

Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce Weekly Update December 5, 2003



GOOD NEWS AT PAINT AND MAIN: It very much appears the Carlisle Building, ravaged by the fire in late April, will be restored and that the architectural gem once again will become a center for commerce and business downtown. The KG&R Development Corporation from Tiffin that's been working on making it happen apparently has put together a plan that will see a new roof go on quickly, followed by the heavy lifting starting next spring. The deal also includes the Howson Building next door on Main Street which opens quite a few more possibilities, including much needed offstreet parking in the rear.

GET THE SKINNY ON JOB STATUS: Want to know what's being done to bring more jobs to Ross County? What new developments are in the works? How to take advantage of potential tax incentives for your own business? Wednesday's Networking Luncheon will go a long way to answer those questions. Dona Smith of the Community Improvement Corp. and Matt Allen of the city's

Economic Development Office will be on hand to discuss initiatives under way and to take your questions concerning developments. We'll also introduce our newest members and each company will get up to 60 seconds to talk about their business. The luncheon starts at 11:30 at the Chillicothe Country Club and costs \$10 per person, payable at the door. To register, click here: [Networking Luncheon registration](#)

REMOVE THE POLITICAL FOOTBALL: While City Council and the old and new administrations continue to look for solutions to the tight budget situation it faces, one hope is that, in the future, the revenue (or at least a set percentage of it) generated by the hotel-motel tax is always funneled to the Ross-Chillicothe Convention and Visitors Bureau to bring more tourists to the area. So many jobs in this area are dependent on tourists so to eliminate the funding altogether could create a vicious downward cycle. Council should not have to make a decision every year as to the funding level. The bed tax needs to be considered in the same vein as the income tax for the transit system and for recreation.

NEWEST MEMBERS: Here's who joined the chamber this week:

- Dimension Drafting, 253 S. Paint St., Suite C, Terry Thompson, offering computer drafting services, both onsite and offsite. www.dimensiondrafting.com
- Mary Kay Cosmetics, Joyce Fisher, 311 Trego Creek Road

BUSIEST INTERSECTIONS NOW TIED: Three years ago, U.S. 23 at East Main Street was the busiest stretch in terms of traffic, nudging North Bridge Street at the U.S. 35 intersection by about 2,400 vehicles. In the latest traffic counts released by the Ohio Department of Transportation, the two sites are virtually identical with about 38,600 vehicles passing there each average day. The numbers are a drop for the East Main-23 area from almost 40,000 vehicles in 2000. In terms of passenger cars, though, the North Bridge stretch is still king with almost 37,000 per day. Traffic on North Bridge declines to about 25,600 passenger cars at Pawnee Road, the site of the new Tim Horton's. Not surprisingly, U.S. 35 at Ohio 104 (High Street) increased from 30,100 in 2000 to 31,900 this year. For complete results of the latest traffic counts plus results from 1994 and 2000, go to:

http://www.dot.state.oh.us/techservsite/availpro/Traffic_Survey/TSR_Report/default.htm or go to

our website at www.chillicotheohio.com and follow the traffic count link from the homepage under Economic Development.

ROAD OPENS; SIGNAL COMES ON: Veterans Parkway, linking U.S. 50 near Slate Mills to Pleasant Valley Road, opened this morning. At the same time, the once-flashing signal at the U.S. 50 end became totally operational. The Anderson Station Road entrance near Cellar Lumber was expected to be closed. This should help traffic flow in what is becoming a more developed area as well as making it safer for people who used to travel Clinton Road.



IN RELATION TO DUES: On Thursday or early today, members should have received two dues-related messages from the chamber. The first heralded our premium membership packages which increases the profile of your business as well as provides discounts on sponsorships and other items such as web advertising. The second was a request for your organization's employee count so we can prepare the invoices for 2004. If you missed the online count form, follow this link: [Employee count form](#)

LEARN FROM YOUR PEERS: A panel of safety officers from local businesses will discuss their "best practices" and answer questions at Thursday's luncheon of the Ohio Valley Safety Council. It will be a good opportunity to hear real-life stories by the people who implemented the practices. The luncheon starts at 11:30 at the Ross County Service Center on Western Avenue. The cost is \$8 per person, payable at the door. To register: [Safety Council registration](#)

VENDORS LICENSES: Here's who received a vendor's license from the Ross County Auditor's office recently:

- H&R Block, 3 locations
- Buffalo Wild Wings Grill and Bar, 1080 N. Bridge St.
- Merkwon Tree Service, 20001 Old Route 104

EVEN MORE SAVINGS: You may have an opportunity to get an even lower discount on your workers' compensation premiums because of a recent change in the chamber's plan. We now are part of the Buckeye Alliance which gives participating chamber members more tiers or savings levels than the previous plan. If you're in another group plan, this change may mean the chamber's plan can meet or exceed the savings you're receiving now. To find out more, call Compensation Consultants at 800-837-3200 or e-mail them at info@ccitpa.com or apply online at www.cciworkerscomp.com.

STILL TIME TO 'TALK BUSINESS': State Sen. John Carey and Rep. John Schlichter will give an update on activities in the General Assembly and take your questions at the "Talk Business" breakfast co-sponsored by this chamber and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce on Monday, Dec. 15. The breakfast is free and begins at 8 at the Christopher Conference Center, but we ask that you register: [Talk Business registration](#)

CHAMBER CALENDAR:

- Monday, December 8-Ribbon-cutting ceremony, CiCi's Pizza, North Bridge Street near Elder-Beerman, 10:45 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 10-Networking Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Chillicothe Country Club. Learn about the latest advances in local economic development. [Networking luncheon registration](#)
- Thursday, December 11-Ohio Valley Safety Council luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Ross County Service Center, Best Practices panel of local companies. \$8 per person. [Safety Council registration](#)
- Thursday, December 11-Executive Committee, 8 a.m., chamber.

- Monday, December 15-"Talk Business" breakfast jointly sponsored with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, 8 a.m., Christopher Conference Center. Featuring state Sen. John Carey and Rep. John Schlichter. No charge. ["Talk Business" breakfast](#)
- Tuesday, December 16-Pathfinders Steering Committee, 3:30 p.m., chamber
- Wednesday, December 17-Board of Directors, noon, Kenworth Truck Co.
- Wednesday, December 17-Business After Business at RiverView Conference Center on North Plaza Boulevard sponsored by Ross County Home Lending. [BAB registration](#)
- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 24-26-Office closed for Christmas holiday.
- Thursday, January 1-Office closed for New Year's.



You are receiving this message as one of the many benefits of your membership in the chamber. If you'd like to be omitted from future messages, either reply and ask to unsubscribe or call the chamber office at 702-2722. To stay abreast of all chamber activities, make sure to visit www.chillicotheohio.com frequently. Contents copyrighted by the Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce.