

My Side of the Conversation

Pirate Robotics Competes in FIRST Robotics World Championship

The West Carrollton High School Pirate Robotics team won the 2018 Greater Pittsburgh Regional competition held March 21 - 24. The first-place finish qualified Pirate Robotics for the World Championships in Detroit from April 25 - 28.

Pirate Robotics participates in the FIRST Robotics Competition. FIRST is an international organization dedicated to advancing student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math.

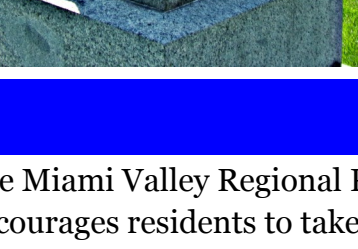
Work began in January when FIRST Robotics teams around the world learned the challenges their robot would face during this year's competitions. Teams had only six weeks to design, build, program, and test their robot. They also created a marketing plan and worked with coaches and industry mentors to prepare for the competitions.

The competition season for the Pirates began with a tournament at the Wright State University Nutter Center in early March. Over 60 teams from 11 states competed, and The Pirates made it to the quarterfinals.

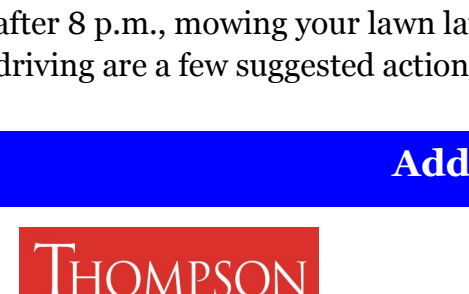
The Pirates' second competition was in Pittsburgh, where they competed against 52 teams from 9 states plus China and Taiwan. Pirate Robotics was part of the 2nd seeded alliance, including a team from New Jersey and a team from Pennsylvania. The Pirates only lost one playoff match and won the event.

At the World Championships in Detroit, Pirate Robotics competed against more than 400 teams from around the world. The Pirates succeeded in executing their strategy of "filling up the vault" and placed 9th overall for total vault points. Despite this success, Pirate Robotics did not reach the playoffs.

Continued Below in Community and Member Events



**Congratulations! to Flying Ace Car Wash,
Business of the Year 2017**

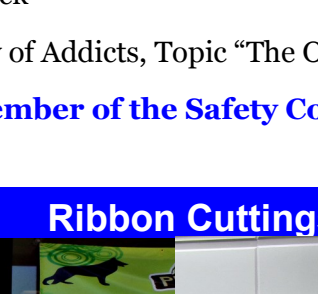
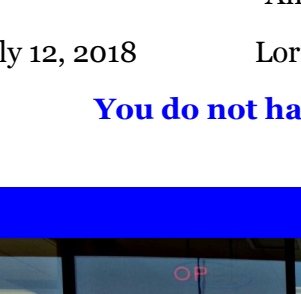


This month we are beginning a new feature called "WHERE AM I". Each month we will feature a landmark or icon from one of our municipalities. We hope that you will enjoy seeing treasures of art and architecture that exemplify the history of our local area. Please feel free to contact the Chamber Office if you have any suggestions for this feature.

Air Pollution Awareness

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC)'s Air Quality Awareness Program encourages residents to take action to reduce air pollution. MVRPC partners with the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency (RAPCA) on air quality issues. RAPCA is responsible for monitoring and reporting air quality readings in Montgomery, Greene, Miami and Clark Counties. On days when air pollution levels are forecasted to be high, an Air Pollution Advisory (APA) is issued. It's especially important on these days to modify your behavior to reduce air pollution. Refueling your vehicle after 8 p.m., mowing your lawn later in the evening, and walking or biking for short trips instead of driving are a few suggested actions. Learn more at www.miamivalleyair.org.

