



2006

Lawrence Economic Development Corporation Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce

Community Improvement Corporation Annual Report



Lawrence Economic
Development Corporation

The Greater
Lawrence County Area
Chamber of Commerce

The Point
Industrial Park

Procurement
Outreach
Center

Lawrence County
Convention and
Visitors Bureau

Bill Dingus, PhD.
Executive Director

216 Collins Avenue
South Point, Ohio 45680

(740) 377-4550

www.lawrencecountyohio.org

Agency Staff

Bill Dingus, Phd.
Executive Director
dingus@ohio.edu
Lawrence Economic
Development Corporation
(LEDC)
Greater Lawrence County Area
Chamber of Commerce

Phillip Ramsey
CFO
pramsey@zoominternet.net
Lawrence Economic
Development Corporation
Greater Lawrence County Area
Chamber of Commerce

Lawrence Economic Development Corporation:

Viviane Khounlavong, Assistant Director
glcacvb@zoominternet.net

The Point Industrial Park:

Jeremy Clay, Manager
jeclay@zoominternet.net

**Greater Lawrence County Area
Chamber of Commerce:**

Jack Borders, Director
jborders@zoominternet.net

Procurement Outreach Center:

Kelly Lawhorn, Director
klawhorn@zoominternet.net
Laura Samek, Business Counselor
lsamek@zoominternet.net
Rodney Young, Business Counselor
youngre@zoominternet.net

Convention and Visitors Bureau:

Viviane Khounlavong, Director

Receptionist:

Janie Payne
cofcagency@zoominternet.net

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216 Collins Avenue
South Point, Ohio 45680
Phone: (740) 377-4550
Fax: (740) 377-2091
www.lawrencecountyohio.org

2006

Traffic Count

COPIES:

Department Name	Volume
GLCA Chamber of Commerce	38,282
Convention & Visitors Bureau	2,741
Point Industrial Park	12,706
Lawrence Economic Development Corp.	19,250
Procurement Outreach Center	10,962
TOTAL	83,941

INCOMING FAX:

Department Name	Volume
GLCA Chamber of Commerce	156
Convention & Visitors Bureau	26
Point Industrial Park	170
Lawrence Economic Development Corp.	193
Procurement Outreach Center	78
TOTAL	623

OUTGOING FAX:

Department Name	Volume
GLCA Chamber of Commerce	137
Convention & Visitors Bureau	7
Point Industrial Park	102
Lawrence Economic Development Corp.	104
Procurement Outreach Center	90
TOTAL	440

INCOMING MAIL:

Department Name	Volume
GLCA Chamber of Commerce	1,376
Convention & Visitors Bureau	259
Point Industrial Park	212
Lawrence Economic Development Corp.	859
Procurement Outreach Center	511
TOTAL	3,217

OUTGOING MAIL:

Department Name	Volume
GLCA Chamber of Commerce	5,246
Convention & Visitors Bureau	427
Point Industrial Park	172
Lawrence Economic Development Corp.	591
Procurement Outreach Center	1,091
TOTAL	7,527

A Message from the Chamber President



Dear Chamber Members,

I am honored to be your Chamber President and excited about what will happen as a result of our efforts this year. The newly launched Lawrence County Area Safety Council is an exciting new development, enabling employers to save four percent on their worker compensation premiums, as well as promoting safety in the workplace. The new "Take the L.E.A.D." is a tremendous new program providing not only theoretical, but "hands-on" experience in the real world of business development.

The thirty-year plus project of the Chesapeake By-Pass is beginning to bear tangible fruit with Phase I scheduled for completion in late Fall of 2006. The Ohio University Proctorville Center is also scheduled to open for classes in Spring of 2007. Both of these are amazing new developments for our county, and for Eastern Lawrence County in particular.

Our county has made many strides in economic development over the past few years, and continues to do so through business such as Engines, Inc. In addition to the "Take the L.E.A.D." program, the Chamber continues to be active in some wonderful programs such as the Close Up program, raising over \$13,000 last year to enable students in our county to experience government firsthand through a week-long experience in Washington D.C.

We, of course, will continue our tradition of traveling to Columbus for our Legislative Day, which is a wonderful opportunity for our members and community leaders to share ideas and concerns with local and state leaders. This day shows the entire state that the community of Lawrence County is concerned about its future and development.

In closing, I look forward to serving Lawrence County in this role as your 2006-2007 Chamber President. I pledge my support in anyway possible to ensure the further development our county. I look forward to an exciting and productive year.

Sincerely,
Gordon Waters, President
Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce

2006 Annual Report

Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce

The Year 2006 saw some new developments within the Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce. Continuing with the Chamber's Third Friday Luncheons and other annual events, the Chamber organized the Lawrence County Area Safety Council and launched a new student leadership program called "Take the L.E.A.D." (Leadership Education and Development).

CLOSE-UP

On February 17, the Chamber sponsored its annual Close-Up Luncheon. Since 1971, Close-Up has hosted nearly 650,000 students, educators, and others for week-long government studies programs in the nation's capital. Each year, more than 20,000 students, teachers and other adults take part in these programs. Close-Up's mission is to inform, inspire, and empower people to exercise the rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy. The Close-Up Foundation is the nation's largest non-profit (501) (c) (3), nonpartisan, citizenship education organization. Since its founding in 1970, Close-Up has worked to promote responsible and informed participation in the democratic process through a variety of educational programs.

In 2006, the Chamber helped to offset the costs of the week-long Close-Up experience for thirty-three students from five of our Lawrence County Area high schools. The Chamber's generous support benefited students and their sponsors from Chesapeake, Collins Career Center, Dawson-Bryant, Fairland, and Ironton high schools, with over \$13,000 raised. Contributing to this worthy cause were: American Electric Power, Armstrong Cable, DOW Chemical, Duke Energy, Eastham and Associates, Engines, Inc., Holzer Clinic, Ironton Tribune, Lester State Farm Insurance, Liebert, Marathon Petroleum, McSweeney's, National City Bank, Oak Hill Banks, Ohio River Bank, Pickett Concrete, Sunoco, Superior Marine, and U.S. Bank.

LEGISLATIVE DAY

The Chamber continued its tradition of venturing to our Ohio State Capital in May for our Annual Legislative Day. Early Wednesday morning, May 3, more than thirty people boarded the chartered Greyhound bus destined for Columbus. Arriving in Columbus just before ten o'clock, our group dispersed to the three "break-out" sessions scheduled in the Capital Building. In Senate Finance Hearing Room 126, Bob Dalton, Co-Chair of the Chamber's Transportation Committee along with Ralph Kline, convened a session dealing with transportation issues in the Lawrence County Area. This "break-out" session addressed a variety of issues such as: the Appalachian Development Highway System Amendment Update, the U.S. 52/State Route 7 Safety Study Update, the Public Transportation Study Update, the West Virginia/KYOVA Report, and the Statewide Transportation Progress Report. In Senate Building, Room 109, Matt Ward of Collins Career Center, convened a session on Workforce Development with the help of Sondra Andrews, Ron Diamond, Jewell Hackworth, all from the Workforce Development Resource Center, and Lawrence County Department of Jobs and Family Services Director, Buddy Martin. This "break-out" session addressed the resources available in Lawrence County for training a skilled workforce to meet manufacturing and industry demands. The third concurrent "break-out" session was our Legislative Update led by William Fitzgibbon of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Fitzgibbon is a legislative liaison for the State Chamber. Mayor William Gaskin, of the Village of South Point, convened this session aimed at understanding how current legislation may affect business and industry in our Lawrence County area.

Just before twelve o'clock noon, we made our way to the Capital's Atrium, a beautiful room located in the middle of the Statehouse. Our luncheon began with the introduction of our notable guests and reports from each of the conveners of our "break-out" sessions. Then, after a wonderful buffet meal catered by Shane's Gourmet Market, we had the opportunity to hear directly from our elected legislators: Senator John Carey of Ohio District 17, Senator Tom Niehaus of Ohio District 14, Representative Clyde Evans of Ohio District 87, and Representative Todd Book of Ohio District 89. Following their remarks and recognition of those who had helped to make this 14th Annual Legislative Day a success, Viviane Khounlavong, Director of the Lawrence County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, unveiled the new and improved Lawrence County Web-Site, www.lawrencecountyohio.org.

Our annual trek to Columbus allows us as a Chamber and as individuals to make a connection with our legislators where they do their work on our behalf. Often, our legislators meet us on our home "turf," so traveling to Columbus allows us to meet with them on theirs. As we made our way back to Lawrence County, all felt the sense of having made such a connection.

Take the L.E.A.D.

Late in May, the Chamber's Education Committee composed of Larry Anderson of Great Lakes Minerals, Stephanie Burcham of Ohio University Proctorville, Steve Dodgion of Collins Career Center, Brenda Finlay of Area Aging of Aging District 7, Joe Jenkins of Briggs-Lawrence Public Library, and Matt Ward of Collins Career Center, along with incoming Chamber President Gordon Waters of Armstrong Cable, selected the Chamber's first class of "Take the L.E.A.D." participants. Fourteen juniors from five Lawrence County high schools were selected: from Chesapeake, Fairland, South Point, St. Joseph's, and Symmes Valley. The purpose of this program is fourfold:

1. to prepare high school students for leadership in business and government
2. to address economic issues within Lawrence County

3. to create a business, legislative, and peer network for participants

4. to encourage students to return to/remain in Lawrence County

Throughout this program students will interact with & learn from business leaders in the Lawrence County area, develop relationships with local, state, & federal legislators, and develop relationships and interact monthly with a group of their peers. Our first event was an Orientation Session on Saturday, September 9 from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm. Dr. Kim Keffer of Ohio University Southern led the students through various exercises to determine their personality and leadership styles. In October, Bob Leith, also of Ohio University Southern, led the students on a tour of Lawrence County historical sites. In November, the students learned about developing a business from Patrick Dengel of the Ohio State University Small Business Development Center, as well as learning about the planned RiverWalk Development in eastern Lawrence County from Michael Manns of Superior Marine. In December the students had an opportunity to explore the relationship of community service to economic development. Jim Ingram from the Lawrence County Community Action Organization talked about what the CAO does and Lawrence County Commissioner Jason Stephens spoke about his experiences in public service. The students also volunteered at several Head Start Centers in Lawrence County, served lunch to the seniors at the Sybene Senior Citizen Center, and took a tour of that facility.

The goal of this program is for students to "build a business". The students have been grouped into three groups based on their personality and leadership characteristics. At the end of the program, a group from the Chamber will judge the businesses and the winner will be awarded a \$1,000 cash prize. Ella McCown and Kim Riley from Ohio University Southern are working with these juniors each month regarding their business. As a result, not only will these students be able to vie for a \$1,000 cash prize, but all will receive two college credits, one of which will be in business management technology.

SAFETY COUNCIL

With an eye to adding value to Chamber membership, in June the Chamber began organizing a safety council.

Membership in the safety council and meeting the qualifications laid down by the Bureau of Worker's Compensation would hopefully lead not only to a safer workplace and an opportunity to network with other businesses, but also to a four percent savings on worker's compensation premiums. Approximately thirty businesses took advantage of this opportunity. The Lawrence County Area Safety Council had its first meeting in July and continues to meet the first Friday of each month.

INSTALLATION BANQUET

The Chamber held its Annual Installation Banquet Friday, June 16 in the Mains Rotunda of Ohio University Southern. Senator John Carey of the Ohio 17th District served as our Master of Ceremonies, installing our 2006-2007 Board of Directors and our incoming Chamber President, Gordon Waters. Nathan Miller, our outgoing president was awarded with commendations from the office of Congressman Ted Strickland, the Ohio Senate, the Ohio House of Representatives, and the Lawrence County Commissioners, as well as with a wooden rocker engraved with his name and year of service. Assuming new roles for the coming year were:

Gordon Waters, Armstrong Cable, President
Mark Compston, A. G. Edwards, Internal Vice-President
Sandy Blackburn, McSweeney's, External Vice-President
Joe Jenkins, Briggs-Lawrence County Public Library, Treasurer
Tyler Walters, Shawnee Mental Health Center, Secretary

Our 2006-2007 Board of Directors are:

Larry Anderson of Great Lakes Minerals
Stephanie Burcham, Ohio University Proctorville
Doug Cade, E. L. Robinson
Mike Caldwell, Ironton Tribune
Steve Dodgion, Collins Career Center
Ron Eastham, Eastham & Associates
Ted Edwards, Aaron's Products
Brenda Findley, Area Agency on Aging
John Galloway, Pickett Concrete
Mark Gordon, Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital
Michael Manns, Superior Marine
Laura Jane Murphy, Ohio State University Extension

Matt Ward, Collins Career Center

LEGISLATIVE DEBATE

The next big event hosted by the Chamber was the 2006 Lawrence County Legislative Debate held in the Bowman Auditorium at Ohio University Southern on Thursday, October 5 from 6:00 until 9:00 pm. Hosted by Tim Irr, news anchor for NBC-affiliate WSAZ, the evening began with the candidates running for Lawrence County Commissioner, incumbent Doug Malone (Democrat) and challenger Bob Mayo (Republican). Following this, the four candidates running for two different Ohio House seats took the platform. Running for Ohio House District 89, Rep. Todd Book (Democrat incumbent) squared off against Tim Knauff, the Republican challenger, and campaigning for Ohio House District 87, Rep. Clyde Evans (Republican incumbent) squared off against Nick Rupert, the Democratic challenger. After a break, Sen. John Carey, the Republican incumbent for State Senate District 17, was unopposed due to the failure of his challenger April Howland (Democrat) to attend the forum. The evening concluded with a debate between the two candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives, Sixth District, Republican Chuck Blasdell and Democrat Charlie Wilson. The event was filmed and broadcast by the Electronic Media Department at Ohio University Southern on the Ohio PBS Network.

AWARDS BANQUET

On Thursday evening, November 16, the Chamber hosted its Annual Awards Banquet in the Mains Rotunda of Ohio University Southern. The Rotunda was filled with over 120 people to honor Stephanie Burcham as our Person of the Year, Carl Grover and Engines, Inc. as our business of the year, and Buddy Martin as our Public Servant of the Year. Andrew Doehrel, President and CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, was our guest speaker.

Our Person of the Year, Stephanie Burcham, embodies the ideal of hard work and volunteerism. As Co-Chair of Lawrence County's Relay for Life, she was instrumental in raising thousands of dollars for cancer research through the American Cancer Society. This all-night event (beginning at 6:00 pm

and lasting until 12:00 Noon the next day) involves an enormous amount of planning and coordination and provides an opportunity for the county to join together for a common cause.

In addition to her volunteer work with the Relay for Life, Stephanie has been a tireless worker in bringing the dream of an Ohio University Proctorville Center to reality. Along with generous benefactors from Lawrence County, Stephanie almost single-handedly raised the funds necessary to turn the first spade of dirt. The center now sits upon a slight precipice in Eastern Lawrence County and is set for completion in December. Without Stephanie's efforts to make higher education accessible to many more people, the Proctorville Center would still be a dream awaiting fulfillment

The driving force behind Engines, Inc. is Carl Grover. Carl came to West Virginia with \$50 in his pocket, but since then he has built Engines, Inc. into a major manufacturer of rail car parts. In 2005 Engines, Inc. expanded its operation to The Point Industrial Park in South Point, Ohio. A perfect fit was made between a company in the process of expanding and the economic development needs of Lawrence County. Engines, Inc. has not only been a factor in production and further development of The Point Industrial Park, but has become a responsible, capable, and caring employer, providing new jobs for Lawrence County residents. Carl's gregarious nature and the quality and kindness of his leadership team have indeed been an asset to our county.

Buddy Martin served from 1988 as the Director of the Lawrence County Division of the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, to his retirement earlier this year. During his tenure, Buddy worked tirelessly on behalf of the residents in Lawrence County, interpreting legislation for the good of the county and assisting individuals to become capable of earning a living and becoming productive members of society. According to one of his closest friends, "Buddy was as focused and committed an individual as I know with regard to his work as a director, as a father, and as a friend." We honored Buddy Martin for his lifelong contribution to the people of Lawrence County and for his willingness to put the needs of others before his own.

These three received commendations from the Office of Senator George Voinovich, the Office of Congressman Ted Strickland, the Ohio Senate 14th and 17th Districts, the Ohio House 87th and 89th Districts, and the Lawrence County Commissioners, along with a Chamber plaque. Centerpieces were provided by: Area Agency on Aging, District 7, Armstrong Cable, City of Ironton, Eastham & Associates, Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce, Ironton-Lawrence County Community Action Organization, Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation, Marathon Petroleum, McSweeney's, Oak Hill Banks, Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, Pickett Concrete, and Shawnee Mental Health Center.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Chamber concluded its year by hosting the directors of the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce, as well as the county's elected officials, on Friday, December 15. The luncheon, catered by Joy Coffman of Ironton, Ohio, was held in the new addition to the Chamber building, which will be occupied by the Ironton-Huntington Empowerment Zone in 2007.

For further information on this article or to become a member of the Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce, please contact:

Bill Dingus
Executive Director
dingus@ohio.edu
Jack Borders
Director
jborders@zoominternet.net
216 Collins Avenue
South Point, Ohio 45680
(740) 377-4550

LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2006-2007

Board and Committees

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President
Gordon Waters, Armstrong Cable Services
Internal Vice President
Mark Compston, A.G. Edwards
External Vice President
Sandy Blackburn, McSweeney's
Treasurer
Joe Jenkins, Briggs Lawrence County Public Library
Secretary
Tyler Walters, Shawnee Mental Health Center

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Larry Anderson, Great Lakes Minerals
Stephanie Burcham, Ohio University -Proctorville
Doug Cade, E.L. Robinson Engineering
Michael Caldwell, Ironton Tribune
Steve Dodgion, Collins Career Center
Ron Eastham, Eastham and Associates
Ted Edwards, Aaron's Products
Brenda Findley, Area Agency on Aging, District 7
John Galloway, Pickett Concrete
Mark Gordon, Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital
Michael Manns, Superior Marine Ways, Inc.
Laura Jane Murphy, Ohio State University Extension
Matt Ward, Collins Career Center

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:

Doug Cade, E.L. Robinson Engineering
Jodi Rowe-Collins, Ohio River Bank
Steve Dodgion, Collins Career Center
Dr. Dan Evans, Dean-Ohio University Southern
Doug Malone, Lawrence County Commissioner
Dan Mooney, Oak Hill Banks
George Patterson, Lawrence County Commissioner
Jason Stephens, Lawrence County Commissioner

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

Larry Anderson, Great Lakes Minerals

Bill Dickens, Ironton Port Authority
Ron Eastham, Eastham and Associates
Ray Howard, Hecla Water
Jason Stephens, Lawrence County Commissioner

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

Robert Dalton, Chair
Robert Dalton Architect
Ralph Kline, Vice Chair
Ironton/ Lawrence County Action Organization
Doug Cade, E.L. Robinson and Associates
Judge Don Capper
Jodi Rowe-Collins, Ohio River Bank
Rod Depriest, National City Bank
Ron Eastham, Eastham and Associates
John Galloway, Pickett Concrete
Dan Lester, Lester State Farm Insurance
Douglas Malone, Lawrence County Commissioner
George Patterson, Lawrence County Commissioner
Richard Slack, Schneider Griffin Funeral Homes
Jason Stephens, Lawrence County Commissioner
Gordon Waters, Armstrong Cable

SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Sandy Blackburn, McSweeney's, Inc.
Dianne Clement, Marathon
Jodi Rowe-Collins, Ohio River Bank

For further information regarding The Chamber
please contact:

Jack Borders, Director
216 Collins
South Point, Ohio 45680
Phone: (740) 377-4550
Fax: (740) 377-2091
Email: jborders@zoominternet.net

Annual Report Of the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation A Community Improvement Corporation

The Lawrence Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) was established in August of 1983 to address the economic needs of Lawrence County, Ohio. The LEDC was one of the first economic Development agencies to recognize the value of consolidation of resources under one agency umbrella. As a result of the coordinated efforts of the community leaders, the Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce (The Chamber) was created with the merger of two small organizations and joined the LEDC in a single, centrally located facility in South Point, Ohio. The two organizations maintained their separate identities as single incorporated agencies with the Chamber serving the needs of existing business and industries and the LEDC providing the services necessary to recruit and retain industry and business. The agencies' services complement one another and during the past 23 years of continuous service, the consolidated agency has proven to have great merit in the Appalachian county. It is from this joint agency that multiple services are provided. The cost effective, professional operation attracted the attention of the Tri-State community and resulted in the City of Ironton, Ohio and City of Huntington, West Virginia applying for, and receiving, an Urban Empowerment Zone designation.

Job creation was at an all time high in 2006. With partnerships we share together with the Ironton/Lawrence County Community Action Organization, Huntington/Ironton Empowerment Zone, Lawrence County Port Authority and Ironton Port Authority, the County as whole saw a great increase in new jobs this year. As a direct result of the developments from Hanging Rock in the east end up to Proctorville in the west end, new businesses flourished in Lawrence County keeping the unemployment rate at 4.6% which is a lower rate than over half of Ohio's counties.

Industrial Developments:

1. Engines, Inc. of Ohio's expansion with the purchase of the newest spec building in The Point Industrial Park resulted in 30 new jobs with the potential of increasing to 50 by the beginning of 2007.
2. Rumpke Recycling in Haverhill opened its doors to 51 new full time employees with the likelihood of an increase in 2007. Currently, Rumpke serves

Lawrence County by providing residential waste management and recycling of corrugated cardboard, plastic, and aluminum.

3. Aluminastics, a new aluminum alloy manufacturing company in the city of Ironton, has created 5 new jobs.
4. M&M Mailing, a bulk mailing firm expansion, broke ground last fall in The Point Industrial Park with completion set for spring of 2007 and 12 full time employees.

Restaurant Developments:

Lawrence County has an increased interest in the development of retail centers and restaurants. Intense studies and planning have been put into gear for the future of this sector. It is proven that food is fundamental in retail development and with a new restaurant in Downtown Ironton; an influx of development is inevitable.

1. The City of Ironton now has an authentic Italian restaurant, Melini Cucina's, to draw visitors to the downtown area.

2. Toro Loco, the current Mexican eatery, has agreed to an expansion with the purchase of the adjacent building to develop a cantina.
3. The development of Buffalo Wild Wings in the Ironton Hills Plaza is currently underway with the projected completion set for February 2007.
4. With the support of the Huntington/Ironton Empowerment Zone, The Depot lease has been turned over to Austyn's Restaurant in December for the creation of a family style restaurant in the historic rail station.
5. Fitz Diner opened its doors to customers in South Point.

This year, the county issued 113 new business licenses. Several locally owned shops and studios have opened in downtown Ironton including: The Barker Shop, Moods Boutique, Ander's Music, and The Gold Studio Gift Shop. The new Westview Plaza in South Point now has 10 tenants including: J&J Guns, Curves, The Sun Salon, Curl Up and Dye Salon, Jeff's Game Shop, The Pain Management Center, and others.

The Executive Director and the staff of the LEDC served on numerous state and local committees and functions during 2006, including, but not limited to the following:

Chamber of Commerce Executives of Ohio
 Community Action Organization Board
 Dow Citizen Advisory Panel
 Empowerment Zone Executive Board
 Foundation for Appalachia Ohio
 Institute for Local Government Administration and Rural Development
 KYOVA Planning Commission
 Lawrence County Department of Jobs and Family Services
 Ohio Transportation Review Advisory Board
 Governor Partnership for Continued Learning
 Governor's Workforce Policy Board
 Lawrence County Planning Commission
 Lawrence County Port Authority
 Leadership Tri-State
 Ohio Development Association
 Ohio Rural Development Partnership
 Ohio Valley Regional Development Council (OVRDC)
 Nominating Committee

OVRDC Caucus
 Region 7 Advisory Board
 Regional First Frontier Marketing Campaign
 Workforce Development Resource Board

The LEDC and its entities have well established networking relationships with the following agencies and organization:

Appalachian Regional Commission
 Collins Career Center
 Governor's Office of Appalachia
 Ironton Port Authority
 Ironton/ Lawrence County Community Action Organization
 KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission
 Lawrence County Port Authority
 National Alliance of Business
 OBDC-Ohio Business Development Coalition
 ODOT-Industrial Development Division
 ODOT-Office of Financial Incentives
 ODOT-Ohio Department of Transportation
 Ohio University Proctorville Center
 Ohio University Southern Campus
 Ohio University-Athens
 Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission
 OSU-Piketon Research Center/Enterprise Center
 State of Ohio Procurement Technical Assistance Network
 U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
 U.S. Chamber of Commerce
 United States Department of Defense
 United States Department of Labor
 Workforce Development Resource Center

The LEDC and its staff was actively involved in many local activities including, but not limited to:

Charitable City Missions Fund
 Chesapeake Lions Club
 Community Dining Guide
 Development of Inland Riverport
 Development of The Point Industrial Park
 Empowerment Zone
 Friends of Ironton (Gus Macker, Oktoberfest, Rally on the River events)



Tim Dickens of Chartwell Inc. discusses plans on how to re-utilize the former Belville Mining site of off Route 93.



County Commissioner Jason Stephens presents Brian Quick of Bob Evans in South Point with an achievement commendation. Quick, who is mentally disabled, has worked at the restaurant for 20 years and never missed one day of work. The Chamber, LEDC and County Commissioners held a brief recognition ceremony in honor of Quick last November.



Rumpke Recycling opened for business earlier this year providing residential waste pick-up as well serving as a drop off point for recycling of plastic, paper and aluminum.



Rumpke Recycling held an Open House in the fall to showcase their new facility in Haverhill. VP Bill Rumpke, Jr. (pictured) gave tours of the facility explaining the Rumpke recycling process and the benefits to the community.



Yi Chen looks on as William Dickens of the Ironton Port Authority (center) and Dan Mooney, President of the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation, sign The Depot lease over to Yi Chen and Austyn's Restaurant.



LEDC Treasurer Don Edwards gives a brief history of The Depot during the ceremonial lease signing to Yi Chen on Bobby Bare Blvd. The building, which was once a booming passenger station for the Powhatan Arrow, has been unoccupied since Manzetti's Restaurant closed in 2000.



Members of the Lawrence County Safety Council listen to Richard Gilcrist, compliance officer, Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OHS) Cincinnati Area Office, discuss how OHS, assists small businesses in solving safety compliance issues. The meeting was conducted December 1, 2006 and over 45 safety council members were in attendance.



Small business owners from across southern Ohio discuss current and future business opportunities with Uranium Disposition Services (UDS), LLC, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. UDS is the Department of Energy contractor that is constructing and managing the DUF 6 Conversion Facility for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion plant located in Piketon, Ohio. The discussion was facilitated by John McCoy, plant manager, UDS. Over 40 small business owners participated in the event conducted in December 2005.



Dr. Bill Dingus (left), Executive Director of the Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce, and Dan Mooney (right), President of the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation and Vice-President of Oak Hill Banks, at the site the Chesapeake By-Pass Phase I Ribbon-Cutting on December 18, 2006.



Jim Purgerson (left), President of the Ashland Alliance, Judy Newman (center), Regional Representative for Congressman Ted Strickland's Office, and Mark Bugher (right), President and CEO of the Huntington Regional Chamber of Commerce, addressed Tri-State issues after the March 2006 Third Friday Luncheon, which featured Purgerson and Bugher as guest speakers.



Ron Eastham (center) of Eastham & Associates and Dan Lester (right) of Lester State Farm Insurance present Stephen Sheets (left) of Chesapeake High School with a check to offset the costs of attending Close-Up, a week-long legislative experience for high school students in Washington, D.C.



Sandy Blackburn (left) of McSweeney's and Dianne Clement (right) of Marathon Petroleum present Kevin McCown (center) of Collins Career Center with a check to offset the costs of attending Close-Up, a week-long legislative experience for high school students in Washington, D.C.



From left to right Rep. Todd Book, District 89, Nick Rupert, candidate for State House Seat District 87, Tim Knauff, candidate for State House Seat District 89, and Rep. Clyde Evans, District 87 respond to questions at the Chamber's 2006 Legislative Forum held in the Bowman Auditorium at Ohio University Southern.



Candidates for U.S. House Seat, Ohio Sixth District, Charlie Wilson (left) and Chuck Blasdell (right), respond to questions at the Chamber's 2006 Legislative Forum held in the Bowman Auditorium at Ohio University Southern.



Students participating in "Take the L.E.A.D." listen to Bob Leith (second from right), history professor at Ohio University Southern, talk about the legacy of John Campbell at CAO headquarters, which is the former home of John Campbell in Ironton, Ohio. D. R. Gossett, CAO Executive Director is to the left of Mr. Leith.



Students participating in the "Take the L.E.A.D." listen to Joan Terry (right), Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director of the CAO, shares about the John Campbell House in Ironton, Ohio.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held at Rumpke Recycling in Haverhill. Participating were the president, vice president, regional managers and directors of Rumpke as well as Bill Dingus of LEDC, Commissioners Doug Malone and Jason Stephens, and LEDC President Dan Mooney



L to R: Amy Kuhn, Deputy Director of Community Development; Carl Grover, President and CEO of Engines, Inc. of Ohio; Lawrence County Commissioner Doug Malone; and Bruce Johnson, Lt. Governor of the State of Ohio. Engines, Inc. was given the Governor's Award for Excellence in Community Development for Outstanding Community Development.



In late fall of 2006, crews tore down the old Carlyle Tile plant along US Route 52 in Coal Grove. The site is slated for use in an upcoming industrial development by McGinnis, Inc.



City of Ironton Mayor and LEDC Treasurer Don Edwards presented Yi and Jamie Chen with a ribbon to be used after The Chens restore The Historic Depot into a new family restaurant, Austyn's at The Depot. A ceremonial lease signing was held in front of The Depot in early December.



Stephanie Burcham of Ohio University Proctorville Center giving an acceptance speech on volunteerism and community service. Burcham was honored as the Person of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce at the Annual Awards Banquet on November 16, 2006.



Cara Dingus Brook, Representative of U.S. Senator Voinovich's office, presented Buddy Martin with a resolution honoring his long term dedication to Lawrence County, Ohio. Martin, retired Director of the Lawrence Co. Jobs and Family Services, was the recipient of the Public Servant of the Year Award at the Chamber Annual Awards Banquet.



Long time friend of Buddy Martin, Lawrence County Commissioner George Patterson introduced Martin as the Public Servant of the Year recipient by noting on the many accomplishments Martin brought into fruition during Martin's role as Director of Lawrence County's Department of Jobs and Family Services.



Judy Newman, Regional Representative of Congressman Ted Strickland, presents Carl Grover, President and CEO of Engines Incorporated, a certificate of excellence for job creation. Grover and Engines, Inc. was honored as the Business of the Year by the Chamber during the Annual Awards Banquet.



Gordon Waters (right) of Armstrong Cable and Mary Cronacher (left) of Oak Hill Banks present Sharon Graham (center) of Fairland High School with a check to offset the costs of attending Close-Up, a week-long legislative experience for high school students in Washington, D.C.



Ralph Kline, Co-Chair of the Chamber's Transportation Committee, addresses Chamber members at the Transportation "Break-Out" Session at the Ohio State Capital during the Chamber's Annual Legislative Day, May 3, 2006.



(Left to Right) Ralph Kline presents Cash Misel, Assistant Director of Planning and Production for the Ohio Department of Transportation, with a letter on behalf of the Chamber's Transportation Committee and KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission for ODOT's continue efforts and support of the Chesapeake Outerbelt Project.



Chamber president Nathan Miller presides over the Legislative Day Luncheon held in the Ohio State Capital Atrium on May 3, 2006. Seated to the left are Sen. John Carey and Rep. Clyde Evans. Seated to the right are Rep. Todd Book and County Commissioner Doug Malone.



Lawrence County Area Safety Council members listen to Dave Boulay, of the Ohio State University Extension Manufacturing & Small Business Development Division, speak on "Developing A Quality Assurance Plan" at the November 2006 Safety Council meeting held in the Ohio Room of Ohio University Southern.



Lawrence County Area Safety Council members listen to Dave Boulay, of the Ohio State University Extension Manufacturing & Small Business Development Division, speak on "Developing A Quality Assurance Plan" at the November 2006 Safety Council meeting held in the Ohio Room of Ohio University Southern.



Harry Frye, ODOT District 9 Director (left) and Bob Dalton, Chair of the Transportation Committee (right) cut the ribbon opening Phase I of the Chesapeake By-Pass on Monday, December 18, 2006. Others participating are County Commissioner Jason Stevens (to Mr. Dalton's right), Rep. Clyde Evans, Ralph Kline, Dr. Bill Dingus, and County Commissioner Doug Malone.



Mr. Bob Dalton, Co-Chair of the Chamber's Transportation Committee addresses the crowd at the Ribbon-Cutting for Phase I of the Chesapeake By-Pass. Looking on are (from left) Jack Borders, Chamber Director; Harry Frye, ODOT District 9 Director, and Dr. Bill Dingus, Executive Director of the Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce.

Friends of Ironton Community Service Organization
Ironton Lions Club
Ironton Rotary Club
Lawrence County Planning Commission
Legislative Committee
Monthly Chamber Membership Functions
Natural Resources Committee
Ohio Rural Development Partnership
Retention and Expansion Committee
Transportation Committee
Tri-State Airport Board
Tri-State Regional Airport
Workforce Development
Workforce Development Planning and Strategies
Committee

LEDC staff continues to remain active with the Region 7 Advisory Council and the continued partnership with the Ohio Department of Development has played a major role in the attraction of new businesses, as well as the expansion of existing industries. We value our support from Congressman Ted Strickland, Senator John Carey, Senator Tom Niehaus, Rep. Todd Book and Rep. Clyde Evans. They have been outstanding economic development supporters and Lawrence County has benefited greatly by their active participation in this district. Region 7 Representative MarJean Kennedy and the ODOD liaison Graham Allison and Economic Development Director Jean Carter Ryan, were all called on often to provide guidance and attend meetings with the potential clients. Each responded in timely fashion and, without exception, arrived prepared to discuss the client's field of interest. LEDC continued to work in the recruitment of business and industry through the successful E-Procuresite established by ODOD several years ago to create several new quality jobs through active recruitment of business.

LEDC is still moving forward The Point Industrial Park in the Village of South Point, Ohio. In 2006, LEDC utilized funds from the State of Ohio's Rural Development Fund for the development of Spec Building #2, which is now being occupied by Engines, Inc. of Ohio with 30 new jobs. The South-

ern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation has also supported The Point and its endeavors by granting funds for sprinklers and landscaping for various developments. As always, the Huntington/Ironton Empowerment Zone stood ready to financially support LEDC and The Point in building and road projects. Today, The Point's tenants include: Engines, Inc. of Ohio Rail Car Division, M&M Services, MidValley Supply Company, Applied Technologies recently relocated on the County Road 1 side, Superior Marine Ways, Marathon pipeline and tank cars, and a service company that provides Calgon tank truck service (RDI Construction).

For more information on this article or LEDC, please contact:

Dr. Bill Dingus, Executive Director
dingus@ohio.edu

Viviane Khounlavong, Assistant Director
glcacvb@zoominternet.net

Phone: (740) 377-4550.

Fax: (740) 377-2091

Or on the web: www.lawrencecountyohio.org

Lawrence Economic Development Corporation

Says Farewell to 6 Year President James Barrett

Jim Barrett, now retired president of US Bank, first took on the role as President of the Lawrence Economic Corporation in 2000. As an elected volunteer president, Barrett has overseen LEDC in the develop of The Point Industrial Park, formation of the Lawrence County Port Authority, developments such as the Three Gables Surgical Center, Liebert Corporation, and various others projects throughout the community.

Barrett officially retired from his post in July of 2006. LEDC Vice President Dan Mooney, President of Oak Hill Banks, will serve as the new Lawrence Economic Development Corporation President until January of 2007.

2006 LEDC Board of Directors and Trustees

Directors

President:

James Barrett, Retired- President US Bank

Current President:

Dan Mooney, Oak Hill Banks

Treasurer:

Don Edwards, LEDC

Assistant Treasurer:

Dan Evans Phd., Dean-Ohio University Southern

Secretary:

Richard Slack, Schneider-Griffin Funeral Home

Assistant Secretary:

Dianne Clement, Marathon

Ex Officio:

Gordon Waters, Armstrong

Trustees

Dan Lester, State Farm Insurance

Carl Darling, Dow Chemical Corporation

Paul Hart, Hart's Corner Mart

Steve Dodgion, Collins Career Center

Jordan Morgan, Sunoco Chemicals

Keith Molihan, Lawrence County Port Authority

Steve Townsend, Duke Energy

D.R. Gossett, CAO

James Buchanan, Mayor -Village of Proctorville

John Elam, Mayor-City of Ironton

William Gaskin, Mayor-Village of South Point

James Justice, Mayor-Village of Chesapeake

Jimmie Chapman, Mayor-Village of Athalia

Larry McDaniel, Mayor-Village of Coal Grove

Chris Davidson, Mayor-Village of Hanging Rock

George Patterson, Commissioner

Douglas Malone, Commissioner

Jason Stephens, Commissioner

Report of The Point Industrial Park

Since LEDC's acquisition of the park in 2001, a major transformation has taken place. With over 500 acres of developable land and utilities with rail and over 3,400 ft of riverfront location on the commercial area of the Ohio River, it is the county's premier industrial area. With Norfolk Southern main line running beside the park and its location to the river and commercial highways it is believed that it is the prime location for moving material from river to rail to truck. Currently the park has four businesses including Engines Inc of Ohio, Mid Valley Supply, Calgon Carbon, Applied Technologies, and soon M&M Mailing

This year LEDC and the Lawrence County Port Authority have been able to acquire general Foreign Trade Zone status for The Point. The Foreign Trade Zone status will allow foreign products to be stored or serviced in the park with no tariff fee. This will be a major incentive for some businesses and should be a great asset to draw in business. LEDC continues to work to bring in a large industry, if successful this business will be a new startup.

This summer The Point Industrial Park recently completed Spec Building 2. The 42,000 Sq Ft speculative building was designed to have four overhead cranes, 2 bays for rail car access through the building. The floor design was designed with rail to support a full size locomotive which weighs in excess of 340 tons. This building was immediately sold to Engines Inc who has created 40 jobs with this building.

Currently with a partnership of CAO and our County Commissioners LEDC has acquired a CDBG grant for the addition rail needed to serve this building. This project will consist of adding over 2,500 track feet of rail including a parallel track for storage. Once this project is completed the Point will have over 8 track miles of rail in the Park. This contract was awarded in December to Tram Construc-

tion and if weather is permitting shall be completed by the end of January.

Also with the assistance of Ohio Department of Development and CAO, LEDC was able to acquire funds for Engine's Drive. This project consists of 605 ft Industrial Roadway which will serve Spec Building 2, linking it with Commerce Drive and other adjacent property's purchased by Engines Inc. This project will be awarded by the end of December and is expected to be completed in early spring.

The Point recently completed the Ohio University Training Center. This 3,600 sq ft facility with five offices, two meetings rooms and one large training room will be a major asset to small businesses in the park and in our county. This facility will allow employers to train their employees on site with the trained staff of Ohio University. Also the Huntington/ Ironton Empowerment Zone will also share this facility. The Empowerment Zone assists our community by providing new job creation; creating new business and industrial sites; training our workforce; and improving our infrastructure to complement economic development. This facility which is an addition to the Chamber of Commerce will officially open by the end of January.

Through the development of 8 acres and the road and sewer projects, the park has unearthed over 30,000 tons of concrete from old foundations. This concrete is now being crushed on site to make usable ballast and sub ballast. The recycled material will be sold to projects on site and used in future developments such as new road construction, rail road ballast, and maintaining service roads in the park. This project is expected to be completed by the end of January.

The Point has sold 1.5 acres of land to M&M Mailing, a bulk mailing company owned by Ken McGuire. This 16,400 Sq Ft will be an expansion of M&M Mailing out of Huntington, WV and is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by the end of February.

Goals for the upcoming year will begin with the park's third spec building. Spec building 3 will be 32,800 Sq. Ft and designed for four tenants with a shared loading ramp and masonry front. The building units will range from 4,500 Sq. Ft to 11,900 Sq. Ft. This building will be designed with a sprinkler system which will allow for larger units if needed, and with an expandable sidewall for future expansion. This project will be awarded early 2007 and is scheduled to be completed by May. The Park will focus on acquiring funds for rail improvement for the park in the upcoming year.

For further information regarding The Point Industrial Park, please contact:

Bill Dingus
Executive Director
dingus@ohio.edu
Jeremy Clay
Industrial Park Manager
jeclay@zoominternet.net
216 Collins Avenue
South Point, Ohio 45680
(740) 377-4550

Report of the Lawrence County Port Authority

The Lawrence County Port Authority was formed in 2005 as a partnership of the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation and the Ironton/Lawrence Community Action Organization to pursue programs most appropriate for a Port Authority. Together these members including: **Keith Molihan, Robert Slagel, Dan Jeffries, Carl Darling, Tom McKnight, Ralph Kline, and Dr. Bill Dingus**, provide a vehicle to engage in opportunities in which to nurture Lawrence County economically.

Lawrence County Port Authority Acquires General Purpose Foreign Trade Zone Designation

The Southern Ohio general-purpose foreign trade zone site, located within Lawrence County Ohio, is designed to be an additional tool within the state and regions economic development arsenal to improve local company's international competitiveness as well as allow economic development officials to target international companies to attract additional foreign investment, new jobs and capital to the region. This trade zone directly supports Ohio and the Southern Ohio communities' economic development goals by providing opportunities for further diversification of industry, attraction of foreign investment, increased opportunities for job creation, and increasing the region's potential for exports.

With FTZ #270, many businesses can take advantage of this cutting-edge opportunity to take their business global. It's obvious of what benefits businesses have with this type of zone working for them every day in the global market, with the import and export of their products.

The new FTZ designation is only one of the great many feats the Port Authority has accomplished this year. Rumpke began their recycling operations in Haverhill last October. The Port Authority's support of this \$6,000,000.00 developments has resulted in 51 new full time employees. This is 21 more jobs than what was originally planned in 2005. Rumpke also has the potential of expanding their operations in 2007.

For more information regarding the Lawrence County Port Authority, please contact:

Bill Dingus
Executive Director
dingus@ohio.edu
216 Collins Avenue
South Point, Ohio 45680
Phone: (740) 377-4550
Fax: (740) 377-2091
www.lawrencecountyohio.org

Report of the Procurement Outreach Center

The mission and goal of the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation Procurement Outreach Center (LEDC POC) is to provide quality marketing and technical assistance to eligible small business firms interested in selling their goods and services to the Department of Defense (DoD), other federal agencies, and state and local governments. The main objective of the agency is to use the government procurement process as a method for job creation in local communities.

The LEDC POC serves 10 southeastern Ohio counties that include: Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton. This 10 county area covers 5,130 square miles with a population of 430,805. The LEDC POC office is located in South Point, Ohio.

The services offered by the LEDC POC are free to business owners who operate a small business within the agency's designated service area. The agency provides clients specialized government procurement services that meet specific business needs. Some of these services include:

1. Free Bid Match Service
2. Vendor Registrations and interpretation of small business size standards
3. Assistance in completing small business certifications
4. Electronic Data Interchange Formats & Assistance
5. Contract & small business referral services
6. Interpretation of state and federal acquisition regulations
7. Development of client capability statements & small business marketing materials
8. Comprehensive Government Procurement Marketing Plans/Strategies
9. Assistance in Understanding Contracting Processes, Fundamentals, & Tactics
10. Assistance in understanding Department of Defense Supply Chain Management

11. Electronic Commerce Assistance
12. Conduct various "how to" workshops regarding marketing to government agencies & to prime contractors
13. Assistance in finding Prime & Subcontracting Government Procurement Opportunities
14. Bid & proposal preparation, including Schedule counseling with the General Services Administration

The program year ended on September 30, 2006 for the LEDC POC agency with outreach goals exceeded. The agency serviced 188 small business clients for the year with over 2,000 counseling hours (218 initial counseling sessions & 1837 follow-up counseling sessions). The total number of contracts awarded for the program year was 26 (7 - Department of Defense & other federal agencies); 19 - state/county/municipal government agencies; and 6 subcontract awards received by small business concerns).

Clients in the designated service area have received contracts to build utility lines; construct public schools, roads, and buildings; assemble sandbags; perform janitorial services; manufacture parts for military components for the Department of Defense; repair and build roofs for public housing projects; manufacture wooden tent poles; sell electrical supplies to military and state agencies; and perform maintenance, health, and landscaping services. The LEDC POC department is reporting \$35,302,032 in contract award revenue for this program year and approximately 906 jobs have been created.

