

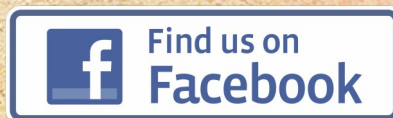


January 2023

CHAMBER CHATTER

The Official Newsletter of the
Greene County Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (724) 627-5926
Email: info@greenechamber.org
www.greenechamber.org



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

27

NEW
MEMBERS

359

TOTAL
MEMBERS

121

YEARS SERVING
GREENE
COUNTY



BEST OF THE BEST
TOP 3!

10,500+

WEBSITE VIEWS



9



RIBBON CUTTINGS

HIGH POINTS

- Staff attended the PACP Conference held in Gettysburg where the director was recognized for her 30 years of service in the Chamber industry.
- Office is now a SBDC location
- Recorded multiple "Inside the Issues" with Doug Wilson at WANB Radio

3,690
FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS



827
NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS



380
INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS



CHAMBER EVENTS HELD:

- Business Connection Luncheons
- Coffee & Commerce Events
- Administrative Professionals' Day Luncheon
- Annual Golf Outing
- 32nd Annual Scholarship Presentation
- 5th Women in Business Breakfast
- Business After Hours Events
- Legislative Breakfast
- Womens Leadership Conference
- 34rd Annual Banquet & Presentation of the Distinguished Service Award & McCracken Legacy Award
- Fall Business Bootcamp
- Holiday Mix & Mingle
- 84th Annual Christmas Parade



EMAIL NOW

info@greenechamber.org

CALL NOW
724-627-5926



JOIN NOW

www.greenechamber.org

VISIT US
3157 Mt. Morris Rd.
Waynesburg, PA 15370



STAY TUNED!

OUR 2023 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER...



Reminder!

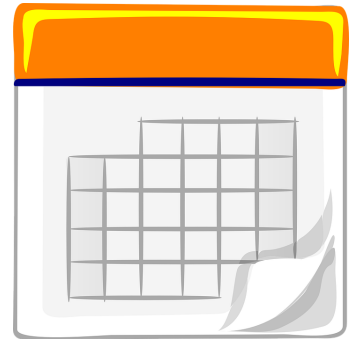
Membership dues are due at this time! If you have already paid, we greatly appreciate the promptness. If not, please be sure to send those in as soon as possible.

You can send checks to

3157 Mt. Morris Road, Suite #103

Waynesburg, PA 15370.

Don't want to send a check? Visit our website [here](#) and pay online!



Show your customers that you are a member of the chamber!

Window clings are currently being mailed out to those members who have paid their 2023 membership dues investment. When customers walk in your front door this lets them know that you are proud to be a member of the chamber of commerce to support the economy and quality of life in Greene County. It also acts as a seal of approval for your business showing that you care enough to support the bigger picture by joining forces with your fellow members to promote the business community. If you have received yours and would like a few more to cover other entrances or locations, please let us know. We would be happy to send you out a few more.

We are so glad to have you as a member and look forward to serving you!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SHOE sensation

Shoe Sensation

JD Workman - Market Sales Director

120 Greene Plaza, Unit 1

Waynesburg, PA 15370

(304) 815-4019

ss234@shoesensation.com

www.shoesensation.com



Rossell Automation Company, LLC

Stanley "Jobie" Rossell - Owner

38 Deer Run Ln

Coal Center, PA 15423

(724) 986-0631

rossellautomation@gmail.com

PROUD MEMBER
Greene County Chamber of Commerce



2023

Doing Business Better

Investing in OUR Community



RIBBON CUTTING

The Chamber recently hosted an official ribbon cutting ceremony for a new business in downtown Waynesburg. On Friday, January 13th, family, friends and local dignitaries gathered to share in the celebration as owner, Chase Blake, officially cut the ribbon on his new barber shop located at 68 West High Street, Waynesburg, PA.

The event featured remarks from several speakers, Eric Cowden from State Senator Camera Bartolotta's office, Mike Belding, Chair of the Greene County Commissioners: Jeanine Henry, President of Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful and Melody Longstreth, Director of the Greene County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Blake shared his story of graduating from West Greene High School in 2021, going to barber school and getting started building a clientele locally. His dream of opening his own barber shop has come to fruition and his services are sure to please any customer.

For more information on Cut the Chase, their services and hours, please visit www.cuttothechasebarber.shop or call 724-833-0520.



