



The advantage is yours!

Some of the highlights:

<i>Energy Aggregation Meetings</i>	2
<i>Business Classes/Webinars</i>	3
<i>County Updates</i>	4
<i>Vacant Facilities Fund</i>	5
<i>Chamber Notes</i>	6
<i>Scholarships</i>	7
<i>Wabkeena</i>	8
<i>Revolving Loan Fund</i>	9
<i>Calendar</i>	10

MAJOR EMPLOYERS FOR 2013

The list of Fairfield County's Major Employers for 2013 is now available on the Fairfield County Economic Development (FCED) website. The list includes employers in the private and public sectors. [Click here](#) to view the complete list. The list can be accessed anytime by going to the department's website at www.businesscounty.com on the Community Profile page.

Research for this project was completed by FCED Ohio University Lancaster intern Britney Brumfield. Because there is no one source for this local data, all data was compiled directly from each company via phone call or email.

Major employers in the public sector fall into the categories of education and government while health care and manufacturing continue to dominate the private sector numbers.

The private sector list is led by Fairfield Medical Center with 1871 employees, followed by Anchor Hocking counting 1148 employees. Beyond those two employers, Fairfield County displays a diversity of companies with 100-300 employees.

Questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to 740.652.7160.

Energy Aggregation Information Session

April 1
11am OR 6pm
210 East Main Street
3rd Floor
[See article page 2]

Free & Open to Public

Public Hearings Clarence E Miller Building

April 8
11am OR 6pm
210 East Main Street
3rd Floor

[Online Survey](#)

Input requested by
April 30

More 740.652.7090

DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE MEETS

Board members and investors of the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance met March 28, 2014 for their first quarterly meeting to get updates on progress and opportunities of this public-private partnership. The Alliance is now in its eighth year of operation to promote Fairfield County.

Attendees got a chance to preview the Alliance website redesign. While keeping the look and branding the same, George Myers of NetCareIT and Chris Schweitzer of Creative Design Solutions, have designed a system that will be more user friendly, complete with drop down boxes and fly-outs to allow the user to find desired information more easily. By moving from an "html" platform to a content management system (CMS), Alliance operations team members will be able to update information, pages and pictures in an easy and timely manner. Myers, via Skype, was able to show that update process. The site should be available now at www.fairfield33.com with new content being added daily.

Economic directors Mike Pettit, Lucas Haire and Joe Henderson all agreed that there is a local uptick in business opportunities, international queries and local expansions. County Economic Development Director Bob Clark told the group to be on the lookout for billboards promoting the county as a



place to do business with low costs and high ROI. Two billboards will be advertising the county along the Route 33 corridor from May-October.

The business attraction video is also on local websites. Produced by Innerphase Video the four minute film highlights three local companies and their pathways to doing business in Fairfield County.

To learn more about the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance and your opportunity to become an investor, please call Bob Clark, Fairfield County Economic Development Director at 740.652.7160.

PUCO MEETING APRIL 7 FOR ENERGY CHOICE

Have you been approached by door-to-door marketers or received literature in the mail about shopping for your electricity or natural gas? Have you been asked to join or approve a government aggregation?

Want to learn more and feel confident that the decision you make is right for you, your family or business?

On Monday, April 7, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) will educate Fairfield County residents about energy choice. The presentation will take place from 6:30 p.m.- 8 p.m. at the VFW, 2155 Reynoldsburg Baltimore Rd. (Ohio 256) in Baltimore.

Erin MacLellan, from the PUCO's Office of Retail Competition, will discuss your rights in choosing an electric or natural gas supplier. Energy choice in Ohio allows consumers of investor-owned utilities to have greater control over their electric and natural gas options and may result in valuable consumer savings.

Topics covered will include:

- ⇒ What is energy choice (Who are these suppliers contacting me?)
- ⇒ What government aggregation means
- ⇒ What to consider when shopping for an electric or natural gas supplier

⇒ How to use the free tools through the PUCO's website, like the Apples to Apples charts, to compare energy offers

Ms. MacLellan also will be available to answer questions about Ohio's emerging energy market. Attendees can bring copies of their electric and gas bills for answers to specific questions.

For information about energy choice, visit the PUCO's website at www.energychoice.ohio.gov.

