

CHAMBERGRAM

AUGUST 2021



FEATURING:

Chamber & Member News
July Business After Hours Recap
Ribbon Cutting and YAP Photos
1972 Charter Member Profile: Park National Bank

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 4

Government Affairs
8:00 AM

AUGUST 9 (Monday)

In-person Business
AFTER Hours at
Ohio University Inn
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

AUGUST 10

Promotions and
Special Events
8:00 AM

AUGUST 11

Athens Uptown
Business Assoc.
9:30 AM

AUGUST 17

Ambassadors Club
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

AUGUST 19

EDG Lunch & Learn
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

AUGUST 6-14

Athens County Fair

AUGUST 18-21

Parade of the Hills

AUGUST 23

Ohio University Fall
Semester Opens

SEPTEMBER 17-19

PawPaw Festival



Scenes from the 2019 Auction & Dinner. Photos by Jim Korpi.

After such a long hiatus, I am excited to announce the **26th Annual "Celebrate Athens" Auction and Dinner!** Our Board of Directors, Staff, and Ambassadors look forward to hosting this year's event once again at the historic **Dairy Barn Arts Center!** We are keeping the overarching theme of "Celebrate Athens" to elevate the businesses and history who make our community so special. We hope you will join us!

At this lively, popular event, guests will get the opportunity to network, enjoy delicious food prepared by **Cutler's** executive chef, Andrew Rios Wenmoth, and bid on silent and live auction items. Auction items have been generously donated by area businesses and represent what makes Athens unique. All proceeds go towards supporting the Chamber's initiatives to strengthen our business community through collaboration, engagement, and strategic partnerships.

Generous sponsorship pledges are the key to our philanthropic work AND provide your business with a ton of exposure over the next few months! In 2019, the Chamber donated over \$10,000 to area agencies to aid them in their work to enhance the quality of life for the people of Athens County. We also sponsor educational opportunities, provide scholarships to Leadership Athens County, and support other philanthropic work. To top it off, during the holiday season, Chamber member nonprofits receive \$500 during our "Take It Home for the Holidays – Neighbors Helping Neighbors" campaign.

Thank you to those who have already pledged to sponsor the 26th Annual "Celebrate Athens" Auction & Dinner, including Platinum Sponsors **People's Bank, Shamrock Auction Service, Ohio University Inn & Conference Center, and The Dairy Barn Arts Center** and Gold Sponsors **OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital and Ohio University Credit Union!** To find out more, or secure your sponsorship, visit:

<https://athenschamber.com/26th-annual-auction/>

Brightly,

Dani Underhill, President



26th ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER

Thursday, September 16th, 5:00PM
The Dairy Barn Arts Center, Athens, OH

Come Celebrate Athens with us! Join local business leaders and community members for **Celebrate Athens: The 26th Annual Auction & Dinner** on Thursday, September 16th, at the Dairy Barn Arts Center.

At this lively, popular event, attendees will get the opportunity to network, enjoy delicious food prepared by local chefs, and bid on silent and live auction items. Auction items have been generously donated by area businesses and represent what makes Athens unique. All proceeds go towards supporting the Chamber's initiatives to strengthen our business community through collaboration, engagement, and strategic partnerships.

The Annual Auction & Dinner is always a night of laughs, good food, and fun, so **don't miss out – register today!**

Make a big impact for you and the Chamber

Invest in the Chamber by becoming a sponsor for the event, and in return we will recognize your business in all our promotional materials.

Sign-up to sponsor at the Bronze Level when you register for the event. If you would like to sponsor at the Platinum, Gold, or Silver Levels, please call the Chamber office at 740-593-9353, or email Dawn Worley-Sims at dawn@athenschamber.com or Dani Underhill at dani@athenschamber.com. You will then receive a sponsor code to register your guests.

Want to help in other ways?

We will gladly accept donations of goods or services for our auction. Please contact Dawn to make arrangements at Dawn@athenschamber.com.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

Platinum, \$2,000 investment:

All benefits of Gold level, plus:

- 6 complimentary meal reservations (\$300 value)
- Weekly mention on Chamber Update, heard on WXTQ, WATH, and WEAK
- Lead placement in slideshow presentation during event
- Extra mentions and logo placement in ChamberGram

Silver, \$500 investment:

All benefits of Bronze level, plus:

- 2 complimentary meal reservations (\$100 value)
- Name in radio promos of the event
- Logo in print promos of the event
- Individual "Thank You" displayed at the event that you can keep afterwards

Gold, \$1,000 investment:

All benefits of Silver level, plus:

