

Rooted in tradition, branching toward tomorrow

Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

A Word from our Executive Director Beth Black

Here at the Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce, we love our Chamber family! Our Annual Dinner was an absolutely fantastic evening spent in celebration with 200 of our Chamber Members and supporters. The support that was felt that evening was almost overwhelming. We love every opportunity we have to see our Chamber family interacting with one another and enjoying being a part of our organization. Check out more details and a few photos from this special evening in the article below.

March also found some of our Chamber family together in Italy! This was the first trip with our new Chamber Travel Program, so we are excited for the future and to see all the places we will go together and the adventures that await. A few photos from the trip are included in this newsletter, so be sure to check them out to be inspired to join in the fun on the next trip! You can also check out our Chamber's social media accounts (@ GCChamberPA) on Facebook and Instagram for more photos from the trip as they are posted in the coming days now that everyone is back home.

This month, our Chamber Members are invited to join with the other Chambers in Mercer County for a Coffee With Commissioners event, so be sure to check out those details below and submit a question for consideration. Our 12th Annual Working Women's Luncheon is later this month, as is a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for one of our newest Chamber Members. Take a moment to read about these and other events and updates featured in this newsletter.

As a reminder, our Chamber renews memberships on an anniversary basis. Whether your membership has already renewed or will during a coming month, know that we truly appreciate your dedication to our Chamber and your continued support. We appreciate that our Members realize that being a part of a Chamber of Commerce is important. We offer our Chamber Members ways to grow, expand, and connect with each other. We are proud to be your Chamber of Commerce of choice and everything we do is with you in mind.

12th Annual Working Women's Luncheon Set For April 24th

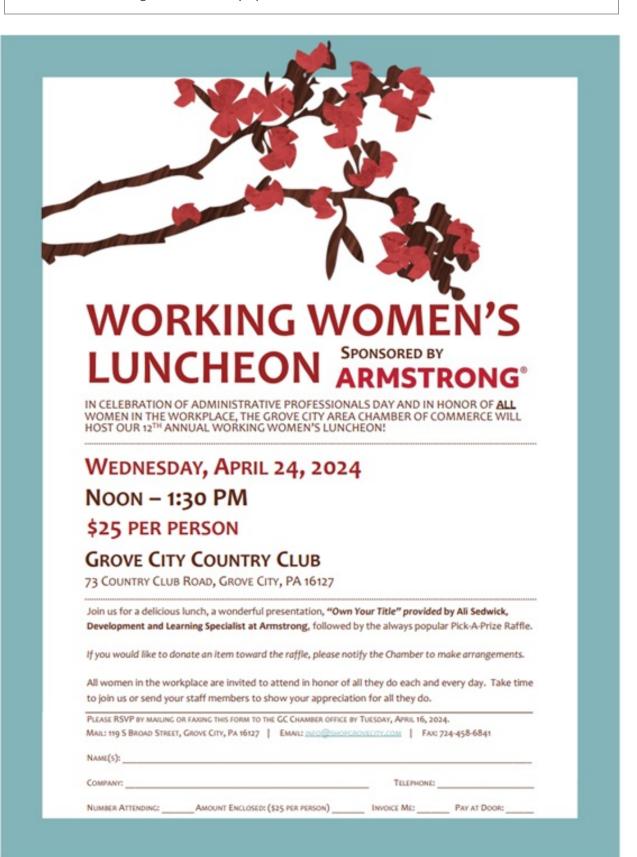
Our Chamber's 12th Annual Working Women's Luncheon is just around the corner. This event, in celebration of Administrative Professionals Day and in honor of **ALL** women in the workplace, is an incredibly popular event that attendees look forward to each year.

This year's Working Women's Luncheon will be sponsored by Armstrong and will take place on Wednesday, April 24th, from 12 - 1:30 PM, at the Grove City Country Club. This special luncheon is open to all women in the workplace to encourage networking and a time to celebrate one another. The price is \$25 per person which includes a delicious lunch and informative presentation. This year's presentation, "Own Your Title" presented by Ali Sedwick, Development and Learning Specialist at Armstrong, promises to be a great message for all attendees.

Our Working Women's Luncheon always features a very popular Pick-A-Prize Raffle which allows attendees the opportunity to win wonderful prizes donated by Chamber Members. If you are interested in donating a prize for the luncheon, please let us know!

Those interested in attending or sending employees to this wonderful event can complete and

return the below registration form by April 16th.



