

April 2024

CHAMBER CHATTER

The Official Newsletter of the
Greene County Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (724) 627-5926

Email: info@greenechamber.org

www.greenechamber.org



WOMEN IN BUSINESS LUNCHEON CELEBRATING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL *Don't Dim Your Sparkle*

Carole DeAngelo will be the keynote speaker.

The chamber will also be partnering with Dress for Success to collect donations of accessories & handbags

Wednesday, April 24th
The First Baptist Church
303 West High St
11:30 - Registration
12:00 - Program
Cost - \$25/member
\$30/non-member

**REGISTER BY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL
17TH BY EMAILING
GUEST NAME(S) TO
INFO@GRENECHAMBER.ORG
OR FILL OUT THE
GOOGLE FORM
[HERE](#)**

Enjoy a served meal of chicken picatta over lemon butter fettuccini with garlic bread, a garden salad, water, tea, & dessert plus a chocolate fountain by Back Bay Catering & Canonsburg Cake Company

Honor Your Staff!

Suprise your most valuable employee or your entire staff with the "2024 Outstanding Staff" Award.

For an additional \$10 per person, you can honor your employee with a special certificate & gift.

VISIT GREENE

Tourism Partnership Annual Meeting

The Greene County Tourist Promotion Agency held our 2024 Annual Partnership Meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at the Greene County Fairgrounds where we announced the nominees and winners of the 2023 Hospitality Awards. The evening allows us an opportunity to provide an overview of the previous year, upcoming marketing initiatives, and a chance to acknowledge each of the well deserving nominees – all while celebrating tourism and the hospitality industry in Greene County, Pennsylvania.

We want to send a special thank you to the Greene County Commissioners, Kiln to Table, 5 Kidz Kandy Café & Catering, RGB Coffee, 4 Seasons Lawn & Garden, West Greene FFA, Lucien, and the Greene County Tourist Promotion Agency Board of Directors.

Thank you for joining us and we look forward to next year!



2023 Hospitality Awards

Partner of the Year: Lippencott Alpacas

- Nominees: The Denny House; Warrior Trail Association; Cornerstone Genealogical Society; Miss Rain Day Scholarship

Event of the Year: Rain Day Festival

- Nominees: Legendary Con; Jacktown Fair; 50's Fest & Car Cruise; Waynesburg Christmas Parade

Employee of the Year: Echo Johnson, RGB Coffee

- Nominees: Cassandra "Casse" Criss, Ryerson Station State Park; Matthew Cumberledge, Greene County Historical Society; Fred McConn, Harden Family Farm

Volunteer of the Year: Pat Walko, White Covered Bridge Association



The Community Foundation of Greene County (CFGC) is accepting applications for several grant opportunities for nonprofits, public schools and teachers.

Community Grant Fund projects may include (but are not limited to) any one or more of the following broad priorities:

- Arts, Culture & Humanities
- Children, Youth & Families
- Community and Economic Development
- Education
- Environment
- Food and Hunger
- Health & Fitness
- Human Services

Grant awards for Community grants
will not exceed \$5,000.

**The deadline to submit
applications for
each of these funds is May 31.**

Successful grant awards will be announced in late July
for projects beginning after the first of August.

*For more information about these grant opportunities, please go to our website
<http://www.cfgcpa.org/about-cfgc-grants/>
to review guidelines, application procedures and process.*

Applications will be accepted through the CFGC Online Grant
Portal on the CFGC Grants website at
<http://www.cfgcpa.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

For additional information, contact the Foundation office at
724-627-2010, or e-mail cfgcpa@gmail.com.



The Community Foundation of Greene County
cfgcpa@gmail.com | www.cfgcpa.org | 724-627-2010
Box 768
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Fourth Annual **Greene County Dodgeball Tournament**

**April 27th @ 3:00 p.m.
EQT REC Center**

ENTER YOUR TEAM BY APRIL 12TH

GIVE US A CALL AT 724-802-7347 OR EMAIL US
AT GROWINGUPGREENECO@GMAIL.COM TO
GET A TEAM REGISTRATION FORM.

