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Welcome!

Welcome to the Fairfield Advantage, the newsletter that keeps you on top of the business and development news in Fairfield County, Ohio and information of importance to them. Fairfield County, Ohio is the southeastern part of the central Ohio/Columbus metro area.

Fairfield Advantage

Business & Development News from Fairfield County, Ohio

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Director's Comments

In this edition, read about recent activities of the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance, a free seminar designed for small and growing businesses, a new partnership between Fairfield Medical Center and the Mount Carmel College of Nursing and other development-related stories.



In addition to our monthly e-newsletter, make sure to visit our [website](#) often for breaking news.

If you have questions about the services provided by our office, please contact our office by calling 740.654.1509. -- Bill Arnett, [Fairfield County Economic Development](#) Director

~ Development Alliance Selects Consultant ~



The Fairfield 33 Development Alliance has hired Cultivation, LLC from the Columbus area to help the group identify strengths of the region that should be used when marketing to new and expanding companies. Cultivation surveyed private-sector campaign contributors and local economic

development professionals to complete their study. Cultivation's report will be made to the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance Board of Directors on May 2.

The Fairfield 33 Development Alliance will soon release a request for proposals for marketing/public relations firms that will develop the message and look for the Alliance and implement the marketing campaign. Information provided by the Cultivation report will be used when crafting the marketing message.

The Fairfield 33 Development Alliance is a private-public partnership designed to attract new business to the Route 33

Corridor, while providing assistance to existing industry. For more information on how your company can support the Alliance's activities, contact Travis Markwood, Treasurer, Fairfield 33 Development Alliance, at 740.653.8251 or travis@lancoc.org.

[Click here for the story from Canal Winchester edition of *This Week*.](#)

~ Small Business Financing Workshop May 9 ~



The Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce is providing small businesses and entrepreneurs the chance to learn more about securing financing from banks and other funding sources. Capital Access 2008 is being hosted Friday, May 9, at the Ohio University Pickerington Center

from 8:00 am - 10:30 am.

The event will feature a variety of speakers and a bankers' panel, whose members will explain what they look for when reviewing business loan applications. Other presentations will highlight public sector financing programs and technical assistance including TechStart, SBA 504, Regional 166, the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund and the Ohio Small Business Development Center.

There is no cost to attend the event but registration is required. To register or for more information, call the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce at 614.837.1958 or www.pickeringtonchamber.com.

[Click here for a copy of the event flyer.](#)

~ Fairfield Medical & Mount Carmel College of Nursing Announce Partnership ~

Fairfield Medical Center and Mount Carmel College of Nursing in April announced a partnership to bring nursing classes to Lancaster beginning this summer.

[Click here to read the entire news release.](#)

~ Committee Formed to Support Historical Parks ~



From the County Commissioners' 2008 Budget Retreat, a committee was formed to study ways to increase funding and support for the Fairfield County Historical Parks Commission. The HotZone committee, consisting of county elected officials, department heads, employees, park volunteers and interested citizens, will meet for third time on Wednesday, April 30.

At the committee's first meeting, David Fey, Parks Director, provided information on the parks' inventory of 16 sites and buildings. At the second meeting, the committee reviewed other park resources available in Fairfield County to determine if the Historical Parks were needed. The committee determined the Historical Parks are an important tourist attraction and also preserve the area's natural and cultural resources. At the meeting on April 30, Fey and park volunteers will present a budget and associated plan of work. Committee members will then discuss ways to generate the needed revenue.

If you would like more information on the Parks HotZone Committee, please contact William Arnett, Fairfield County Development Director, at 654.1509 or warnett@co.fairfield.oh.us.

[For more information on Fairfield County Historical Parks click here.](#)

~ Development Director Testifies Before Senate Committee ~

The Department of Transportation in April presented its 2008 - 2009 Work Plan to the Ohio Senate Highways and Transportation Committee. Based on the Departments Work Plan,

interested parties were given the opportunity to present testimony to the committee. William Arnett, Fairfield County Development's Director, testified before the committee regarding the need to complete construction projects on the Route 33 corridor. Jennifer Simon, CEO, Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, and Steve Story, Meigs County CIC Board Member, also provided testimony. State Senator Tim Schaffer from Lancaster is a committee member.

[Click here to read the written testimony.](#)

~ ODOD to Host Global Summit in May ~

The Managing Directors from Ohio's 14 international offices will visit the state May 5 - 9. During the week, special seminars will be held throughout Ohio allowing companies to learn more about exporting and the services provided by the international offices.

On Thursday, May 8, a Global Summit is being held in Columbus, which includes a reception where the 14 managing directors will be available to talk with Ohio companies. Additionally, one-on-one appointments can be scheduled in Columbus for Friday, May 9. If you would like more information or would like to schedule an appointment, please contact Cynthia Cole, ODOD Global Markets Division, by calling 1.800.848.1300 or emailing ccole@odod.state.oh.us.

[Click here for more information about the Managing Directors' visit.](#)

~ Low Interest Loans Available for Growing Businesses ~



The Fairfield County Revolving Loan provides low- interest loans to small and growing businesses in Fairfield County. The program partners with banks to provide financing to help businesses create and retain employment positions.

