GENEVA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2023
NEWSLETTER

Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce

P. O. Box 84, 866 East Main Street
Geneva, Ohio 44041
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Email: info@genevachamber.org

Facebook Geneva, Ohio Area Chamber of Commerce

Inserts and Articles Enclosed

- Chamber Business Expo
- Winterfest Chili Cook-off
- Year in Review Reports
- 2023 Calendar of Events

2023 Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Officers

Officers:

President: Jamie Ortiz, Lakeview Federal Credit Union and American Electric LLC

I-Vice President: Phil Anderson, Huffman-Mayer-Paolo Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors

II-Vice President: Robert Russell, Welker Farm Equipment

Treasurer: Douglas Braun, Lakeview Federal Credit Union

Executive Director: Sue Ellen Foote

Board of Directors:

Stewart C. Dowd, Adroit Consulting and Engineering LLC

Mike Goddard, Crawford Insurance Agency

Cliff Henry, Geneva United Methodist Church

Dr. Terri Hrina-Treharn, Superintendent, Geneva Area City Schools

Evan Jahn, Waste Management

Tim Lenart, Civic/Individual

Elena Marquetti-Ali, Civic/Individual

Tiffany Miller, Geneva Township, The Miller Realty Company, & Tiffany's Cottages

Richard Phinney, Rosemary's Pizza and Abner's Woodbine Cottages

Ed Spoor, Harpersfield Township

Richard Trice, ACMC and The Winery at Spring Hill

Joseph Varckette, Geneva City Manager

Terri Vincent, Loudermilk Tractor & Cycle

Bill Widlits, Lakehouse Airbnb - Madison

Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce
Business Expo / Trade Show

Sponsors:



American Electric LLC
Ashtabula County Medical Center
Crawford Insurance Agency
Lakeview Federal Credit Union
UH Geneva Medical Center
Waste Management

Thursday, February 16, 2023
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location at: Geneva High School in the Commons Area
1301 South Ridge Road (Rt. 84), Geneva

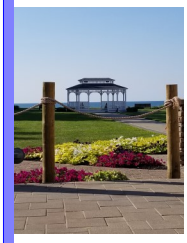
Donations of Door Prizes and Refreshments will be greatly appreciated.

Free and Open to the Public
Invite a friend to attend!

There will be tables with local businesses' products and services on display.

Cost of Table $65 for Members or $95 for Non-Members
Table location are on a first-come, first-served basis.
Payment is required before the event! We accept VISA and MasterCard!
(Electric not guaranteed. **You must provide your own extension cords.)**
Set-up can be done from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. prior to the event starting at 5 p.m.
4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Business to Business Networking.
Table reservations email: info@genevachamber.org or call 440-466-8694.

The Gazebo at The Lodge is the Featured Cover for the 2023 Geneva Area Chamber Membership Directory



The gazebo at The Lodge is on the cover of the new 2023 Geneva Area Chamber Membership Directory that was mailed out to all the members. Cathie Schmidt captured this beautiful photo of the gazebo. The directories were first viewed at the Chamber Annual Dinner on December 7. Chamber members are listed in alphabetical category order as well as in an index with phone numbers. This is a high-quality marketing piece that Chamber members, prospective members, community residents, and visitors use. For more information call the Chamber office at (440) 466-8694.

December 2022 Ends With Awards Given Out at the Geneva Area Chamber Annual Dinner



The Geneva Area Chamber Annual Dinner was held on December 7, 2022 at the Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake. The Chamber awarded Ferrante Winery and Ristorante the Geneva Area Chamber Business of the Year. The Chamber Volunteer of the Year was Michael Goddard, and the Chamber Citizen of the Year was Michael Sanzotta. The Geneva Image was the entertainment for the evening.

Annual Dinner continued on page 3 and photos page 8,

Welcome New Members

The Miller Realty
196 S. Broadway, Geneva, Ohio 44041
Tiffany Miller, Associate Broker
Phone: 440-228-1182
Email: tiffanya.miller@live.com
Web: Facebook.com/MillerRealtyGeneva
The Miller Realty company has been serving the Geneva area since 1908—114 years! Family owned and operated. We are here to continue to serve our friends, family, and community with all your real estate needs.

Tiffany's Cottages
Mailing: P. O. Box 524, Geneva, Ohio 44041
Location: 4924 S. Spencer Dr., Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio 44041
Tiffany Miller, Owner
Phone: 440-813-9599
Email: tiffany@tiffanyscottages.com
Web: www.tiffanysCottages.com
Tiffany's Cottages are 9 seasonal cottages at the heart of the Geneva-on-the-Lake strip! The cottages have great outdoor space with an inground heated pool, fire pits, horse shoes, picnic tables, grills, and green space. Comforts inside include WiFi, kitchens, and air conditioning.

Member Info Changes:

Catholic Charities of Ashtabula County
Jill Valentic, Executive Director
4200 Park Ave., 3rd Floor, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004
Phone: 440-992-2121
Email: JillV@doyccac.org
Fax: (440) 992-5974
Website: www.doyccac.org

Shout Out and Thank You!

Thank you to Kim Patrone for serving on the Chamber Board for 17 years, from February 2005 till December 31, 2022.

Welcome to the Geneva Area Chamber Board of Directors Tiffany Miller. Tiffany is the new Geneva Township Trustee, is a real estate agent with The Miller Realty Company, and owns Tiffany's Cottages at Geneva-on-the-Lake.

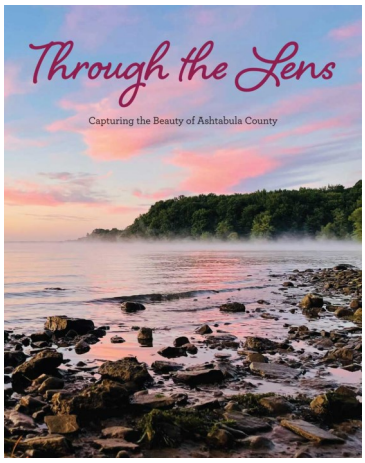
Chamber Business Compass in January

The Ashtabula County Commissioners will take part in our annual Business Compass in Meet the County Commissioners on January 18, 2023 at noon at the Rock Creek VFW. The Pasta Oven will provide lunch to purchase. The VFW will have beverages available to purchase. For

New 2023 Date for Geneva Area Chamber Membership Plaque

A date plate will be enclosed in your membership investment invoices. Make sure to put the date on your plaque to show that you are a current member.

Second Edition of "Through the Lens" Photo Magazine Now on Sale



The second edition of the Through the Lens photo magazine is a 100-plus-page magazine featuring eye-catching photographs showcasing the beauty of Ashtabula County.

Huffman-Mayer-Paolo Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors in Ashtabula and Gazette Newspapers partnered on a magazine printed on high-quality gloss paper that featured photographs of Ashtabula County. Amateur and professional photographers were invited to submit photos that depicted the beauty and splendor of Ashtabula County, from its covered bridges to its communities, its countryside to its natural resources, and more for potential inclusion in the magazine. Contact the Geneva Area Chamber to make arrangements to get you copy today for only $10.

Scheduling 2023 Coffee Contacts

So far we have a couple of Coffee Contacts scheduled for 2023: March 22 at Geneva Public Library, 860 Sherman Street, and April 26 at Geneva VFW Post #6846, 76 Depot Street. The Coffee Contacts are one hour starting at 8 a.m. They are normally held the fourth Wednesday of the month. We encourage you to call to schedule one at your place of business. What is required? A pot or two of coffee, a box of donuts, and chairs for people to sit on! This is a relaxed networking event that costs nothing. Show up, take a turn, and talk about your business. We will all have an hour of networking before going into the office! Call 440-466-8694 to register to be a host at your business.

Did you know!

December 29, 1876 was the Ashtabula Train Disaster. There are two books available through the Ashtabula County Historical Society on the engineering tragedy. Documentary is on WVIZ of Cleveland and Erie PBS. Copies of the video on the train disaster are available at the Ashtabula County District Library.

Annual Continued from page 1.

Several Awards were given out at the 2022 Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner

The Geneva Area Chamber Annual Dinner was held on December 7, 2022 at the Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake. The Geneva Area Chamber Annual Citizen of the Year was awarded to Michael Sanzotta, who was unfortunately unable to attend the dinner.

Michael Goddard was awarded the NOACC Bright Star Award for the 2022 Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year. Mike has been on the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for 25 years. He is the vice-president of Crawford Insurance Agency in Geneva.

The Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year was awarded to Ferrante Winery and Ristorante. Ferrante Winery is one of the oldest and largest family–owned wineries in Harpersfield Township in the heart of wine country.

The Ferrante Family has been producing nationally and internationally acclaimed wines since 1937, when they opened their first winery in Cleveland's Collinwood area. In the 1970s Peter Ferrante built a state-of-the-art winemaking facility in the family's Harpersfield Township vineyard. Pete Ferrante and his wife Josephine Ferrante created a legacy that now five of their eight children are continuing to honor.

Today guests can visit our state-of-the-art winery, where third generation brothers work together with the overall goal of striving to maintain 80 years of tradition. Anthony Ferrante manages 40 acres of manicured vineyards, and Winemaker Nick Ferrante continually experiments with new innovative technology/techniques to keep his wines at the cutting edge. In the Ristorante, sisters Carmel and Mary Jo Ferrante along with the entire extended Ferrante family and staff provide the ultimate dining experience.

The Ferrante farm is located in the heart of the Grand River Valley. The Grand River Valley is an American Viticultural Area federally recognized including land that is 2 miles from the Grand River and 14 miles from Lake Erie. This region provides an ideal climate for growing grapes. Our 40 acres of vineyards are home to vinifera style grapes including Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot Gris, Gewurztraminer, Dolcetto, Pinot Noir, and Cabernet Franc, to name just a few!

The winery has a beautiful stone tasting room and gift shop; they offer tours, sampling, authentic Italian cuisine, weekend entertainment, and award-winning locally produced wines.

Geneva City Fire Chief David Shook and Finance Director Tammy Caya presented two Economic Development awards on behalf of the City of Geneva. The Economic Development Awards were UH Geneva Medical Center received the Cornerstone Organization Award, and Cooper Ownes, DDS, was awarded the New Business Investment Award.

Kimberly Patrone was called to the front of the room to be given certificates and accommodations for serving on the Chamber Board of Directors for 17 years. Patrone has been so supportive on the board and was well as serving on committees and working events. She is wished well in all her future endeavors.

Mike Goddard NOACC Bright Star Award Geneva Area Chamber Volunteer of the Year



Mike Goddard, photo center, winner of the NOACC Bright Star Award for the 2022 Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year, holds plaque and trophy. Left, Jamie Ortiz, Geneva Area Chamber president, and right, Sue Ellen Foote, Chamber Executive Director. The awards dinner was held on October 20, 2022 at LaCentre in Westlake, Ohio. Mike has served on the Geneva Area Chamber Board of Directors for twenty-five years since July 1997, served as president 2002-2003, and been on several committees, and worked at numerous events over the years.



Center Dr. Cooper Owens, DDS holds plaque awarded to him for the 2022 City of Geneva New Business Investment Award. Presenting the award was Finance Director Tammy Caya and Geneva City Fire Chief David Shook.



UH Geneva Medical Center received the City of Geneva Cornerstone Organizational Award. Photo left: City of Geneva Finance Director Tammy Caya, UH Geneva Medical Center Angela Meyer, Dr. Kevin Andryc, Denise DiDonato, Jason Glowczewski, Yvonne Moon, Bill Rice, Geneva City Fire Chief David Shook.

Geneva School District 2022 Year in Review

I am thrilled to report that we've had a wonderful start to our school year! As I consider the challenges we've faced over the last few years due to the pandemic, I am extremely grateful that we are able to see our students' smiling faces in class each day. It's a small thing that we won't take for granted ever again!

The past year has been one of growth, advancements, and learning. In this letter, I will highlight some of the exciting things that have been happening in our schools – from learning and awards to stellar athletic performances and more. Of course, I can't possibly highlight every good thing from the past year in one article – but I hope you will follow along as we take a walk down memory lane!

State Report Card Results

I am happy to see that as a district we scored solid 3's across the board, therefore passing the state standards in all areas. However, this doesn't mean we do not have room to continually grow and improve. We will remain focused on gap closing and making growth with our students as we continue to recover from the pandemic.

I am particularly proud to see that Geneva Platt R. Spencer Elementary significantly exceeded state standards in the Progress component by scoring a 5-star rating. Additionally, we exceeded state standards at multiple buildings in the Achievement component, and Geneva High School exceeded state standards in both Progress and Gap Closing. It is important to remember that the report card is only one piece of data that districts are measured by, and when looking at any data there are always areas to celebrate as well as areas to grow.

Technology Advancements

A major focus of this past year was purchasing and finding new ways we can use technology in the classroom and for security.

In the Classroom

I am thrilled to share that as of this fall, ALL Geneva classrooms have their own interactive board. Previously, only K-2 classrooms featured this technology – but it remains a priority for me to get all students this collaborative, interactive learning experience. We also secured laptops for all of our teachers, which allows them to spend more time planning lessons and communicating well with parents and students. We are grateful that both students and teachers now have access to their own laptops.

Enhanced Security

Geneva also saw enhancements in how we keep our schools and buses secure. We purchased all new cameras for our schools and buses thanks in part to a Safety Grant, and also introduced two new programs: Securely and Navigate360. As students have significant access to the internet from their Chromebooks and personal devices, we knew we needed to do something to protect them from potential harm or inappropriate content. Securely allows us to shield students from damaging content, catch when harmful messages are being sent, and more. Navigate360 allows us to screen visitors and keep our buildings secure.

Increasing Communication

We are always looking for new ways to implement strong and open communication. Below are just a few of the ways we've improved communication between the administration and community!

Topic Tuesdays: These monthly meetings allow me and other administrators to share at length about important and relevant topics. I am encouraged by the conversations that have come as a result of these meetings, and I hope for many more!

App Notifications: I am now sending daily busing updates through our app. Download 'Geneva Area City Schools' in any app store and turn on notifications to have updates sent straight to your phone. We also share these updates to our website and Facebook page.

New Partnership: This fall we started a partnership with Full Spectrum Marketing, an agency that specializes in school district communications. We are working together to continually improve our communication with students, parents, and the community!

