FOCUS
on the Dearborn County Chamber of Commerce

Discover the best!
The Dearborn County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to be able to put this publication in your hands.

Our goal is that it will help you help us to spread the word about what is so good about living, working and doing business in Dearborn County. Think of this publication as a kind of primer to help business people and residents tell those from outside our community what life is like in Dearborn County. Not a lot of words ... just the high points and the important messages to get across.

There are those who say Dearborn County is a "well kept secret." And there are some who say that's not all bad. Well, we disagree... because growth - the right kind of growth - is important if our community is to move forward and keep pace in the years to come. When that happens, the positive growth that benefits all segments of our community takes place.

Growth doesn't mean smoke stacks, more traffic congestion and the loss of our rural character. Growth means a stronger tax base to provide the governmental services we all want and need... with more commercial and industrial support of local taxes, residents will bear a smaller portion. Growth means the kind of jobs that will reduce the need for 60 percent of our residents to leave the county every day to go to work. Growth means a better quality of life … schools, shopping, housing, recreational opportunities, medical care.

I encourage you to read this publication... you can do it in about 10 minutes. Then share the “Dearborn County Story” with others. Help us create a greater interest in Dearborn County and the growth that will enhance the quality of life for all of us.

Rick Brock 2008 Chamber Chairman
General Manager, Lawrenceburg Distillers Indiana, LLC
Omar Neuseibeh, Owner/President, Midwest Data Inc.

"I moved to Aurora in 1986 when my business was in Cincinnati. After ten years of commuting, I said this needs to change. So I changed my focus and moved my operation to downtown Lawrenceburg. Now, I'm minutes from my house, my wife and my two sons work in my business, and we feel very much a part of the community. The Chamber called me the 'poster child' for economic development … I like that."

Looking for a great place to locate a business? Think Dearborn County. Exit 16 is on the I-275 beltway, close to Cincinnati's western suburbs, just twenty-five minutes from downtown Cincinnati and two exits from the airport. New businesses will be attractive to the county's current workforce... sixty percent of residents leave the county every day to go to work. Local government is very business friendly.

Looking for a home, or a close-by getaway place? Dearborn County has it all. New condos in downtown Lawrenceburg. River views in Aurora. Stately Victorians in Greendale. Lakeview and wooded homes and property in Hidden Valley Lake. Even farmland. The best of both worlds… big city convenience and rural charm.

Great Place to Locate
Living it up in Dearborn County

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Residents enjoy the same convenience and value found in virtually every community-Wal-Mart, Lowe’s, Kroger, Walgreen’s, CVS. But a layer of unique, local businesses make Dearborn County special. Imagine banking where the bank president greets you by your first name, or a builder who makes suggestions because he knows you. Reading the Register and the Journal Press. Listening to Eagle Radio. Whisky's and Hava Java. Quaint little shops like Golden Rule Bible store, Applewood, Charlottes Antiques, Herb Shop, Neff's Shoes, Walnut Grove, Interiors Embellished, Max & Erin's Ice Cream Shop, Country Sunshine, Zen Zone, Party at Travs, and The Framery.
Located along the Ohio River Scenic Byway, it’s easy to see why Dearborn County is known as “The Perfect Place to Play.” Home to world-famous Argosy Casino & Hotel, the county offers much in the way of recreation, including the 10-screen Greendale Cinema, several highly-rated local golf courses, and a variety of festivals and events taking place throughout the year. Take a step back in time with a tour of Hillforest Victorian House Museum or the Veraestau historic site, both located in the historic Ohio River city of Aurora. Or enjoy a taste of art and culture at a performance sponsored by Rivertown Players or the Dearborn Highlands Arts Council. Got a need for speed? Release it at Competition Racing, where you can go-kart race on a gigantic indoor track, or check out the stock cars at the popular Lawrenceburg Speedway. In the winter, outdoor enthusiasts can hit the slopes at Perfect North Slopes, which offers skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing for families of all ages. Outdoor recreation also abounds on Dearborn Trails, the multi-use hiking and biking trail that connects the cities of Greendale, Lawrenceburg and Aurora. A paved pathway that follows the Ohio River in many places, the award-winning trail is open to the public year round.

Ed Dierking, Aurora

“It doesn’t get any better than this. When Richard (Ulrich) and John (Mehrle) and I started talking about a biking and walking trail, I never imagined what we now have here. I’m 81, and I bike three or four times a week... more if time and weather permits. I’ve probably biked in 20 states, and I don’t think there’s a more picturesque path than Aurora to Lawrenceburg along the Ohio River.”
Tammy Harrington
Senior Recruiting Specialist, P&G

“I grew up in the Bright area and attended school in the Sunman-Dearborn district. East Central was a large school with good resources, and the fact that so many teachers lived in the area made it feel like they really put their heart and soul into teaching. I received a great education and was well prepared for college at Ivy Tech, which was an equally great school, close to home, that provided me with the education and experiences necessary to become a SuccessWay Co-op and ultimately a full-time employee with Procter & Gamble.”