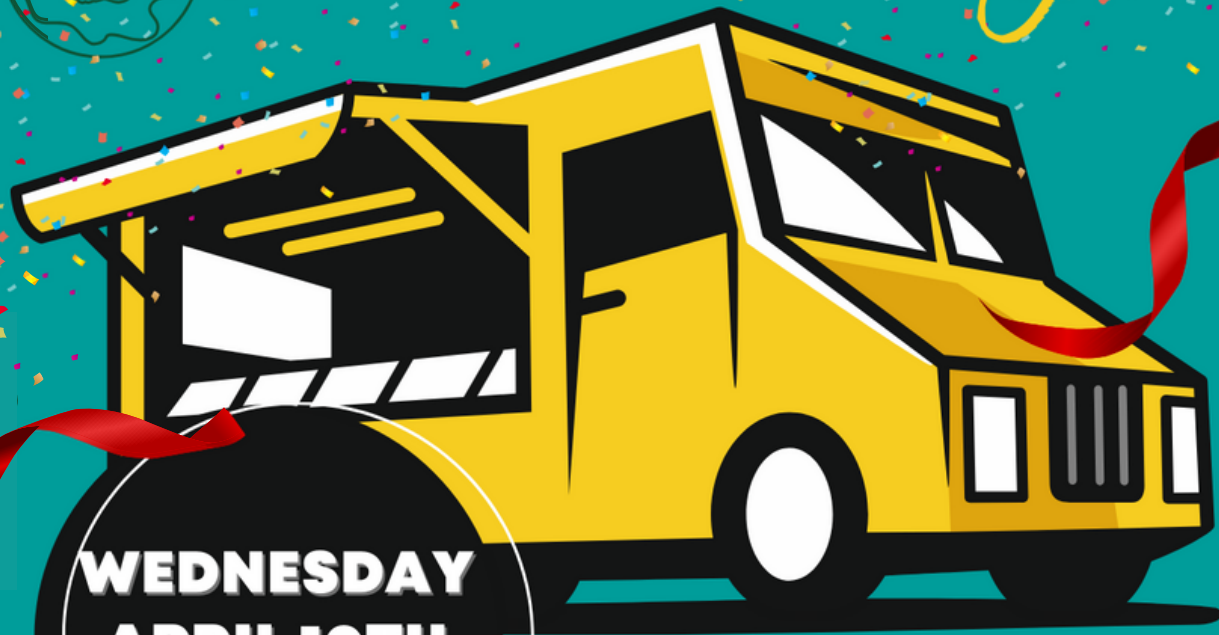


GREENE COUNTY CTC

Culinary Arts Department

FOOD TRUCK

Grand Opening



**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 10TH
5:30 PM**

**60 ZIMMERMAN DRIVE
WAYNESBURG**

This evening will also be the CTC's open house so make plans to check out the facility and all that they have to offer immediately following the ceremony. There will be lots of great things happening and also to eat!



RIBBON CUTTINGS

Chamber of Commerce Hosts Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Franklin Townships Crawford Park Complete Renovation Opening

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce recently hosted an official ribbon cutting ceremony for the Franklin Township Supervisors at Crawford Park.

On Friday, March 15th, Franklin Township Supervisors Corbly Orndorff, Todd Hoy, and William Walker were joined by township staff/employees, local dignitaries, and the Greene County Honor Guard to cut the ribbon on this project that took years in the making.

Greene County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melody Longstreth welcomed those in attendance. The celebration started with the Greene County Honor Guard holding a flag ceremony. All three supervisors spoke of the behind-the-scenes details regarding the process of the project. The event featured remarks from retired state representative Pam Snyder, and PA State Senator Camera Bartolotta. Multiple state grants secured by Snyder and Bartolotta as well as donors such as EQT and BHE GT&S, a Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company were involved in the creation of this project that will bring joy to many locals in the community. After the official cutting of the ribbon, those in attendance had the opportunity to converse and partake in lunch at the park.

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce is honored to participate in welcoming this new attraction to our area, as well as any new attraction, asset or business to our area.

For more information contact William Walker at (724)627-5473, or via email at secretary@franklintownshipgreene.com



2024 Calendar of Events!

Now available on our website [here!](#)
You can register for events too!





In Memoriam, Ray Vargo 1970-2024

It is with deep sorrow and heavy hearts that the Pennsylvania SBDC shares the devastating news of the passing of our beloved colleague, Ray Vargo, Director of the University of Pittsburgh SBDC. Ray was not just a colleague but a dear friend to many of us. Ray's work and service had tremendous the impact in our network. Serving for over 29 years with the PASBDC, he worked with over 20,000 Pennsylvania businesses. His presence brightened our network and touched the lives of everyone he encountered state-wide. Read more about his accomplishments in economic development and dedication to small businesses:



[Read More Here](#)

The Significance of Boosting Mental Health Coverage in Employee Benefits

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of employee health and well-being in the workplace. While physical health has traditionally been the focus of employee health insurance, mental health has emerged as an equally vital aspect of overall well-being. In this article, we will discuss the relevance of mental health coverage in employee health insurance, highlighting its significance for employees and employers alike.