- 4 complimentary meal reservations (\$200 value)
- Logo placement on Chamber website with live link
- Verbal recognition during event
- Logo placement in ChamberGram

Bronze, \$100+ investment:

- Recognition on event table signs
- Mentions in ChamberGram
- Placement in event slideshow
- Inclusion on our website feature

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT
WWW.ATHENSCHAMBER.COM/26TH-ANNUAL-AUCTION

2021 ATHENS CHAMBER MAP

The 2021 Chamber Map is ready to be distributed! If your business would like a supply of maps, please contact Dawn at Dawn@athenschamber.com to make arrangements.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

A-Team Plumbing
Airclaws
Athens County Economic Development Council
Athens County Visitor's Bureau
Athens Farmers Market
Atomic Credit Union
Bagel Street Deli
Career Connections
Casa Nueva
Classic Brands
Fairfield Inn by Marriott
Go Bus
Hampton Inn by Hilton
Hyacinth Bean Florist
Kindred Market
The Lee/Maule Team at The Athens Real Estate Company

Manufacturing Extension Partnership at OSU South Centers
Mathews Insurance
Merchants National Bank
Nelsonville Chamber of Commerce
OhioHealth
Park National Bank
Pleasant Hill Vineyards
Quidel
Service Master
Shawna Stump, State Farm
Stuart's Opera House
Susan Barga at The Athens Real Estate Company
West End Ciderworks & Distillery
White's Mill



The cover features the winner of the 2020 John Sparhawk Small Business Award: West End Ciderworks & Distillery.



26th ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER

Thank you to our generous sponsors!

PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS

BRONZE SPONSORS

Atomic Credit Union

BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS

Athens Country Club



**BUSINESS
AFTER
HOURS**

**MONDAY
AUGUST 9**

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM



**Ohio University Inn
& Conference Center**
331 Richland Avenue, Athens



On Wednesday, July 21st, the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce held our July Business After Hours at **Athens Country Club**, located at 7606 Country Club Rd., Athens. The Athens Country Club offers a unique golf experience, an outdoor pool with a bathhouse and concession area, and a clubhouse that provides dining in both casual and formal settings. Attendees enjoyed the beautiful views and great conversations.

ATTENDEE AD

If you'd like to see your name here, enter your business card in the drawing when you sign-in at our next networking event!

July Winner: Dean Pidcock
Workforce Advancement Manager

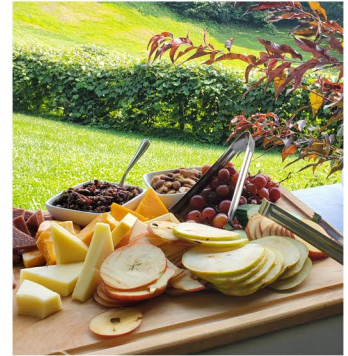
Dean.Pidcock@jfs.ohio.gov
Direct: 740-677-4232
510 West Union Street, Suite 102
Athens, OH 45701
<http://OhioMeansJobs.com/Athens>

**Ohio
MEANS
Jobs**

Athens County
A proud partner of the
American Job Center network

As the Workforce Advancement Manager for OhioMeansJobs-Athens County, I can connect Athens County employers with multiple services, including: on-the-job training, incumbent worker training, recruiting events like mini-job fairs, and more. Our employment services team also assists job seekers with help finding their dream job, resume writing, mock interviews, soft skills training, supportive services and utilizing the OhioMeansJobs.com website.

YOUNG ATHENS PROFESSIONALS



Pictured: Attendees engaged in conversation and enjoying the views and libations, and some of the the appetizers provided by Pleasant Hill Vineyard.

On Thursday, July 15th, Pleasant Hill Vineyards hosted the YAP July Happy Hour to a great turnout. Attendees, many new to the venue, enjoyed exploring the grounds and appreciated the generous appetizer spreads provided by Pleasant Hill, who also sponsored the event.

Interested in hosting or sponsoring a YAP event? Contact Kristin Slemmer at kristin@athenschamber.com.

AUGUST YAP HAPPY HOUR

Thursday
August 12

5:00 - 7:00PM

Eclipse Company Store

11309 Jackson Drive
The Plains, OH

RIBBON CUTTING



Pictured Left, from L-R: Gil Moore, Athens Impact; Teresa Wilson, Athens Impact; Angela Carter, PersonnelPlus; Dawn Worley-Sims, Athens Chamber; Michelle Wilson, Athens Impact (Owner); Dani Underhill, Chamber President; Melissa Bailes-Jewell, Fairfield Inn; Taylor Peeps, Ohio University Inn. Middle: Owner Michelle Wilson unveils her new sign. Right: Attendees enjoying local refreshments.