COUNTY ENERGY AGGREGATION



Villages & Townships To Vote May 6



The villages of Millersport, Rushville, and Thurston as well as Berne, Richland, and Walnut townships will have issues on the May 6th ballot for an energy aggregation program. The goal of the energy aggregation is saving for citizens. The savings expected are roughly 20% of energy generation changes, or about \$115 per household per year.

The Fairfield County Commissioners will be serving as the program administrator in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. Palmer Energy, a partner with the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, is acting as the program provider. Commissioner. According to Ohio law, local communities are allowed to bring

their citizens together to buy electricity as a group and negotiate the terms, conditions and price of the electric supply on the group's behalf. This type of group buying power is an effective way to obtain a lower electricity rate for all the group members.

Most governmental aggregation programs are structured so that all eligible residents and small business customers in the community are automatically enrolled. Residents who don't want to participate must then actively "opt-out" of the program - which means they choose not to be included. An opt-out program can only be implemented if a majority of

the voters approve the ballot issue in a primary or general election.

If the issues pass, opt out material will be sent to all qualifying households in the townships and villages participating.

Information sessions regarding the program will be held on Tuesday, April 1st at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 210 East Main Street in Lancaster.

Additional information about electric aggregation can also be obtained by contacting the PUCO at (800) 686-PUCO (7826) or visiting their website at www.PUCO.ohio.gov.

COMPARE ENERGY COSTS HERE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) launched the new Energy Choice Ohio website, dedicated to consumer education regarding electric and natural gas choice in Ohio. The new website was developed specifically to be the premier resource for Ohio's energy consumers seeking information and offer comparisons regarding electric and natural gas supplier choices.

The new Energy Choice Ohio website offers information to help consumers understand electric and natural gas choice, including what steps they need to take when switching suppliers; what their rights are as a consumer; what aggregation is; and a frequently asked questions page that represents questions the PUCO has received while visiting all 88 counties in the state offering consumer education presentations on energy choice.

The website also features a complete revamping of the popular Apples to Apples comparison charts. The PUCO produces the Apples to Apples charts to provide residential and small commercial consumers with a snapshot comparison of current electric and natural gas supplier offerings and contract terms. For more information on Energy Choice Ohio, please visit www.energychoice.ohio.gov

SBA FREE FINANCING WEBINARS

The Small Business Administration Columbus District Office will present a FREE webinar for small business owners and entrepreneurs through ATT Connect. This webinar will provide information about financing options for your business; SBA loans, programs and services; how to apply for a loan; and, what to include in your business plan.

The webinar should last about 40 minutes with a Q&A at the end. ATT Connect is a call-in and web site login conferencing system which provides an audio presentation over the phone and a video presentation over the internet.

All that is needed to participate is a computer with internet access and a phone to call a toll-free number. This webinar will be offered in 2014 on the following dates and times:

The Webinar is FREE, but registration is required so that you may receive instructions and the access code needed to participate.

You may register by contacting Robin Wotring at (614)469-6860 x282 or rob-in.wotring@sba.gov. Please indicate which webinar session you wish to attend.

Dates & Times	
April 10	11am
May 6	2pm
June 5	11am
July 15	2pm
August 14	11am
September 9	2pm
October 9	11am
November 4	2pm
December 4	11am

MICROSOFT EXCEL 2010 LEVEL 1

Mike Kelley of Ohio University is holding a one day seminar in Excel Friday April 25, 2014.

The class will be held at Ohio University Pickerington campus in Room 111. The campus is located at 12933 Stonecreek Drive in Pickerington. Class time is from 8:30am to 4:00pm. Cost is \$99.00

Seminar attendees will learn how to use an electronic spreadsheet to create basic worksheets and charts. After completing the course, students will be

able to perform calculations, modify a worksheet, print workbook contents, and manage large workbooks.

Users of a previous version of MS Excel will also benefit from this class.



Register by contacting the
Pickerington Center
614-367-9371 x673
Or email at
Pickerington@ohio.edu

MINORITY & WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS SEMINAR IN COLUMBUS APRIL 10

The U.S. Small Business Administration and its partners are hosting a free small business seminar designed for minority and women business owners.

This initiative is a broad effort to strengthen and expand business ownership among these two groups. The Small Business Development Series will help small and minority businesses to access resources that can help them grow and enhance their entrepreneurial skills.

The seminar is an overview and introduction to the organizations that are available at no cost to individuals who want to start a business or grow their existing businesses. This seminar is free of charge, but registration is required.

