



Providing Business Opportunities

Volume 26 Issue 4

News & Views

April 2010

APRIL LUNCHEON MEETING

A 3Chamber event with Twinsburg and Aurora Chambers

THURSDAY, April 15, 2010

Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg
8971 Wilcox Drive
11:30 a.m. (note earlier time)

“WAYS TO REDUCE HEALTH COSTS”

Panel

Dr. Brian Kessler, DO, Family Medicine, South Pointe Hospital
Dr. Nidhi Sodhi, MD, Internal Medicine, Cleveland Clinic
Dr. Paul Bizjak, Family Chiropractic Center, Inc.

The focus of the discussion will be on preventive medicine and what businesses can do to encourage staff to take advantage of local and/or internal resources such as starting a walking program.

Jennifer Mintz, Community Outreach at South Pointe Hospital, will lead the discussion. Each panelist will describe their practice and share their views on how employers can be proactive in the health of their employees. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Don't miss this opportunity to network with members of the Twinsburg and Aurora Chambers and also be part of a hot button topic!

Fee: \$20.00 Chamber members; \$40.00 non members

Deadline for reservations is 3:00 p.m. Friday, April 9, 2010

(NOTE: A \$5.00 late fee will be added for late registrations)

Prepaid reservations are requested. Register online at www.solonchamber.com or call the Chamber office at 440.248.5080 or email staff@solonchamber.com

Credit card payments accepted by phone or online.

(No shows will be invoiced)

Sponsored by



Coming Events

April Luncheon Meeting
Thursday, April 15, 2010
Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg
11:30 a.m.

SWIB Luncheon Meeting
Wednesday, April 21, 2010
Hawthorne Valley Country Club
11:30 a.m.

Solon HR Roundtable
Thursday, April 22, 2010
CSU-East Center
12 noon

Business After Five
Thursday, April 22, 2010
Davis Automotive
5:30-8 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE!
Thursday May 6, 2010
3Chamber Business Show
Signature of Solon
4-7 p.m.

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For the monthly
Calendar of Events
including all committee
meetings, see the last page
of this newsletter or visit
us at www.solonchamber.com

Save the Date

3Chamber Business to Business Show

Thursday, May 6 4-7 p.m.

Signature of Solon

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Marc Paige

Thanks to all of you who attended our great Taste of Solon event last month. Your enthusiasm and support is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to our many volunteers who worked to ensure a wonderful time was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Mayor Susan Drucker for her excellent State of the City presentation held at the Macklin Event Centre on March 23rd. The sold-out luncheon is evidence of the support being given to our new Mayor throughout the city and the Chamber!

Last month I promised to update you on important chamber activities.

1. Legislative Committee: This effort has received great interest and participation. A meeting was held on March 3rd, and a mission statement has been drawn up focusing on specific tasks. The Board has approved the newly-reformed Legislative Committee. Our Chamber will be represented at future city council meetings, relaying important information back to our members.

2. Retail Committee: This group has already had multiple meetings. Representatives from a local development company and a real estate management company have joined to provide their perspective. The Mayor will be attending a future meeting. The Board has also approved the newly-reformed Retail Committee.

3. Board Restructuring task force: They have identified important issues needing further discussion. After these items are clarified and written, the Board will review these proposals for approval.

4. Solon Young Professionals: A highly-energized group of members have come together with renewed purpose. An event was held on March 25th at Solon Freeway Lanes. Regular meetings will be held to keep the momentum going!

5. Membership Committee: A visitation blitz was held on March 10th, reaching out to current chamber members whom we've not seen recently and perspective new members. Great job, folks!

6. Scholarship Committee: This group is hard at work reviewing Solon High School student applications to select the most deserving.

7. Solon HR Roundtable: Each meeting has had an interesting speaker with specific and timely topics applicable to human resource departments.

I am impressed and grateful for all of your tireless efforts. My thanks and appreciation go to all of you for making the Solon Chamber of Commerce a great organization and business advocate.

