

CHAMBERGRAM

DECEMBER 2021



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FEATURING:

Chamber & Member News

Business After Hours and Ribbon Cutting Photos

Save the Dates

Keep the Cheer Here Article

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 2

Uptown for the
Holidays --

Tree Lighting &
Opening Events

6:00 - 8:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 8

Athens Uptown
Business Assoc.

9:30 AM

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 9

Ambassadors Club
Holiday Party

4:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 19, 2022

Business Before
Hours - Habitat for
Humanity of SEO

8:00-9:30 AM

THURSDAY

JANUARY 27, 2022

Annual Dinner &
50th Anniversary Gala

5:00 PM



I always seem to find myself full of excitement as December arrives. Perhaps because it means the magic of snow is near, or that it is my birth month, or maybe because this season usually holds such quiet joy and love all around us, or a new year around the corner full of possibilities. Whatever the reason, I have always enjoyed the last month of the year.

While we have come a long way from last year when our business community was limping, and individuals were full of anxiety and frustration, some of the same thoughts from twelve months ago still ring true. The light we ignite shines so bright, especially when shared with others.

It takes minimal effort to spark that light. Purchase everything you want or need at a local business, big or small. And I mean everything. Athens County has it all or can get it all – just ask. Leave a review for your favorite business on their Facebook, Google, TripAdvisor or wherever they have reviews available. Interact with their social platforms, share their posts and stories, and tag or check-in there. When you use their product or service, make your own post about how great it was.

The easiest way to shine is to lean into joy. Joy presents itself in so many subtle ways that it is easy to miss. Find whatever form joy takes for you and lean in hard. You may find joy in baking sweets, bingeing shows, creating art, reading a book, or cuddling your family- furry or otherwise. No matter what, just lean into your own joy and spread it to others this December.

Shine On,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Dani Underhill'.

Dani Underhill, President



THE ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
and
50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

**CALL FOR
ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS!**

Nominate chamber members and their employees for the Annual Chamber Awards in the following categories:

Distinguished Service

Holzaepfel Economic Impact

Jon Sparhawk Small Business
of the Year

Young Professional of the Year

Community Support

Find more information about each category, a list of past award winners, and the nomination form at

www.athenschamber.com/awards

NOMINATE NOW!

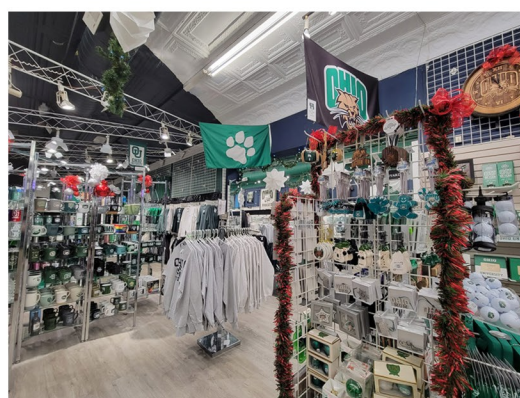
RIBBON CUTTING



Path Behavioral Healthcare staff, Chamber members, and community members celebrate the ribbon cutting and grand opening.

On Thursday, November 11th, PATH Behavioral Healthcare celebrated the grand opening of its office at 306 W. Union Street. Members of the Athens Area Chamber and the Athens community gathered for a ribbon cutting and to learn more about PATH Behavioral, which offers a full continuum of behavioral health services from psychiatry, medical services, therapy, and case management. Learn more about them at <https://pathihc.com/>.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS



On Wednesday, November 17th, the Athens Area Chamber held our November Business After Hours at College Bookstore, located at 50 S. Court Street in Athens. College Book Store is a full service Ohio University bookstore, and features a large school supplies department, an art supplies section, and the largest section of Ohio University clothing and souvenirs available anywhere. Attendees got started on their holiday shopping while connecting with each other over local refreshments.



Uptown for the Holidays

TREE LIGHTING & OPENING EVENT

December 2nd ❄️ 6:00-8:00 PM

Enjoy FREE holiday activities, family fun, and local shopping throughout December!
For more details visit athenschamber.com/holidays

Wagon Rides

Court & Washington St. Corner

THURSDAYS

December 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd

6:00 – 8:00 PM

SATURDAYS

December 4th & 11th

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Selfies with Santa!

Santa's Workshop

(Court & Washington St. Corner)

THURSDAYS

December 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd

6:00 – 8:00 PM

SATURDAYS

December 4th, 11th, 18th

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Tree Lighting & Opening Event

SELFIES WITH SANTA

Santa's Workshop (Court & Washington St.)

WAGON RIDES

Corner of Court & Washington St.