The workshop is from 9 to noon Thursday, April 10th - 401 N. Front Street, Suite, 200 Columbus Ohio 43215,

Please register with Robin at rob-in.wotring@sba.gov or 614-469-6860 x282.

Save the Date!
April 10
9am-Noon

401 N. Front Street
Suite 200
Columbus, OH 43215

FREE

FAIRFIELD COUNTY UPDATES

...STAFF, SOCIAL MEDIA, COST SAVINGS, CONSTRUCTION, JAIL

The Fairfield County Commissioners approved a **transfer of a parking lot** located on Chestnut Street to the City of Lancaster in connection with the construction of the Fairfield County Municipal Court. The transfer of the parking lot marks an additional collaboration with Fairfield County and the City of Lancaster regarding the Municipal Court. The County previously partnered with the City on a work group to plan the construction.

Beginning April 6, the first day Main Street will close, county and city employees can participate in an **promotion to support all downtown restaurants**, especially the Olde Cottage, The Lodge, Annie's Main Street Bistro, Four Reasons, and Square 7. Employees are encouraged to get out and eat at the restaurants. They will save their receipts for the duration of the construction project.

Commissioner Steve Davis and Mayor Smith are among the local officials who are personally donating gift cards to use as incentive prizes. Employees who visit downtown restaurants most often while Main Street is closed will win gift cards.

Hard work and diligence have paid off for Fairfield County. Fairfield County has been notified that it will receive a **\$153,290 rebate from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation** based upon the county's performance in a group program to promote safety.

Development of the employee driven Safety Committee is a major part of the success. The Safety Committee is composed of departmental representatives who maintain day-to-day safety and lead annual facility inspections. Implementation of a post injury, "return to work" program has also dramatically reduced the amount of work days missed due to accident or injury.

The Fairfield County Commissioners and other county officials and department heads are staying connected to the community through the use of social media. The Commissioners can be found on twitter @FairfieldCoOhio.

The public is encouraged to follow the Commissioners and other departments and agencies on Twitter. Twitter accounts include: ADAMH (@FairfieldADAMH), the Board of Elections (@FairfieldCoBOE), the Dog Shelter (@fairfieldcods), EMA (@FairfieldEMA), Job and Family Services (@fcjfs), and Fairfield County Sheriff (@Sheriff2300).

Prepare..Respond..Thrive was the theme of the Fairfield County State of the County's recent presentation for about 220 attendees at the Liberty Center. Commissioners Mike Kiger, Board President; Dave Levacy and Steve Davis spoke about changes and efficiencies within county departments, shared the business attraction video from the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance and spoke of commission processes in the decision making process. Davis spoke of how a process is in place

as the Commission works through plans for the new safety service facility To view the address [Click Here](#).



James Bahnsen has been appointed to replace Brian Kuhn as Fairfield County Treasurer. Kuhn left for a position as Service Safety Director for the City of Lancaster. Bahnsen, former controller and

treasurer at the Cyril-Scott Company, will begin duties as soon as the Ohio Secretary of State's office processes the paperwork.

He will serve as the county's top investment office, oversee delinquent property collections and supervise property tax escrow accounts. His office is located on the second floor of the Administrative courthouse



The newly appointed Clerk of Courts I Branden Meyer. His office is responsible for all auto and boat titles, as well as keeping all the records for the courts. While the Clerk of Courts operates several facilities within the county, Meyer's office is housed at the Hall of Justice.

LEADERSHIP 'SAND TRAPS'

In the game of leadership (similar to golf), a leader can find himself in a 'sand trap' faster than they can blink because they took their eyes off the objective.

Suggestions of behavior to avoid when trying to stay out of being knee deep in sand:

- ◆ Being too 'nice', trying to please everyone...
- ◆ Not letting go and 'delegating'...
- ◆ Overdoing meetings and paper-

work trails...

- ◆ Being non-accessible - poor follow through...
- ◆ Getting too comfortable... and full of self...
- ◆ Not saying 'Thank You' enough...

A successful leader knows when they start to think that 'things will always remain the same' they are headed down a disastrous road.



A successful leader is never content with status quo; they are always looking for ways to improve things for the whole. A successful leader thrives on challenges and in meeting those challenges.

Set the pace, don't take up space!

Written by Peg Tobin
President of Tobin & Associates, Inc.
National Leadership Connection Firm

VACANT FACILITIES FUND SUNSETS SOON

Many communities have commercial and industrial buildings that sit vacant or underutilized.

