricting process and why it's particularly controversial this time around. The Chamber takes no position on the issue; we mean only to educate our membership.

Census data used for Ohio redistricting may get here just in time

Ohio is now set to receive its U.S. Census data necessary to draw new legislative districts in mid-August, giving the state a short amount of time to abide by a redistricting timeline approved by voters.

Delays in processing census data — due to the pandemic — have made Ohio officials worry the state would not be able to meet its constitutional deadlines to approve the new districts.

The federal government is now agreeing to provide the data to Ohio by Aug. 16.

Ohio sued the federal government in hopes of securing a court order requiring this new Aug. 16 date be met, and on Tuesday received a favorable ruling toward that goal.

The issue

Statehouse and congressional legislative districts are redrawn every 10 years to account for changes in population.

States like Ohio use this decennial census data in order to draw maps that have districts with relatively equal numbers of constituents.

This data was supposed to arrive by April 1, which would have given redistricting officials months to draw proposed maps and show them to the general public before being approved.

The U.S. Census Bureau knew ahead of time it would miss this deadline, citing delays caused by the pandemic, and so it announced the data would instead be available by the end of September.

This did not sit well with Ohio lawmakers and other fair maps advocates. In 2015 and 2018, Ohio voters approved new processes to redraw these state and federal legislative districts. Along with requiring better transparency and public input before officials vote on the new maps, the timelines set September deadlines for approving them.

Ohio officials realized it would be impossible to follow these deadlines without having received the redistricting data in the first place.

Finding a solution in court

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost sued the government in federal court to force the data to be handed over. [A judge dismissed the lawsuit](#), noting the Ohio Constitution does allow for districts to be drawn using “another basis” if the census data is unavailable.

Yost appealed the decision.

Continued on next page

Contact your legislator:

Ohio Senate

District 19

Andy Brenner
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Hometown: Powell
(614) 466-8086
[Email](#)

Ohio House

District 68

Rick Carfagna
77 S. High St
13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone (614) 466-1431
Fax (614) 719-6990
[Email](#)

District 67

Kris Jordan
77 S. High St
11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone (614) 644-6711
Fax (614) 719-0002
[Email](#)

US House

District 12

Troy Balderson
250 East Wilson Bridge Rd.,
Suite 100

Worthington, OH 43085

Phone: (614) 523-2555

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District 4

Jim Jordan

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US Senate

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Sherrod Brown

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Redistricting continued

In the meantime, [lawmakers proposed various solutions to the problem](#). Senate President Matt Huffman, R-Lima, briefly considered having Ohioans vote on a constitutional amendment to push back the redistricting deadlines.

Democrats criticized the idea and there was little time to work toward getting this on a statewide ballot in 2021, leading Huffman to drop the proposal.

Democrats proposed seeking remedy through the Ohio Supreme Court — asking the court to push back the deadlines due to the pandemic circumstances.

This may no longer be necessary.

Yost's appeal took the case to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. On May 11, a day before the two sides were set to argue the case, the federal government pledged to give over the redistricting data well before the end of September.

The government said it would provide the data in a "legacy format" by Aug. 16. This refers to an older format used during the 2000 and 2010 Census cycles. Doing so would save time from waiting for the data to be processed in the new format.

The next day, Ohio Solicitor General Benjamin Flowers told the appellate judges this "legacy" formatted data by Aug. 16 would suffice. Still, Flowers wanted to see a court order holding the government to that promise.

"It's good that they're planning to get it done by Aug. 16, but as we've seen in the history of this census over the last year, sometimes their plans don't come to fruition," Flowers said.

"We didn't bring suit to try to bully the Census. It's not just some abstract desire to have them follow the law," Flowers also argued. "We brought suit because we really do need this data for the redistricting process to go on smoothly."

On Tuesday, [May 18] the appeals court reversed the lower court's dismissal of the case. The judges ruled that the U.S. Court for the Southern District of Ohio should "treat this matter expediently and hold a hearing to determine what remedy (if any) is appropriate."

Holding the government to the Aug. 16 date would give Ohio officials a few weeks to draw, showcase and vote on the new Statehouse and congressional maps, which will be in place for the 2022-2030 election cycles.

Source: Ohio Capital Journal

Chamber supports proposed school funding plan

That bi-partisan [Fair School Funding Plan](#) would make a very positive difference in funding for school districts in Delaware County. Now is the time to finally fix this issue. Adequate and fair state funding will reduce our districts' over-reliance on local taxes, thereby reducing the frequency of needed local levies. This plan also returns a fair share of state taxes back to local communities. Most importantly, the Fair School Funding Plan begins the process of eliminating the gain caps that have penalized school districts for years.