Mental health problems, such as depression, anxiety, and stress-related disorders, have become increasingly common in the workplace. According to a study in the World Health Organization (WHO), depression and anxiety alone cost the global economy an estimated \$1 trillion per year in lost productivity. This statistic serves to bolster the need for employers to assure adequate mental health coverage is in their employee health insurance plans.

Providing mental health coverage as part of employee health insurance can significantly enhance the overall well-being of employees. Mental health issues can affect an individual's ability to function optimally in the workplace, leading to decreased productivity, increased absenteeism, and higher turnover rates. By offering comprehensive mental health coverage, employers can help address these challenges and promote a healthier and more engaged workforce.

One of the barriers to seeking mental health treatment is the persistent stigma associated with mental illness. Including mental health coverage in employee health insurance plans can help reduce this stigma by normalizing the discussion around mental health and encouraging employees to seek the care they need. Additionally, by providing coverage, employers can ensure that employees have access to a range of mental health services, including therapy, counseling, and psychiatric consultations.

Investing in mental health coverage can yield significant returns for employers. Employees who have access to mental health support through their health insurance tend to be more productive, have higher job satisfaction, and are less likely to take sick leave. By addressing mental health concerns proactively, employers can create a positive work environment that fosters employee well-being and enhances overall productivity and performance.

Although the inclusion of mental health coverage in employee health insurance plans may require an initial investment, it can prove cost-effective in the long run. By addressing mental health issues early on, employers can prevent more severe problems from developing and minimize the associated costs, such as absenteeism, reduced productivity, and increased healthcare utilization. Furthermore, healthier and happier employees are more likely to remain with the organization, reducing turnover and the expenses associated with recruitment and training.

MYBENEFIT
ADVISOR

SEEKING RAFFLE BASKETS

Want to promote your business or help support the scholarship fund?

We need raffle basket for the following events!

- Administrative Professionals' Day Luncheon
- Annual Golf Outing
- Annual Trivia Night
- Annual Membership Banquet

If interested, please email Mandi at mandi@greenechamber.org and be sure to include what item(s) you are donating, your business/organization that is listed as the donor, and if you would like to have it go to a specific event or let us decide where it is most needed.

Bowlby Bits - April 2024



Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 9am – 7pm | Tuesday & Thursday: 9am – 6pm | Friday & Saturday: 9am – 3pm

STORY CLASSES – Spring Story Classes will start on March 4th and run for 10 weeks for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary children! Stories, games, songs, crafts, and a snack tailored to each age group. Call or check our website to register today!

Baby Lap Sit – ages 6 weeks to 18 months Tuesdays at 11:30am | Thursday at 10:30am
Toddlers – ages 18 months to 35 months Tuesdays at 10:30am | Fridays at 11:30am
Preschoolers – ages 3-5 years Tuesdays at 1:30pm | Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30am
Stories Under The Moon – ages 2-6 years Tuesdays at 5:00pm

MOVIE NIGHT – Enjoy a special double feature movie night here at the library Friday, April 5th, beginning promptly at 7:00 PM. In the Library's STEM Room. This Month's Movies are "Trolls: Band Together" for kids and "The Color Purple" for adults. FREE snack and beverage! Call the library to RSVP your seat(s).

PUZZLE CHALLENGE – Saturday, April 13th @ 9:30am – 12:30 PM. Do you trust your puzzle skills enough to compete against other puzzle lovers??? The library is looking for 10 teams of two to compete in putting together a 500-piece puzzle in three hours or less. Contact the library to register. Prize is awarded to the fastest team.

COSMIC BINGO – Join us for a COSMIC fun time at the library on Friday, April 26th at 7:00 PM for a fun night of Glow in the Dark or "COSMIC" Bingo!

BOWLBY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING – Monday, April 22nd at 6:30 PM; meeting is open to the public.

MAHJONG CLUB – Meets every Wednesday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Mahjong is a tile-based game that's been played in Asia for over 300 years and is gaining global popularity. It's fairly easy to learn the basics. Please RSVP at the Circulation Desk. Following Club Dates: April 3rd, April 10th, April 17th, & April 24th.

BOWLBY LECTURE SERIES: THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN GREEN AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES – Wednesday, April 17th @ 5:30 PM. Rea Andrew Redd, an experienced history teacher and Civil War reenactor, will describe the history of slavery and anti-slavery in the two counties north of the Mason-Dixon at the time of the Civil War. How common was slave-holding in Greene and Washington Counties? How active were the abolitionists? What evidence is there for slaves passing through this area via the Underground Railroad? Come and learn more of our fascinating history!