Additional Newsletter Sponsors



Safety Council Speakers and Information

All South Metro Regional Safety Council Meetings are held at Miami Valley Hospital South, Bed Tower Conference Room, and begin at 8 A.M. with networking and light breakfast. Please feel free to join us for our next meeting on May 10th. What is the South Metro Regional Safety Council? It is a means to gain pertinent information to improve safety and wellbeing in the work place. It is a way for owners and managers to improve workplace conditions. If you have 7 or more employees, you need to consider becoming part of the South Metro Regional Safety Council for 2018 – 2019. We have excellent speakers. Not only can you provide a safer work environment, but you have the ability to earn a 2% to 4% rebate of your workers' compensation premium. The presentation begins at 8:30 A.M. To reserve your spot, email info@southmetroregionalsafetycouncil.org or phone 937 433 2032 ext. 200.

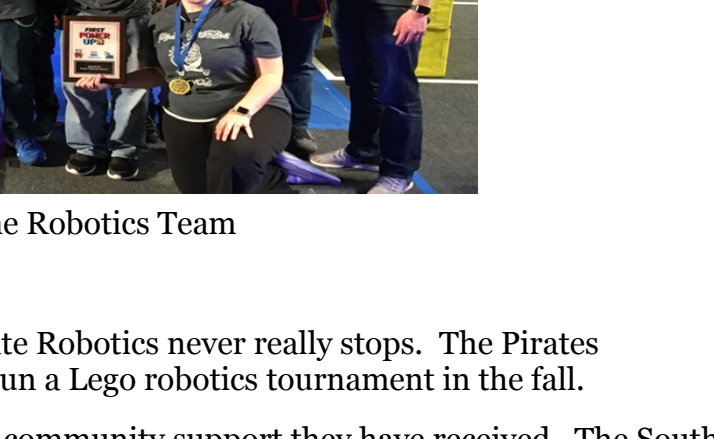
May 10, 2018	Dr. Brian Wilson, BWC Director of Provider Engagement in the Medical Services Division, Topic "Strategies for BWC Initiatives—A Medical Focus" (CEO Meeting)
June 14, 2018	Dr. Catherine Marco, Emergency Medicine Wright State University, Topic "Anaphylactic Shock"
July 12, 2018	Lori Erion, Family of Addicts, Topic "The Opioid Crisis, A New Perspective".

You do not have to be a member of the Safety Council to attend the meetings.

Ribbon Cuttings

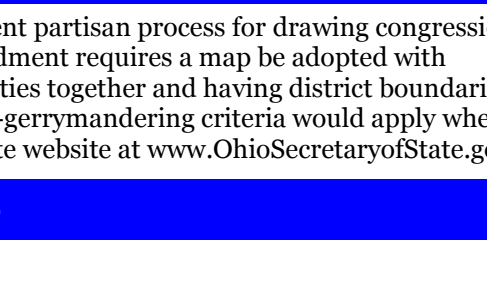
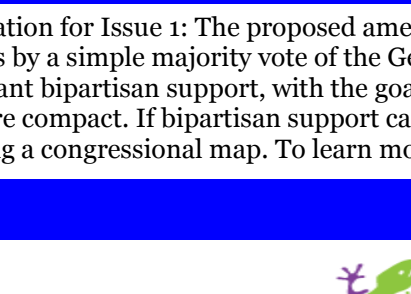


