

July-September 2015

Volume 3, Issue 3

The Chamber Courier

Annual Dinner

On April 29, 120 Chamber members and guests gathered at the Great Trail Golf Course Tee House to celebrate the past year, honor some of our community's outstanding businesses, and hear a great presentation on leadership by Mike Gallina.

Community Salute awards were presented to: Natural Approach Farm Store – Outstanding Small Business; Donor Care Center, Inc. – Outstanding Large Business; H&H Distillery – Outstanding New/Emerging Business; Kishman's IGA – Economic Development; Frontier Communications – Appreciation Award; and Tonya Howell Myers – President's Award.

We would like to thank gold sponsors Consumers National Bank, David Catlett Construction, Frontier Communications, Greenport Financial Advisers, The Hart Mansion Restaurant, Loudon Motors Ford, Minerva Area YMCA, and Rapid Response Restoration.

See Dinner on Pg. 2



From the President

Dear Chamber members,

Summer is here and with it come our "Summer in the Parks" activities. My husband John and I attended the first concert, which featured the Stockdale Family Band. The rain held off, and a large crowd enjoyed the band's great musical talents of playing and singing bluegrass and gospel. There was a lot of "foot tapping" going on. Be sure to check the "Summer in the Parks" schedule - Denise has done a great job of scheduling events for the entire family.

Minerva Monster Day was a "Big Hairy" hit! I attended the 5 p.m. showing of the documentary with

some out-of-town family, and we really enjoyed it. The theater was full and the movie received loud, long applause at the end. I heard many comments as guests were walking into the Roxy about how long it had been since they had been inside the theater. Be sure to check the schedule of events for Roxy programs and remember that you can rent it for business and personal events. It is great for meetings or seminars, and advertising is available on the marquee.

Have a safe, fun summer and enjoy all the activities Minerva has to offer this summer!

Cindy Williams

Edward Jones Investments

Thanks to our Sustaining Members



Thanks to our Supporting Members

- *All About the House
- *BJ Gray Realty
- *Carroll County Park District
- *Catlett Plumbing & Heating
- *Consumers National Bank
- *Cutler Real Estate, Peggy Cottrell
- *Dowell Dental
- *General Color LLC
- *Gordon's Furniture
- *Great Trail Golf Course
- *Greenport Financial Advisers
- *Grinders Above & Beyond
- *Habitat for Humanity of Stark & Carroll Counties
- *The Hart Mansion Restaurant
- *Kishman's IGA
- *Miller & Co.
- *Minerva Grinders
- *Minerva Local School District
- *Natural Approach Farm Store
- *OhiRail Corporation
- *Rapid Response Restoration
- *Safe Staffing of Ohio
- *Scott's Truck & Auto Service
- *Shopko Hometown of Minerva
- *Subway
- *Summit Glove
- *Uptown Auto Service
- *Ashley Zahn, PGA

The Chamber Courier

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From the Director's Desk

Dear Chamber members,

In just more than a month since school let out, Minerva has hosted the Brick Street Art & Jazz Festival, Minerva Monster Day, the Homecoming, a concert by the Stockdale Family Band, and a nature program by Stark Parks. Our little town has a lot going on!

These events are more than just fun and potentially serve several purposes. They draw visitors from other areas, who often return to visit shops or restaurants; they build a sense of community by bringing us together and giving us an opportunity to connect with friends and neighbors; and they provide opportunities for new experiences for all ages inexpensively and close to home.

I know that everyone is busy, and I greatly appreciate all those who make time to attend community events. People taking advantage of these opportunities is what makes it worth

continuing to offer them.

Please be sure to look over the calendar of events on page 5 for concerts, programs, and other events scheduled in the next few months. In addition to these, stop by the Minerva Farmers Market, which is being held every Saturday through the end of September, 9 a.m.-noon, at Straight A's Arena. In addition to vendors, this year the market includes informational booths and workshops offered by area organizations. (The Market in the Park, which is held every Thursday, 4-7 p.m., in Municipal Park, consists of vendors who are unable to participate in the Saturday market, due to scheduling conflicts.)

Thanks for your support of the Chamber and our community!

Denise Freeland

Dinner (cont. from Pg. 1)



Photo courtesy of The News Leader
Receiving Community Salute awards at the Minerva Chamber's annual dinner are (front, from left) Patti McGeorge, Donor Care Center, Inc.; Tonya Howell Myers, past board member; Alicia Rocco, Natural Approach Farm Store; Richelle Edwards, Frontier Communications; and Kristin Kishman, Kishman's IGA; and (back) CJ McKendry, Hope Brown, Shannon Phillips, Jim McGeorge and Partho Choudhury – DCCI; Tim Coolman - Frontier Communications; and Matt and Tom Kishman - Kishman's IGA.

The Kelly Miller Circus

comes to
Minerva's Municipal
Park

Monday, July 20
4:30 & 7:30 p.m.