Conferences and Seminars

The LEDC POC has varied the types and locations of workshops and seminars that are sponsored by the agency in order to target the many different kinds of businesses that operate within the coverage area. A variety of economic development agencies are asked to also co-sponsor these workshops in order to keep the flow of information about procurement issues current. These agencies always assist in the promotion and success of

each event and the end result is that the LEDC POC is able to reach a broader client market. It is the client's needs and requests that drive the timely topics addressed at these conferences. Below is a brief synopsis of only a few of the workshops that were conducted.

"Sub-Contracting Opportunities with Uranium Disposition Services - December 2005

A small business meeting was conducted on April 14, 2005 to discuss business opportunities with Uranium Disposition Services (UDS), LLC, Knoxville, Tennessee. UDS was formed especially to process depleted uranium hexafluoride for the Department of Energy and has been chosen as the prime contractor for work to be performed at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Piketon, Ohio. UDS is actively seeking local/regional businesses as prospective suppliers and subcontractors for the estimated \$60 million in contract opportunities over the next five years. The event was conducted at the Ohio State University South Centers and 53 prospective suppliers attended.

"Federal Dollars & Sense for Service Disabled and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses." - January 2006 - Ironton, Ohio

The purpose of the workshop was to familiarize service disabled veterans and veteran owned small business with various topics relating to government contracting and to assist them in overcoming obstacles in doing business specifically with the federal government. Thirty small business owners, federal contracting officers, and economic development agency representatives attended the event. The workshop was conducted at the Ohio University Southern, Ironton, Ohio.

"Basics of Bonding Workshop" - March 2006

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the basics of bonding and what contractors need to know in securing bonding for public works projects. The event was conducted at the Portsmouth Inner-City Development Corporation and 17 people participated in the event. Topics that were highlighted at the workshop include:

1. What are the different bonding programs?
2. What does bonding do for my company?
3. How do you use bonding to benefit your business?

4. What are bonding companies?
5. How can SBA help with bonding issues?
6. Why is bonding important to my company?
7. What are my liability and legal responsibilities on the job?
8. How do I get a jump start?
9. Bonding & Sub-contracting.

"Benefits of Small Certifications" - March 2006

Workshop designed to discuss the benefits of federal and state small business certification programs that help level the playing field for small business owners who want to compete in the government marketplace. Key topics discussed included how to apply for the following certifications: Disadvantage Business Enterprise, managed by the Ohio Department of Transportation; Ohio EDGE program, managed by the Ohio Department of Administration Services; Historically Under-utilized Business (HUB)- Zone program, managed by the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the 8-A business development program, managed by the SBA. The event was conducted at the Endeavor Center, Piketon, Ohio and several small business owners and economic development professionals attended the event.

To learn more about government procurement opportunities currently available for small business owners please write, e-mail, or call the following individuals:

Kelly M. Lawhorn, Director,
Laura Samek, Small Business Counselor
Rodney Young Small Business Counselor
LEDC Procurement Technical Assistance Center
P.O. Box 488
South Point, Ohio 45680
klawhorn@zoominternet.net
lsamek@zoominternet.net
youngre@zoominternet.net
740/377-4550 - phone
740-377-2091 - fax

Convention and Visitors Bureau Report

The Lawrence County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), established by the Lawrence Economic Development Corporation in 1983, is in charge of promoting travel and tourism in Lawrence County, Ohio. The CVB still averages over 350 inquiries per month and serves as the county's tourist information center along U.S. Route 52. Although the only source of funding utilized by the CVB is through the Lawrence County Hotel/Motel Tax, the bureau functions productively with a department director and several volunteers throughout the community organizing and marketing visitors drawing events and attractions.

The primary function of the CVB is to market the entire county to potential visitors statewide and nationwide. In 2006, the CVB developed three new publications including the Lawrence County Dining Guide, and through a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce developed the Village Profile Lawrence County Map as well as the Lawrence County Profile Magazine. These new marketing tools have been extremely useful for both visitors and locals alike. Who knew Lawrence County had over 60 family style restaurants and several new hot eating spots on the way? And how else better to get to all this great food than a Lawrence County Map. The map is designed to be used by anyone who is not familiar with the area. By highlighting schools, churches, and place of interest, this map serves as a directional guide as well as a self guided tour of the community. Also, through a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, the CVB now has a comprehensive Lawrence County Profile Magazine. This magazine holds historical and current information regarding statistical, attractions, lifestyle, education, medical, and industrial trends in our region.

In keeping up with yearly publications, an annual calendar of events is published each year to

market Lawrence County's major events. After the publication is designed and printed, the events are also logged and updated into our state's travel and tourism websites: discoverohio.com, travelohio.com, and appalachianohio.com. Events placed on these sites in 2006 included the following as well as many other smaller events in which the CVB helped in either planning and/or marketing of:

The Wheelin' Sportsmen Fishing Event at Lake Vesuvius (sponsored by the Wild Turkey Federation Lawrence County Chapter and the Wayne National Forest to encourage outdoor activities for the physically and mentally handicapped),

Lawrence County Trade Days and Flea Market (a seasonal event held in the spring, summer and fall that attracts buyers and sellers from all over the eastern end of the United States),

Gus Macker Basketball Tournament (an annual event that takes place in downtown Ironton organized by the Friends of Ironton. This event continues to grow and in 2006 attracted over 10,000 visitors to Lawrence County for one weekend in May),

Memorial Day Parade (the longest running parade in the history of the United States)

Vesuvius Furnace Festival (cultural festival at the Wayne National Forest in Pedro with historical re-enactments, storytelling by nationally acclaimed performers, music, and a parade of antiques and historic characters),

Annual Appalachian Uprising (a music festival that attracts fans from all over the country. 2006 hosted musical legend Sam Bush and some up and coming bands on the bluegrass scene.),

Lawrence County Fair

Rally on the River (third annual motorcycle rally that took place in downtown Ironton. During this weekend in August, cyclist of all ages roar through the streets of Hanging Rock and Ironton to get a glimpse

of river life and festivities),

Festival of the Hills (arts and crafts expo with local bluegrass and county musicians playing throughout the day),

Historic Cemetery Walk at Woodland Cemetery (local members of the Lawrence County Historical Society await visitors during the dark evening hours to tell the tales of our founding fathers),

"Oktoberfest" (first time event for the City of Ironton which hosted several German bands, and authentic German food, games and activities),

The Haunted Tunnel (ghouls and goblins line the walls and creep around the corners in Ohio's only such event that takes place in the historic tunnel on U.S. Route 93),

Candlelight Church Walk (a walk through different churches throughout the area where a short musical or rhetorical program is given in each and ending at the Lawrence County Historical Museum).

The CVB also acts as a hub for information for our region and since we are the first stop off of Interstate 64, many visitors come to our office for directions and pamphlets before heading on to their destination of choice. Lawrence County doesn't actually have a state funded visitor's center, instead the CVB takes on the responsibilities of displaying marketing materials and travel information as well as reciprocating partnerships with surrounding states and counties in order to assist in the promotion of the entire region as a whole.

With this duty, the CVB also has a lead role in the update and design of the Lawrence County webpage. This site was updated in the spring of 2006 to encompass the entire county as well as the agency departments of the Chamber of Commerce, LEDC, POC, and CVB. The site now has information regarding lifestyle, utilities, government, development, attractions and education and can be used as a drawing factor for visitors, developers and people who are looking to relocate.