Pet Wants

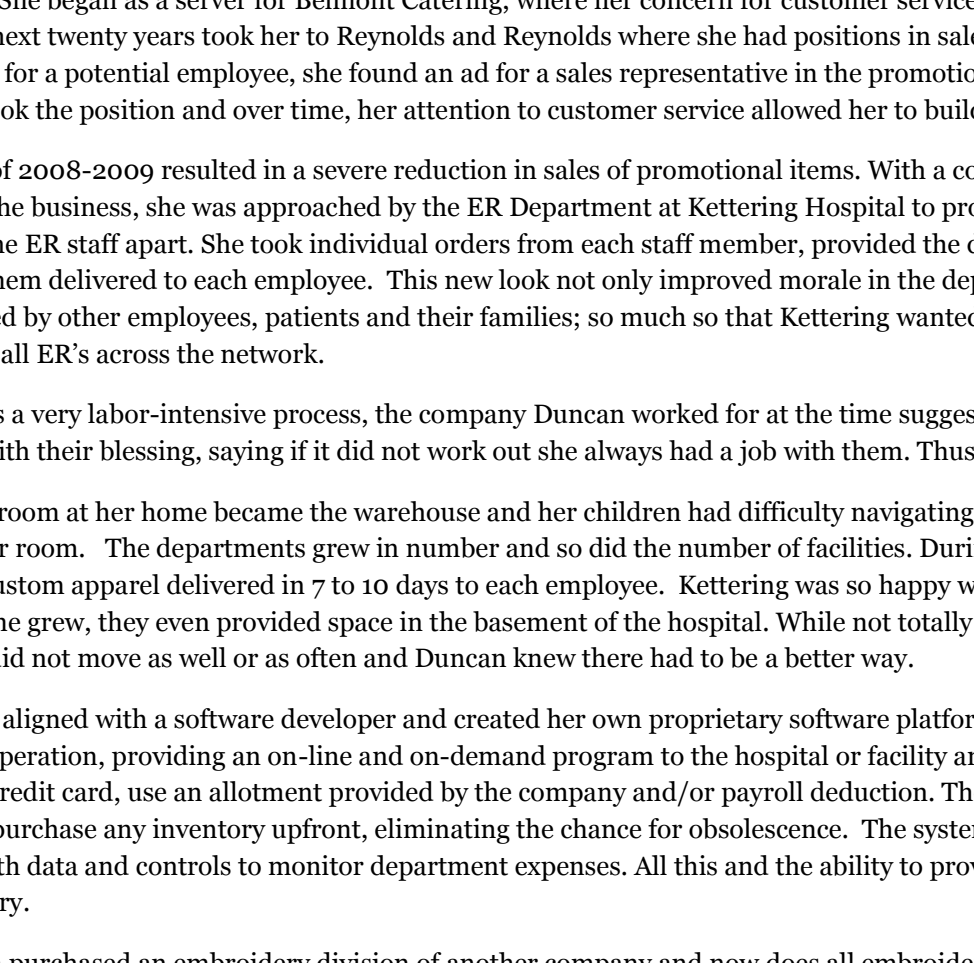


Buckeye Eco Care

Sponsors



Community and Member Events



Members of the Robotics Team

Although the competition season has ended, Pirate Robotics never really stops. The Pirates typically host a STEM camp in the summer and run a Lego robotics tournament in the fall.

Pirate Robotics would like to thank the generous community support they have received. The South Metro Regional Chamber of Commerce has supported Pirate Robotics for the past three years. More information can be found at www.wcrobotics.org. Go Pirates!

Information on Ohio State Issue 1

Explanation for Issue 1: The proposed amendment would end the current partisan process for drawing congressional districts by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly. This amendment requires a map be adopted with significant bipartisan support, with the goals of keeping local communities together and having district boundaries that are more compact. If bipartisan support cannot be obtained, strict anti-gerrymandering criteria would apply when adopting a congressional map. To learn more, visit the Secretary of State website at www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov.

Member Profile



Beth Duncan, formerly Beth Lybrook, owner of LIZARD Apparel and Promotions, Inc. has had a varied journey in the business world. She began as a server for Belmont Catering, where her concern for customer service was developed. Her career over the next twenty years took her to Reynolds and Reynolds where she had positions in sales and management.

While searching for a potential employee, she found an ad for a sales representative in the promotional products industry. She took the position and over time, her attention to customer service allowed her to build a large clientele.

The down turn of 2008-2009 resulted in a severe reduction in sales of promotional items. With a concentration on the apparel side of the business, she was approached by the ER Department at Kettering Hospital to provide logo scrubs that would set the ER staff apart. She took individual orders from each staff member, provided the desired size and items and had them delivered to each employee. This new look not only improved morale in the department but was very well received by other employees, patients and their families; so much so that Kettering wanted the new look implemented in all ER's across the network.