CPR/AED TRAINING [AHA] – The library is offering CPR Certification classes for Adult, Child, & Infant First Aid, and AED. Upcoming dates for classes: Saturday, April 20th. All classes begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 PM. Please call Sharon at 724-984-5702 to register; there is limited seating for this event. Cost is \$88 and includes training, workbook, Take Home CPR Kit, 2 yr. certification card & manual.

COMMUNITY SOLAR PRESENTATION – A short 15-minute presentation on Community Solar for homeowners, renters and business owners followed by questions and answers. Starts at 2:30 PM after the CPR Class on April 20th.

FRIENDS SHARING GRIEF – First and third Monday evening of every month, April 1st and 15th, at 5pm. This is a support group for those who are struggling with the loss of an important person in their life.

Call or stop in at Eva K. Bowlby Public Library for more info or to register for any of the above events.

724-627-9776 • 311 N. West St., Waynesburg, PA 15370 • www.evakbowlby.org





HELP US DRIVE BUSINESS TO YOU!

Each year the chamber organizes two gift card/gift certificate raffles. These tickets sell fast and drive customers into local businesses. We already have a waiting list for this year's tickets.

We are currently looking for businesses who would like to participate in 2024.

Tell us what level you would like to participate at \$25, \$50, \$100, and if you will be providing a gift card/certificate from your business or if you would like to purchase one yourself from another local business or national chain. You can also tell us how much you would like to spend and we will invoice you and make the purchase for you! It couldn't be easier.

Each donor will be listed on the tickets which include two, three-digit numbers.

We are currently seeking participation commitments for one or both raffles. The Summer Vacation Raffle donation deadline is **Monday, April 15th** and the Christmas Raffle is **Friday, August 30th** or commit to both now!

The winner of the Summer Vacation raffle will be drawn on Friday, June 7th and the Christmas raffle will be drawn on Friday, November 15th. The winning number will be based on the PA Lottery evening three-digit number drawing on those dates.

Don't miss this opportunity to support shopping local and your chamber's program of work at the same time!



Finish your vacation shopping or all of your Christmas shopping in one swoop!

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT & PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS!

Please call 724-627-5926 or email info@greenechamber.org with your commitment to participate or if you have any questions.

PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS...

IN THE 2024-2025 COMMUNITY & BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE AND MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY



Don't miss out on this opportunity to promote your company in the Chamber's most valuable publication. 600 copies are distributed to Chamber members, new member businesses and the general public. The publication serves as a member directory and a "Welcome to Greene County" that showcases what Greene County has to offer. This full-color, high gloss directory is the "go-to" tool on your desk, providing you with the names, numbers, email and websites for all of the Chamber's 350+ member businesses.

PRICING FOR THIS YEAR!

FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE	QUARTER PAGE	TWO FULL PAGE SPREAD
Full Color Ad 8.0 in (H) x 4.50 in (W)	Full Color Ad 4.25 in (H) x 4.50 in (W)	Full Color Ad 4.25 in (H) x 2.75 in (W)	Full Color Ad 8.0 in (H) x 9.0 in (W)
\$250	\$150	\$100	\$450
Choose This Option	Choose This Option	Choose This Option	Choose This Option
X	X	X	X

Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please enclose Ad copy (does not need to be camera ready) call us at 724-627-5926 or email: info@greenechamber.org

Deadline to reserve space is May 31, 2024.

Payment Method:

_____ Check payable to Greene County Chamber of Commerce enclosed

_____ Please send invoice for payment

_____ I would like to pay by credit card over the phone

_____ I will pay by credit card at www.greenechamber.org



Curbside or In-Office Notary!

Notary service is available by appointment. Notary work (excluding title transfers) is free to chamber members as part of your membership benefits.
Email melody@greenechamber.org or call 724-998-2386 to schedule an appointment.

Place Your Ad Here!

Contact melody@greenechamber.org for more information!

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Friday by Appointment

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Want To Volunteer But Don't Know How To Get Started? **R S V P TODAY!**

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) of Greene County offers meaningful and rewarding volunteer opportunities for adults ages 55 & over.

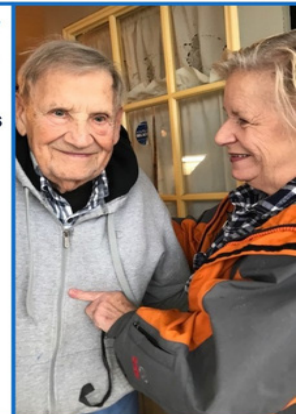


Benefits of Volunteering:

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

RSVP volunteers may serve as:

- Financial Literacy Course Instructor
- 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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For more information, contact Arielle Rick, Membership Services Coordinator, at membershipservices@eqtreccenter.org

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or search our Physician Finder at whs.org





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