Welcome New Members

FirstMerit Mortgage Corporation

Ritu Kaw
33113 Aurora Road
Solon, OH 44139
440.804.6684
Mortgage broker

Holiday Inn Express

Sharon Clagg
23303 Oakwood Commons Drive
Oakwood Village, OH 44146
440.786.1998
Hotel

Independence Village of Aurora

Candy Gargus
505 S. Chillicothe Road
Aurora, OH 44202
330.562.1750
Retirement community

Miraj International LLC

Rita Singh
2573 Butterwing Road
Cleveland, OH 44124
216.856.4725
Event planning

We extend a warm welcome to new members and encourage you to patronize their services.

BUSINESS AFTER FIVE

presented by

The Solon Chamber of Commerce

The Passport Professionals of

The British American Chamber of Commerce

The Jaguar Club of Ohio

Thursday, April 22

5:30-8 p.m.

Jaguar Cleveland (Davis Automotive)

6137 Kruse Drive, Solon

Hors d'oeuvres, Beer and Wine provided

Join these three prestigious groups
for an evening of networking and much more!

RSVP to Debbie Dietes at 216.706.3932 or ddietes@taftlaw.com



Providing Business Opportunities

News & Views is published monthly by

The Solon Chamber of Commerce,

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Chamber Officers

Chairman of the BoardMarc Paige
Chairman Elect.....Hal Becker
Vice Chairmen: Mark Bednar, Jim Bird, Jim Kelvington, Greg Rosenberg, Michelle Seeber
SecretaryNancy Traum
TreasurerKim Zagar

Chamber Staff

President/CEONancy Traum
Program Coordinator.....Judie Winston

Visit us at www.solonchamber.com

MARCH LUNCHEON MEETING

Macklin Event Centre - Annual State of the City Address



Solon Mayor Susan Drucker with Chamber Chairman Marc Paige, APG Office Furnishings



Luncheon sponsor HoneyBaked Ham manager John Paul Rachin and owner Dennis Demshar



Karen Prasser, Solon Center for the Arts, Law Director David Matty and Peggy Weil Dorfman, Economic Development Coordinator



Dr. Richard Kratche, Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Sue Wasielewski, KeyBank

BUSINESS AFTER FIVE HoneyBaked Ham



Mary Jane Camarato & Edie Demshar



Dannette Render & Kathleen Bergansky



Stephen Fein & Barbara Vosmik



Bruce Downie & Bob Arnoff

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

- ❑ **Chicago Deli** was the featured restaurant in the *Chagrin Solon Sun* "Scoop du Jour" section.
- ❑ *Crain's* ranked **Firefighters Community Credit Union #11, Best Reward Credit Union #16** and **Taleris Credit Union Inc. #22** in Credit Unions ranked by assets.
- ❑ In Local Software Developers ranked by full-time employees, *Crain's* ranked **Micro-Retail #3, SageQuest #9** and **Specialized Business Software #23**.
- ❑ Gary Shamis, **SS&G Financial Services, Inc.**, was the subject of "Talk with the Boss" in the *Plain Dealer* Business Section.
- ❑ **Stratford Commons** is holding a Welcome Reception on Thursday, April 1, 2010 from 1 to 4 p.m. They have joined Kindred Healthcare.
- ❑ **Station 43** and **Signature of Solon** each had feature articles about their businesses in *Mimi Vanderhaven*.
- ❑ **Home Instead Senior Care** is one of the sponsors of "Operation Medicine Cabinet" being held on Saturday, May 8, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dispose of outdated and unwanted medications safely. Collection will take place at the Solon Senior Center, 35000 Portz Pkwy.
- ❑ **Le Chaperon Rouge** will celebrate their grand opening with an Open House on April 23, 24 and 25 from 1-5 p.m. each day. Everyone is invited to see Solon's newest childcare facility at 6010 Kruse Drive.

DOOR PRIZES NEEDED!

Donate a door prize and receive recognition for your company at a Chamber event. Yes, the door prize can have your company name on it, thereby extending the value of your donation. Please call the Chamber office at 440.248.5080 for details.

JOIN US ON LINKEDIN

Join the Solon Chamber of Commerce page on LinkedIn. To sign up for an account go to www.linkedin.com and join the Solon Chamber of Commerce group. It is a good way to stay connected with other members and events at the chamber!

The Chamber also has subgroups for the Business Development Committee and Solon Young Professionals.

3 Chamber Business to Business Show

Aurora
Solon
Twinsburg
Chambers of
Commerce

Sign Up Now for the Third Annual 3-Chamber Show

Thursday, May 6, 2010

4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Signature of Solon

Free admission with business card or event ticket

Sponsorships Available

- Presenting Sponsor - \$5,000**

- Platinum Sponsors - \$1,000**
 - Complimentary double booth
 - Name/logo on all promotional materials
 - Name/logo on Sponsor Banner
 - 100 Event Tickets

- Gold Sponsors - \$500**
 - Complimentary regular booth
 - Name on selected promotional materials
 - Name/logo on Sponsor Banner
 - 50 Event Tickets

- Silver Sponsors - \$300**
 - Complimentary regular booth
 - Name on Sponsor Banner
 - 25 Event Tickets

Booth Space

- Super-Sized Booth (Double)**
 - Member Price: \$375
 - Non-member Price: \$450

- Standard Booth**
 - Member Price: \$200
 - Non-member Price: \$250

- Mini Booth (3' Space)**
 - Member Price: \$125
 - Non-member Price: \$175

- Electricity: Add \$50**

- Environmentally Green**
 - Request location in "Green" area

All booths include 6-foot table (except mini booths), table covering and two chairs. Member price includes members of the Aurora, Solon or Twinsburg Chambers.

Thanks for your participation! Please note: No refunds after April 5, 2010. Refunds prior to April 5, 2010 minus \$20 handling fee.

Registration Form

IMPORTANT: Booth space is being sold by three chambers, so a fast SELL OUT is expected. Booth space is on first come, first serve basis. Act now to guarantee a space!

Contact Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Web: _____

I am a member of the: _____ Chamber of Commerce I will donate a Raffle Prize

Total Amount Due: _____ Check Attached
(Made payable to Solon Chamber of Commerce)

Return with payment to:
Solon Chamber of Commerce
33595 Bainbridge Road #101
Solon, OH 44139
Phone: 440-248-5080 Fax: 440-248-9121

Credit Card (Visa/MasterCard/American Express)

Expiration date: _____ V-Code: _____



CITY BUSINESS NEWS

IN THE WORKS

SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOP – The City of Solon, City of Twinsburg, and the Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce co-hosted a workshop for small businesses presented by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The workshop provided information on funding and technical assistance resources available from federal, state and non-profit agencies.

NEW CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL - New Chief Building Official Charles Boshane began his duties on March 8th, following the retirement of Jack Clifford. Charlie is a licensed architect in several states, holds a master's of architecture degree, and is a certified building official, building inspector, master plans examiner, and residential plumbing inspector. Prior to coming to Solon he worked as the chief building inspector for the City of Worthington, OH.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE – The Industrial Core section of the City's updated Master Plan will be released this spring. Planning & Community Development Director Rob Frankland hopes to have this section and the previously released Retail District and Economic Development sections adopted by Council as one unit.

SIGN ORDINANCE REVISIONS – The Planning Commission recommended revisions to the sign code that would permit changeable copy messages. The maximum sign area permitted for changeable copy would be 33%, with a maximum of 2 lines of text. Such signage would be permitted for free standing signs only. Each message must remain fixed for at least 5 minutes and scrolling, moving, strobing or flashing lights will not be permitted. Council will hold a public hearing at its April 5th meeting.

BAINBRIDGE ROAD CONSTRUCTION – The Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office will improve Bainbridge Road from Route 91 to the east corporation line, beginning late March or early April. Two-way traffic will be maintained. Completion is expected June, 2012. For more information, contact the County Engineers' Construction Department at (216) 348-3838 or county@cuycyengineers.org.

KUDOS – For the 30th consecutive year, the City of Solon was designated a Tree City USA. Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters, the Tree City USA program recognizes communities that effectively manage their public tree resources and implement tree management based on the following program requirements: a tree board or department, a community tree ordinance, a forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an arbor day observance and proclamation.

Save the Date!
Business After Five
Thursday, May 13
5-7 p.m.

**Join Berger-Cleveland as they
celebrate 100 years in business!**

Watch your email for details.