To help communities fill these vacant spaces, the state has created an incentive to help foster business growth within such facilities. The program is known as the Ohio Vacant Facilities Fund.

When employers occupy a space that has been 75% vacant for a year or more, they are eligible for a grant of \$500 for each full time position they create in the space. There is no limit to

the amount of funding any individual business can receive and any for-profit business sector is eligible.

If you are interested in learning more, contact Nathaniel Kaelin or Adam Burns (614-466-8463). You can also find information on the department's website: http://development.ohio.gov/cs/cs_ovff.htm

The program sunsets in August 2014 for initial application, so the office is motivated to get potential projects into the pipeline. Please let the Office of Energy

and Redevelopment know if vacant you would like to discuss a potential project or have any questions.



NEW BALTIMORE OFFICE

Farm Credit Mid-America, an agricultural lending cooperative serving farmers, rural residents and agribusinesses throughout Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, opened a new office in Baltimore, OH. At 7855 Lancaster-Newark Road NE, this location serves primarily Fairfield and Perry counties.

"Farm Credit challenges ourselves to stay at the forefront of changes in agriculture so that we can best meet the needs of our customers and the agricultural community as a whole," said Bob Foster, regional vice president for Farm Credit in southeastern Ohio. "Our new

office is just one of the many ways that we are adapting. This new office allows us to serve farmers and rural residents in this area more conveniently with a great location, expanded staff and advanced technology. We look forward to putting down roots here in Baltimore." The new Farm Credit office is home to seven full-time Farm Credit employees with space for up to 18. Throughout 2014, Farm Credit will continue to build and renovate offices throughout its four-state area to continue to better meet the needs of the communities and the customers they serve.

About Farm Credit Mid-America

Farm Credit Mid-America is a financial services cooperative, and has served the credit needs of farmers and rural residents across Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee for nearly a century. Backed by the strength of nearly 100,000 customer-members and \$20 billion in assets, Farm Credit Mid-America provides loans for real estate, operating, equipment, housing and related services such as crop insurance, and vehicle, equipment and building leases. For more information, call 1-800-444-FARM or visit them on the web at www.e-farmcredit.com.

STATE OF FMC APRIL 16

The annual State of Fairfield Medical Center update is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the FMC Assembly Rooms on the second floor. Refreshments will be provided.

The presentation will include a brief financial report, an update on new services, awards, challenges, plans for 2014 and a question and answer session.

Hot topics for the evening are as follows:
Hear about the latest FMC updates.

- ◆ LINX® - A new treatment for acid

reflux being offered at FMC.

- ◆ Get information on a new detection tool for lung nodules.
- ◆ Learn about New Vision™ - FMC's new medical stabilization service for individuals who are dealing with drugs and/or alcohol addiction.
- ◆ Receive information about the three bariatric surgery procedures offered at FMC.

Hear about the progression of Project BRIGHT and learn about how you can receive future updates. An announcement will be made about a special FMC achievement.



**Fairfield
Medical Center**

People you know. Care you trust.

This briefing is anticipated to last no longer than one hour. The public is welcome to attend. Interested community members can use the FMC free parking garage (take the elevator from the parking garage to floor 2R).

FMC is proud to host this event and hopes you will be able to attend. Seating is limited and RSVPs are requested by calling 740-687-8009 or 740-687-8077 (with after-hours voicemail).

"BALTIMORE UNCORKED"... AND THEN THE CIRCUS



The second annual Wine and Beer Tasting event, Baltimore Uncorked, will take place April 12,

2014 starting at 7pm at the Baltimore VFW. This event will have more options to sample, and should prove great fun for all. You will get a chance to sample drinks from:

Camelot Cellars Winery
Sand Hollow Winery
Buckeye Lake Winery
Legend Valley Cider
Buckeye Lake Brewery
...more breweries to be announced

Tickets are available by calling or emailing to pick up at our office or have them mailed/delivered. [You may also purchase and print via the web.](#)

The Baltimore Area Chamber of Commerce and the BDRC are partnering to bring the Culpepper and Merriweather Circus to Baltimore May 15, 2014.

The spectacular event will take place at Johnson Park and tickets are only \$6 for children and \$10 for adults. There will be shows at 5:00pm and 7:30pm. For tickets email or call us. Tickets will also be available at local businesses. There will be contests through town for a chance to win free kids tickets.

Contact Information

614.450.0237

[Email](#)



CANAL WINCHESTER NEWS & NOTES

Do you enjoy learning about local history? Save Tuesday, April 1, as Jim Huffman will be speaking at the Canal Winchester Area Historical Society's meeting!