Because this was a very labor-intensive process, the company Duncan worked for at the time suggested that she start her own company with their blessing, saying if it did not work out she always had a job with them. Thus, LIZard was born.

Duncan's living room at her home became the warehouse and her children had difficulty navigating the boxes and bags just to go to their room. The departments grew in number and so did the number of facilities. During this time she was still providing custom apparel delivered in 7 to 10 days to each employee. Kettering was so happy with the products and service that as she grew, they even provided space in the basement of the hospital. While not totally out of control there were sizes that did not move as well or as often and Duncan knew there had to be a better way.

In 2015 Duncan aligned with a software developer and created her own proprietary software platform that would streamline the operation, providing an on-line and on-demand program to the hospital or facility and give the buyer the option to use a credit card, use an allotment provided by the company and/or payroll deduction. The hospitals however did not want to purchase any inventory upfront, eliminating the chance for obsolescence. The system also provides management with data and controls to monitor department expenses. All this and the ability to provide 7 – 10 business day home delivery.

In 2017, Duncan purchased an embroidery division of another company and now does all embroidery for each of her customers logo-wear inhouse, giving them much better control over production times.

It is easy to see why, with excellent products and service, LIZard has grown 134% in the last five years. LIZard now has 32 Hospital Networks in 14 states across the country along with many other customers with uniform programs and promotional product solutions. The growth rate is continuing. After a recent trade show, LIZard now has 11+ larger health care networks that are looking to have LIZard be their primary supplier of uniforms. LIZard is now launching their newest addition to their on-line ordering system with safety and recognition/reward programs that will only add to their success.

It just goes to show that a business with committed ownership, managers and employees who are all dedicated to a common goal focused on customer needs and strategies, can achieve great success.

Make your reservation now

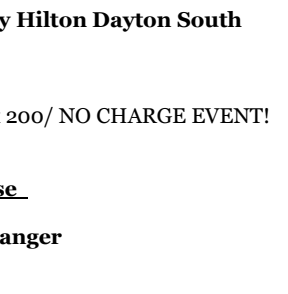
On June 21, 2018, Steve Stanley, Ex Director Montgomery Transportation District and Doug Harnish, Principle Market Metric\$ and Chairman Montgomery County Planning Commission will be our speakers. Their topic will be "Discussion Regarding Consolidation and Economic Development of Cincinnati-Dayton Corridor".

On June 28, 2018, we will have our first Business Open house of the year. The Flats at Austin Landing will be the hosts from 5–7 PM. RSVP are requested to 433 2032 ext. 200

We will be having a series of Networking events starting in June. The first one will be June 28th at the Flats at Austin Landing.

SOUTH METRO REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPONSORED BY



SAVE THESE DATES!

EVENT RESERVATION POLICY

All reservations for Chamber events have a cancellation date, usually one week prior to the event (check our website at www.smrccoc.org or event invitation). This date represents a guarantee from the Chamber to the event facility concerning payment and commitment, no exceptions. Please be responsible and honor that date to assist this office in managing our budget. All event registrations will only be accepted IN ADVANCE by check or credit card. We will not offer payment at the door. No refunds after cancellation date or 3 days prior including lack of attendance. Adults only! **Reservations required. (937) 433-2032 x 200**