COLORING ACTIVITIES

Bagel Street Deli

COOKIE DECORATING

Brenen's Coffee Café

FACE/ARM PAINTING

Artifacts Gallery

ORNAMENT DECORATING

College Bookstore

STORY TIME

Little Professor Bookstore

WOOD CUTOUT ORNAMENT DECORATING

Ohio is Home

Holiday Film Series

Athena Cinema

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS (ORIGINAL)

Thursday, December 2nd

7:00 PM & 8:00 PM

ELF

Saturday, December 4th

1:00 PM & 3:00 PM

MUPPET'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

Saturday, December 11th

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

POLAR EXPRESS

Saturday, December 18th

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Saturday, December 23rd, 7:00 PM

Find the Yeti

and have a chance to win
a gift basket of local goodies!



SAVE THE DATE FOR

THE ANNUAL DINNER
and

50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Ohio University Inn & Conference Center

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022

5:00PM

MEMBER NEWS



Photos provided by Alzheimer's Association.

The Alzheimer's Association would like to thank the Athens Chamber and its members for their support of the Southeastern Ohio Walk to End Alzheimer's. Held on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at the Athens Community Center, the walk was attended by 399 participants and raised over \$42K – which far exceeded the Alzheimer's Association's goal of \$35K. Now that's community support!

You can reach the Alzheimer's Association's free 24/7 helpline at 800-272-3900.



BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS

JANUARY 19
8:00AM - 9:30AM



**Habitat for Humanity
of Southeast Ohio**

14440 Ohio 13,
Millfield, OH 45761

Athens Uptown Business Association Spotlight



92 N. Court Street, Suite 101
Athens, OH 45701

A full-service independent
financial planning firm.

For more information and to
schedule a consultation, contact
Michael Carpenter, CFP at
mcarpenter@lex-aurum.com



NEW MEMBER

OSO INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING

Athens, 45701

740-856-1825

Contact: Jay Martin

osointlconsulting@protonmail.com

Holistic security consulting services focused on protecting protect people and assets. From risk assessments to active shooter survival training, I have you covered.



**BUSINESS
BEFORE OR
AFTER
HOURS**

**AVAILABLE DATES
TO HOST IN 2022:**

February 16

March 16

April 20

July 20

November 16

Contact Dawn@athenschamber.com to make arrangements.



Are you
ready
to make a
difference?

Become a **Chamber Ambassador** and make a difference for yourself, your business, and your community.

Applications for the 2022 Chamber Ambassador's Team will open on December 15, 2022.

Learn more at: athenschamber.com/chamber/committees/

KEEP THE CHEER HERE

This winter it's more important than ever to Keep the Cheer Here in Athens by supporting the local businesses who support the area where you live, work, and play. Shop with our local service providers and businesses to find unique gifts found only in Athens for your family and friends and feel good knowing that for every dollar spent at a local business, over half of that amount stays in Athens and goes back to enrich the community.

According to the Small Business Economic Impact Study, a county-level economic analysis on shopping small commissioned in 2018 by American Express, \$0.67 of every dollar spent at a local business stays in the local community. But what does that mean exactly? If \$100 is spent at a local business, out of the \$67 that stay in Athens, \$44 goes to the small business owner and their employees' wages and benefits, and \$23 gets spent at other local businesses – in fact, the same study estimated that for every 10 jobs at a small business, another seven are supported in the local community.

The ripple effect from every dollar spent locally can also be seen in the many ways that our local businesses directly support the Athens community. Our local businesses are the ones who sponsor our community sports teams, who donate resources and prizes to non-profits for fundraisers, who spend time and money planning and putting on free Uptown for the Holidays events for everyone in the community to enjoy.

And many of our local businesses go even further in their support of our area. In June 2021, Mathews Insurance helped to address local food insecurity by securing a grant to donate \$5,000 to the Hocking, Athens, Perry Community Action Agency (HAPCAP) to help the Southeast Ohio Foodbank. According to Kelly Hatas, Executive Director of HAPCAP, that grant had a big impact on our community: "We are so grateful for the generous support... [it] will have a direct impact on fighting food insecurity and will help us provide the support and hope needed to be successful." And in September 2021, Third Sun Solar announced that they will be partnering with the Village of Chauncey and the Baileys Trail System to provide clean energy at the Chauncey-Dover Community Park trailhead, which will reduce the Village's utility costs for the next two decades or more.

So this holiday season, as you hunt for unique gifts, plan your holiday party, or design the perfect charcuterie board for your guests, Keep the Cheer Here and spend your dollars locally. You'll end up with one-of-a-kind gifts and experiences found only in Athens, and you'll be supporting our community at the same time.

Visit www.athenschamber.com/holidays to see a listing of local businesses who offer online shopping with delivery, a gift card directory, and a list of local restaurants with online ordering.

Email Kristin Slemmer at kristin@athenschamber.com to be added to the shopping directories.



Unless otherwise noted, all images © 2021 Kristin Slemmer, 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.