Jim was the artist of the mural that originally hung at the Canal Winchester Bank, and now hangs in the O.P. Chaney elevator, where the meeting will be held.

Come and hear the history of exactly how Jim was selected to be the artist, and how he selected the people in the mural.

The title of the mural is "Winchester on the Canal", and it depicts Canal Winchester in June of 1887.

The meeting begins at 7:30 pm at the Hockman Meeting Room at the O.P. Chaney Elevator, which is located at the corner of North High and Oak Streets. The meeting is free

and open to the public, and refreshments will be served. For additional information, please contact Joy Habegger at jhabegger@wowway.com

The Canal Winchester Area of Commerce will host Canal Winchester Local School District Superintendent James Sotlar as keynote speaker for their April networking luncheon.

The luncheon, sponsored by Supreme Realty, will be held on April 9 from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. at the Canal Winchester Community Center (22 S. Trine St). Community members and business professionals are invited to attend. Luncheon reservations may be made in advance for \$12 per person at www.canalwinchester.com or calling 614.837-1556.



The National Barber Museum & Hall of Fame in Canal Winchester will Host an Annual Easter Egg Hunt in downtown Canal Winchester on

April 19, 10:00 a.m. at Stradley Place (36 S. High St).

Kids Age 0-12 are eligible to participate and will be separated into three categories: 4 and under, 5-9, and 10-12. Prizes will be awarded in each age category for the most eggs collected!

For more information or to sponsor this event, please contact the National Barber Museum, 614-837-8400. Sponsorship requests will be accepted through April 11.



PICKERINGTON LIBRARY PART OF WBN

The Pickerington Public Library is proud to be one of the 2,300 bookstores and libraries across America supporting World Book Night 2014 and being a host site. On April 23, Shakespeare's birthday, 25,000 volunteers will be giving away more than half a million free books in more than 6000 towns and cities across America.

World Book Night U.S. is an ambitious campaign to give thousands of free, specially printed paperbacks to light or non-readers. Volunteer book givers help promote reading by going into local communities and handing

out free copies to those without means or access to a printed book.

The WBN picks are by a wide array of award winning and bestselling adult and YA authors, as well as classics, books in Spanish, and books in Large Print.

Volunteers, including eleven from the Pickerington area community, applied online to be givers by stating where they intended to seek out book recipients, and noting which of the special

WBN Book Picks they would like to hand out and why. Each volunteer will receive twenty copies of their book choice to share.

If you are out on April 23 and are approached by someone who says they are a World Book Night book giver, and are asked if you would like a free book, say yes! Read it and pass it on.

**Spreading the love of reading
person to person.**

NEW MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWED

The Fairfield County Foundation has recently established the James C. Caple Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will support the development of local vocal and instrumental classical music performers.

"It is an honor to be able to work with the students in our community to help make their higher academic goals a reality," said executive director of the Fairfield County Foundation, Amy Eyman. "We have scholarships for virtually every area of interest for students, and we are pleased to add this scholarship fund to our list."

James C. Caple, a native of Midland, Michigan, graduated from the University of Michigan, served in the US Navy and had a career as a professional architect. Upon his retirement, he relocated to Lancaster, OH and adopted Fairfield County as his new home. A man of many talents, Mr. Caple was an amateur artist and duplicate bridge life master. He especially loved classical music and opera. He was an avid listener to Public Radio and enjoyed the Lancaster Festival. Mr. Caple believed music and art enhanced one's life and wished to support performing classical artists.

As part of his legacy, Mr. Caple endowed a fund at the Fairfield County Foundation to support development of vocal and instrumental classical music performers.

A similar scholarship fund was endowed at The Julliard School in New York City.

For more information regarding the James C. Caple Memorial Scholarship Fund contact the Fairfield County Foundation at 740-654-8451.

Applications for Wagnalls Memorial Scholarships for 2014/15 are now available at the Patron Services desk or online at www.wagnalls.org. Applications must be submitted by April 15, 2014.



Save the Date! Women Educating Women Conference

August 16, 2014
8:30am to 4:30pm

Columbus State Community College
Conference Center

<http://womeneducatingwomen2day.org/>

ELIZABETH COOK COMING TO OUL APRIL 25



The covered bridge on the Ohio University Lancaster Campus has been the literal link between the Lancaster Campus and the Lancaster Festival for more than 25 years. The

Covered Bridge Music Series now defines the partnership between Ohio University Lancaster and the Lancaster Festival.

