



BUSINESS BROADCAST

MOUNT VERNON—KNOX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FEBRUARY 2009

OUR MISSION:

To develop, enhance and represent business; to serve as a source of community leadership; and to promote trade among the members.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 93rd Annual Business Awards.

Thank you to all of those who attended and to all of our sponsors for making this event a successful start to 2009. Pictures will be available on our website. See recipient list on page 3.

Chamber Worker's Compensation Group Plan

The deadline to request a review to enroll in the chamber group worker's compensation insurance plan is February 10th. Read more on page 2.

New Board Members

Welcome to the new chamber board members for 2009: Austin Swallow, Hospice of Knox County, Jason Hall, Modern Builders, Roger Perry, Energy Machine

Outgoing Board Members

Thank you to our outgoing board members for your outstanding contributions and service to the chamber: Charlie Brenneman, Brenneman Lumber; Diana Williams, Opportunity Knox Employment Center; Joyce Acton; Mitch Durbin, Ver-Mac Industries; and Myra Wilson, Knox County Career Center.

February's Exciting Chamber Events

Business After Hours, Midday Matters and Safety Council, may be found on page 4.

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Anthem
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Andrea Hayes

400 South Gay Street
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
740-393-1111
fax 740-393-1590
chamber@knoxchamber.com
www.knoxchamber.com

The Group Rating Enrollment Deadline is Coming Up!

The deadline for requesting a quote is **February 10, 2009**. If you have received a quote through the Chamber's group rating program and have not responded, you must complete and submit the appropriate forms to CompManagement to be included in the 2009 workers' compensation group plan.

If you are reviewing savings quotes from other group administrators, please make sure that you are comparing apples to apples. CompManagement takes great pride in the accuracy and consistency of their savings forecast, while others within the industry tend to promote inflated savings figures in an effort to secure additional business.

Keep in mind that not all group administrators offer the same level of service. Examine other quotes thoroughly to ensure that you are comparing similar discounts and service offerings.

For the July 1, 2008 rate year, CompManagement was once again the largest group administrator and was able to offer the largest and most stable programs available in the State of Ohio.

Enrollment only occurs once a year, so please make sure to send back the documents needed to ensure your continued participation in our program.

Should you have any questions regarding group rating or the savings quote you received, please contact **CompManagement, Inc. at (800) 825-6755, option 3.**

CompManagement, Inc.

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We offer free Notary service to Chamber members. Call Carol at 740-393-1111.



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Legislative Affairs Committee Know Your Legislators

State Representative, 90th District

Margaret Ann Ruhl
Riffe Center, 77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-466-1431
district90@ohr.state.oh.us

State Senator, 19th District

Bill Harris
State House, Room 201, Second Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-466-8086
SD19@senate.state.oh.us

U.S. Senators

George Voinovich
37 West Broad Street, Suite 300
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-469-6697
khisha_fallon@voinovich.senate.gov

Sherod Brown
200 North High Street, Room 614
Columbus, Ohio 43215
1-888-896-6446

93rd Annual Business Awards Dinner



*Congratulations to the Recipients of this year's awards!
"And the award goes to..."*

B & O Train Depot, *Heart Award*
The Foundation for Knox Community Hospital, *Quality of Life Award*
Mount Vernon Nazarene University, *Investor in the Future Award*
Ms. Carol Garner, *Women in Business Leadership Award*
Mr. Bob Lantz, *Paul Slaughter Volunteer of the Year Award*
Parkside Restaurant & Tavern, *Small Business of the Year Award*
Kokosing Construction Company, *Business of the Year Award*
Mr. Win Curry, *Lifetime Achievement Award*

Thank you to all of our sponsors!

Award Sponsors

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Zelkowitz, Barry & Cullers
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First-Knox National Bank
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Monthly Events

Business After Hours

Its all about the Networking...
Who do you know? Who knows you?

Dean's Jewelry brings you this month's Business After Hours.

Join us at 1558 E Coshocton Road in MV and bring your business cards for networking on

**Tuesday, February 10th
5:00 to 6:00 pm**

RSVP to 740-393-1111 or email chamber@knoxchamber.com. Ambassadors, please wear your red jacket.

