

Executive Director, Steve Matheny smatheny@granvilleoh.com

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Chamber Mission

The Granville Area Chamber of Commerce is an organization of business leaders whose purpose is to maximize the value and relevance of business by stimulating commerce, advocating for our businesses, and supporting responsible business development that preserves our heritage and sustains the quality of life in the community.

UPCOMING GACC MEETINGS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday, January 21, 2014

TIME: 11:30 AM - 1 PM

WHERE: Byn Du Mansion

PROGRAM: State of the Chamber address

LUNCH: \$10

BOARD MEETING: January 15, 9:00 AM Members Welcome! Please contact the GACC office for location information and to let us know you are coming.

Looking ahead

Steve Matheny, Executive Director, Granville Area Chamber of Commerce smatheny@granvilleoh.com

From my perspective the year 2015 looks to be a busy and promising year. First of all we have a cadre

of six new Board Members with strong enthusiasm and high expectations for the coming year. Collectively they have expressed some of the following in terms of needs and priorities for the Chamber:

- Leveraging our position in Licking county and nurturing connections and relationships with New Albany and Newark as well as the greater Columbus area.
- Expanding opportunities for informal networking among our own GACC members.
- Greater focus on economic development education and initiatives.
- Maintaining momentum and capitalizing on the launch of the Granville app and pursuing other technology tools and advancements.
- Fostering relationships with, and support of, Denison as well as other local non-profits.
- Finding more and better ways of celebrating "wins" among our membership.

It's also clear that the Board desires progress in all of the areas identified while recognizing, honoring, and preserving our unique heritage and quality of life. Some of these identified needs and priorities are not new and I also realize that accomplishing some of them is more easily said than done. Still, I believe that good progress can be achieved and I look forward to working with the Board and the membership to help realize these objectives.

Secondly, I want to point out that some initiatives are already underway that are in synch with these very objectives. One such initiative is the School Board's scheduled Economic Sustainability Summit meeting which will occur on January 15th (see more continued on page 5



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Announcements

Kendal at Granville & Day Y Noche Restaurant receive honors

At the December Annual Meeting and Holiday Luncheon the Chamber announced its Annual Award winners for Business and Volunteer of the Year. For 2014 two member businesses were honored with the Business of the Year designation.

Specifically these were Kendal at Granville and the Day Y Noche Restaurant. During the award presentation it was noted that, "Kendal at Granville has done much to benefit the local community in terms of financial support and sponsorships in addition to creating more than thirty new positions on their payroll stemming from their Phase II expansion efforts which included doubling the size of their Health Center". The Day Y Noche Restaurant was also awarded Business of the Year designation in recognition of their selfless support of the downtown business district and the degree to which they exemplify the Mission and values of the Chamber of Commerce.



Photo by Gary Chisolm

Also during the Luncheon program David Bohn, a Denison University senior majoring in Psychology, was named as recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award. David served the Chamber during the year as a summer intern. He worked on several marketing related projects in addition to providing much needed staff support in the Chamber office and at the weekly Farmers Market. Steve Matheny, Executive Director, commented, "There is always a diffi-

culty in singling out one individual for an award of this type. We are fortunate in having a solid number of committed volunteers and I want to recognize their efforts in addition to the great work that David performed".



Photo by Gary Chisolm

Market Master for Granville Farmers Market ... passing the baton

The December Holiday Luncheon also provided a natural opportunity to pay tribute to Larry Strayer who has faithfully served in the role of Market Master to the Granville Farmers Market for the past six years. Larry has been instrumental in growing the Market to its present size and regional stature and his efforts are greatly appreciated. His shoes will be difficult to fill, however, we feel we have a strong successor in the person of Jerod Long who has recently been selected to assume the role. Jerod owns and operates the J. Long Financial Group-an Allstate Insurance Agency located at 1630 Columbus Road in Granville. Matheny observed that, "Jerod was raised on a farm and grew up in his family's farming related business. This history, coupled with a strong business management background and a drive to give back to the community are key attributes that led to his being chosen as our next Market Master."