Presale tickets will be available through July 19 at **Kishman's IGA, CNB, Three Sons' Hardware, Minerva Area YMCA, & the Chamber.**

\$12 – adult
\$6 –
younger than 12
Free –
younger than 2

Flexible workers' compensation pay options coming soon for private employers

Starting July 1, private employers will be able to pay their annual workers'-compensation premiums in two, four, six or 12 installments. This change was recently approved by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Board of Directors as part of the agency's switch to prospective billing.

Currently, the agency bills after coverage is extended, but as of July, private employers will pay in advance for workers' compensation coverage. This change in billing will offer a number of benefits, including a 2.4 percent overall base rate reduction for private employers and an increased ability to detect employer non-compliance and fraud.

The new payment process will involve paying premiums based on estimated payroll for the upcoming coverage year and undergoing a payroll true-up process after the policy year ends to ensure the proper premium was paid. BWC will provide a premium credit to eliminate transition costs for employers.

Private employers will receive a notice of estimated annual premium in early June. The notice of estimated annual premium is not a bill. It will include information about how to request changes to estimated payroll as well as how to choose a different premium installment schedule and how to file a payroll true-up report at the end of the policy year. The notice will also explain how BWC calculates your premium, including the total estimated payroll and premium for each manual class.

If your estimated payroll is different than what appears on your notice of estimated annual premium, please call BWC at 1-800-644-6292 to ensure that your business is paying the most accurate premium.

BWC is holding prospective billing seminars for private employers around the state; webinars are now available as well. Visit bwc.ohio.gov for seminar dates and additional prospective billing information. See www.bwc.ohio.gov/home/current/articles/2015/ProspectiveWebinars.asp to sign up for a webinar.

Resource Roundup

Business resources available at Minerva Public Library

Work Rules by Laszlo Bock. The head of People Operations for Google shares insights into his own company and other innovative employers large and small. How to learn from your best, and your worst employees. How much do manager's matter? And how much managing is too much? Why you should pay unfairly, because it's more fair. How to listen to data before you trust your gut, and other insights drawn from years of experience and research.

Frugal Innovation: How to Do More with Less by Navi Radjou and Jaideep Prabhu. The authors have included more than 50 case studies and many detailed examples of how innovative companies are working within limited budgets, tighter timelines, and leaner systems to still bring competitive and cutting edge products to market. Learn from customers and employees to discover new ways to think about your business.

Stark Parks programs in Minerva



A Stark Parks naturalist presented "Creepy Crawly Critters" on the Municipal Park Stage in June, after which children had the opportunity to view a corn snake, toad, bats, tarantula, and Madagascar hissing cockroaches. Stark Parks will be back on July 27 with "Birds of Prey." These programs are free and open to the public, so bring your chairs or blankets and come to the park!

New Chamber members

Supporting

Carroll County Park District

Dale Alexander

190 Alamo Rd. SE, Carrollton, OH 44615; 330-627-8046;
dalexander@ccparkdistrict.org

The Carroll County Park District operates two parks, the Bluebird Farm Park and the Carroll Community Park. The Bluebird features a restaurant, toy museum, gift shop, party rooms for family and company functions and the amphitheater. Carroll Community Park has a barn available for rental functions and weddings, soccer and baseball fields and a playground. Go to www.ccparkdistrict.org or Facebook at Carroll County Park District/Bluebird Farm Park.

Shopko Hometown of Minerva

John Noss II

825 Valley St., Minerva; 330-868-9958;
st717@shopko.com

Shopko has been a member of the Minerva community for 15 years now. Opening as Pamida, Shopko operates 300 stores in small towns throughout the Midwest, serving the needs of small towns through full-line retailing. We employ about 20 associates, including five who have been with the store since its opening, and many who have been lifelong, proud Minerva residents!

Standard

Sandy Creek Joint Fire District

Aaron Stoller, chief

505 Lincoln Way, Minerva; 330-868-5193;
acstoller@aol.com

The Sandy Creek Joint Fire District was created in 2013

Live at the Roxy!

In May the Hall of Fame Chorus returned to the Roxy, presenting an evening of outstanding entertainment. In small and large groups, the 23 men sang classics, gospel and patriotic tunes in barbershop harmony, as well as telling a few jokes.

In early June, the Minerva Monster documentary came to the Roxy, with 680 people attending four free screenings. In conjunction with the movie, the Minerva Monster crew also scheduled three speakers and arranged for several vendors to be on hand. The Minerva Monster himself was available for photos throughout the day.

The Minerva Monster also appeared at various Chamber members' businesses during the week leading up to Minerva Monster Day, and more than 20 people submitted photos for the Chamber's Spot the Monster Contest. Medicine Center Pharmacy was the winner of a chainsaw carved Bigfoot footprint donated by Local Flair. Thanks to all businesses that participated and all the volunteers who wore the monster suit.

in a collaborative effort of three political subdivisions to share costs, look to the future, and continue the same great service that was provided by the Minerva Fire Department. The board also established fire-based EMS services for our residents and businesses.

We can provide training to businesses such as CPR, first aid and fire extinguisher use, as well as help businesses identify hazards and make suggestions on how to correct them. You can schedule any or all of these outreach services by contacting the station or Chief Stoller.