See you there!

Midday Matters

A monthly program of the
Mount Vernon-Knox County
Chamber of Commerce
Presents

Lona Helfrich

**Business Service Representative
Ohio Department of Development**

Doing Business in Ohio in 2009

- Ohio Department of Development Resources
- Free employer access to Monster jobs resumes
- Training funds available

Thursday, February 26th

Noon to 1

Alcove Restaurant
116 South Main Street

Cost includes a buffet lunch.
Check in begins at 11:45
Chamber Members: \$15 Non-Chamber \$20

Safety Council

Meteorologist
Dana Turtle of
ABC 6 and
FOX 28 News

Safety Council is pleased to have Mr. Dana Turtle present the February 18th meeting, "*Tornado Safety*".

The meeting will be held at the Dan Emmett Conference Center from 7:30 until 8:30 am. Reservations are required.



Please register by contacting the Chamber office at 740-393-1111 or email your attendance to chamber@knoxchamber.com.



Committee Meetings

Business Education Workforce Development Meeting

Wednesday, February 4th at 8:30 am,
Chamber office

Leadership Knox Steering Committee

Wednesday, February 11th at 8:00 am,
Chamber office

Legislative Steering Committee

Thursday, February 12th at 8:30 am,
Chamber office

Safety Council Steering Committee

Tuesday, February 3rd at 8:00, Sip's Coffee House and Deli

Ambassadors Club

Next meeting to be announced

Ribbon Cutting
Wednesday, 4th at 4:00pm

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Open House will be from 4-7pm.
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Demonstrations.



Attention Ambassadors!

Ohio's Junior Miss
Welcome Ceremony
Saturday, Feb. 14th
10:45am at Memorial Theatre
RSVP to chamber office
Wear your **red** jacket

Ribbon Cutting
Thursday, 5th at 11:00am

Page One Group
10 East Vine Street, Suite A

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store has to offer.*

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Page One Group
DESIGN • PRINTING • MARKETING
AND OTHER THINGS

Leadership Knox Economic Development Day

By Michael Percy and Todd Hawkins

An unusually cold day brought a lot of interesting activities for Economic Development Day. The day started off with a State of the State from former Rep. Thom Collier for our meeting at Ariel Corporation. This was followed up with a lively Pearls of Wisdom from Ariel founder James Buchwald. His advice and information will hopefully inspire many to great things.

Gene Ridenbaugh, VP of Engineering, then led us on a tour of the excellent Ariel facility, including the training facility and shop floor. This provided many of us with a further insight into the operation of Knox Counties largest employer. A quick bite, provided by Killbuck Savings Bank and CES Credit Union, gave us the nourishment for our next tour.

After a brief drive we were welcomed by Sanoh America plant manager Eric Carroll. He gave us a brief description of the history and operations of this "just in time" manufacturer. We then proceeded to tour the facility and learned how they make over 400 parts for various auto manufacturers.

We followed this tour with Steve Waers from the Area Development Foundation and Herman Stine of the Regional Development Office. They provided us with insight into their roles in expanding and creating business and job opportunities for the Knox County area.

With over half of our time in Leadership Knox passed we have all learned many things about Knox County that will be a great benefit to us all.



Kim Peck
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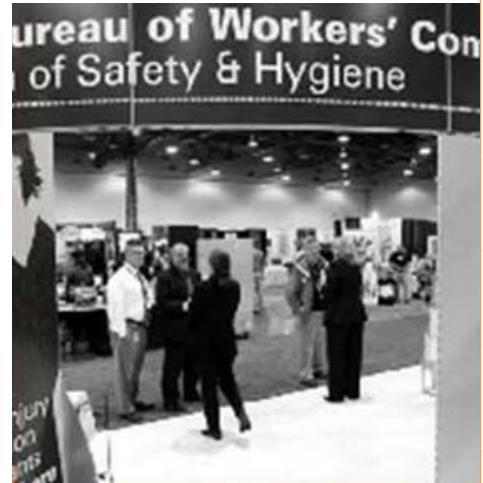
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H-R News and Views Meeting