Submitting the House's version of the budget without Fair School Funding and the elimination of gain caps would be a mistake. If our state does not fix school funding and eliminate gain caps, we are continuing to put a terrible burden on property owners and are sending a message that students in Delaware County are less important than those in other counties that are much better funded by the state. It is important that our state finally provide fair state funding for ALL of our students. Because of gain caps, the state is withholding over \$50 Million from Delaware County students this year (\$43M from Olentangy and \$7M from Delaware City). Olentangy Local School District receives \$600 per pupil in state funding and Delaware City Schools receives \$2,720 per pupil when the state's average is over \$4,800 per pupil.

We strongly urge our legislators to include the Cupp-Patterson Fair School Funding Proposal in the House's version of the state budget. Our state/county deserve a constitutional and fair school funding system.



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Governor Signs Ohio Broadband Expansion Legislation – HB 2

"Three General Assemblies, four House speakers, two governors, two Senate presidents – that's how long it's taken us to get here," Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Genoa Township) said at the bill signing of Ohio HB 2 on Monday, May 17, 2021. Governor DeWine signed the emergency law which will encourage broadband expansion into unserved areas of the state and establish the Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Program.

"Yes, it's a long time coming, but frankly it's been a longer time coming for the 1 million Ohioans who lack high speed internet access," said Rep. Carfagna. The law sets includes \$20 million for Fiscal Year 2021 to be used by the newly created program housed within the Development Services Agency. Additional money of approximately \$200 million is expected to be included in the state's operating budget that is currently making its way through the legislature.

The grant program provides gap money for projects that don't quite meet business models for unserved areas. As Rep. Carfagna says, companies who apply for these grants will have major "skin in the game," but this new program will allow companies to get over the hump to make it feasible to expand broadband systems to unserved areas.

In addition to the establishment of a state broadband grant program under the Ohio Development Services Agency, with oversight granted to the newly-created Broadband Expansion Program Authority, the bill also clarifies access to electric easements for broadband and creates new FCC-based pole attachment standards for rural electric co-ops.

Follow Ohio Chamber legislative updates



As a proud member of the [Ohio Chamber of Commerce](#), we're grateful for their advocacy on behalf of small business. For chambers like ours with bare bones staff, the value of our membership with Ohio Chamber is the vetting, education and lobbying that we lack the adequate resources to take on. We urge you to click on their logo and follow their updates.



Chamber website banner ads a great value

You can now place a banner ad on the Chamber's website where it will be seen via 3500 viewers per month on the website pages that get the most attention: Website's home page, any calendar event, any business search, Hot Deal search, any Job search, and Member Login. That's hundreds of combinations of searches that expose your ad. And just like our newsletter ad pricing, banner ads will come in a one-month run or discounted multi-month run. In addition, if you choose the multi-month option, you can choose the three months or run them consecutively. And just like the newsletter multi-run option, you can change up your banner at any time.

Banner ads will be \$125 for one month or \$300 for three months. Questions? Contact Sarah at dachamber@delawareAreaChamber.com or call 740-369-6221.

Member launches new website

[SourcePoint](#), the county's most comprehensive aging services provider, is proud to announce the launch of its newly designed website at MySourcePoint.org. The new site features improved functionality and navigation, a dynamic, responsive design, and accessibility solutions.

The new website highlights the nonprofit organization's key services and programs for Delaware County adults ages 55 and older and family caregivers.

"With the size and scope of our programs growing substantially over the past several years, it's important that visitors to our website are able to find what they need, when they need it," said Alison Yeager, SourcePoint's director of communications and development. "The website redesign is clean, modern, and affords users the access and functionality they need."

The accessibility features, which include the ability to adjust contrast, text size, spacing, and cursor size, are triggered by a user clicking the blue eye icon at the center-right of the screen. This provides an inclusive browsing experience for older adults and other individuals with varying degrees of visual impairment.

For the new site, SourcePoint consulted with Fireman Creative, a design and development agency in Pittsburgh, with support from OhioHealth, the organization's health and wellness partner since 2014. *SourcePoint is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that provides professional expertise, services, and programs for Delaware County adults who want to thrive after 55 and family caregivers. Services and programs are supported in part by the local senior services levy, corporate and private donations, grants, the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging, and United Way of Delaware County.*



The SOCA self-funded medical plan. A big opportunity for small employers.

The Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance (SOCA) teamed up with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield to create a health program that can lead to more rate stability – and it could offer potential savings for groups with 50 or fewer employees. This self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) lets smaller employers join together to share in the overall claims risk. By being part of a larger, self-funded pool, employers have financial protection backed by Anthem's stop loss coverage.

In addition to financial protection, this innovative alternative offers:

- Competitive rates
- Fixed, predictable monthly payments
- A variety of plan designs
- Anthem's broad Blue Access PPO provider network and Essential Rx formulary
- Coverage for claims run-out/terminal liability coverage
- Expanded wellness offerings
- Specially discounted rates on SOCA-exclusive specialty products including dental, vision, life, optional life, and disability insurance

As a member in good standing with the Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce, your business is eligible for discounted group health care *including plans for sole proprietors*, sold through our Chamber-member authorized agents.

Contact one of our agents to see if there's a plan that's right for you.

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Jim Roesch

jwroesch@discovercfi.com

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Preferred Benefits Services Agency

Mark Pettitt

mark@prefben.com

740-363-6028

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PREFERRED BENEFITS SERVICES AGENCY, INC.

City offers revolving loan

The [City of Delaware](#) has opened a \$300,000 revolving loan fund to bolster the city's small businesses. Any business (or business owner) within city limits is eligible to apply for the low-interest loan program. The fund will be administered by Economic and Community Development Institute (ECDI), a community microlender that is headquartered in Columbus and serves small businesses throughout the state of Ohio.

In a time when a majority of small businesses – even those with a long, stable history – are struggling due to the economic shutdown caused by COVID-19, access to capital can be a sustaining lifeline. Borrowers can request up to \$25,000 from the City of Delaware fund, and can access ECDI's portfolio of funds for additional capital up to \$350,000* for their total loan. Funds can be used for any business purpose, including payroll, inventory, renovations or other.

Loans of 0-25K will be funded at 3% rate. Loans of 25-50K will be funded at 5% blended rate. Beyond that, your business will work with ECDI to get the best rate they can or will seek financing from other entities of your choice.

To apply, please visit <https://www.ecdi.org/small-business-loans/>. For further questions, please reach out to Aaron Cornell at (614) 559-0196 or by email, ACornell@ecdi.org.



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Our Values—The Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce will:

- treat all of our relationships with honesty, respect and fairness;
- be actively involved in our community and be leaders in identifying and addressing issues of community and regional concern;
- foster partnerships to improve the economic well-being and quality of life in the community;
- hold the business needs of our membership to be our highest priority;
- remain committed to fostering a rich sense of community and an unrivaled quality of life;
- stay connected to our membership - communicating information and opportunities to our members, public policy leaders, and the residents of the greater Delaware community;
- be an inclusive organization, sustaining a diverse membership by welcoming all interested parties to become involved and encouraging a variety of thoughts and view points; and
- be trustworthy and responsible stewards of the Chamber's funds, seeking to direct resources with wisdom and integrity.



Check Out the

HOT DEALS

from Chamber Members

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- ⇒ [Earn Referral Buck\\$\\$ - Delaware Area Chamber](#)
- ⇒ [Join Safety Council— Delaware Area Safety Council](#)
- ⇒ [Delaware City Flex service—Delaware County Transit](#)
- ⇒ [Free ride to get vaccine- Delaware County Transit](#)
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- ⇒ [15% off Guest room Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center—Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center](#)
- ⇒ [Oak & Brazen Wine Co: Daily Deals—Oak and Brazen Wine Co.](#)
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- ⇒ [Celebrating Class of 2021 Through #ScholarSpree Sweepstakes—Polaris Fashion Place](#)
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HOT DEALS

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- ⇒ The Chamber's Website boasts visitors each day.
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- ⇒ No limit to the number of Hot Deals
- ⇒ Do-it-yourself: get your login and password and publish Hot Deals yourself— it's faster and the independence means you can post any-time, all the time.

Chamber newsletter advertising a good value

More than 1200 readers at over 450 businesses receive our electronic monthly newsletter. The newsletter is also linked to and archived on our website for even more exposure. Using the Chamber newsletter to reach hundreds of customers is a terrific value. Contact us as dachamber@DelawareAreaChamber.com

Ad prices are for one run:

Full page: 8.5 x 11 portrait	\$125
Half page: 8 x 5.25 H	\$90
Quarter page: 4 x 5.25 H	\$75
Eighth page: 4 X 2.62 H/V	\$50