Sweet Sounds with Leasure

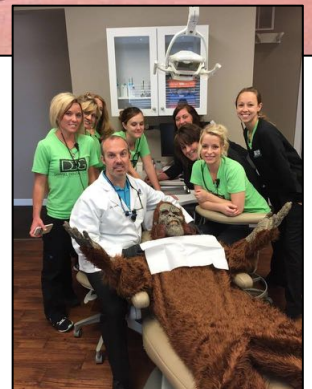
Mark Leasure

811 McDaniel Ave., Minerva; 330-205-7319;
markleasure65@gmail.com

Mobile DJ services for all occasions, indoors or outdoors. Karaoke and music videos and a projector TV on an 8-foot screen.



ABOVE: The line for the second Minerva Monster showing wrapped around the corner. RIGHT: The Minerva Monster had a checkup at Dowell Dental. BELOW: The Hall of Fame Chorus gave a great performance at the Roxy.



Calendar of Events

Friday, July 10

Discover Downtown, 5-9 p.m., North Market Street

Saturday, July 18

Concert in the Park - The Akron Ceili Band (traditional Irish music), 6:30-9 p.m.

Municipal Park Stage

Wednesday, July 15

Board of Directors meeting, 11:30 a.m., Minerva Local School District Administration Building

Monday, July 20

The Kelly Miller Circus, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Municipal Park

Monday, July 27

Stark Parks Program, "Birds of Prey," 1 p.m., Municipal Park Stage

Wednesday, July 29

Luncheon, noon, Minerva Public Library, "An Overview of Quest Services and Business-Related Services"

Saturday, Aug. 8

Concert in the Park - Around the Block Band (oldies), 6:30-9 p.m., Municipal Park Stage

Wednesday, Aug. 12

Business After Hours, Minerva Music Center, details TBA

Friday, Aug. 14

Discover Downtown, 5-9 p.m., North Market Street

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Board of Directors meeting, 11:30 a.m., location to be determined

Sunday, Aug. 23

Canton Symphony Woodwind Quintet, 6:30 p.m., Municipal Park Stage

Rain date - Tuesday, Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 11

Discover Downtown, 5-9 p.m., North Market Street

Wednesday, Sept. 16

Board of Directors meeting, 11:30 a.m., location to be determined

Saturday, Sept. 26

Oktoberfest!

Hydration Station update

The water station that will be installed near the Stark Parks trail through Municipal Park has been ordered! Stark Parks will work with the village water department to get it installed this summer.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this project. All sponsors will eventually be recognized on a plaque near the station.

Ohio Sales Tax Holiday

Senate Bill 243 enacted a one-time sales tax holiday to occur only in 2015. The holiday starts on Friday, Aug. 7, 2015, at 12:01 a.m., and on Sunday, Aug. 9, 2015, at 11:59 p.m.

During the holiday, the following items are exempt from sale as use tax:

*An item of clothing priced at \$75 or less;

*An item of school supplies priced at \$20 or less; and

*An item of school instructional material priced at \$20 or less.

Items used in a trade or business are not exempt under the sales tax holiday. If you have any questions regarding the Sales tax holiday, please contact Ohio Department of Taxation at 1-800-304-3211.

Tip Club updates

The Minerva Area Chamber of Commerce's **Wednesday Tip Club** meets every Wednesday, 8-9 a.m. Members take turns arranging for a once-a-month speaker. On July 15, Maria Moncada of the Light 95.9 will discuss how radio advertising can help you grow your business.

This club is currently open to any Chamber member and offers opportunities for networking, referrals, and mutual support. This group meets at Natural Approach Farm Store, 3944 Whitacre Ave., SE. For more information about this group, contact the Chamber office.

The Chamber's **Tuesday Tip Club** accepts one representative of each type of business. Its upcoming meetings are scheduled for 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Holland's Restaurant on July 7, July 14, Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 15, and Sept. 29. For more information about this group, contact Dana Schaub, 330-493-3211, ext. 131, or dana_schaub@glic.com.

Board News

The Chamber board voted, at its May meeting, to appoint Jeffrey Wheeler, Great Trail Care Center referral manager, to fill the last vacant seat. Thanks to Jeff for being willing to serve on the board.

Minerva Area Chamber of Commerce

203 N. Market St.

PHONE:
330-868-7979

E-MAIL:
denise.freeland@
minervachamber.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

**www.
minervachamber.
org**

**2014-2015
Chamber officers**

President,
Cindy Williams
Edward Jones
Investments
Vice President,
Richelle Edwards
Frontier
Communications
Treasurer,
Vickie Grindstaff
Loudon Motors Ford

2015 Brick Street Art & Jazz Festival

CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT:
Hot Djang plays Gypsy jazz; A
young lady tries her hand at
rock stacking; Marty Chapman
paints a square on the
community painting.



ABOVE LEFT: Jennifer Jordan teaches a boy the basics of knitting. ABOVE RIGHT: Kids try out brass instruments in the instrument petting zoo. LEFT: Joe Delagrang creates a balloon Spider Man. ABOVE: The John Trapani Big Band closes the festival with classic big band music.

