



JOIN US!
WE'RE IN BUSINESS FOR
YOUR BUSINESS

CHAMBER CONNECTION

FEBRUARY 1, 2015

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 37

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**THANK YOU TO OUR
FEBRUARY SPONSOR**



**THE
LAKEWOOD
ROCKY RIVER
SUNRISE
ROTARY
CLUB**

FROM THE CEO & PRESIDENT

This month we celebrate our 9th Annual Outstanding Work Ethic Awards with the West Shore Career Technical District. Serving over 1,500 high school students across Bay Village, Lakewood, Rocky River, and Westlake school districts, West Shore Career-Technical District provides relevant, real-world academic and technical experience; preparing students for further education, professional programs, and immediate employment.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is proud to recognize 16 students from various West Shore programs who have demonstrated an outstanding work ethic. As community leaders, we understand the importance of an individual's work ethic in determining their future success. Often, students are not formally acknowledged for this quality, so this is our

opportunity to let them know that we appreciate their hard work and we admire a job well done!

Help us recognize these students by attending the breakfast on February 20th and showing your support. We will also present each student with a door prize and a gift bag from the area business community. If you are willing to provide a gift bag item or a door prize, please contact our office.

Thank you to our sponsor for this event, the Lakewood Rocky River Sunshine Rotary Club for covering the cost of each student's breakfast - and thank you for your support of the next generation of Lakewood business leaders!

FEBRUARY 20TH BREAKFAST MEETING: OUTSTANDING WORK ETHIC AWARDS

The West Shore Career-Technical District's 2015 Outstanding Work Ethic Award winners will be honored at a breakfast at Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center on February 20th, 2015. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club will host Chamber members, Rotarians, school and school district administrators, members of the Lakewood Board of Education, students, parents, employers, work supervisors, and guests at the 9th annual awards event. West Shore Career-Tech students, one representing each program at West Shore, will be recognized for demonstrating professionalism, responsibility, and integrity in the workplace.

Friday, February 20th, 2015

7:30am registration & networking;
8am program & breakfast

Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center
13000 Triskett Road,
Cleveland OH 44111

\$15/members
\$20/non-members **in advance.**

\$20/members
\$25/non-members **at the door.**

Visit the Chamber website for an electronic link to register & pay in advance.



9th Annual Outstanding Work Ethic Awards

Thank you to our February sponsor:



Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise Rotary

Promote your business or organization by donating a door prize (\$20+ value) or 16 gift bag items to these deserving award recipients! We will recognize your donation at the event, on social media and in our March e-newsletter. Members always ask "What do you need?" Keep in mind that we're honoring high school students, so these types of items are always popular:

Lakewood restaurant gift cards

Lakewood retailer gift cards

Items from Lakewood stores popular with teens

(Lion & Blue, Campbell's, Sweet Designs, The Ranger Shop, Geiger's, Fear's Confections, T-Shirt shops, etc.)

Technology items

(flash drives, earbuds, portable phone chargers, cordless mice, USB car charger adapters, mini-flashlights, etc.)

School- and office-related promotional items

(pens, sticky notes, letter openers, key rings, etc.)

Other promotional items & apparel

(t-shirts, hats, magnets, clips, water bottles, carabiners)

Please drop off your donated items to the Chamber office by Tuesday, February 17th. Thank you!

TASK FORCE & COMMITTEE NEWS

Economic Development Task Force

The Economic and Development Task Force asks you to **SAVE THE DATE** for an informal happy hour on Tuesday, March 31st at 5:30pm at The Bevy in Birdtown. The Lakewood Chamber and LakewoodAlive will be hosting this event to facilitate Birdtown businesses in getting to know each other, our organizations and the greater Lakewood business community. Thank you to our event sponsor, COSE. More information will be coming in the next months, but mark your calendar!

Membership & Marketing Task Force

A subcommittee of the Membership & Marketing Task Force has been meeting with Kristen Bindel and Ian Anderson of **Pillars of Lakewood** to discuss a potential video contest for the City of Lakewood. The purpose of the video would be to market the community on our website and on collaborating partners' websites. The goal is to reach outside our borders to potential guests and potential residents. The group is currently meeting with local experts and researching other community contests to determine the feasibility of the idea.