Dearborn County’s young people benefit from a strong local education system. Three school corporations are responsible for K-12 public schools – Lawrenceburg, South Dearborn and Sunman-Dearborn. The three districts include nine elementary schools, four middle schools and three high schools. There are four parochial elementaries. An increasing impact is being made by Ivy Tech Community College, which now has two locations in Lawrenceburg. A new 85,000 square-foot facility opened in 2006 in downtown Lawrenceburg overlooking the Ohio River. The facility features state-of-the-art class rooms and labs, a business conference center, cardiovascular workout center and audio/visual distance education capabilities. Enrollment at the two campuses increased 41 percent between 2002 and 2007, and this year’s enrollment is expected to increase about 20 percent as more students pursue higher education closer to home and benefit from the cost efficiency. Ivy Tech students can complete their bachelor’s degree at state universities and take virtually all of their classes in Lawrenceburg. Four libraries serve the county, including one in downtown Lawrenceburg that recently completed a $5 million renovation.

A Vision for Dearborn County

Riverfront Campus -- 50 Walnut Street
Lakefront Campus -- 600 Industrial Drive
Lawrenceburg, Indiana 47025

1-888-ivy-line
www.ivytech.edu

IVY TECH IS ACCREDITED BY THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS AND IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Libraries of Dearborn County pride themselves on being the very best place for citizens to find information.

- Life Long Learning
- Community Building
- Career Information
- Children’s Services
- Books, Movies, and more
- Equal Access to Information

Lawrenceburg
Public Library District
www.lpld.lib.in.us

Aurora
Public Library District
www.aapl.org
HOUSING
LIVING IT UP IN DEARBORN COUNTY

Few communities have the breadth of residential options available to Dearborn County residents. The influence of the 1800s can still be seen in some quaint homes that dot the landscape in Aurora. Imagine relaxing on a porch overlooking the Ohio River. Meanwhile, urban-style condos are under construction on Walnut Street in downtown Lawrenceburg.

Greendale features some of the county’s most elegant homes. Hidden Valley Lake is an eclectic 1,800-home community with everything from A-frames to small homes to million dollar mansions. In the northern part of the county, Bright is bustling with new construction and available lots. A recent check of the multiple listings found a 50-acre horse farm listed at $2.8 million. Farms throughout the county provide a rural charm, character and influence that blend nicely with suburban convenience. Local home builders who understand the community go the extra mile for their clients.

John Popovich
Center Township Resident and Sports Director, WCPO-TV

“We originally moved to Dearborn County because of the affordability. We’re still here 16 years later because of the livability. It’s nice to live in a small town with all its coziness, comforts and conveniences, yet at the same time to have easy access to the big town with its myriad offerings. I like working in the city during the day, but I love watching a sky full of stars at night. I can do that here.”

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Comprehensive healthcare services in Dearborn County are a major component of what makes the community very special. Dearborn County Hospital, the region’s full service hospital, uses the phrase “Neighbors Caring for Neighbors” to describe the way a broad range of healthcare services are provided to patients. The hospital serves Dearborn and neighboring communities in Southeastern Indiana, Southwestern Ohio and Northern Kentucky. A new, four level patient tower is the focal point of an ongoing $30 million-plus expansion and renovation allowing for the hospital to be a state of the art, all private room facility. Wellness programs that reach out into the community epitomize the hospital’s philosophy. About one hundred physicians practice in the county. What residents say they like most is that their doctor is not someone they see only when they are sick or injured... they see him or her at church, the supermarket, the Little League game or even as the neighbor next door.
Volunteerism
living it up in Dearborn County

Karen Snyder
Director
United Way of Greater Cincinnati/
Dearborn & Ohio Counties

"I see it every day in my job … people and companies and organizations helping other people. With everyone’s busy schedules and rushed lives it still brings a smile to my face when others are willing to give of their time and help someone else."

Volunteerism living it up in Dearborn County

Where else would the United Way campaign set a goal of a thirty-five percent increase in a sluggish economy? When it comes to giving—especially the giving of one’s time and talent—certainly no community can surpass Dearborn County. People helping others happens all the time. Big Brothers Big Sisters. The Auxiliary of Dearborn County Hospital. The Youth Encouragement Center. Special Olympics. The Dearborn Highlands Arts Council. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Parent-teacher organizations in the schools. 4-H. Youth baseball, football and soccer. Hillforest Victorian House Museum. Service on government and non-profit boards and commissions. Doctors serving meals at the Dearborn Adult Center. Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Clean up days and recycling parties. The Aurora Firecracker Festival. The Aurora Farmer’s Fair, Indiana’s oldest festival celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Church festivals.

Money and Debt Problems Have You Worried?

Regardless of your circumstances, get help now, before it’s too late. Get expert advice on effective money management from certified credit counselors.

Need information to help make better financial decisions? We can help review your personal finances and provide you with budgeting assistance, credit report analysis and, of course, general money management education.

- Ask The Experts - Certified credit counselors
- Comprehensive Debt Analysis - Income, expenses and debt
- Preliminary Credit Report Review - Help to dispute errors
- 24/7 Online Assistance - Budgeting and Financial Resources
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- Help to teach your children about money
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