Working Women's Luncheon Printable Registration Form

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Set For Mercer County Adult Education Center



Ceremony at Noon on Saturday, April 27th for Mercer County Adult Education Center to celebrate their new education center located at 233 George Junior Road, Grove City, PA!

Open House from 11 AM - 1 PM, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Noon.

Come explore the new education center and learn about new opportunities available.

Printable Invite & Registration Form

RSVP for the 4/27 Ribbon Cutting

LOCATION

Mercer County Adult Education Center - 233 George Junior Rd., Grove City

DATE AND TIME

04/27/24 12:00pm-04/27/24 1:00pm



Business Community Scholarship Fund Helps Local Seniors Pursue A Future In Business - You Can Help!

Every year, the Grove City Chamber collects donations from our members to fund a Business Community Scholarship. The focus of this program is to recognize graduating seniors from the Grove City Area School District AND Grove City Christian Academy who are interested in a business-related career. Your generous response to this scholarship fund will enable our business community to award a scholarship to one or more students who have expressed a desire to pursue such a career. This not only helps the student as they begin this new path, but it also helps our community to encourage our youth to follow their dreams and perhaps return to Grove City after their schooling is completed.

All contributing businesses will be acknowledged. The number of scholarships awarded and the amount of each will depend on the total amount of donations collected. Please contribute, if you are able, and together we can help deserving students pursue their higher education dreams!

Any gift is appreciated, simply fill out the donation form, enclose payment, and mail to the Chamber office at 119 S. Broad Street, Grove City, PA 16127.

Business Community Scholarship Application For Graduating Seniors

Coffee With Commissioners - April 19th

The Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce

Presents:



Coffee with Commissioners



FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2024 9AM
AT THE MERCER COUNTY CAREER CENTER
JOIN US FOR A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND Q&A

\$20/PERSON FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT BY 4/11: 724-662-4185 OR MERCERCHAMBER@ZOOMINTERNET.NET



Supported by:





2024 Calendar of Events - SAVE THESE DATES NOW!

Save the Date for these upcoming Grove City Chamber meetings and events in 2024:

Quarterly Membership Meetings (location varies): Fridays, May 17, August 16, and November 15, 2024, at 8 AM

Working Women's Luncheon: Wednesday, April 24, 2024, Noon-1:30 PM, at Grove City Country Club. More details coming soon!

43rd Annual Chamber Day Golf Scramble: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at Grove City Country Club. Lunch at Noon, Golf at 1 PM, followed by dinner and prizes. Stay tuned for team registrations and sponsorship opportunities!

Trade Show & Wellness Expo: Saturday, September 28, 2024, from 10 AM - 2 PM, held at Memorial Park.

Wine Walk & More: tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 2024, from Noon - 4 PM, with plans to be held in downtown Grove City.

Eat Out For A Week Raffle: Ticket sales will kick off at the Wine Walk, and the drawing will end December 13, 2024.

Christmas in the Park: always lit from Thanksgiving weekend - January 2nd. Displays must be registered and assigned a spot. Display setup will be November 21st - November 27, 2024.

Our Annual Dinner Was Truly A Celebration Of Commerce!

Our Chamber had a wonderful Annual Dinner - A Celebration of Commerce on Tuesday, March 12th. The event, sponsored by Grove City College, was held at the Grove City Country Club. This year, we started off with a Welcome Reception from 5 PM - 6:15 PM, sponsored by AHN-Grove City Hospital and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. The Welcome Reception offered a time of networking and delicious appetizers.

At 6:30 PM, our Executive Director Beth Black began the formal portion of the evening with a brief address and introduction of elected officials in attendance. The room was filled with 200 attendees and beautiful flowers adorned the tables courtesy of Flower Sponsor, Armstrong. A delicious dinner was enjoyed by all as was a time of fellowship and networking.

After dinner, attendees were able to hear from President of the Board of Directors John Inman, Grove City College. Inman celebrated the various accomplishments the Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce has seen and will continue to see throughout the remainder of 2024. Following his Presidential message, Inman (along with special guest Grove City College President Paul McNulty) introduced the keynote speaker who was organized by Grove City College as the Event Sponsor.

The keynote speaker, Mark Broadhurst, Chief Operating Officer-Parkhurst Dining, and Family Owner-Eat'n Park Hospitality Group presented "The Story Behind the Smile" which offered attendees a glimpse into the history of Eat'n Park and Smiley cookies, as well as a look at Parkhurst Dining which provides food and hospitality services for over 75 partners, including Grove City College. Special Smiley cookies were provided to all attendees.