Monthly Newsletter (pictured): We are excited to now send a monthly newsletter that recaps everything going on in our schools! You can receive it in your inbox or watch for it on our website.



Bringing Back and Adding New Programs

I was extremely encouraged by the programs we were able to bring back to Geneva Schools – as well as the brand new programs we added! We brought back Department Chairs for the four core areas in grades 6-12. We reinstated a Student Council Advisor in each elementary school. We have Freshmen Cheerleading, a new Majorette Advisor position, and an Academic Challenge/Quiz Bowl Advisor.

Also, we introduced Character Strong, a social and emotional learning curriculum that positively impacts students. We believe it is no longer enough just to teach educational content – we need to educate the WHOLE child to help shape them into compassionate, balanced human beings. We are excited about this program and can't wait to see how it shapes our students in the years to come!

Additionally, we have changed our calendar to include professional development days for staff. They have been meeting with a variety of presenters such as Eric Curts, Dr. Wilfong, and Denise Hunt to learn more about tech integration in their classrooms, writing, and gifted education.

Moving on, we have also started a new partnership with the YMCA! The YMCA is a state-licensed youth development program that provides fun experiences that help build character, teamwork, and cooperation. Students in all three of our elementary schools have the opportunity to participate in their before- and after-school programs!

Finally, the District expanded Gifted Services, and we are now able to service all identified students in Grades 3-12. This is a new effort on the part of the District to benefit all of our identified students.

Grants to Help Students Excel

I am also happy to celebrate that our elementary schools received a grant for $18,286.86 in funding through the K-12 Prevention Grant through Ashtabula County and the Ohio Department of Mental Health for PBIS. The funds were used to: purchase outdoor SOAR banners for all the elementary schools, PAX training for staff members, and needed PAX materials.

There are matrix charts throughout the buildings to be a visual representation of what the expected behaviors should look like in that particular area of the school. There has been a PAX family night as well to connect the school and family environments. These systems are an excellent method to help students monitor their behavior and focus on learning!
We also received a Safety Grant for $250,000 which will be used on new security cameras (mentioned above). Our $400 Health Action Council Grant is being used for the high school garden. The $10,000 Parker Hannifin Grant is going toward all STEM related curriculum and materials at the high school. And finally, we received a $4,461.03 Water Bottle Refilling Station Grant through the EPA so we could put in water bottle filling stations at the middle school!

Celebrating Our Soaring Eagles
Last year, we started SOARing Eagles, our monthly student and staff recognition program. I love visiting each school to hear students and staff being recognized! The recipients get their picture taken with Tuffy, receive a SOARing Eagle backsack, and I call home to share their exciting news! Below are the students/staff that have received a SOARing Eagle award in 2022.
January: Sadie Nichols, Johanna Alley, Eli Moran, Grace Andrus, and Nathan Rich
February: Conor Shontz, Seth Menough, Jackson Dodd, Jacqueline Patterson, and Danny Higley
March: Kenaid Navarro, Kendra Taylor, Caleb Shymske, and Yangel Cotts Velez
April: Addison Watson, Draven Reed, Joselyn Ortiz, Kaitlyn Frasure, and TJ McCoy
October: Lindy Cameron, Carson Matthews-Wiese, Travis Greenaway, Jake Miranda-Soto, and Mr. Krippel



November: Harlow Meinke, Avery McCrone, Kevin Shick, Taylor Schiemann **(pictured)**, and Hailey Booth.

Athletic Victories
We are proud to be a school of so many student-athletes! These students set the bar high when it comes to discipline and excellence! Below are just a few highlights of the past year.

- Our girls Cross Country team had an excellent season with a relay team making it to Regionals and Mya Evangelista qualifying for the State competition.
- The boys Cross Country team worked hard all season with Donnie Shymske competing in Regionals. Great job!
- Geneva's Boys Tennis team played exceptionally well this year – Isaac Riddell was named team MVP and Chris Walnio was chosen for the CVC Valley Division All-League.
- Geneva Girls Tennis celebrated its 500th victory in program history! Addison DiPofi, Abby Griffiths, and Isabella Rose were named team MVPs.
- Our Varsity Football team finished third in our conference with an overall record of 8-4 after finishing 7-3 in the regular season!
- Girls Varsity Volleyball finished 4th in a very competitive CVC conference this year. The JV squad had an outstanding record of 15-3. Our freshman team finished 10-7. Well done!
- Boys Basketball improved their record from (3-7) in the first 10 games to (7-5) in the last 12 regular season games through perseverance and hard work!
- Girls Basketball had five returning seniors who had experience and helped lead the team to a strong season.
- Our Varsity Boys Golf Team finished 8-5 overall and 7-3 in the CVC, JV finished 6-4. Great job!
- Our Varsity Girls Golf Team had two girls earning 2nd team honors all-conference, Alexis Shuttleworth and Shae Wilson-Owens, and Shae Wilson-Owens also earned 1st team all-county honors.
- Geneva Girls Track continued the 20-year tradition of winning the All County Meet for over 20 years.
- Boys Track were All County Champions and finished 2nd place in the CVC and junior, Connor Boland, broke 3 school records and was the D1 400M Champion. Excellent job!
- Geneva Boys Baseball was loaded with talent all over the diamond this past year and made it as far as the second round of the playoffs finishing the season with a record of 10-9.
- Girls Softball took 2nd in the CVC and made it to districts having four CVC 1st team players, two 2nd team, two honorable mentions, and Daliz Alvarez received CVC Player of the year.
- Boys Wrestling found great success at Sectionals. Michael Hupertz placed 3rd, Liam Distler, Matthew Van Sickle, and Nigel Platt took 5th place, and Lane Distler finished 6th. Well done!