February 25, 2009, at 7:30 a.m.
Richard McLarnan Technology Center
Knox County Career Center

Attorney Korey Kidwell will present at the next HR Views-N-News meeting speaking on the ADAAA. As this is now law, it seems timely for HR practitioners and office managers to learn more on this subject. Changes to the ADA, officially called ADA Amendments Act of 2009, expand the definition of the term "disability" and significantly increase the number of persons protected by the ADA. This, in turn, will significantly impact our businesses. The meeting will be held on Wed, February 25, 2009, at 7:30 a.m. in the Richard McLarnan Technology Center of the Knox County Career Center. The meeting is free. Optional continental breakfast is \$3.00 and may be paid at the door. Please reserve your spot for the February meeting as soon as possible since the number attending will determine in which room the group will meet. Call Barb DeHaven at Connell's Furniture on 740-393-5802 or email at bdehaven@connells.com.

Knox County Safety Council Employer Resource

Annually, the Division of Safety & Hygiene publishes the **Safety Leader's Discussion Guide**. The monthly articles are written in a style that encourages participation and interaction and includes lists of additional resources. For the first time this year, DSH accepted submissions from the public and staff to create the guide.

Employers can visit <https://www.ohiohwc.com/employer/forms/publications/nlbwc/SafeHygPubs1.asp> to download an electronic copy or request a hard copy. Copies can also be requested by calling 1-800-OHIOBWC (644-6292) and press 0212 for the safety services customer service line.



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**Chuck Craycraft has joined
Benchmark Insurance, Westerville,
as Vice President of the Property & Casualty
Division.**

Chuck brings 14 years of Insurance Sales experience and has specialized in Risk Management for the Construction Industry.

Chuck and his wife and their 3 children reside in Hilliard, where he enjoys volunteering for various non-profit organizations and is a Coach for Hilliard Youth Soccer and Softball.

Conference Room

Hold your next business meeting at the Chamber office conference room.

- Holds 20 people
- Coffee, soda, bottled water provided
- No charge to members

Contact the Chamber at 740-393-1111 or chamber@knoxchamber.com

FREE HELP FOR SMALL BUSINESS

The Chamber plays host to two free counseling services for small businesses.

Service Corps Of Retired Executives (SCORE) is a mentoring program that uses local volunteer retired executives to counsel business owners. A division of the Small Business Association, trained SCORE counselors give face-to-face advice and draw on years of experience.

The **Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** also provides counseling and training programs to improve skills and knowledge of business owners. The SBDC can prepare small business to meet the specialized and complex needs vital to success.

Between these two services are help with business plan development and analysis, financial projections, cash flow analysis, marketing, management and much more.

To set up an appointment with a SCORE advisor, call Bob Lantz at 740-393-1111, ext 24. To meet with Kathy Goon from the SBDC, call 877-289-1468.



TOOT YOUR HORN

New staff? New product line? Industry recognition?

Tell us what's going on in your business so that we can share it with our membership. Call us at 740-393-1111 or E-mail your news to chamber@knoxchamber.com.

**ANTHEM BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD
CHAMBER PROGRAM**

HIGHLIGHTS

- 20 plan choices from 100% hospitalization to low cost \$2500 deductible options
- Chamber prices approximately 3% less than non-chamber group prices
- Dental, disability, vision and life coverage is available

REQUIREMENTS

- At least 2 enrolled employees/owners required
- 50% or more full-time employees must enroll
- Husband and wife companies can qualify if both are compensated thru the business
- Groups with health problems can enroll, but may receive higher premiums

**CONTACT THESE CHAMBER
MEMBER AGENTS**

- Financial Targeting Services 397-1942**
- Griffin Agencies 397-7488**
- Jon-Wesley Insurance 393-1755**
- Kahl & Company 397-1066**
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(4/07)

Want more details NOW? Go to page 10 of this month's newsletter for highlights of the Anthem Program and to find a local agent right here in OUR Chamber.