



Perry County Chamber of Commerce  
January, 2008

## CHAMBER NEWS!!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**New Executive Director Hired**

**Our Office Has Moved**

**Chamber Social Event– January 29th**

**Annual Christmas Walk A Success**

**New Board Members Elected**

**Grants Available for Training Costs**

**2008 Perry County Calendar of Events**

**What is The Chamber of Commerce?**



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John Ulmer, Executive Director  
Eileen Ralston, Executive Secretary**

### NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HIRED

At their November meeting, the Board of Directors Hired John Ulmer to be the new Executive Director of the Perry County Chamber of Commerce. Hopefully, many of you remember me when I was the Perry County 4-H Extension Agent, from which I retired October, 2004. I look forward to working together to meet your business needs and accomplish community goals.

### OUR OFFICE HAS MOVED

On December 1st and 2nd, volunteers worked together and moved our office to its new location at 121 South Main St. in New Lexington. A special thanks goes to Dr. Larry Rentschler, Frank Newlon, Jason Newlon, Ross Newlon and Scott Berry for their help in making this move.

Feel free to stop by and see **YOUR** new office facilities.

### CHAMBER SOCIAL EVENT-January 29th

The Annual Social Event and Installation of Officers is January 29th. It will be held at the Elks Lodge , 109 South Main St., New Lexington. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. with Hors D'oeuvres and beverages available.

Guest speakers will be Senator Tim Schafer, Representative Dan Dodd, and Brandon Kern from Senator Voinovich's office.

The Cost is \$10.00 per person, payable at the door. No RSVP has been requested. Please plan to attend and bring a guest!

### **CHRISTMAS WALK A SUCCESS**

On December 7th, the streets of New Lexington were lined with hundreds of illuminaries and filled with hundreds of people. Special thanks to Polly Pletcher and representatives from the Perry County Probate Court and Juvenile Court for their help!

### **NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED**

You elected Dorothy Barlow, Barb Ford, Polly Pletcher, and Cindy Rutter to three-year terms for the Board of Directors. Thanks to everyone who allowed their name to be placed on the ballot and to Everyone who voted.

### **GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR TRAINING COSTS**

In order to grow successfully, businesses must continuously invest in their workforce. Through a partnership between Hocking College and Tri-County Adult Career Center, local businesses can receive matching dollars for training incumbent workers through Enterprise Ohio Networks Targeted Industry Grants. This program has three objectives:

1. To ensure employers access to affordable non-credit training and related services:
2. To improve the competitiveness of Ohio businesses through non-credit employee training; and
3. To attract, develop and retain companies strategically important to Ohio's economy.

The program assists employers in improving the quality, productivity and retention of workers; expanding operations; developing new businesses; or any combination of these goals.

Through the program, funding can be used for companies of all sizes up to \$650 per person or up to 75% of training costs for companies with less than 100 employees and 50% for companies with more than 100 employees.

The grant, with its easy to complete three-page application, can fund almost any Training or skills assessments for manufacturers, manufacturing related businesses, health-care providers and health care-related businesses..

It can also be used to help fund computer training for any company, regardless of size or product. A Consortium of businesses with similar needs may also be eligible for funding.

Eligible job training and related services include, but are not limited to: job skill training and related evaluation services; skill assessment to determine the need for training and related services, and to determine the relationship between training and other organizational factors.

The partnership has approximately \$50,000 to encumber in the next few weeks, therefore time is of the essence. When the application is complete, employers can expect to hear within two days if they will receive the funding.

A special meeting for interested individuals will be held Wednesday, January 30, 1:00 p.m. at The Chamber of Commerce Office. Please call 342-3547 if you plan to attend, or call Kim McKinley, Director of Tri-County Adult Career Center at 740-753-5465 for additional information.

### **2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Please submit information dates, locations, brief description paragraph, etc. for any events and activities that you would like included in this flyer. We would like this information no later than February 15th.

### **WHAT IS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?**

It is an action agency designed to meet community needs. It is a voluntary organization of individuals and businesses that band together to advance the commercial, financial, industrial and civic interest of the community. It could be defined as the vehicle (organization) for mobilizing people to accomplish agreed upon goals for the betterment of the community.

### **Best wishes for a great 2008!!**

Sincerely,  
*John Ulmer*  
John Ulmer  
Executive Director