Aerosport Modeling and Design utilized the Revolving Loan Fund in 2007 as the company purchased a new facility in the Canal Pointe Industrial Park. "The Revolving Loan Fund gave us the opportunity to purchase a state of the art facility that meets our needs for today and the future in a the community in which we live," said Geoff and Laurel Combs. "We are excited to be able to be part of the economic growth of Fairfield County."

For more information about the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund, contact William Arnett at 740.654.1509 or warnett@co.fairfield.oh.us.

[Click here to learn more about the Revolving Loan Fund.](#)

~ Upcoming Business Events ~

April 29: *Pickerington Appreciation Day Luncheon*, hosted by PACC and OU-Pickerington will be held at the OU-Pickerington Center, 12933 Stonecreek Drive from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Call 614-837-1958 for more information.

April 30: There will be a *Soft Opening Ribbon Cutting* at Meijer's at 6:30 am. Their newest store is located at 8300 Meijer Drive at the Hill Diley Road Interchange and will officially open May 4,

May 5: *Huntington National Bank Ribbon Cutting* at 8:30 am at Ety Pointe Center, 2665 North Memorial Drive next to Buckeye Honda. Refreshments will be catered by Four Reasons Deli & Bakery.

May 5: Planning meetings in Lithopolis for the *Honeyfest* at 5:30 pm at 3 E Columbus Street and *Memorial Day* planning event meeting at 7:00 pm at the fire station on Market Street.

May 7: Fairfield Medical Center is hosting an *Open House* for those who want to learn more about their collaborative nursing program with partner, Mount Carmel College of Nursing. The 6:30 pm event will be at FMC in the assembly room. Reservations are recommended by calling 800.225.0581.

May 8: *Business After Hours* in Canal Winchester shines the spotlight on The Canal Winchester Historical Society on High Street from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. RSVP to the Chamber Office by May 6, 2008 to 614.837.1556.

May 9: Come to celebrate *The Spaghetti Shop* Ribbon cutting at 3:30 pm at 1348 Ety Road in Lancaster.

May 9: *Pickerington Capital Access 2008* will be held at Ohio University Pickerington Center, 12933 Stonecreek Drive, from 8:00 am to 10:30 am. This free session will help businesses navigate the world of investment, bank and government financing. Call 614.837.1958 for required registration.

May 13: The local Edward Jones offices in Lancaster and Baltimore will host a free satellite broadcast for women titled *Improving Your Financial Fitness Doesn't Have to be a Workout* from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Call any local representative to reserve your spot or find out more about the program.

May 14: Monthly Networking Luncheon of the Canal Winchester CoC, sponsored by Real Living HER, at Southgate Potter Lodge, 651 Groveport Road. RSVP for the \$10.00 event by May 12 to 614.837.1556. Walk-ins are welcome and will pay \$11.00.

May 15: *How Many Days Until Retirement? Planning for the Big Day* will be the focus of the monthly Women's Resource Network luncheon at Ohio University Lancaster in the Art Gallery, 1570 Granville Pike. Call 740.653.8251 and reserve your spot for the \$15.00 event.

May 15: PACC Membership Luncheon at the Pickerington Senior Citizen Center, 150 Hereford Drive, will start at 11:30. Sponsored by the Violet Festival and The Little Clinic, the theme will be "Pickerington in Zen." Call 614.837.1958 for reservations.

May 15: Lancaster CoC will host *Business After Hours* at the Millstone BBQ, 12970 Grey Street in Logan, Ohio. This is a joint event with the Logan-Hocking County Chamber of Commerce and is open to all Chamber Members and their employees.

May 17: MORPC launches *Rideshare 43147*. Call Kim at 614.233.4131 for additional information.

May 20: The Baltimore Area CoC will host its Business Luncheon at Johnson Park, 220 Summers Choice Drive in Baltimore. Come hear Bill Arnett, Fairfield County Economic Development Director, address the issue of "Valuable Business Resources in a Tricky Economy." To RSVP, email Jean G. Farmer at jfarmer@pebo.com, or call 740.687.2903

May 20: Come to the **UNVEILING** of the new *Bremen Welcome Sign* at high noon at the intersection of 664/37. Those gathered will then proceed to the Historical Society, 161 Carter Street for the monthly meeting of the Bremen Area CoC. The Towne Crier will be discussing affordable means to advertise your business. Reservations by May 16 are a must by calling 740.569.9150 or emailing bremen_chamberofcommerce@msn.com. Chamber meetings are open to the public.

May 20: Come to the Lithopolis Area Marketing Association (LAMA). Dinner will start at 6:00 pm in the new Restaurant Antique Oven, 44 E Columbus Street and the meeting will follow. Call Sandy Casey at 614.837.8091 for information.

~ Community Events ~



May 2: First Fridays will feature *Country Line Dancing* starting at 5:00 pm at the Zane Square Bandstand, Main & Broad Streets in downtown Lancaster.

