

January 2025

CHAMBER CHATTER

This issue brought to you by:

UPMC

GREENE



The Official Newsletter of the Greene County Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (724) 627-5926

Email: info@greenechamber.org
www.greenechamber.org



2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



19,600

WEBSITE VIEWS

BEST OF THE BEST
FIRST PLACE!



11



RIBBON CUTTINGS

357

TOTAL MEMBERS

123

YEARS SERVING GREENE COUNTY

18

NEW MEMBERS



CHAMBER EVENTS HELD:

- Business Connection Luncheons
- Women Celebrating the Administrative Professional Day Luncheon
- Annual Golf Outing
- 34th Annual Scholarship Presentation
- 7th Women in Business Breakfast
- 1st Annual Posthumous Distinguished Service Award Butterfly Memorial
- 3rd Annual Legislative Breakfast
- Trivia Night in partnership with Central Greene Scholarship Trust - to raise funds for the scholarship fund
- 36th Annual Banquet & Presentation of the Distinguished Service Award & McCracken Legacy Award
- 2nd Annual Unclaimed Property Days
- 86th Annual Waynesburg Christmas Parade

PARTNERSHIPS



3,400
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



1,032
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS



452
INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS



CALL NOW
724-627-5926



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www.greenechamber.org

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



EMAIL NOW
info@greenechamber.org





Membership Dues are out!

They were due at the beginning of the new year in January.

You may pay by sending a check to

3157 Mt. Morris Road, Suite #103, Waynesburg, PA 15370

or by credit card through our website www.greenechamber.org

Please also use your latest Community/Business Resource Guide and Membership Directory to make sure your business information is up to date! Your business should have been given a physical copy or you may view it on our website under the "Members" tab.

You may email us at info@greenechamber.org to update anything or to add any new representatives to our system! Please note, if we do not know about a change, we cannot keep our listings as up-to-date as possible to be able to serve you!

Welcome New Members!

PRICE4LIMO

Limos, Party Buses, Motor Coaches

Price 4 Limo Pittsburgh

Travis Salat - Manager

411 Grant St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

(866) 265-5479

travis@price4limo.com

Price 4 Limo Pittsburgh

Italian Boys Pizza

Dana Phillips - Co-owner

992 Nort Eighty Eight Rd

Rices Landing, PA 15357

(724) 710-9273

<https://italianboypizza.net/>



Schaeffer's Specialized Lubricants

Lindsay Maddich

Sale Representative

(724) 833-8151

lmaddich2014@gmail.com

Stay Tuned!

Our 2025
schedule of events
is just around the
corner...



The Way is Presented Grants for their Community Center



Senator Camera Bartolotta presented over \$750,000 in grants to the leadership team of The Way for this spectacular community center that anchors High Street in uptown Waynesburg. The mission of The Way reads: “To invest in Greene County by seeing the value of each person, forming connections through love, providing a space for growth, and uplifting through education.”

The strong support and beacon of light that shines bright in this organization is only matched by the true community support that The Way has. We are excited for what this team has in store for the future and look forward to celebrating many milestones. This was a great night for The Way, for Greene County, and for our corner of the world.

Thank you to the entire Board of Directors from The Way and give special recognition to Mark Fox, Jonathan Johnson, Sue Peirce and Commissioner Jared Edgreen for their kind words and unwavering support to the community we all love.



Waynesburg University Announces Military and Veteran Focused Scholarship



Waynesburg University is proud to announce a new scholarship initiative, the Saluting Faithful Service Scholarship, in honor and support of those who have served our country. This \$500 scholarship is open to active-duty military personnel, members of the National Guard and Reserves, and veterans with an honorable discharge.

“This scholarship is a wonderful opportunity to better serve our military and veteran community while celebrating the mission of Waynesburg University and its traditions of faith, service and learning,” said Dr. Michelle Steimer, director of veteran and military student services.