So much more has happened in athletics and beyond. Now that I've shared an overview of our most exciting accomplishments as a district, keep reading for fun details on what's been going on at each school!

Austinburg Elementary School



This fall, nurses from University Hospitals visited our 5th-grade classes **(pictured)**! Students gained knowledge about careers in the medical field, learned about medical devices they've seen their doctors use, and solved a skeleton puzzle. We are grateful for community partners who take the time to visit our classrooms and our students. The Kendall Foundation recognized Mrs. Jennifer Nappi as Teacher of the Week. She received a cake and gift basket along with many congratulations from the students, staff, and community. Mrs. Nappi has worked in the Geneva Area City Schools for twenty-four years. Congratulations Mrs. Nappi – we are so lucky to have you!

Cork Elementary School
Cork Elementary students recently took part in The Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch for the 2nd year in a row **(pictured)**! The Apple Crunch is an annual celebration of fresh, local apples on the second Thursday of October, during National Farm to School Month. The goal is for everyone to crunch into an apple at the same time.



After School Extended Learning Recovery support is continuing at Cork Elementary. We are still going strong on our after-school sessions to help our students reach their potential. We focus on a particular grade or subject according to what is most needed.

Geneva Platt R. Spencer Elementary School
GPS teacher Mrs. Joeylynn Allds was nominated as Teacher of the Year for 2023 State Board of Education District 7. Although she did not move forward in the process, Mrs. Allds felt extremely honored in being nominated. She continues to provide hands-on and engaging lessons in science to her 5th-grade students while serving as a teacher leader in the building. We are extremely grateful to have her on our team!
This year, GPS hosted a Veterans Day Assembly **(pictured)** to honor the veterans in our students' lives. Students and families enjoyed this program and are looking forward to next year. Thank you to Mrs. Stowell, our 4th grade students, Mr. Kopczak, and local Scouts for a great celebration honoring those that serves our country.



Geneva Middle School
This fall, the middle school had its first Trunk or Treat event **(pictured)**! They had around 300 students who attended and over 50 adults who participated in decorating their vehicles. Thank you to our GMS Parent group for putting this event on and for those who participated as well as attended this event!



Last school year, Mr. Riley started a parent group at the middle school. This group is designed for parents and staff to come together and plan events for the school year. We are always looking for new ways to connect with parents and give them opportunities to get involved!

Geneva High School
High school students have been loving their cooking classes with Mrs. Beardsley-Holbert **(pictured)**! I love when her students bring down a delicious treat!



Art students were busy working on a project you might spot around town! With the help of Mr. Santiago and Mr. Rosebrugh, our art classes produced beautiful wood cutouts for the downtown Geneva Holiday Display!
Also, Renee Tetlow **(pictured)**, a 2022 Geneva High School graduate, was one of 88 Ohio students to receive the Franklin B. Walter Scholastic Award! The award is given to one public high school senior from each Ohio county and this is the second year in a row that a Geneva student has received the award.



And last but not least, I would like to thank all of our students, staff, and families who donated to last year's Stuff the Bus, a wonderful cause that helps local veterans and their families. Geneva won the Battle of the Bus trophy **(pictured)** by collecting 10,273 items! We can't wait to see how this year's Stuff the Bus turns out!
Now, as I look to 2023, I am excited to continue focusing on our students, staff, and the community. My hope remains the same: that through a culture of excellence, Geneva Area City Schools will inspire student learners to grow, achieve, and excel to become socially conscious citizens.



Wishing you and your families a healthy and safe holiday season!

Dr. Terri Hrina-Treharn, Superintendent

GENEVA CITY 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

2022 was another challenging year in the City of Geneva with the aftermath of the past couple years dealing with COVID. As we all found our way through all the COVID protocols, we yet had other challenges that we are now facing such as lack of staffing throughout the community, increased costs, and economic impact to local businesses. The City of Geneva still focused on completing several projects and programs that will continue to improve our community, and continues to make it a better place to live, work, and play. Our area continues to work on investments both privately and publicly. These investments, we hope, will continue to positively impact our community. We continue to do our best with limited funds to address all of our ongoing needs.