Black recognized current, outgoing and former Chamber Board Members with special pieces from Wendell August. Those who went off the Board of Directors at the end of 2023 included Carmen DeRose, Grove City Premium Outlets; Deno Neofotistos, Main Street Diner; and Mitch McFeely, NexTier Bank. Amanda Arnhold, the 2023 President of the Chamber's Board of Directors, was

recognized for her leadership in that role and thanked for her service with a special plaque.

A large portion of every Grove City Chamber Annual Dinner is the presentation of our Community Service Award. This tradition started in 1980 and continues today. Black recognized past Community Service Award recipients in attendance before turning the microphone over to Eric Thomas to present the 2023 Community Service Award. For anyone ever attending our Chamber's Annual Dinner in the past, Thomas begins with several jokes before turning serious and telling the story of the next recipient. Our Chamber truly appreciates the effort he puts into the presentation each and every year. The 2023 Community Service Award was given to Adam Cook for all that he does in and for the Grove City area, starting as a young child and now as he is a leader and a role model helping future generations to achieve.

Special thanks to our Welcome Reception Sponsors: AHN-Grove City Hospital and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, our Event Sponsor: Grove City College, our Flower Sponsor: Armstrong, and to everyone who placed an ad in our printed program. We appreciate the support!

This year's advertisers included: Armstrong, Blackout Burger Bar, BOK Law & Mediation Services, Bombatch Law, Cashdollar & Associates, Crimzon Vapes, Davevic Benefit Consultants, Farmers National Bank, Gardner's Tax & Financial Services, Grove City Agway, Grove City County Market, Grove City College, Harrisville Memorials, Highmark/AHN, Howe Company, Keystone Safari, Mercer County Commissioner Ann Coleman, Molloy Law, Morton-Moore Insurance Agency, NexGEN IT Solutions LLC, NexTier Bank, Penn-Northwest Development Corporation, Pennsylvania State Representative Tim Bonner, Printing Concepts, Pub 76, Ralph Family Insurance - An Allstate Agency, Rusty L. Williams CPA LLC, Spiegel's Flooring, The Weaver's Creamery, Turner Insurance Agency Inc., VisitMercerCountyPA, and Wabtec.

Below are photos from the evening:

Photos 1-3: Welcome Reception Networking, Food, and Fun.

Photo 4: Annual Dinner tables were decorated with Spring flowers courtesy of Flower Sponsor: Armstrong, Smiley Cookies, and Shannon's Kandy Kitchen chocolate 'Thank You' bars.

Photos 5&6: Keynote Speaker Mark Broadhurst while presenting "The Story Behind The Smile" and some of the 200 attendees listening to the presentation.

Photo 7: Pictured left to right: PA State Representative Timothy Bonner; Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce President of the Board of Directors John Inman, Grove City College; Keynote Speaker Mark Broadhurst, Chief Operating Officer-Parkhurst Dining, and Family Owner-Eat'n Park Hospitality Group; 2023 Community Service Award Recipient Adam Cook, Grove City YMCA; Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Beth Black; and Borough of Grove City Mayor Randy Riddle.













Our Chamber Travel Program Had A Successful First Trip!

Our Chamber introduced a new Chamber Travel Program that allows any Chamber Member, their designated representatives, employees, friends, and family, to sign up to go on specially offered trips through our Chamber. These trips are organized specifically for Chambers of Commerce and offer travelers the comfort of traveling with a group, receiving a discount rate, and many more features, all with an international destination.

For 2024, our Chamber's first international trip was to the Amalfi Coast, Italy. This first group was made up of 14 travelers. The trip began on March 20th with flights from Pittsburgh to Atlanta, GA, and then a flight straight to Rome, Italy. Our travelers included Dan and Autumn Becker, Beth and Jeff Black, Scott and Donna Boyd, Carmen DeRose, Roger and Leah Flynn, Josh and Kelly Grant, Jim Kocjancic, Shawna McClelland, and Brandy Ralph. Our Chamber's 14 travelers joined in with travelers from two other Chambers from other states to make a larger group of 39 people. This was a wonderful opportunity to make new connections while exploring a beautiful country. Some of the travelers left Italy on March 28th, while some stayed for an additional two days to explore Rome and return home on March 30th. A great time was had by all.

Below are a few photos from the trip. More photos will be shared on our social media now that everyone from our group has returned home. Follow along to see a glimpse of the adventures in Italy, including Maiori, Minori, Ravello, Paestum, Salerno, Amalfi, Positano, Naples, Sorrento, Pompeii, and Rome. Lots of incredible memories and really great friendships and bonds were created that will last far longer than the trip. We hope you will join us on the next adventure!









































Welcome New Chamber Members!