*This is a Solon Chamber Members Only Event.
All member company employees
are welcome to attend.*



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Solon Women in Business

**“AT A CROSSROADS...
EVALUATING YOUR CAREER AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT”**

**Wednesday, April 21, 2010
11:30 a.m.**

**Hawthorne Valley Country Club
27840 Aurora Road**

**Speaker: Patricia A. Skerl,
Manger of Training and
Organizational Development, CSU**

Have you ever wondered “Where do I go from here?” concerning your career? Have you considered going back to school or updating your resume but don't know where to start? Patricia Skerl will discuss your alternatives and provide information on how to begin to make changes.

Patricia Skerl is on the staff of Cleveland State University and has extensive experience in evaluation, client relations and career development.

**Fee: \$20.00 Chamber members and
guests; \$40.00 non members.**

**NOTE: Late registrations will be
charged an additional \$5.00.**

Deadline for registration is 3 p.m.

Monday, April 19, 2010.

Prepaid reservations requested.

Call the Chamber

office at 440.248.5080 or email

staff@solonchamber.com or

register online at

www.solonchamber.com

**Credit card payment accepted by phone.
(No shows will be invoiced)**

Sponsored by:



Chamber Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday
8:30 a.m. - 12 noon

*(3:00 pm. on Fridays
before registration deadline)*

TASTE OF SOLON PHOTOS



Winner of Judges Favorite - Station 43. Could it be the crab legs?



Best Dessert went to Signature of Solon



Member Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg took home Best Appetizer-Hot and Best Entree



New Solon restaurant Pacific East served up delicious Sushi



Best Cold Appetizer, second year in a row, Chicago Deli



Rusty Bucket served up their famous salad and fried pickles



Easy Elegance Catering served Red Velvet Cookies

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www.creativeplayrooms.com

Joan Wenk – President & CEO awarded the 2009 State of Ohio Entrepreneurial Award by the Small Business Administration

ADVERTISEMENT

TASTE OF SOLON - A GREAT SUCCESS!

Thank you to all the volunteers, restaurants, raffle and silent auction donors who helped make the Annual Taste of Solon a HUGE success!

Event Sponsors

Grande Village Retirement Community
Kelly Services
Nestle Prepared Foods Company
Ohio Commerce Bank

Our Participating Restaurants

Benny's Sports Bar & Grille
Chicago Deli
D&R Bagels
Donato's Pizza
East Elegance Catering
Glenwillow Grille
Grum's Sub Shoppe
Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg
HoneyBaked Ham and Cafe
Jekyll's Kitchen
Longhorn Steakhouse
Max & Erma's
Pacific East
Panera Bread
The Rusty Bucket Corner Tavern
Signature of Solon
Station 43

A Very Special Thank You To:

The Acoustix Duo - live music
FM Turner - paper and plastic goods
Signature of Solon - host
Stratford Commons - flowers

Taste of Solon Judges

Stephanie Paginini, radio personality
& chef
Eileen Pickus, personal chef
Jane Snow, former food editor Akron
Beacon Journal

Taste of Solon Committee

Mary Jane Camarato, Steve's Sports
Terri Criss, Kelly Services
Maria Green, Springhill Suites
by Marriott
Marc Paige, APG Office Furnishings
Jaime Pickus, People Express
Transportation
Dannette Render, DAR Public Relations,
Inc.
Barbara Vosmik, Homewood Suites
by Hilton

Door Prizes & Silent Auction Donors

Akira
*Bertram Inn & Conference Center
Boston Mills
*Breezewood Garden Center
*Calvetta Brothers Floor Show
Cleveland Browns
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
Dunkin Donuts
Eagle Creek
*FM Turner Company
Friends of Solon Center for the Arts
Gamekeeper's Tavern
Geneva-on-the-Lake Lodge
*Grantwood Golf Course
Hampton Inn Dearborn
Hampton Inn Pittsburgh-Meadow Lands
*Hampton Inn Solon
*Hawthorne Valley Country Club
*Homewood Suites by Hilton Solon
*Hunan Solon
Inn of Chagrin Falls
*Jim Kelvington
Jimmy Dadonna's Italian Restaurant
John Roberts Studio & Spa
*Lake Business Products
*Lake Erie Monsters
Lana Furs
Legacy Village
*L'Oreal USA
Quail Hollow
*Mazel Company
Mohican State Park
*Moxie Hair Design
Nautica Queen
*Northcoast Record & Shredding Center
*Panera
*People Express Transportation
Playmatters
*Michelle Seeber
*Signature of Solon
Sirna & Sons
*Springhill Suites by Marriott Solon
Swedish Solution
Tan Line
The Henry Ford
*Western Reserve Wines
Yours Truly Restaurant

* Indicates member

Our Volunteers

Ron Iaforano, Steve's Sports;
Mary Kay Gebler; Jim Bialosky,
Solon Benevolent Fund;
Ewa Antonczyk,
Hampton Inn Solon;
Jim Kelvington, Kelco Insurance;
Lori Lange, Kelly Services

We couldn't have done it without you!