Below is an overview of the many ventures that were started this past year, with a few carrying over into 2023.

City of Geneva Projects and Accomplishments

OPWC Round 34 South Nearing Circle/Beach Street waterline replacement project was completed.

OPWC Round 35 SR 84 Waterline replacement project was completed.

The ODNR (Ohio Department of Natural Resources Grant) Memorial Field project which included new bleachers, refinishing the tennis courts, adding fencing, and paving the old cinder track and ADA path to areas has been completed.

The NEO (New Entrepreneur Opportunity) Fund Class conducted a class for aspiring entrepreneurs wanting to start or improve a business.

Geneva Fire Department under new Fire Chief, Chief David Shook, undertook many projects. They continue to work on developing our own Water Rescue Team; they participated in numerous safety drills at the local schools and have been working on creating dorm space to accommodate both male and female firefighters at the station.

The Police Department welcomed a new Police Chief, Chief John Camper and Administrative Assistant. The GPD worked to expand the 2022 Safety Forces Safety Town program, and participated in career fairs to recruit new officers.

City of Geneva Utility Billing upgraded their new billing software.

ODNR Grant awarded for the widening of Route 534 and Pleasant Ave.

The West Main project was estimated at $7 million dollars and was placed up for bid two separate times; both times we did not receive a successful bid. Factors affecting the lack of a good bid are market volatility and challenges related to getting supplies. The City of Geneva is diligently strategizing on this project.

Geneva School Supply Giveaway distributed over 500 backpacks to Geneva community children.

Geneva Recreation Department has seen exploded growth in their Summer Movies Series, Summer Concert Series and Events, Geneva Sidewalk Sale, Geneva Water Battle, and Ghoulfest.

Joint Projects

The JEDD Board continues working together with NEXSITE to work on Economic Growth for our community as well as the surrounding communities. With the recent construction for Starbucks and Marriott Hotels, the positive momentum and excitement continues to grow and attract new possibilities for development. We will strive to keep working hard on bringing new development to the area, and we are optimistic on realizing growth in all sectors, residential, commercial, and industrial. We will continue to work closely with the JEDDs on all the growth potential that is coming to light.

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

Our Zoning Department also welcomed a new Zoning Administrator, Noell Sivertsen. She has hit the ground running, working with our legal and public works departments to enforce zoning compliance and code violations. She has also continued to work with CT Consultants on updating our zoning ordinances. Commercial and Industrial investments can be attributed primarily to the new expansion of Third Dimension Inc. by Green Bay Packaging. Approximately $3,600 in fees were collected for eighty-three miscellaneous zoning permits for commercial signs and residential improvements such as new room additions, fences and accessory buildings. In addition, $2,025 in fees was collected for eighty-one rental occupancy permits. There was one garage demolition that also occurred during the year by private property owners.

GRANTS

The City of Geneva continues to be diligent applying for grants and continues to be successful on capturing some. We once again were awarded two grants this year from NOPEC to complete energy-efficient projects. The City continues to partner with Ashtabula County to access funds from our Community Housing Improvement Program Grant (CHIP) and jointly submitted an application again this year that was awarded. The program has been very successful, and the County predicts they will meet all the goals of the grant even through the challenging year. Other grants the City has applied for are ODOT's Safe Route to School Program and Plan Development, Fire and EMS Grant from the State of Ohio, OPWC, ODNR, WPCLF Infrastructure Grant Program and Coastal Management Assistance Grant. The City will also keep being aggressive with grant opportunities to keep improving our aging infrastructure throughout the City.

VISION FOR OUR FUTURE

As 2022 draws to a close, we can reflect back proudly on all that has been accomplished in our small community during such incomparable trying times. We are proud at how well we withstood the continued personnel changes and dedication from our existing staff in 2022. We will continue to work hard recruiting for our safety forces as we look toward the future. The devoted staff strives to continue to provide excellent levels of service that the citizens have been accustomed to while they embrace these ever-changing times.

We realize that with continued revenue reductions, increased competitiveness on federal funding, and rising cost of living, it will become more challenging for our management staff to deliver services, but we will keep being creative and diligent on finding avenues to meet the residents' needs. Short-term and long-range planning will be a key to provide a clear vision for both our operational and capital needs. With a compilation of management staff, committees, and work sessions of City Council, we will accomplish a strategy to secure dedicated funds for future capital infrastructure and equipment needs.

As always, our appreciation goes to the continuous support our local organizations such as Geneva Business Association, Community Improvement Corporation of Geneva, Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce, Geneva VFW Post #6846, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Geneva Rotary,

Geneva Area City Schools, local hospitals, and all of our many civic organizations for making Geneva successful. The citizens of Geneva and the greater Ashtabula area have much to look forward to. We are thankful that we have been blessed with a very active and involved City Council which works hard with new ideas and programs to make Geneva even better. We are also thankful for our strong relationship with our County Commissioners, board members, and staff for their sincere efforts and genuine commitment to the success of our community.