IN THE NEWS

Waynesburg's Criminal Justice program ranked among the top in Pennsylvania

Waynesburg University's Criminal Justice Administration Program was recently ranked a top program overall and a top program for veterans in the state of Pennsylvania by College Factual. Waynesburg's program ranked No. 2 overall out of the 22 schools named to College Factual's 2023 "Best Criminal Justice Schools in Pennsylvania" list. The program also was named the No. 1 school on College Factual's "Most Veteran Friendly in Pennsylvania for Criminal Justice" list.

College Factual uses several factors to steer its ranking methodology, including accreditation, student body caliber, educational resources, degree completion and post-graduate earnings. Waynesburg's Criminal Justice Administration Program features faculty members who are expert practitioners from the criminal justice field. Students receive unique, hands-on training, utilizing cutting-edge technology starting as early as freshman year. This past year, the program added a patrol simulator to its collection of state-of-the-art equipment, which also features the Laser Shot Firearms Training Simulator and PatrolEyes body cameras. The patrol simulator is a driving simulator outfitted with the elements of a patrol car, including lights, a siren and a mobile digital terminal. It enables students to experience real-life scenarios through a series of exercises to enhance their understanding of being on patrol. The simulations can revolve around distracted driving, pursuits and navigating severe weather conditions.

For more information about the Criminal Justice Administration Program, visit waynesburg.edu/cj.

CONGRATULATIONS 2022 BEST OF THE BEST: Greene County Business FINALISTS

****All Businesses in red are Chamber Members!**

MOTORCYCLE DEALER: Barnhart's Honda Polaris (Prosperity)

WINERY: Thistlethwaite Vineyards

FLOOR COVERING STORE: Humble Carpet & Decorating Center

HOBBY/CRAFT SHOP: Hideaway Candle Bar

POOL SPA RETAILERS: Watters Pools

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Greene County Chamber of Commerce

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY: Blueprints

LAW FIRM: Peacock Keller

PARTY/EVENT ENTERTAINMENT: Yard Card Queen Greene County

NON-PROFIT: Blueprints

Domestic Violence Services of Southwestern PA

PHOTOGRAPHER: Robin Teagarden Photography

SCREEN PRINTING: BeeGraphix

Embroid'em

PLACE TO WORK: Blueprints

CLEANING SERVICES: Hot Mops Cleaning, Inc.

INTERIOR DESIGNER: Simply Styled Spaces – Simply Clean

EYE CARE: Cornerstone Care Vision Center

FAMILY PRACTICE: Cornerstone Care,

HEALTH CLINIC: Centerville Clinics

Cornerstone Care,

OB/GYN: WHS OB/GYN

ORTHODONTIST: Burns Orthodontics

PEDIATRIC GROUP: Cornerstone Pediatrics

YOGA STUDIO: Yoga Precepts

BANK: Community Bank

First Federal Savings & Loan Association of Greene County

CREDIT UNION: Frick Tri-County Credit Union

MORTGAGE LENDER: First Federal Savings & Loan Association of Greene County

Community Bank

FESTIVAL/FAIR: Washington & Greene Counties' Covered Bridge Festival

BEST OVERALL BUSINESS in GREENE COUNTY: Blueprints

Community Bank

First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Greene County



The Greene County Chamber of Commerce

Thanks You



For voting us
one of the



We're proud to serve the business
community of Greene County.

We appreciate your support!

Reducing the Company's Carbon Footprint



EQT recently announced that it has completed a company-wide initiative to replace all of its natural gas-powered pneumatic devices that were used in its production operations. (The gas-powered pneumatic controllers manage produced fluids in a variety of equipment.)

They report that almost 9,000 of these devices were replaced or retrofitted, which resulted in a 70% reduction in methane emissions. It also resulted in a significant reduction in the company's carbon footprint. The project took 515 days and was completed a year ahead of schedule. The cost of the project was \$28 million dollars.

EQT was committed to the elimination of a major source of methane emissions and was able to honor that commitment. It reflects EQT's innovative evolution of its operations to provide reliable, clean and affordable natural gas as a significant decarbonizing tool. Further, they are sharing the methodology for this initiative with other operators.

Several other initiatives are in progress, including establishing a Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub in the Appalachian region. EQT is the largest producer of natural gas in the United States.

The SPC Cares Act

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC), an organization which assists counties, cities, municipalities, and townships gain access to state and federal transportation and economic development funds. SPC recently made a slight change to their CARES Act (COVID Recovery) Revolving Loan Fund plan. Clients can still use the funds to pay for operational working capital needs such as payroll, rent/mortgage, utilities, or inventory expenses, provided those clients can provide proof of hardship caused by the ongoing effects of the COVID pandemic. In addition to providing operational working capital, SPC's clients can now apply for a loan from its CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund to support traditional Economic Development projects.

Clients can use loan proceeds from SPC's CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund for the purpose of purchasing buildings, land, machinery, or equipment. Some quick facts about the fund are below:

- Eligible uses of the loan proceeds include:
 - o Traditional Economic Development projects (including the purchase of buildings, land, machinery, and equipment)
 - o Operational Working Capital needs (provided proof of COVID-caused hardship)
- Borrowers will be required to provide 50% private matching financing/equity in order to be eligible for the program
- Maximum term on a building or land loan is 15 years
- Maximum term on an equipment loan is 7-10 years
- Maximum term on an operational working capital loan is 5 years
- Interest rate will be set at 75% of the prime interest rate, and will at no time be set at lower than 4%, or higher than 10%

If any small business clients need financing to support a business startup or expansion project, or are in need of COVID related working capital, please feel free to direct them to Steve Meredith, Manager, Commercial Lending, SPC, 412-391-5590 ext. 325, smeredith@spcregion.org, who will be happy to provide further detail, and whether or not SPC's CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund can support their financing needs.



Dr. Nancy Davis Classroom Support Scholarship sponsored by the Greene County Historical Society

Artifacts are objects made by man and can act as representatives from eras long since gone. An artifact can be found anywhere, not just on shelves in a museum or in an archaeologists lab, they can even be found in Cemeteries in the form of grave markers that commemorate the life of someone who passed on before us. Occasionally, here at the Greene County Historical Society, we get to do some very cool things to help preserve artifacts and give these representatives of the past a new, and in this case, a much younger voice.

Recently, Zack Patton, a History Teacher from West Greene School District, and an active local historian submitted a Classroom Scholarship Application for the Dr. Nancy I. Davis Memorial Scholarship for Educational Support through the Greene County Chamber of Commerce to apply for funding provided by the Greene County Historical Society in support of a historical learning experience within the county Schools.

The Scholarship was established in memory of Nancy Davis, a driven and hard-working person who after having raised a family decided to go to college and further her learning. It was her desire for EVERYONE to have the opportunity for an education, and this scholarship fund specifically was designed to help schools with tools, programs, and educational experiences that may not otherwise be covered in their operating budget.

Mr. Patton's application was unanimously approved, and with the funding he hopes to engage students from the West Greene School District through the newly established History Club to help care for and repair several cemeteries throughout Western Greene County. Mr. Patton's enthusiasm for this project and history in general, cannot be understated and it is his strong hope that in teaching and working with these students to care for and maintain long forgotten cemeteries he may be able to provide them with a "rooted" sense to the county they call home.

Melody Longstreth of the Chamber of Commerce, and Matthew Cumberledge from the Historical Society both agree with Mr. Patton that the hands-on aspect of this project is something admirable, and something that will engage these young minds and build within them a sense of heritage and respect for those who have come before us.

Mr. Patton already has a great deal of hands-on experience taking care of decaying graveyards in his free time and is hopeful that working with the Students of West Greene might create a new wave of interest and enthusiasm in selfless, and community-based projects, especially those with an aspect of historical preservation.

As for us at the Historical Society, it was an absolute honor to be a part of this Process, and a pure joy to see the love of history and the hands-on experience of caring for cemeteries and the gravestones within them be instilled in a younger generation.

In the future, please keep an eye out on our Facebook page, and via the Greene County Chamber of Commerce's social media for updates on this project, as no doubt we will all be excited to share as things progress, and, as always, it is a wonderful thing to see younger people have an opportunity to get hands on experience with history!



IN THE NEWS



EQT Foundation Creates GIVE Greene Fund in Partnership with the Community Foundation of Greene County

The EQT Foundation has partnered with the Community Foundation of Greene County to create the GIVE Greene County Fund, an endowed fund that is meant to service Greene County local charitable causes including non-profits, schools, and municipalities in perpetuity.

“The EQT Foundation has been a strong partner of the Community Foundation and Greene County for many years,” said Dave Calvario, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. “The GIVE Greene Fund further shows their commitment to serve Greene County and make positive changes.”

Modeled after a similar fund in Belmont County, Ohio, EQT is anticipating support from EQT-held leaseholders in Greene County by offering a unique method of participation via a royalty-withholding program. Greene County landowners with an EQT Production Company and/or its affiliates lease now have the option of withholding a certain percentage of the monthly royalties to be sent directly to the Community Foundation for benefit of the GIVE Greene County Fund.

To participate, landowners must fill out a GIVE Campaign Enrollment form found at owner relations on eqt.com. The donation will be made on the landowner’s behalf to the Fund and all tax incentives will be realized by the landowner for such a donation. The EQT Foundation will match qualifying donations to the Fund up to \$10,000 for the first year of donation participation provided that donations exceed \$100 in aggregate.