One scholarship will be awarded every fall semester and one every spring semester and can be applied towards enrollment in the University’s Online Degree Completion Program, undergraduate or graduate coursework. Interested individuals should visit waynesburg.edu/saluting-faithful-service to apply and submit their materials.

To be eligible for the Saluting Faithful Service Scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a current military member actively serving in active duty, the National Guard or Reserves, or a veteran possessing an honorable discharge
- Provide proof of military service (service will be verified using an applicant's DD-214 prior to the scholarship being conferred)
- Submit a one-to-two-page essay describing how their faith informed their service to the country.

The deadline to apply is Friday, Jan. 31, 2025. Required documentation must be completed and submitted by the deadline for consideration. Recipient selection will be decided by Sunday, Feb. 15, 2025.

For more information, contact Dr. Steimer at msteimer@waynesburg.edu.



**We did it!
Thank you to
everyone that
helped us
achieve Best
of the Best
this year.**



**Thank you to everyone for their support
and congratulations to all our member
business that also made the Top 3 or won
their category for Best of the Best!**

Top 3

- Better Performance Physical Therapy
- Burns Orthodontics
- Cornerstone Care
- Curtis Pharmacy
- Cypher & Cypher
- Domestic Violence Service of SWPA
- Frick Financial Federal Credit Union
- Greene County Fair
- Humble Flooring & Decorating Center
- NovaCare Rehabilitation
- Peacock Keller
- Peters Township Chamber of Commerce
- Rockwell & Sons Pest Control, LLC
- Thistlethwaite Vineyards

**Named Best of the Best in One
or More of Their Categories**

- BeeGraphics
- Blueprints
- Canonsburg Cake Company
- Centerville Clinics
- First Federal Savings & Loan
of Greene County
- Greene County Chamber of Commerce
- UMPC Greene/Washington
- The Washington Wild Things
- What's Smokin' BBQ

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1357 Mt. Morris Road
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2025 ANNUAL GREENE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, May 30th, 2025
Carmichael's Golf Course



Creating Value in Employee Benefits

In recent years, it has become apparent that the traditional principles pertaining to “value” in workplace benefits have changed. The reality that many employers have begun to embrace is twofold:

1. Employees are not just workers, but real people, and
2. A person’s job is a component of their life, not separate and distinct from it.

MYBENEFIT
ADVISOR

As a result, employers have realized the need to deliver both value and purpose in their benefit portfolios. To do this, in face of the economic and business uncertainties facing them, organizations are strategically redirecting their benefit expenditures on things that matter most to their employees. They are seeking to understand what employees prefer and value, eliminating underutilized and less relevant benefits, while focusing on improving wellbeing outcomes in a cost-effective manner.

Behind salary, most employees rate benefits, empathy and flexibility in their position responsibilities as most important when evaluating either their current job or future employment opportunities. As a result, employers are evaluating their benefit programs to assure they are properly designed to help keep employees feeling safe, protected and prepared for any health concerns that may arise. Additionally, business leaders continue to embrace flexibility both in the workplace and in the benefit programs offered to accommodate the needs of their staff.

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 Rob Higginbotham at (800) 377-3536.

Foundation for Free Enterprise Education Partnership

Each year we reach out to share the important work the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education (FFEE) is doing for our young people, and we invite you to join them in shaping our future.

FFEE offers three powerful youth education programs focused on empowering our young people to become the skilled, employable individuals your business needs:

- Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW) is a future-changing program that immerses high school students in modern business and equips them with the job-ready skills you need. Since 1979, more than 52,000 students have participated.
- The Stock Market Game (SMG) is an engaging online simulation teaching students in grades 4-12 about capital markets, investing and financial literacy. Over 10,000 students participate annually.
- Speaker Series is a library of videos that helps students explore careers, write resumes, prepare for interviews and discover regional scholarship, internship and professional development opportunities in their area. To date, over 17,000 Pennsylvania students have connected with the Speaker Series.

FFEE programs are funded and taught by the private sector, and they never turn away a student due to financial need. You and your colleagues make this vital programming possible.