Butler Floor and Carpet

Julie Czifra, President 1763 North Main Street Ext. Butler, PA 16001 724-287-2289 https://www.butlerfloor.com/

We provide flooring options for any project type, both residential and commercial. We offer professional help selecting the best floor for your project, free estimates, and competitive pricing.

Eliminators Pest Control

Adam Leishman, Owner 5395 Perry Highway Volant, PA 16156 724-854-2866 https://www.eliminatorspc.com

Eliminators Pest Control provides residential and commercial pest control services.

Kampas Orthodontics

Dr. Dana Craig, Orthodontist 133 South Broad Street Grove City, PA 16127 724-458-6860

www.drkampas.com

Check Kampas Orthodontics out on Facebook, Instagram, & TikTok

At Kampas Orthodontics, we pride ourselves in providing top-notch orthodontic care in a friendly, caring environment. We participate with most insurances and offer flexible financing options. Our mission is simple: to give our patients an exceptional orthodontic experience and to help them smile with confidence! Our orthodontists, Dr. Ron Kampas and Dr. Dana Craig, offer a variety of treatment options - including invisible aligners, clear braces, and metal braces. Give us a call to schedule your free consultation.

Mercer County Adult Education Center

Chelle Fuss, Executive Director 233 George Junior Road Grove City, PA 16127 724-458-7270

https://www.mercercountyadulted.org/

Check Mercer County Adult Education out on Facebook & Instagram

Mercer County Adult Education Center's mission is to provide adult education services to individuals throughout Mercer County, PA, who are not enrolled in secondary school. Incudes offering free classes and one-on-one tutoring and ESL to adults seeking to improve their literacy skills in reading, writing, math, English, and computer use.

Mercer County Juvenile Advisory Council

Melissa Wolicki-Archambeau, Executive Director 107 North Diamond Street, Suite 202 Mercer, PA 16137 724-662-5437 https://mcjac.org/

Check Mercer County Juvenile Advisory Council out on Facebook & LinkedIn

A nonprofit developed by the late Honorable Judge Acker and former chief of juvenile probation, Will Brinker, for Mercer County youth struggling with delinquent behavior. MCJAC's mission is to educate and collaborate with school districts, organizations and social service agencies to bring the current programming and diversion methods to help youth make positive life choices. As a child advocacy program, MCJAC works to change outdated policies that discourage mental health awareness.

Grove City Chamber's Social Media & Blog Posts - March Highlights

The Grove City Chamber has been doing weekday themed posts to encourage awareness about our different Chamber members and to support the community through the spread of positive thinking.

During the month of March, our Monday posts continued to highlight our website's Job Board and the listings our various Chamber Members have there as they are seeking employees. If you have job postings you want included on our website job board, just email the info to us! Our website analytics show that this page is getting a lot of traffic, so we know people are checking the jobs out and paying attention to our social posts!

Our Positivity Tuesday and Give Back Thursday posts were both positive and encouraging during the month of March. Tuesdays offer a quote that help you to focus on positive things. Thursdays offered suggestions for ways to give back in the local community including: 17th Annual Empty Bowls at Grace United Methodist Church (benefiting Grove City Community Food Pantry), Easter Bunny Helpers for AWARE, and Donations of Items Always Needed at Grove City Community Food Pantry. We hope these mid-week posts left you feeling positive and encouraged.

Our weekly What To Do Wednesday suggestions give an idea of something to do and include supporting a Chamber Member (or local people) in the plan. Our What To Do Wednesday suggestions for March included: Soup-er Library Support (Grove City Community Library), Grove City Christian Academy's Upcoming Play, and 4th Annual Egg Hunt for Adults & Kids at Libations Winery. These were all fun suggestions that we hope you took advantage of. We are excited to keep doing these and offering lots of fun ideas of things to do in our area. If you have ideas of what we should post for an upcoming What To Do Wednesday, just let us know!

Be sure and check out our social media accounts! We are posting on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and to make things easy to remember we are @GCChamberPA on all social platforms. If you haven't already, join us as we socially engage now and in the coming days, weeks, months and years to keep everyone informed and maybe even entertained. We'd love to hear from you, so feel free to comment, like, and share on our posts, and know that we love seeing and sharing your content too! Let's make sure we are engaged with one another!