“The royalty-withholding program allows Greene County landowners with an EQT lease to participate in and grow this endowed fund that will serve charitable causes in our county and leave their fingerprints in the county for the benefit of future generations,” said Calvario. “We encourage a landowners to participate by donating back to their community, especially knowing that their donation will be matched by the EQT foundation dollar for dollar up to \$10,000.”

Alternatively, donations can also be made directly to the Community Foundation of Green County via personal check, stock transfer, or credit card. Contributions must be directed to the GIVE Green County Fund.

“Our industry has done much for so many in the county,” said Ellen Rossi, president of the EQT Foundation. “By creating this unique fund, we are asking our landowners to join us as partners in philanthropy to ensure Greene County non-profits can continue and evolve as they carry out their important work everyday. “

“EQT will continue to serve our communities through continued giving for years to come,” added Ross E. “The GIVE Greene Fund is one of many the EQT Foundation has set up across our entire operating area. Giving landowners across Appalachia an opportunity to give back to the areas that are closest to their hearts.”

SAVE THE DATE



GREENE COUNTY CAREER DAY

For colleges, employers &
career professionals to meet w/
high school students!

WHEN:

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**REGISTRATION &
SETUP:**

7:30AM - 8:30 AM

23

MARCH

WHERE:

CARMICHAELS FIRE HALL

420 W. George Street, Carmichaels, PA 15320

To register for a table please contact
Bobbi Neighbors w/ the following information:

- Number of tables
- Company name
- Company information
- If electricity is needed



724-943-3401 ext. 2242

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PTC

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STARS HERE**



EXPANDING MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS

In the past couple years, many employers have expanded their company's mental health benefits as a show of support for potential jobseekers, employees and their families. The intention is to help promote employee wellbeing through better access and improved benefit levels for those feeling stressed about personal or work-life matters.

Workers seem to appreciate the efforts and are taking advantage of the services. Some of the changes business owners are making include:

- Increasing access to mental health services through methods like telehealth
- An expansion of access to in-network mental health providers
- Reduced cost sharing for mental healthcare visits
- The addition or expansion of employee assistance programs for mental health services
- Access to yoga, meditation and mindfulness sessions at the workplace or home
- Providing apps that support wellness, focusing on fitness, sleep and relaxation

By addressing issues like stress and anxiety on in a more proactive fashion, employers can reduce or even eliminate costly treatment for conditions such as hypertension, diabetes and cardiac problems. The small financial investment the employer makes now can often save substantial costs in the future.

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce offers its members access to My Benefit Advisor as a solution for employee benefits, including voluntary offerings. For more information about My Benefit Advisor, visit our website at greene.mybenefitadvisor.com or contact Mike Galardini at (800) 377-3539.



Are you considering starting a new business in 2023?

Learn how a new small business owner can answer some of the common questions facing all new startups during a free webinar led by Steve Meredith, SPC's Business Finance Manager.

We will also cover the essential elements of a business plan, where to get help with the planning phase of the process, and how a new small business can measure success in the early days of operation.



Please, join us for this **free** webinar:
Tuesday February 14, 2023 at 1:00 pm

RSVP to Lduffy@spcregion.org by February 7, 2023.



GREENE TECH I



GREENE TECH II

Property Highlights

Location:	Waynesburg, PA (Greene County)
Built:	I – 2006; II – 2008
Developer:	Horizon Properties Group, LLC
Architect:	I - Edge Studios; II - JSA Architects
Greene Tech I:	40,000 total square feet Flex office building Security access system 15 foot clear height Emergency generator 40' x 50' bay size Fiber optics Service/loading area
Greene Tech II:	40,000 total square feet Flex office/warehouse building Security access system. 16 foot clear height Emergency generator 40' x 40' bay size Fiber optics Service/loading area

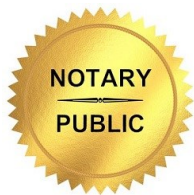
For More Information,
Please Contact:

Michael Swisher
or
Sharon Stanek

724.743.7722

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www.horizonprop.net



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melody@greenechamber.org

for more information!



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**AmeriCorps
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Benefits of Volunteering:

- Supplemental Accident Insurance
- Mileage Reimbursements
- Opportunity to Meet New People
- Make a Difference in your Community

RSVP volunteers may serve as:

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- Food Bank/Pantries
- Home Delivered Meals Drivers
- Store to Door Grocery Delivery
- Telephone Reassurance
- VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Tax Preparer



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lorinda.t@millenniumhospitality.com

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Community Bank