We support FFEE's work, and we invite you to get involved - either by volunteering or sponsoring student participation. Please take a moment to look at the enclosed information, visit www.pfew.org, and contact Scott Lee at FFEE - scott@pfew.org or 814-833-9576 x8.

Thank you for considering investing in our next great employees.



PAABLE

Introducing Pennsylvania's New Employer Tax Credit



For Employer Matching Contributions to Employee ABLE Accounts

A new employer tax credit will encourage Pennsylvania employers to contribute to their employees' ABLE accounts.

Beginning in January 2025, Pennsylvania employers will be eligible to claim a 25% state tax credit against the aggregate amount of all matching contributions to employee ABLE accounts of up to \$500 per employee per tax year.

PA ABLE accounts provide people with disabilities the opportunity for greater control of their finances and to plan a more secure future without impacting eligibility for important benefits.

Example: In the tax year 2025, an employer makes matching contributions of \$500 per PA ABLE account for 10 employees. The employer's tax credit will be 25% of \$5,000, or \$1,250.

Become a More Attractive Place to Work by Helping Employees Save

Research shows that over 80% of employees who want this type of savings program would participate if offered by their employer.

For employers, participation:



makes your company more attractive to jobseekers



improves your company's benefit offering



contributes to your employees' peace of mind



aids in employee retention

By encouraging your employees to save and providing a match to their ABLE accounts, your company can expand employment opportunities and earning potential for employees with disabilities.

Participation Is Easy

To learn more about offering PA ABLE as a workplace benefit for your employees, call **855-529-ABLE (2253)** or visit **paable.gov**.

This handout is for information purposes only and must not be interpreted as tax advice or guidance. Employers should consult a legal, tax, or accounting professional, and the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue to learn more and to ensure appropriate accounting of the contributions and tax credits. The Pennsylvania Department of Revenue's website is revenue.pa.gov and calls regarding business tax may be directed to 717-787-1064.



Introducing Pennsylvania's New Employer Tax Credit



For Employer Matching Contributions to Employee 529 Accounts

A new employer tax credit will encourage Pennsylvania employers to contribute to their employees' 529 accounts.

Beginning in January 2025, Pennsylvania employers will be eligible to claim a 25% state tax credit against the aggregate amount of all matching contributions to employee 529 accounts of up to \$500 per employee per tax year.

PA 529 plans help families save for future educational expenses at qualifying technical, collegiate and apprenticeship programs.

Example: In the tax year 2025, an employer makes matching contributions of \$500 per PA 529 account for 10 employees. The employer's tax credit will be 25% of \$5,000, or \$1,250.

Become a More Attractive Place to Work by Helping Employees Save

Research shows that over 80% of employees who want this type of savings program would participate if offered by their employer.

Employer participation:



makes your company more attractive to jobseekers



improves your company's benefit offering



contributes to your employees' peace of mind



aids in employee retention

By encouraging your employees to save for education and providing a match to their 529 accounts, your company can help mitigate debt for Pennsylvania's future workforce!

Participation Is Easy

To learn more about offering PA 529 as a workplace benefit for your employees, call **800-440-4000** or visit **pa529.com/employers**.

This handout is for information purposes only and must not be interpreted as tax advice or guidance. Employers should consult a legal, tax, or accounting professional, and the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue to learn more and to ensure appropriate accounting of the contributions and tax credits. The Pennsylvania Department of Revenue's website is revenue.pa.gov and calls regarding business tax may be directed to 717-787-1064.



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.

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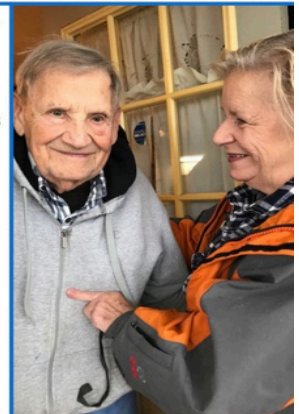
Want To Volunteer But Don't Know How To Get Started? **R S V P TODAY!**

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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