Legislative & Governmental Affairs Task Force

Thank you to the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Task Force for their persistence and hard work in bringing Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur to speak at our January 16th luncheon. Representative Kaptur addressed a full house and spoke at length about her background, her reasons for choosing to serve the public, and the challenges and opportunities that our district faces in 2015 and beyond. We would also like to thank Sante Ghetti, Director of Government Relations at COSE, and his team for sponsoring the event.

Education & Programming Task Force

The Education and Programming Task Force is in the process of developing 4 free educational workshops in 2015 for community businesses. If you have a topic or suggestion of a workshop you think would be beneficial, please contact us at 216-226-2900 or email info@lakewoodchamber.org.

Interested in getting involved with one of our Task Forces or committees? Contact Patty Ryan at pryan@lakewoodchamber.org.

MEMBERSHIP TESTIMONIAL: JULIE WARREN, ERIE DESIGN

To promote our members and to promote the value of Chamber membership, we've recently added Membership Testimonials to the Chamber website! Mouse over the "Member Benefits" tab and click on Membership Testimonials to read a few excerpts and to find a link to many more testimonials so generously provided by our members.

Do you have a story to share about the value of your membership in the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce? Email your testimonial to vmechenbier@lakewoodchamber.org and it will be added to the website and featured in an upcoming e-newsletter.

We joined the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce immediately after starting our business in 1999 and it has truly been one of our greatest sources of information and has provided countless opportunities to build relationships within our business community. Lakewood is a very loyal community when it comes to their local businesses. Our involvement with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has given us the chance to know business owners, politicians, leaders, church & school administrators, and residents who then, have become customers. These relationships are the foundation of our business.

— Julie Warren, Owner, Erie Design

DOUBLE YOUR BENEFITS WITH A CHAMBER / COSE DUAL MEMBERSHIP

**Lakewood Chamber members:
Strengthen your presence
in the local community
while supporting the
economic development
of the entire region.**

You can join the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE) for one low price. Not only can you save big

on essential business products and services like health insurance, workers' compensation and office products, but you'll also gain access to valuable contacts and resources throughout Northern Ohio.

Current Lakewood Chamber members (and COSE members) can upgrade to be a dual member for only \$75. For more information on becoming a dual member, visit

www.cose.org/affiliate.

Enjoy the stronger local & regional connections and expanded educational opportunities that being a member of both organizations can provide!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 17th

Tuesday, February 17th: Fat Tuesday Business After Hours with Rocky River Chamber of Commerce
Burntwood Tavern, 19304 Detroit Road, Rocky River, 5:30-7pm.
Great food, great prizes, cash bar. Bring plenty of business cards!

Sponsored by Cox Business

Sponsored by

**Friday, February 20th**

February Breakfast Meeting: 9th Annual Outstanding Work Ethic Awards
See page 2 for details

Sponsored by Lakewood / Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club

Sponsored by



*Lakewood/Rocky
River Sunrise Rotary*

Save these future 2015 dates:

Thursday, March 19th: Community Leaders Breakfast
Harding Middle School, 16601 Madison Avenue, 7:30am
Co-hosted with Lakewood City Schools

Tuesday, March 31st: Birdtown Happy Hour Event
The Bevy in Birdtown, 12112 Madison Avenue, 5:30-7pm
Sponsored by COSE

Friday, April 17th: April Luncheon Meeting: Mayor's Address to the Chamber & State of the Chamber
The Clifton Club, 17884 Lake Road

Friday, May 15th: May Luncheon Meeting: LakewoodAlive Update
The Waterside Room, Emerald Necklace Marina

Sunday, June 7th: 12th Annual Taste of Lakewood
See sponsorship information on page 7 and on www.lakewoodchamber.org
Co-Presented by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and Cleveland Magazine

View all upcoming Lakewood Chamber events at www.lakewoodchamber.org/events.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

O'Neill Healthcare presents "Heart Health Tips for Seniors" on Friday, February 6th. MetroHealth physician, Christopher Suntala will discuss important questions every senior should know the answers to including: What should my cholesterol numbers be? Do I need to take a daily aspirin? Are statin drugs safe? Do I need a stress test? Plus, you'll learn tips for a heart healthy lifestyle. O'Neill Healthcare, Assisted Living Building, 1381 Bunts Road. RSVP by February 4th to (216) 912-0800. Complimentary lunch provided.

The LHS Athletic Boosters is in planning mode for their 11th Annual Night at the Races fundraiser to be held on Saturday March 7th, 2015. The goal is to raise \$20,000 to directly support Lakewood High School and Middle School athletics. The LHS Athletic Boosters provide over \$65,000 worth of support annually to the **Lakewood City Schools'** Athletic Programs. Advertising and sponsorship opportunities are available—contact Amy Kemp: 216-233-6009 or teamkemp@cox.net.



ONE DAY ONLY! Bricks from the original Lincoln Elementary School will be for sale in the Lincoln parking lot on Saturday, February 14th, 11am-2pm. Bricks are \$10 each. All proceeds benefit programs in the **Lakewood City Schools**. No special orders or holds. Credit cards and cash will be accepted. Brick sales for Roosevelt and Grant Elementary Schools will be announced in the near future. Visit the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation website for updates: www.lakewoodrangers.org.

It may be cold outside, but it's hot at **Around the Corner**. Warm your belly at the 7th Annual Big Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, February 28th, 5-7 pm. Tickets are \$10 and include unlimited chili, a Coors Light, and a vote for the People's Choice Award. All ages are welcome! Ticket proceeds benefit the **Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation** and **Pillars of Lakewood**. Tickets may be purchased at Around the Corner or the Foundation website at www.lakewoodrangers.org.

Maria Shinn and Joe Lanter have formed a new legal partnership, **Shinn Lanter, LLP**. Maria has practiced law in Lakewood for over 15 years and will continue to provide legal services to clients throughout Northeast Ohio in the areas of estate planning, probate administration, elder law and non-traditional family law. Joe is moving his law practice from Downtown Cleveland to Lakewood. He specializes in family law, domestic relations and criminal defense. Maria and Joe are planning an Open House on Thursday, March 12, from 4-6 p.m. at their office in Birdtown (12511 Madison Avenue).

Are you dreaming of starting your own business in 2015? Bad Girl Ventures' 9-week education program helps women starting a business get the tools and knowledge they need to succeed. Attend the BGV Cleveland Spring 2015 Information Session on February 5th to learn more. 5:30-7:30pm, at the Small Business Development Center-Cleveland Heights Library, 2345 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights. Email info@badgirlventures.com or call 216-759-4575 for more information.

The next **Hospice of the Western Reserve** warehouse sale will be held Friday, Feb. 20, 9am-4pm and Saturday, February 21, 9am - 3pm at Hospice of the Western Reserve Headquarters, 17876 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland 44110. The sale features high quality, gently used furniture, accessory pieces, antiques and collectibles, garden/patio décor, pottery and glass, and more. Cash and major credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, and Discover) will be accepted for payment (no checks). Ample parking for the warehouse sale will be available in the Hospice of the Western Reserve parking lot.

Nature's Bin will be hosting its monthly "\$5 Friday" on February 6 from 5-8pm. A five dollar cover at the door includes five wine and food pairings! You'll also find five dollar deals throughout the store. February is American Heart Month so the food pairings will be all tasty, heart-healthy and vegan! "Friends have been finding this a great way to kick off their weekend," commented Rhiannon Blahnik, Nature's Bin grocery manager. "Each month our \$5 Friday has been growing. It's become a very social evening for everyone!" The featured wines on February 6 will be Our Daily Red, a California Red Blend; Staccato 2012 Malbec/Cabernet Sauvignon from Argentina; Grazioso 2011 organic Torrontes from Argentina; Caligore 2010 Bonarda from Argentina; and Hunt Country Vineyards' Sweet Gus blush table wine from the Finger Lakes. Nature's Bin will continue to be open for customers doing their regular shopping during this time as well. Nature's Bin hosts "\$5 Friday" the first Friday of every month.

