

FAIRFIELD ADVANTAGE

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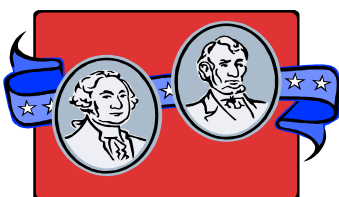
Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinners RSVP's Required

Bremen
"Rock for the Clock"
January 27

Pickerington
Hickory Lakes
February 7

Canal Winchester
Business Expo
March 13

February 16
Presidents Day
County Offices Closed



ALLIANCE BEGINS MARKETING, NEW INVESTORS JOIN EFFORT

Site selection consultants and businesses often use the Internet to conduct preliminary research. The Fairfield 33 Development Alliance's website, www.fairfield33.com, has been available since December 2. Since then, nearly 250 unique visitors have accessed the site with the "property search page" being the most visited.

Links to the Alliance website are currently available from a number of Investor websites, as well as Ohio Means Business, the website for the Ohio Business Development Coalition and the website for Central Ohio NAIOP. In an effort to drive additional traffic to the website, a banner ad is currently located on the CoreNet Global website. Additionally, a banner ad will be posted next month on bizjournals.com, the online website for *Business First*.

The Alliance's first print advertisement will be published in the February 13 issue of *Business First*, in the Commercial Developers Guide section. The four-color ad highlights the Corridor's business advantages and

showcases the Alliance's featured properties: Canal Pointe Industry and Commerce Park, Sycamore Crossing and Rock Mill Industrial Park.

More than 90% of the Alliance's 2009 Budget, which totals \$151,000, will fund various marketing initiatives in an effort to attract new investment and jobs to the Corridor. The organization is now seeking new investors and encouraging investors from 2008 to renew their commitments.

ATT Ohio and NAI/Ohio Equities Fairfield Commercial are the first two new Alliance members in 2009. A number of 2008 investors, from both the public and private sectors, have also contributed for this year.

To learn more about the benefits of becoming an Alliance investor, interested parties may contact Markwood at the Lancaster-Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce by calling 740.653.8251 or visit the Alliance website at www.fairfield33.com.

ECONOMIC SURVEY DEADLINE APPROACHES

Local companies have until February 1 to complete the first quarterly Economic Forecast Survey. Any company located in Fairfield County or in Canal Winchester are encouraged to participate. The five-question survey is available by clicking [here](#). A link is also available in the "Breaking News" Section of www.businesscounty.com.

First, the survey asks the respondent to designate the size of his or her business based on number of employees. Then, the survey asks respondents to look three months into

the future and share their expectations relative to their company's sales, staffing levels and pricing practices. The survey also asks respondents to comment on the state of the economy as a whole.

The survey results will be made available to area news media and will be posted on the Fairfield County Economic Development website on Friday, February 6, 2009.

L-F CHAMBER NAMES AWARD WINNERS

The Lancaster-Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce recognized businesses and individuals as part of their Annual Dinner and Meeting on January 24 at Lancaster High School.

The Chamber recognized Claypool Electric as Business of the Year. Nessley's Lawn and Landscaping was selected as New Business of the Year.

Andrew Russell from the Lancaster Police Department was honored with the Brett Mark-

wood Award. The award honors a first responder in honor of Brett Markwood, a Lancaster Police Officer killed in the line of duty in 1993.

The Chamber honored Ed Clum as the 2009 Floyd Wolfe Community Service Award. Clum is director of the Foundation Shelter in Lancaster. The award recognizes a community member showing a continuing commitment to Lancaster and Fairfield County.

Ron Burris, 2008 Chamber Board Chairman, presented the annual Chairman's Award to Lancaster Mayor Dave Smith.

Also at the meeting, Burris passed the chairman's gavel to Steve Wells, who will lead the Chamber Board in 2009.