And the Winners Were...

Best Cold Appetizer
Chicago Deli, Hummus

Best Hot Appetizer
Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg,
Wild Rice Pancakes with Grilled Duck
Breast & Jalapeno Grape Salsa

Best Entree
Hilton Garden Inn, Seafood Crescents

Best Dessert
Signature of Solon, Miniature Pastries

Best Display
Glenwillow Grille

Judge's Favorite
Station 43



Glenwillow Grille was winner of best display for their flatbread served on hot brick



Rita Hendry, obviously from D&R Bagels!



There was something for everyone at the Silent Auction

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Business Dev. Com. Mtg. Solon City Hall 8 a.m.	2	3
4	5	6	7 Legislative Com. Mtg. Panera 7:30 a.m.	8 Board of Directors Mtg. Solon City Hall 8 a.m.	9	10
11	12 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	13 Business Dev. Task Force Mtg. Solon City Hall 8 a.m.	14 Membership Com. Mtg. Hampton Inn 8:30 a.m.	15 April Luncheon Mtg. Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg 11:30 a.m.	16 Golf Com. Mtg. Grantwood 8 a.m.	17
18	19	20 Benefits Com. Mtg. Hampton Inn 8 a.m.	21 SWIB Luncheon Mtg. HVCC 11:30 a.m.	22 Solon HR Roundtable CSU-East Center 12 noon Business After Five Jaguar Cleveland 5:30-8 p.m.	23	24
25	26	27	28 Retail Com. Mtg. HoneyBaked Ham 9 a.m. Scholarship Com. Mtg. Hampton Inn 11:30 a.m.	29	30	

Solon Chamber of Commerce Mission

To serve as advocates for the business community by supporting and fostering vibrant economic growth.

NEW CHAMBER WEBSITE FEATURES!

Here's some information on how you can make the most of the new features on the Chamber website.

- **Login & User Name.** Each member should have received a login and user name via email. If you did not receive one, please contact the Chamber. You can easily change your login and user name to something easily remembered once you are logged in to the website. Use your login and user name to register online at the member rate and to access other features.
- **New Feature: Jobs Posting.** Do you have a position available at your company that you would like to have displayed on the Chamber website? It's easy to accomplish. After you have logged in, pull down the menu under "Members" on the home page then click "Member Login". Enter your login and user name. Please remember that logins and user names are case sensitive and must include all commas, spaces and periods. Once in your record, click on the tab titled "Advanced Options". Then click on "Job Postings" then "New Job

Posting". A screen will pop up. Simply fill in the details and **hit save**. You can even enter how long you want the job to appear on the site. View all jobs available on the Chamber website by going to the "Economic Development" tab on the Home Page and then to "Job Postings".

- **New Feature: Access your records!** There's lots of information about your company and its employees available on our website. You now can do the following: **Pay bills online** (including membership dues); access your **business information**; access your **business categories**, access information on your **employees and representatives**, access your **login and user name** information; access your **website information**; access your **map pin information** (to help people find your business); enter as many as eight **keywords** to help people find your business in their Online Business Directory search; and view how your listing looks by clicking on **View Home Page**. You can also view your **member profile**.

- **Easy to use online registration!** The new online registration section allows members to follow a step-by-step sequence that makes online registration a breeze! The Chamber is once again accepting credit card payments online. Members will also find it easier to register multiple members of your company for a single event. Following registration, members will receive an email confirmation that they have successfully registered.
- **Coming Soon:** Member to Member Discounts displayed on the secure members-only location in the "Member Forum" section.
- **Coming Soon:** Promote your business by advertising on the Chamber Home Page.

**Visit our new site at
www.solonchamber.com**