Continued on page 8

COSE CORNER

COSE Announces the 2015 COSE Business Pitch Competition

The Business Pitch Competition provides aspiring small business owners the unique opportunity to win \$20,000 to get their idea off the ground while learning valuable insight from successful business owners who have discovered their key to success.



The final four applicants will be showcased at the fifth-annual Business Pitch Competition Finale which will take place on Thursday, May 7th. This exciting event allows the finalists to pitch their idea to a panel of experts and more than 200 members of the small business community. All finalists will receive a cash prize to help get their idea started... with the winner walking away with \$20,000!

Qualifications

1. Entrepreneurs that are just getting started and have a great new idea
2. In business for two years or less
3. Total gross annual revenue does not exceed \$250,000

How the Event Works

1. Provide an Executive Summary of your business or business idea (2 pages maximum). Executive Summary should include:

- Product or service description
- Target market and size of the market
- Business model (how does your venture make money?)
- Key resources – e.g. patents, design, etc.
- Management team, their experience and the functions each member performs
- Why your business is unique and why your team has an advantage over others offering a similar product or service

2. Film a short 2-minute video pitch: This video should complement your executive summary and show our judges why your idea is more worthy than others. You can do this on any webcam—the quality of the video itself will not be judged—it's the content that counts.

3. Submit everything by the application deadline: **March 19, 2015**

4. The judging panel will review submissions and select the semi-finalists to participate in our formal pitch day in early April. The semi-finalists will present to our judges during our formal pitch day. All of semi-finalists must participate in our formal pitch day to be considered for participation in the final round. All semi-finalists will have a total of 15 minutes to present their best pitch and answer questions from our experienced judging panel. The panel will then select the final four (4) businesses that will move onto the final round presenting their idea to the expert panel at the Business Pitch Competition Finale Event on May 7th.

6. The final four businesses will present at the Fifth Annual Business Pitch Competition on May 7, 2015 at Music Hall in Cleveland Public Auditorium. Each business owner will have 15 minutes to give their pitch followed by in-depth questioning from our panel. At the finale of the event, our experts will identify the top pitches awarding each winner with prize money to help develop and build their concept. First prize wins \$20,000, second prize wins \$10,000 and third and fourth prize each walk away with \$5,000 a piece.

For complete information, including an overview of last year's winners and a link to begin the application process, visit www.cose.org/pitch.

View & register for all upcoming COSE events at
www.cose.org/events.

TASTE OF LAKEWOOD SPONSORSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce plans for the 12th Annual Taste of Lakewood, the Chamber's largest community event.

The Taste of Lakewood is a no-admission fee, outdoor day-long food & music festival that celebrates what Lakewood is known for: tremendously Good Food. The event features Lakewood's eclectic mix of regionally known restaurants and food purveyors along with live music onstage, a beer & wine garden, dining tents, a VIP Experience, and more. A portion of the event's proceeds funds our annual scholarship program that rewards and assists college-bound high school seniors from St. Edward and Lakewood High Schools.



Over 10,000 people, primarily social media-savvy food & craft beer enthusiasts, age 21-35, from throughout the greater Cleveland area, attended the 2014 Taste of Lakewood. The recently renovated Madison Park in Lakewood's historic Birdtown neighborhood proved to be a perfect location for the many who walked, cycled, or took public transit to the event. Visit the Taste of Lakewood Facebook page to view photos of last year's event.

The Taste of Lakewood provides tremendous exposure for our restaurants, our city, our valued sponsors, and our community partners. We wanted to give you the opportunity to be a part of this year's **Good Food** event by becoming a major sponsor. Below is information about the various sponsorship levels and what you will receive for your sponsorship. We have a robust marketing campaign behind this year's event which encourages participating restaurants, their loyal followers, and locally known chefs & "foodies" to engage and promote the event on multiple platforms. The earlier you can commit to being a sponsor, the greater amount of exposure you will receive.

Expose your brand or product to tens of thousands of young adults who have a passion for good food, good beer, good tunes, and good times – and thank you in advance for helping to make the *Taste of Lakewood* the region's premier **Good Food** event!

2015 Taste of Lakewood Sponsorship Levels

\$7,500 Co-Presenting Sponsor (one remaining)

- Public introduction and recognition at event as Co-Presenting Sponsor
- Company name and logo included on all media releases
- Prominent company logo on Taste of Lakewood website with link to your company's website
- Company logo on all print advertising and promotional materials, including those distributed at participating restaurants
- Recognition & exposure via social media
- Company logo prominently displayed on event-day signage
- 8 VIP tickets

~~\$5,000 Co-Promoting Sponsor (one available)~~ SOLD

- Company logo on Taste of Lakewood website with a link to your company's website
- Company name on all print advertising and promotional materials, including those distributed at participating restaurants
- Recognition & exposure via social media
- Company logo prominently displayed on event-day signage
- 8 VIP tickets

\$5000 Platinum Sponsor

- Company logo on Taste of Lakewood website with a link to your company's website
- Company name on all print advertising and promotional materials, including those distributed at participating restaurants
- Recognition & exposure via social media
- Company logo prominently displayed on event day signage
- 8 VIP tickets

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JANUARY EVENT PHOTOS

January 16th Luncheon Meeting: U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur



Nearly 100 Chamber members and guests attended our January 16th luncheon at Brennan's. Read a recap of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur's visit at www.lakewoodchamber.org/january-luncheon-meeting.

January 29th Ribbon Cutting at O'Toole's



Mayor Summers, representatives from the Chamber, friends, family, and supporters of O'Toole's Pub & Restaurant (13601 Detroit Avenue) gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on January 29th. Check out their menu at www.otoolespublakewood.com.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS, CONT.

Cuyahoga Community College is hosting "College Goal Sunday" on February 8th at 2pm at Corporate College West and Tri-C's Western Campus. Talk to financial aid professionals, get free FAFSA assistance, and learn about scholarship opportunities, student services, admission requirements, and more.

Kauffman Park Friends is holding a snow sculpting contest! For official rules and an entry form contact Kauffman Park Friends through Facebook or via email at kauffmanpark@gmail.com.

The Women's Board of **Beck Center for the Arts** invites you to a Jazz Brunch featuring the Doris Long Jazz Ensemble on February 8, 2015 at **VOSH**. Doris Long is an 85 year old vocalist, a native Cleveland, and a legendary fixture in the Cleveland jazz scene since the 1960s. Tickets are \$30 each and include brunch as well as live entertainment. There will be two seatings: 11am and 1pm. To purchase tickets please call Marianne Monahan at 216-221-9202.

Has your business been featured in the news? Do you have an announcement or a one-time special event to share? Send your press release, link, or short summary to info@lakewoodchamber.org by the 25th of this month. Items received by the 25th will be included in next month's newsletter.

TASTE of GOOD FOOD LAKEWOOD



Photo by Craig Lovejoy Low Level Aerial Photography

from page 7

2015 Taste of Lakewood Sponsorship Levels, cont.

\$2,500 Gold Sponsor

- Company name on Taste of Lakewood website with a link to your company's website
- Company name on all print advertising and promotional materials, including those distributed at participating restaurants
- Company name on event day signage
- 6 VIP tickets

\$1,500 Silver Sponsor

- Company name on Taste of Lakewood website with a link to your company's website
- Company name on promotional materials, including those distributed at participating restaurants
- Company name on event day signage
- 4 VIP tickets

\$1,000 Bronze Sponsor

- Company name on Taste of Lakewood website
- Company name on promotional materials, including those distributed at participating restaurants
- Company name on event day signage
- 2 VIP tickets

\$500 Friend of the Taste

- Company name on Taste of Lakewood website
- Name on VIP & Dining tents at event
- 2 VIP tickets

\$250 Contributor

- Company name on Taste of Lakewood website
- 2 VIP Tickets

For more information and for an online payment link visit

www.lakewoodchamber.org/taste-of-lakewood-sponsorship-opportunities

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS: FEBRUARY 25TH

The City of Lakewood
cordially invites you to attend

Mayor Summers'
State of the City Address

Wednesday, February 25, 2015
7:00 p.m.