SBA LOANS AVAILABLE FOR WIND DAMAGE

Low-interest disaster loans are available to small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes in Fairfield County affected by hurricane-force winds on September 14, 2008. The U. S. Small Business Administration announced availability of the Disaster Loans on January 21,

The SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Interest rates are available at 4 percent with loan terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility for the loans based on the size and type of the business and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and based on each applicant's financial condition.

"The SBA can help these small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations overcome their economic losses by offering working capital loans, but the help cannot start until they submit an SBA Disaster Loan application to us," said Thomas K. Mueller, SBA's Columbus, Ohio District Director.

Applications and program information are available by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, or by emailing our customer service center at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA

website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX. 76155.

Companies and non-profit organizations may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. The deadline to apply is October 16, 2009.

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS: MARCH 3

The Fairfield County Commissioners will present their annual State of the County Address on Tuesday, March 3 at the Liberty Center.

The State of the County Address is an opportunity for

area business leaders to hear about 2008 successes as well as initiatives and projects planned for 2009.

The Lancaster-Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce will be mailing

invitations next month with more information and reservation details.

Fairfield County
Economic Development

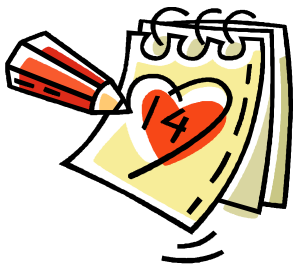
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CHAMBER & BUSINESS EVENTS

January 28: Main Street Lancaster Annual Mtg.~Elks~5:30pm~Call 740.653.8251

February 4: Lancaster Membership Luncheon~11:30am~Call 740.653.8251

February 7: Baltimore *Winter Gala* ~VFW~6pm~ Call 614.561.4503

February 11: CWACC Networking Luncheon~11:30am~Call 614.837.1556

February 11: Lancaster State of City Address~7:30am~Olivedale~740.653.8251

February 19: PACC Monthly Luncheon~Senior Center~11:30~614.837.1958

February 24: Bremen Luncheon with Jeff Bazell~Noon~RSVP 740.569.9150

March 31 to April 2 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center

Saving lives ... Saving money

Focus on Safety in Today's Economy

Join 5,000 safety-minded individuals at Ohio's largest and most established occupational safety and health event. Your competition will be there, and here's why you should, too.

- Reduce training costs for you and your employees at 150 educational sessions.
- Earn free CEUs for accreditation and BWC discount programs.
- Streamline your product purchases at the Expo Marketplace.
- Solve problems with peers at roundtable discussions.
- Discover solutions to real-life safety scenarios.
- Save on registration fees and out-of-state travel expenses.
- Fewer injuries mean lower workers' compensation costs.

Free registration begins Jan. 1

Save the date. Save the money. It's worth your time.

Ohioobwc.com

800-OHIOBWC

OSC | 09
Ohio Safety Congress & Expo

Bureau of Workers' Com
of Safety & Hygiene



COMMUNITY EVENTS

February 1: 36th Annual Winter Hike at Clearcreek Metro~10am~Springhouse

February 1: 21st Annual American Music Concert~2pm~222 N. Broad St.

February 7: Black Interest Group Annual Dinner~6pm~OUL~740.687.0826

February 7: Sherman's 189th Birthday~Elks Lodge~7pm~RSVP 740.653.6910

February 7: Nearly Full Moon Hike~Clearcreek Metro~6pm~614-891-0700

February 10: Red Cross Heroes Breakfast~7:30am~Eagles~Call740.687.5585

February 10: Lincoln & Darwin 200th Anniversary Event~7pm~222 N. Broad St.

February 14: Gary Morris In Concert~OUL~8pm~Info at www.lanfest.org

February 21: "I Want to be an Architect" Program at DECO. 740.681.1423.

February 23: Community Blood Drive~Johns Branch~1 to 7pm~740.969.2785

February 28: Digital Scrapbooking~2pm~Bremen Library~RSVP 740.569.7246