Economic Sustainability Summit on January 15th

The Granville Schools Board of Education is hosting a community conversation about the local tax burden issue at 7:00 PM in the High School Auditorium. The goal for the

public meeting is to enhance awareness of the complex topic of school funding and the increasing burden upon local taxpayers – both residential and commercial. The intent is to begin a discussion that can reveal opportunities for the community to explore options to ensure the long-term sustainability of our schools and the community. Your input is valued and you are encouraged to participate.

The Granville App is off and running!

We're pleased to report that early statistics relating to the launch of the mobile app are very encouraging. As of December



month-end (only three short weeks post launch) we are at nearly 300 total downloads! Roughly 78% of the downloads occurred on Apple devices and 22% on Android equipment. We will receive detailed monthly updates and statistics from Citizen Sync (the app developer) advising us regarding the app's utilization and we will share that information on a regular basis. In the meantime please download the app yourself if you haven't done so already. We would appreciate hearing about your user experience with this powerful new tool.

Got art?

Our new neighbor at 123 E. Broadway (the ART @ 43023 gallery) is off to a great start as well. Starting in January they will begin to offer a Guest Artist Reception from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM on the first Saturday of each month. Please be sure to stop by and check them out.



citizensync

Citizen Sync designs and develops mobile apps for communities. One important facet of every modern community is its local businesses. With over 200 million Americans owning smart phones it has become increasingly important for business owners to consider going mobile. By partnering with the village on their official app, we enable every business in the local community to speak directly to the residents and visitors on this officially endorsed platform.



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AVAILABLE FOR IOS & ANDROID

\$49

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I sometimes have a hard time stopping at the end of the day. I do full service identity design, logo design, image branding, websites, printed materials, signage, social media.

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GACC Members: PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS in *SNAPSHOTS!* Snapshots are about 65 words long. Send your business image, description, including hours of operation and contact info, to Chamber@granvilleoh.com

OFF-BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT

HFP RACING

In 2014, HFP Racing's owners Shannon & Jennifer Kurek celebrated 25 years serving the active lifestyle community. Over the last quarter century HFP Racing has been blessed to have played a significant role in the building of the sport of triathlon within the Mideast region.



HFP Racing is committed to producing our events that support our core values and mission statement: "To provide a world class race experience with a family friendly feel for the benefit of our valued customers."

Along with a full calendar of owned and operated events from May through October, HFP Racing services the Cap City Half Marathon, Ohio State 4 Miler, Columbus Hot Chocolate Run and many other high profile events in central Ohio.

> More information on HFP Racing can be found at www.hfpracing.com

Looking ahead

continued from page 1

in Announcements on page 2). This important community dialog aligns closely with our own interests to further economic development education and awareness. For our part we, too, expect to provide opportunities for discussion and learning about the complexities and impacts of economic development in our community. I'm also happy to report that our Board recently approved monies to be used for upgrade and redesign of the GACC website. This site conversion will yield enhanced content management capabilities and responsive website design meaning that the site will render appropriately to the device it is viewed on. We are also in the planning stages now for some 'business after hours' networking gatherings. We believe these types of get-togethers facilitate shopping locally and the referral of business among our own members. Another GACC initiative that recently began is a project team of member volunteers who are committed to developing a 'Guide to Doing Business in Granville' which will be very useful for new businesses with an eye toward locating in Granville as well as established businesses who may be perplexed by some of the guidelines and regulations governing commerce in our community. Certainly this is a worthwhile initiative and we can benefit from your experience if you have already "been there" and "done that".

All of the above contribute to my feeling that we are entering 2015 with a running start. I'm glad to be in the middle of it all and I am always open to your thoughts and input.

> With best wishes for a Happy and prosperous New Year, Steve



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