On Friday, July 2nd, the Chamber held an Ambassador Ribbon Cutting to help Athens Impact Socially Responsible Investments celebrate their grand opening and sign unveiling at their new location of 264 E. State Street, Athens. Athens Impact helps people align their money with their values by making socially responsible investment choices.



Athens Area WOMEN'S SUMMIT



The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to host the 5th annual Athens Area Women's Summit on Friday, October 22, 2021 at Stuart's Opera House! This all-day conference has been designed to inspire and empower attendees from all career fields and levels. Inspirational speakers and community exemplars will take attendees through a journey of personal and professional development through both academic approaches and real-life experiences.

Sponsorship Opportunities

All sponsorship levels involve your inclusion in website, pre-event, and day-of features/advertisements, plus:

Premier, \$5,000 (1 available)

- Full-page back cover program ad
 - Introduces Keynote Speaker
 - Signage in main event space
 - Includes 8 event tickets

Lunch, \$2,500 (1 available)

- Full-page ad inside front cover of program
- Signage included on all tables during lunch
- Option to provide promotional items during lunch
 - Includes 4 event tickets

Breakfast, \$1,500 (1 available)

- Half page ad inside the program
- Signage included on the breakfast buffet
 - Includes 3 event tickets

Session Sponsor \$1,000 (5 available)

- Half page ad inside the program
- Signage in both breakout rooms
 - Includes 2 event tickets

Empower, \$500 (8 available)

- Quarter page ad inside the program
 - Includes 1 event ticket

Supporting, \$250 (unlimited)

- Business logo included in an ad for all Supporters in the program
 - Includes 1 event ticket



CHAMBER NEWS



Dawn and Dani working to install the wall. Photo by Dani Underhill.

The Wall That Heals Visits Athens

As a part of the Athens County Committee, the Chamber worked alongside **The Athens County Convention and Visitors Bureau**, the **City of Athens**, and **Ohio University** to host **The Wall That Heals** in Athens from July 29th – August 1st. The exhibit includes a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with a mobile Education Center and gives those who cannot travel to Washington D.C. a chance to honor the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S Armed Forces in the Vietnam War. The planning committee hopes that the exhibit draws visitors to Athens while providing a meaningful experience for the entire community.



Dani at the Celebration. Photo provided by BTS.

Celebration of State Budget Support

On July 29th, legislators, leaders, and community members celebrated the major news that the 2022-2024 Ohio State budget includes \$2 million in funding for the **Baileys Trail System (BTS)** and the **Outdoor Recreation Council of Appalachia (ORCA)**. It is expected that over the next decade the trail system will bring in \$40 million in increased spending across the region and help to sustainably diversify the SE Ohio economy. Due to the BTS's potential to attract visitors and increase spending in the area, the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is a part of the ORCA advisory board – a diverse council that provides strategic planning and operational support – and the Chamber uses that position to advocate for the interests of local businesses.

DORA is OPEN!



Logo by Tim Martin,
Red Tail Design

The Athens Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) initiative that the Chamber's **Athens Uptown Business Association (AUBA)** has been working hard on for months is finally up and running! Starting on Thursday, July 29 and running until Sunday, August 15th, the DORA will be open on Thursdays from 5pm-10pm, Friday and Saturdays from 12pm – 10pm, and Sundays from 12pm – 8pm. The DORA provides a designated space Uptown where adult beverages may be purchased at licensed bars and consumed on the sidewalks within the boundary area during the set days and times. So head Uptown and enjoy a beverage while patronizing our local establishments before it's too late!



Athens Area WOMEN'S SUMMIT

Presented by the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce



Save the Date

Friday, October 22nd, 2021
Stuart's Opera House

LET THE CHAMBER HELP YOU CELEBRATE!

We want to help spread the word about business milestones that are a big deal to you, but might not be quite worthy of a press release, such as:

- website overhaul
- change in location
- the retirement of a key staff member
- a new hire announcement
- an award you/your company just won
- a fundraiser you are holding for a local community organization/charity
- and more!

Send your announcements to Kristin Slemmer at Kristin@athenschamber.com.

*The Chamber reserves the right to make the final decision in what we publish in our Greenblast and ChamberGram.