Date	Event	Location
Thursday	Safety Council Meetings (Improve Workplace Safety)	Miami Valley Hospital South
Jan 11, Feb 8, March 8,	Events & Programs will be held from 8-9:30 a.m. (Starts 8:30 Sharp)	(Bed Tower Entrance)
April 12, May 10, June 14,	Safety Council Members - \$15.00/ Non Safety Council Members - \$20.00	2400 Miami Valley Dr.
July 12, Aug 9, Sept 13,	Must RSVP - 433-2032 x 200	Centerville
Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13	Sponsored By: Miami Valley Hospital South, Hunter Consulting Co., Thompson Hine LLP, Key Ads	
Thursday	Metro Breakfast	
April 19, June 21,	FEATURING IMPORTANT SPEAKERS ON MAJOR TOPICS	Sycamore Medical Center (4 th Floor)
Aug 16, Oct 18	Breakfast Buffet/Networking: 7:30 a.m. Speaker: 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. \$17.00 per person /Members \$20.00 per person/ Non Members Members / Non Members - \$25.00 at door	4000 Miamisburg Centerville Rd. Miamisburg
Reservations Required. Hosted By: Kettering Health Network, Sycamore Medical Center/ Sponsored By: Caliber Home Loans, Flying Ace Express Car Wash, St. Leonard, Beacon Ortho, Active Electric		
Monday	Dayton Dragons Unique Outing	Fifth Third
May 21	6:00 – End of Game – Dragons vs Lake County Contact Ryan Tuttle 937-228-2287 Ext. 109	Dayton \$25.00 per person – MUST RSVP
Night Includes: 1 Suite/Party Deck Ticket for Game, Unlimited Food & Nonalcoholic Beverages, 2 Alcoholic Drink Tickets, A chance to win Dragons merchandise, Great Networking with Chamber ryan.tuttle@daytondragons.com		
Thursday	Business-To-Business Showcase	Miami Valley Hospital South
September 27	5:00-7:00 p.m. Admission: No Charge Members - \$100.00 per 6' display table - Non Members \$175.00 per 6' display table Call for more information - (937) 433-2032 x 100 Sponsored By: Miami Valley Hospital South Please RSVP 433-2032 x 200	2400 Miami Valley Dr. Centerville
Wednesday	Annual Breakfast & Business Awards	NCR Country Club
October 31	7:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. No payment at the door Please RSVP 433-2032 x 200 Sponsored By: Hunter Consulting Co., Key Ads, Kettering Health Network, Sycamore Medical Center, NCR Country Club, Tech2bit, Voss Auto Network, Wright Patt Credit Union, Thompson Hine LLP, Lizard Apparel & Promotions, LLC, St. Leonard, Flying Ace Express Car Wash, Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance, Active Electric	4435 Dogwood Trail Kettering

South Metro Chamber 2018 Business Open Houses!

	Business Open House	The Flats at Austin Landing
Thursday	The Flats at Austin Landing	10501 Landing Way
June 28	5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Must RSVP 433-2032 x 200/ NO CHARGE EVENT!	Miamisburg 45342
	Business Open House	Homewood Suite
Thursday	Homewood Suites by Hilton Dayton South	3100 Contemporary Lane
August 16	5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Must RSVP 433-2032 x 200/ NO CHARGE EVENT!	Miamisburg 45342
	Business Open House	Dayton Wright Brothers Airport
Thursday	Wright "B" Flyer Hanger	10550 Springboro Pike
September 20	5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Must RSVP 433-2032 x 200/ NO CHARGE EVENT!	
	Business Open House	Tobias Funeral Home
Thursday	Tobias Funeral Home	5471 Far Hills Ave
October 18	5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Must RSVP 433-2032 x 200/ NO CHARGE EVENT!	Dayton 45429
	Business Open House	Zig Zag Gallery
Thursday	Zig Zag Gallery (Holiday Kick Off)	101 E. Alex Bell Rd., Ste. 172
November 8	5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Must RSVP 433-2032 x 200/ NO CHARGE EVENT!	Centerville 45459

Use our convenient reservation line – (937) 433-2032 ext 200 for quick registration

AS A COURTESY - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – ADULTS ONLY

Calendar subject to change. Regular updates will be available. Check web site for new additions!

We want to thank our generous sponsors for making our 2018 events possible: DP&L, Hunter Consulting Co., Kettering Health Network, Nova Creative Group, Key Ads, Voss Auto Network, Thompson Hine LLP, Tech2bit, Flying Ace Express Car Wash, St. Leonard, Beacon Ortho, Caliber Home Loans, Miami Valley Hospital South, Wright Patt Credit Union, Active Electric

Business of the Year 2017 - Flying Ace Express Car Wash

We now accept online payments www.smrccoc.org

Questions? Call 433-2032 ext 100