Enjoy food, beverages, music, dancing and prizes. Downtown restaurants and museums will hold special hours. This free event is sponsored by Main Street Lancaster and the Lancaster Parks. For more information on First Fridays [visit this website](#).

May 3: Opening of Main Street Canal Winchester Farmers Market from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm each Saturday through October 18 in historic downtown. Vendors will be listed at [Farmers Market](#).

May 4: A *Rabies Clinic* will be held at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds Under the Grandstand from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm. Get your dog or cat vaccinated for rabies for \$6.00 (cash only, please). Fairfield County regulations require all dogs and cats have this vaccination. Sponsored by Fairfield Department of Health, Morris Veterinary Clinic, Fairfield Pet Hospital and Lancaster Animal Clinic. For more information call 740.653.4489.

May 4: Come to *Flowers of the Good Earth's Spring Garden Party* starting at 1:00 pm at 231 Marietta Street in Bremen, Ohio. Advance purchase registrations of \$10.00 can be made by calling 740.569.7288 by April 29. There will be presentations by gardening experts and a light luncheon will be served.

May 4: A *Lifeguard Recertification (water only) Class* will be held at the Robert K. Fox Pool, 465 W. Sixth Avenue in Lancaster, from 1:00 pm to 5:00pm. Participants must be current within 3 years of class. For more information and to register for the \$75.00 class (includes new book) call the Red Cross Chapter House at 740.687.5585

May 4: Come to hear the Lancaster Chorale's performance of "*One World - One Song*" at Faith Memorial Church, 2610 W Fair Avenue in Lancaster. The 3:00 pm concert will feature special guests, the Lancaster-Fairfield Youth Choir. Call 740.687.5855 for ticket information or [visit their website](#).

May 9 thru May 26: Wagnalls Family Theatre will present "*The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*" every Friday and Saturday at 7:00 pm and Sundays at 2:00 pm. There will also be a Special Memorial Day showing at 2:00 pm. Call 614.837.4765 ext. 104 for tickets or see the [Wagnalls Theatre Website](#).

May 10: *Fairfield County Horse Advisor's Open Horse Show* at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. North Columbus & Fair Ave. This 9:00 am event is open to the public. Classes include western, English and Contesting exhibitions. There is a small fee for classes. Call Ellen Shaw at 740.653.5419 for more information.

May 15 thru August 31: An *Erickson Glass Exhibit* will be hosted at the Lancaster Ohio Glass Museum, 126 W Main Street. Museum hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 1:00 pm to 4:00pm. Call 740.687.0101 or visit [their website](#) for ticket information.

May 17: The *Pickerington SpringFest 2008*, sponsored by the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce, will be held from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Windmill Drive. This Pickerington street will be closed off to traffic during the event. Visit the PACC [website](#) for details or call 614.837.1958 ext 74 for details.

May 17: *Julianna's Wish* presents their 2nd Annual Car Show from 1:00 to 5:00 pm in Johnson Park, 240 Summers Choice Drive in Baltimore, Ohio. The car show, silent auction, and surprise guests will benefit a non-profit organization helping Fairfield County families affected by Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS). Please visit [Julianna's Wish](#) for more information.

May 20, 21, 27, 28: This four day training class for *First Aid / CPR / AED Instructors* will be offered from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. This Red Cross training requires attendance at all sessions and will be offered at the Red Cross Chapter House, 121 West Mulberry Street. Call the Red Cross for class

requirements and to arrange for payment of the \$150.00 class fee. 740.687.5585.

May 21 to 24: Lancaster Men's Chorus presents their annual *Ham and Eggs* concert at Ohio University Lancaster, 1570 Granville Pike in Lancaster at 8:00 pm. Call Ray Baskin 740.653.6273 for tickets.

May 22: The Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing will have a 9:00 am shotgun start with registration at 7:30 am at Valley View Golf Club, 1151 George Rd NE in Lancaster. Call the Chamber office at 740.653.8251 to reserve your spot or click on the [Golf Flyer](#).

May 26: Come to Bloom Township Firefighter's *70th Annual Fish Fry* in downtown Lithopolis on Columbus Street. The fun starts at 11:00 am and ends at 6:00 pm. It features food, live music in the park and a car show. For more details on this free event call Lt. Jeff Cotner at 614.837.5530.

May 26: The *Roosters Run*, a 5K event to benefit the Lancaster High School Track and Cross Country teams will start at LHS, 1312 Granville Pike. This race is a Lancaster Festival Grand Prix Race Event and the chance to run for the benefit of others. To get more event information email h_seibert@lancaster.k12.oh.us.

May 31: Another Lancaster Festival Grand Prix Race Event will take off from William V. Fisher High School, 1803 Granville Pike in Lancaster. This race will benefit the Brenden P. Krannitz Scholarship Fund. Email aconrad1017@yahoo.com for details.

Check out the Fairfield County VCB website

Fairfield County -- Fast, Flexible & Friendly To Business. Call us with any questions about how to expand or locate here.

Sincerely,

William R. Arnett
Fairfield County Economic Development

email: warnett@co.fairfield.oh.us

phone: 740.654.1509

web: <http://www.businesscounty.com>

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