In mid August, the CVB hosted the first meeting in Lawrence County for Ohio's Appalachian Country (OAC) at Ohio University Southern's Riffe Rotunda in Ironton. OAC is a membership organization of CVB Directors, chambers of commerce, economic developers, and community volunteers in the Appalachian region of the State of Ohio. This area covers 29 counties and

the mission of OAC is to promote the region from Columbiana County down to Clermont County in Southern Ohio. Those attending included travel and tourism business leaders from Clinton County, Hamilton County, Brown County, Governor's Office of Appalachia, Ohio's Historical Society, and the Wayne National Forest. This meeting allowed us the opportunity to seek assistance and guidance in how to increase interest and support in the travel and tourism sector within the local community.

If anything, in 2006, there has been a serious increase in interest of the tourism sector by the local community. More and more developments are being made to accommodate interest and lifestyle. This trend can be noted by the recent rise in restaurant developments and events that cater to specific hobbies and interests in Lawrence County. As views on development start to change, tourism in Lawrence County is now being seen more as an economic tool. With this movement, only good things are to come for Lawrence County.

For more information regarding the Convention and Visitors Bureau or for volunteer information, please contact:

Dr. Bill Dingus

Executive Director

Viviane Khounlavong

Director

216 Collins Avenue

South Point, Ohio 45680

Phone: (740) 377-4550

Fax: (740) 377-2091

www.lawrencecountyohio.org

Greater Lawrence County Area Chamber of Commerce

<p>A&A Porta Pottys A.G. Edwards A. G. Edwards & Sons AAA Aaron's Products Advantage Valley Allied Waste Services #971 (BFI) Allyn's Jewelers Alpha Welding American Cancer Society American Electric Power American Health Centers American Red Cross, Cabell County Ameritech Anderson & Anderson Appalachian Family & Children First Area Agency on Aging District 7 Armstrong Utilities Arundel Gallery Ashland Office Supply Attitude Aviation Inc. Bailey, Raymond Belville Resources Bentley RxPress Best Western-River Cities Best Western-Southern Hills Inn BFI Waste Systems Bill Enyart & Sons Bob Clyse, Pontiac, Olds, GM Bob Evans Restaurant- South Point Briggs Lawrence County Library Buckeye Dawg Proper- ties, LLC Buckeye Rural Electric Business & Family Insurance Solutions Campbell Business</p>	<p>Machines Cardiovascular Imaging Services Carey's Tire Co. Chappell Insurance Agency Char-Cal, Inc. Cintas Corporation Citi Loan Financial City National Bank Collins Career Center Country Hearth Inn & Suites Community Action Organization Community Benefits Insurance Chick-fil-A Robert H. Compton Congressman Ted Strickland Connoisseur Media Cornerstone Environ- mental Products Convention and Visitors Bureau Curves of Proctorville Curves of South Point Creative Financial Solutions Custom Protection Services Dalton Architect Ironton Associates Desco Federal Credit Union Donald Capper, Judge Dow Chemical Co. Dr. Neil Dufore Dr. Candace Duty Dr. Robert Barnett Duke Energy DVR Inc. Dynamic Design Eastham & Associates</p>	<p>Edward Jones Invest- ments Edwards, Klein, Anderson & Shope E.L. Robinson Engineer- ing Engines, Inc. of Ohio ETA Engineering Consult- ants Excel Mining Products Fifth Third Bank Five Star Supply Flower Shop Fluid Component Services Foundation for Tri-State Community Freedom Choice Benefits Freeman Roofing & Const. Fruth Pharmacy General Building Supply General Helicopters International Gilpin's Creative Trophies & Awards Glenco, Inc, Grandview Inn Great Lakes Minerals Gregory Prater, DDS, Inc. Guaranty Bank and Trust Company Haley Equipment Co. Hall Funeral Home Hart's Corner Mart Hatcher's Greenhouse Heartland of Riverview Hecla Water Heiner's Bakery Herald Dispatch Holzer Clinic Hood Realty Hospice of Huntington Hurley Insurance Agency Industrial Sanitation</p>	<p>Ink In A Blink Ironton Chiropractic Ironton Tribune J&H Reinforcing & Structural E J&J Guns and Supplies J. Stewart Kaiser, Attorney at Law Jan Care Ambulance Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC Jim's Termite and Pest Control Jim Walter Homes Kevin J. Waldo Kincaid Micro King's Daughter's Medical Center Kirby Milem Outdoor Advertising Klein and Hall Co., LPA Leach State Farm Insurance Lawrence Co. Auditor Lawrence Co. Clerk of Courts Lawrence County Commissioners Lawrence County Coroner Lawrence County Recorder Lawrence County Treasurer Lawrence Co. Historical Society LEDC Treasurer Lester State Farm Insurance Liberty Federal Savings Bank Liebert Liebert Light Express Lowe's Home Center</p>
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2006

Membership List

<p>Luther Transfer M&M Service/ Mid Valley Supply Main Landscaping Manpower Temporary Services Marathon Petroleum LLC Mayor of Ironton Mayor of South Point McDonald's of Chesa- peake McGinnis, Inc. McGuire Realty Com- pany McSweeney's, Inc. Meyers & Neville Mid America Restaurant Ventures Millwright Local #1519 Modular Building Consultants of WV Muth Lumber Company National City Bank Necco Oak Hill Banks-Ironton Oak Hill Banks- South Point Oak Hill Banks- Proctorville ODJFS Ohio American Water Company Ohio Gardens Green- house & Landscaping Ohio Pest Control Ohio River Bank Ohio State University Extension Ohio University South- ern Ohio University Proctorville Old Colony Company, Realtors</p>	<p>Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital Pauley's Construction Robert Payne, CPA Phillip's Funeral Home Pick N Save Pickett Concrete Plumbers and Pipefitters #577 Ponderosa Prestera Trucking Printing Express Pritchard Electric Proctorville Flea Market Procurement Outreach Center Prudential Bunch Pyro-Chem Quality Care Nursing Service Randolph Stables, Inc. Real Team Realty, LLC dba Re/Max Real Team Rep. Todd Book Rep. Clyde Evans Resource Recovery Rick Eplion Paving River's Bend Health Care, LLC River Grove Develop- ment Riverview Bed & Breakfast Inn Riverside Insurance Resources Robert Payne, CPA Safeguard Business Painting & Promotional Sam's Club SBC Ameritech Shawan Marquis Agency, Inc. Scherer Mountain Insurance Schneider-Griffin</p>	<p>Funeral Home Scott Whitson Servpro/ Tri-State Restoration, Inc. Service Glass Company of Huntington, Inc. Sen. John Carey, Jr., 17th District Sen. Tom Niehaus Shaffer Plumbing and Heating Sheriff's Office Sherwin Williams Smith Barney Southern Ohio Behav- ioral Health South Point Ford South Point Local School District South Point Storage & U-Haul Sparetime Recreation Spriggs Distributing Staggs State Farm Insurance Staley's Pharmacies Stephens and Son Insurance Agency Superior Marine Ways, Inc. Sunoco Chemicals Sunset Nursing Home TLC Excavating, LLC Terry's Mobile Glass The Wells Group Three Gables Surgery Center Thermal Solutions Total Safety Tracy Brammer Funeral Home Training Solutions Tri State Airport Author- ity Tri-State Dialysis</p>	<p>Tri-State Industries, Inc. Tri-State Nurseries Tri-State Tire Service Ultimate Health Care U.S. Army Recruit- ing Station US Bank Verizon Information Services Village Dental Wal-Mart #1478 Wayne National Forest Weber Insurance W&F Distributors Woolpert Consult- ants Workforce Dev. Resource Center WOUB WOUB York's Unlimited Appliances Youth Dev. Corpora- tion of America</p>
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Need information about Lawrence County? Visit our redesigned website www.lawrencecountyohio.org.



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information resource center.