Upcoming Webinars From Our Partners

If you are interested in taking part in upcoming webinars, click on the below links to access information from each of these partners.

Gannon University Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Northwest Industrial Resource Center (NWIRC): https://nwirc.org/training-and-events/schedule/

Shared By Members



Grove City County Market Honored with UNFI Circle of Excellence Award for East Independent Performance

- ·This award celebrates the outstanding achievements of Grove City County Market in maintaining exceptional standards through continuing to offer low prices and exciting promotions amidst competitive market conditions.
- · Grove City County Market's proactive approach in fostering customer engagement through enticing promotions seen primarily through Facebook, in-store displays, and print ads, has contributed to creating a buzz that continues to attract patrons seeking exceptional deals.
- · UNFI's dedication to quality and efficiency has significantly fortified Grove City County Market's ability to maintain well-stocked shelves and effectively compete with other market players.
- ·In late February, Dave Knopp and family traveled to Orlando, Florida to be recognized at one of their national selling shows, and a video presentation was shown with recognition at the awards ceremony. (https://www.unfi.com/circle-of-excellence?

utm source=BusinessWire&utm medium=PR&utm campaign=coe 2023 customer)

To read the full press release, please click **HERE**

Mercer County Business & Industry Career Fair 2024

Thursday, April 4, 2024 from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Park Inn by Radisson - 3377 New Castle Road West Middlesex, PA 16159

Join other local employers to showcase your business to the future workforce!

Be a part of educating 1000+ students about great career opportunities in our community!

The tenth annual Business & Industry Career Fair will include:

- Young Professional Panel discussing the benefits they find of living and working in our area
- Exhibitor's lobby with representatives from local employers and postsecondary institutions to discuss career opportunities with the students







We need your help to make this year's event a complete success!

In our Exhibitors Lobby, we feature local employers and training providers. Students can visit each booth and learn about career opportunities. While this is not a job fair or a trade show, it is an investment in the future by guiding young people into your vital industry. Our youth need to hear from local experts like you about the various career paths in specific industries in the local community.

If you have any questions regarding the 2024 Mercer County Business & Industry Career Fair, please contact Dawn Gregory, Youth Program Coordinator/ Monitor, West Central Job Partnership at (724) 347-7855 x303 or dgregory@wcip.org.

For program funding details in compliance with the Stevens Amendment, please visit wcjp.org













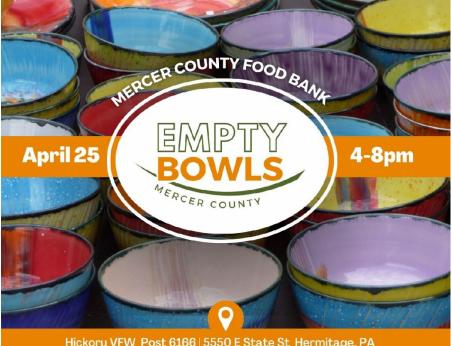






DRINKS - FOOD - NETWORKING

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 • 5:30 - 7:30 PM • FREE TO ATTEND
BIG RAIL BREWING • 2158 MERCER BUTLER PIKE, GROVE CITY, PA 16172



Hickory VFW Post 6166 | 5550 E State St Hermitage, PA

Join us for a simple meal of soup and bread and choose a handcrafted bowl to take home as a reminder that food insecurity persists in our local communities. The event features a basket raffle, silent auction, live entertainment and a cash bar.





Your support helps feed our hungry neighbors right here in Mercer County!



Scan QR code or visit mercercountyfoodbank.org to get tickets online or purchase tickets at MCFB or at the door of the event. Questions? Contact Patty at 724-981-0353 ext. 103



Do you have exciting news or a recognition you would like to share with us? Feel free to email information to info@shopgrovecity.com for consideration for future newsletters!

Chamber Office Hours

The Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce office operates under a hybrid model. Please be assured staff continues to work Monday - Friday (except holidays) and will happily assist with any needs you may have.

Our physical office is open as follows (unless closed for holiday observance and/or staff PTO use):

Mondays: 9 AM - 4:30 PM

Tuesdays: Office Closed, Staff working remotely

Wednesdays: 9 AM - 4:30 PM

Thursdays: Office Closed, Staff working remotely

Fridays: 9 AM - 4:30 PM

The Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce encourages appointments to meet with our staff. Appointments can be made for any day of the week, at your location or our Chamber office, and can be made by calling 724-458-6410 or emailing execdir@shopgrovecity.com.

Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce (724) 458-6410

info@shopgrovecity.com www.shopgrovecity.com