During 2022, we saw a lot of changes occur in all departments, and there were a lot of new faces throughout our City of Geneva workforce. Our tenured employees continue to work hard and have stepped up to take the lead for many of the younger, new employees and strive to show them the wonderful workplace and community they have joined. Our community should be proud of the vision and hard work that so many staff and volunteers have made year after year in finding new ways to improve and promote our downtown. I can assure City Council and the citizens of Geneva that our employees are dedicated and work hard to provide the best services while facing many difficult and new challenges in order to keep Geneva a great place to live, work, play, and raise our families.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph J. Varckette, City Manager

GENEVA TOWNSHIP 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

2022 proved to be another challenging yet positive year in Geneva Township. Geneva Township continued to be supportive of the community. Capital Improvements were on the top of the Township's agenda in 2022. Geneva Township worked jointly with Ashtabula County to complete a waterline project for New London Road. Geneva Township also participated with the local entities on the school travel plan for the Safe Route to School plan and worked collaboratively with other entities and municipalities to get additional infrastructure grant funding through the Appalachian Community grant.

Geneva Township again this year received the 2022 NOPEC Energized Community Event sponsorship and contributed it to the Safety Forces Share a Christmas Program.

As a direct result of our dedicated Road Department, the Township's roads continue to be maintained and improved at an exceptional level. Their projects for 2022 included the following:

- Completed crack sealing of 2.8 miles.
- Completed chip sealing of 6.8 miles of road.
- Purchased a new snow dog snow pusher for the snow piles at intersections.
- Purchased a new flail mower for mowing the roadsides and completed roadside mowing three times.
- Installed about 585 feet of various size storm lines.
- Repaired various sinkholes and crushed pipes in right-of-ways.
- Burmed various roads with stone.
- Completed ditching as required.
- Auctioned 1982 Road Grader, 2001 International Dump Truck, and 2003 Flail Mower.

Geneva Township Trustees
Tim Mills, Denny Brown and Tiffany Miller
Fiscal Officer Tammy Caya

Chamber Annual Dinner Awards



The Ferrante family holding the 2022 Geneva Area Chamber Business of the Year banner for Ferrante Winery & Ristorante: Mary Jo Ferrante, Carmel Arbarzewski, Jan Paden and Alyssa Ollis-employees, Anthony Ferrante, and Nick Ferrante.



Geneva Area Chamber Board of Directors front left: Tim Lenart, Bob Russell, Sue Ellen Foote, Tiffany Miller, Jamie Ortiz, Cliff Henry, and Bill Widlits; back row left: Kim Patrone, Ed Spoor, Terri Hrina-Treharn, Mike Goddard, and Chuck Dowd.



Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year past recipients front left: Everett Henry-1992, Widd Raymond-2005, David Foote, Jr.-1991, Sue Ellen Foote-1997,Robert Russell-2011, Vince Gildone-2016, Shirley Lehmann-2013, James Santiago-2009, Myke Andersen-2014, and William Peters-2017.



Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce
P. O. Box 84
866 E. Main Street
Geneva, Ohio 44041

- *Winterfest Chili Cook-off—Feb. 4*
- *Business Expo—Feb. 16*

Continue to Stay Safe!

2023 COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 1, Happy New Year!
- Jan 18 (Wed.), Business Compass, meet the Ashtabula County Commissioners, noon at Rock Creek VFW. Lunch available to purchase from the Pasta Oven. Reservations or FMI 440-567-2325.
- February 4 (Sat.), Winterfest - Chamber Chili Cook-off.
- February 16 (Th.), Chamber Business Expo at Geneva High School. Open to the public, 5-7:30 p.m. Exhibitor table or FMI call 466-8694.
- March 10-12 (F, Sat, Sun.), Ashtabula County Home Show at the Ashtabula Towne Square, during mall hours. FMI or applications call 440-466-8694.
- March 20 (Mon.), Chamber Spring Dinner at Geneva VFW Post #6846, 76 Depot Street, Geneva. Reservations 440-466-8694.
- March 22, Chamber Coffee Contacts at Geneva Public Library, 860 Sherman Street., 8 a.m. Free but RSVP 440-466-8694.
- April 16 (Sun.), Chamber Chinese Auction at Geneva High School, doors open 1 p.m., drawing 2:30 p.m. Donations and tickets call 440-466-8694.
- April 26, Chamber Coffee Contacts at Geneva VFW Post 6846, 76 Depot Street, 8 a.m. Free but RSVP 440-466-8694.
- May 11 (Th.), Business Compass at Ferrante Winery, at noon.
- May 24, (Wed), Geneva High School Scholarship Awards Assembly – Chamber to award scholarships.
- June 21 (Wed.), Chamber Golf Outing
- September 18 (Mon.), Fall Dinner
- Oct. 4 (Wed.), Candidates Night at Geneva Community Center, 72 West Main Street, Geneva, 7 p.m. Refreshments.
- Oct. 25 (, Chamber Citizen of the Year nominations due
- Dec. 6 (Wed.), Chamber Annual Dinner.

WINTERFEST - CHILI COOK-OFF
Saturday, February 4, 2023

Make plans to participate in the Annual Chili Cook-Off hosted by the Geneva Area Chamber. There is no fee for the contest registration. Electricity will be provided from 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Set-up is at 11:30 a.m. Each contestant is responsible for their own chair, and must supply a heavy-duty power cord. You must have at least three gallons of pre-cooked chili. Tasting bowls, spoons, and napkins will be provided. The chili will be free to the public. The contest will be independently judged, and decisions will be final. There will be three categories, business, private, and non-profit. The winner of each will receive $100 and a trophy. There will also be a taster's choice award. Call the Chamber office 466-8694 to get an application to participate in this year's Chili Cook-Off

Other dates will be announced. Call Chamber office at 440-466-8694 with any questions or to schedule your open house, after hours, or event.

Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce
Business Expo / Trade Show



Sponsors:

American Electric LLC
Ashtabula County Medical Center
Crawford Insurance Agency
Lakeview Federal Credit Union
UH Geneva Medical Center
Waste Management

Thursday, February 16, 2023
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location at: Geneva High School in the Commons Area
1301 South Ridge Road (Rt. 84), Geneva

Donations of Door Prizes and Refreshments will be greatly appreciated.

Free and Open to the Public

Invite a friend to attend!

There will be tables with local businesses' products and services on display.

Cost of Table $65 for Members or $95 for Non-Members

(Don't forget to promote this event within your business.)

Table location are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Payment is required before the event! We accept VISA and MasterCard!

(**Electric not guaranteed**. **You must provide your own extension cords.)**

Note: No tape or hooks on the walls.

Table reservations email info@genevachamber.org or mail this form to:

Geneva Area Chamber, P.O. Box 84, 866 E. Main St., Geneva, OH 44041

or call Chamber office 466-8694 or fax this form: 466-0823.

Set-up can be done from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. prior to the event starting at 5 p.m.

4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Business to Business Networking

Geneva Area Chamber Business Expo — February 16, 2023

Business Name: _____

Your Name or Contact Person: _____Phone: _____

Address: _____

Check enclosed & amount: _____ Will drop off check at Chamber office, before 2-13-2023_____ Providing Food _____

(**Location will be on a first-come, first-served request**) Need oblong 6' to 8' Table____ Space Only _____ Need Electric: ____

Special Instructions: _____

(If you need electric please notify what you are bringing, and provide your own extension cords or etc.)

Door Prize Donation: _____ Will Drop off: _____ Will Bring to Expo: _____

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GENEVA WINTERFEST 2023
CHILI COOK-OFF FORM
Saturday, February 4, 2023
Hosted by Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce

- Name: _____
- Business or Group (if applicable): _____
- Address: _____
- City: _____ State: _____ Zip:_____
- Phone: (_____) _____ Email:_____
- Are you registering for: (_____Business) (_____Private) (_____Non-Profit)
- Do you need electric: (___Yes) (___No)
- Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 84, 866 East Main Street, Geneva, Ohio 44041
Or email: info@genevachamber.org - or - Fax: (440) 466-0823 - FMI Call: (440) 466-8694

Return the top portion. Keep this bottom for your records.

2023 Chili Cook-Off—February 4, 2023

1. **<u>You must be pre-registered by February 1, 2023</u>.**
   Drop off or mail this form to: **Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 84, Geneva, OH 44041**
2. There is **<u>NO fee</u>** for the contest registration.
3. We can provide electricity from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, 2023.
4. S**et up at 11:30 a.m. at the DEPOT Street Parking Lot** (near the railroad tracks).
5. You are responsible to supply your **own chairs and 25' heavy-duty power cord**.
6. You must have at least **3 gallons of pre-cooked chili** to participate.
7. Tasting bowls, spoons and napkins will be provided. **Chili is free to the public**.
8. **One prize of $100 and a trophy will be issued to the winning contestant in each of the three categories: business, private, and non-profit.**
9. Another trophy will be awarded to the **Taster's Choice**, chosen by individual tasters.
10. Contest will be independently judged, and judging decisions are final.
11. Winners will be announced by 2:30 p.m. the day of the event.
12. The Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce, Geneva Business Association, City of Geneva, and/or other sponsors are not responsible for any liability.
13. For additional information contact the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce 440-466-8694 or Mike Goddard at Crawford Insurance 440-466-1144.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND GOOD LUCK!

"<u>Hot Chili on a Chilly Day</u>!"

Enter the other contests: Snowman decoration, parade, and much more!