Athens Uptown Business Association Spotlight



65 South Court Street
Athens, OH 45701

Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday & Sunday
9:00am - 4:00pm

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/littleprofessorathens

Instagram:

www.instagram.com/littleprofessorbook



2021-2022 OU Homecoming, Parent & Family Weekends

Parents Weekend
September 10-12, 2021

OU Homecoming
October 4-9, 2021

Dads Weekend
November 5-7, 2021

Sibs Weekend
February 4-6, 2022

Moms Weekend
April 8-10, 2022

MEMBER NEWS



CFI Welcomes New Executive Director

Community Food Initiatives' Board and staff are thrilled to announce the selection of Maribeth Saleem-Tanner as the organization's new Executive Director. Maribeth will bring more than 15 years of experience working in the nonprofit sector to CFI, and officially joined the team in July, training for her new role with CFI staff, Board, and Managing Director MaryAnn Martinez. [Read more about Maribeth here.](#)

Updates to Cutler's Restaurant

The iconic Cutler's Restaurant, located within the **Ohio University Inn and Conference Center** recently unveiled a complete remodel, which also includes refreshed menus and a revamped signature cocktails list. The updated interior features a modern American colonial-inspired design that encompasses the fascinating connection to the "The Father of Ohio University," Manasseh Cutler, and the rich history of Ohio University. [Read the full press release here.](#)

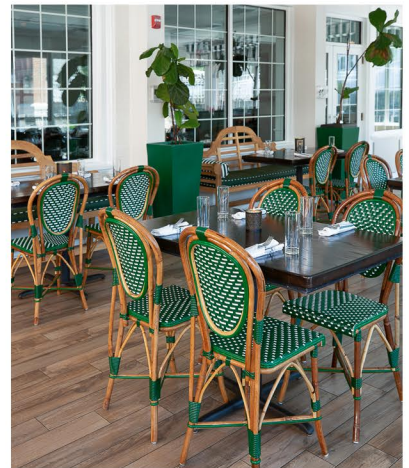


Photo by Debby Wolvos

NEW MEMBERS



ATHENS TREATMENT SERVICES

8978 United Lane, Suite 102,
Athens, OH 45701
740-274-4246

Contact: Jack Estep
jestep@pinnaclechillicothe.com

pinnacletreatment.com/location/ohio/athens/athens-treatment-services/



Your Fresh Start
Cleaning Service LLC

YOUR FRESH START CLEANING SERVICES, LLC

5358 Gun Club Rd.
Athens, Ohio 45701
740-590-0142

Contact: Teather Morris
cleanteam@yourfreshstartclean.com

<http://www.yourfreshstartclean.com>

1972 CHARTER MEMBER PROFILE

As part of a series recognizing charter members of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, this month's profile features excerpts from an interview with Delainey McIlwain, Community Relations Coordinator at Park National Bank.



Photo Credit: Jordan Unternaher

Park National Bank

898 East State St., Athens

parknationalbank.com

740-593-7756

BUSINESS OVERVIEW

For over 100 years, we have been invested in the success of our customers and communities. That means putting the needs of our customers first with a community-minded approach. Each banking division is led by local professionals dedicated to extraordinary service, community support, and excellent financial performance.

We're determined to exemplify a compassionate approach to banking. Our pride rests in knowing our customers can count on us to help solve their financial challenges and be accessible throughout every step of their financial journey.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Century National Bank, which was originally known as Mutual Federal Savings and Loan, acquired our Athens location from Logan Federal Savings Bank in 1982. Mutual Federal Savings and Loan in Zanesville merged with Park National Corporation (PRK) in 1990 and was renamed Century National Bank in 1997. It operated as a community bank affiliate of Park National Bank and in 2020, Park underwent a brand transformation.

After decades of operating as an affiliate network of community banks – bound by common values but divided into 12 different bank names – the Park National Family of Community Banks united under our singular Park National Bank name.

WHAT TO KNOW

As an organization, our size and strength allows us to deliver flexible, secure banking options and convenience with expansive branch and ATM coverage. At the same time, we retain the local leadership, decision making, and face-to-face relationships we were built upon.

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

We are proud to continue to be a part of the Athens Chamber! The Chamber plays a critical role in our business community, allowing local organizations to work together to serve the people in the Athens area in the best possible way. That's been especially true during these challenging times, as local businesses have all learned to serve our communities in new ways during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unless otherwise noted, all images © 2021 Kristin Slemmer, Athens Area Chamber of Commerce.

Athens Area Chamber of Commerce

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ChamberGram is a monthly publication of Athens Area Chamber of Commerce. For information on membership, articles or advertising, please contact the Chamber. The opinions expressed in the ads in this ChamberGram do not necessarily express the opinions of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber does not endorse any product or service advertised.