The Lakewood Masonic Temple
15300 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

NOACC NEWS

**JOIN THE REGION'S BIGGEST
CHAMBER NETWORKING NIGHT!**

THE GREAT BIG HOME + GARDEN SHOW
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 4 - 6 PM I-X CENTER

GREAT BIG HOME + GARDEN SHOW HOURS FOR WEDNESDAY 11 AM - 9 PM



THE GREAT BIG
HOME
+ GARDEN
SHOW

\$15.00 per person

This ticket entitles you to full day admission at the show. Come early, or stay late!

Registration table for event located in West Lobby - get your wrist bands starting at 3:30pm

GreatBigHomeandGarden.com

Click Here
To Purchase Your Tickets Now!

JOIN US! ALL CHAMBERS AND THEIR MEMBERS are invited to kick off the new year with the **Fourth Annual Great BIG Chamber Networking Night** at the **Great Big Home & Garden Show** at the I-X Center (near Cleveland Hopkins Airport) on Wednesday, February 11th from 4-6 pm. A \$15 ticket will give you entrance to the show from 11 am-9 pm and a PRIVATE PARTY for chamber members only from 4-6 pm that will include GREAT appetizers, sodas, cash bar, prizes from exhibitors and MORE!

Everyone had a great time last year and we expect an even bigger crowd this year! For more details visit: www.greatbighomeandgarden.com and use the promo code "CHAMBER" to buy your ticket. Or <Ctrl> click the image to the left.



NOACC Chamber Member Night with the Cavaliers!

Wednesday April 15th, 2015 is Fan Appreciation Night!!

Cavaliers vs Washington Wizards- 8:00pm

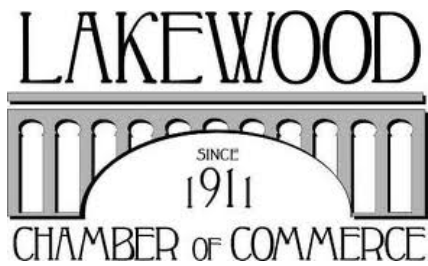
Tickets start at just \$36 and includes a FREE Gladiators ticket!

Questions?? Email NOACC Office at director@noacc.org OR

Contact our Cavs Rep. Kyle Walker at 216.420.2137 / kwalker@cavs.com

**ORDERS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY
MARCH 1st**





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Lakewood OH 44107
Tel 216-226-2900
Fax 216-226-1340
Email info@lakewoodchamber.org
www.lakewoodchamber.org

**JOIN US!
WE'RE IN BUSINESS FOR
YOUR BUSINESS**



Promote your company/organization
by placing an ad in the
Chamber Connection newsletter!
See below for more info, or visit
www.lakewoodchamber.org.



LAKEWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chairperson	Cindy Einhouse , <i>Beck Center for the Arts</i>
Vice Chair, Economic Development	Bill Craighead , <i>Cleveland Home Title</i>
Vice Chair, Legislative & Governmental Affairs	Nicole Hatem Farley , <i>Fisher & Phillips LLP</i>
Vice Chair, Membership & Marketing	Julie Warren , <i>Erie Design</i>
Immediate Past President	Diane Helbig , <i>Seize This Day Coaching</i>
Treasurer	Steven R. Clark , <i>Clark Financial Services</i>
CEO & President	Patricia L. Ryan

2014-2015 Board of Directors

Ian Andrews	<i>LakewoodAlive</i>
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Michael Daso	<i>AXA Advisors, LLC</i>
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Sharon Marrell	<i>Marrell Music</i>
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Brian Siftar	<i>Lakewood City Schools</i>
Dru Siley	<i>City of Lakewood</i>
Bob Wright	<i>Buckeye Beer Engine</i>

ADVERTISE IN THE CHAMBER CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

Looking to get more exposure in our business community? Advertising your company or organization in our monthly e-newsletter is a great, cost effective method of reaching Chamber members, community business leaders, and friends of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. The monthly e-newsletter is directly emailed to 1000+ individual email addresses, posted on the Chamber website, communicated out via the Chamber's Facebook page and automatically sent out via Twitter (@lccohio).

For more information on advertising and marketing opportunities, visit www.lakewoodchamber.org and under "Member Benefits" click on "Marketing Opportunities".