The Covered Bridge Music Series welcomes Elizabeth Cook to OUL on April 25.

"Elizabeth Cook has a distinct country music voice, most often compared to Dolly Parton or Loretta Lynn. She is a major talent that brings an eclectic mix of genres to the stage crossing from country to honky-tonk, rockabilly and gospel, playing her guitar, and singing from the heart," said Lancaster Festival Director Lou Ross.

Cook is a relentless performer, touring worldwide, including well over 200 performances at The Grand Ole Opry. Cook currently hosts, Apron Strings, weekday mornings on Sirius XM's Outlaw Country channel. Her latest CD, Welder, is the bold declaration of an uncompromising artist unafraid to be exactly who she is.

The concert will be held in the Wagner Theatre at Ohio University Lancaster. The evening will kick off at 6:30 p.m. with a

local music performance, beverages, and a food truck. The Cook show will begin at 8:30 p.m. Tickets for the show are on sale now and can be purchased by going to www.lancasterfestival.org.



Elizabeth Cook

BIRD WATCHING AT WAHKEENA

As part of its 2014 programming season, Wahkeena's naturalists will offer four birding programs that aim to both help beginners get started and allow experienced birders to practice their skills with local experts.

"Birding is a great year-round activity that can be done anywhere, from your armchair looking out of your window to traveling the world to see different species," notes Robyn Wright-Strauss, assistant naturalist. "You don't really need a lot of specialized equipment, either. While it's nice to have binoculars or a field guide to help identify birds, even

these items aren't necessary. Wahkeena will offer its introduction to birding: Birding for Beginners at 1:00pm on April 5 and April 19. Participants will learn tips and techniques to focus on when trying to identify a particular bird. The program will also cover how to use binoculars and field guides and participants are encouraged to bring their own to get individualized attention on getting the most out of these tools.

Birders with more experience, as well as those who are new to birding, are welcome to attend the guided Bird Walks taking place at 8:15am on May 3 and May

10, which feature area experts on birding. The May 3 Bird Walk will feature Hocking College instructor Bob Scott Placier, while Paul Knoop, retired director of education at the Aullwood Audubon Center, will lead the May 10 Bird Walk.



All birding programs are free and open to the public and will last approximately 90 minutes. Call the Wahkeena Nature Preserve for more information (800) 297-1883 or visit their Web site at www.wahkeena-preserve.blogspot.com.

LHS Drama Club Presents

Lucky Stiff

April 3-4-5
7:30pm
Lancaster HS Auditorium

Tickets Available at the Door

Ohio University Lancaster

Lend Me a Tenor

April 3-5, 10-12 at 7:30pm
April 6 and 13 at 2pm

Tickets \$10-12
Reserved Seating

Box Office
740.654.6711 x650
Noon-4pm Mon-Friday

Destination Downtown Lancaster

Chocolate Walk

April 11
5:30-8:30pm

For tickets call 740.653.8251
[Website Orders](#)

Adult Egg Hunt
Benefits The Harcum House

April 5
Cheers Chalet
Social Hour at 5:30pm
Dinner at 6:30pm

Tickets 740.652.9604
Must be 18 years or older
Dress Casual
Bring a Flashlight!!!

Ohio Glass Museum Exhibit
From Our Archives to Your Eyes

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, glassmakers often ended their workday creating a variety of objects from the leftover materials used for making glasswares. They were allowed to "play" with the material on their own time for fun or to improve their skills. This dapper gentleman is holding a glass cane! The [Ohio Glass Museum](#) has two glass canes on display in its new show. For this 18th exhibit everything has come from OGM archives! Generous people have given them an incredible assortment of glassware. Come and see!

You can watch glass being blown by Mike Stepanski, and see beautiful stained glass by Craig Miller,

RLF LOANS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

HISTORY

The Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) was created in 1992, using grants from two separate agencies – the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD), Office of Housing and Community Partnerships, through its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Matching funds were contributed by the City of Lancaster and Fairfield County.

The purpose of the Revolving Loan Fund is to assist new or existing small businesses achieve their goals and create jobs in Fairfield County.

Typical loans range from \$10,000 to \$100,000 with a fixed rate that is generally 2 points below prime at the time of application. Terms vary according to collateral and may be up to 20 years.

The EDA Revolving Loan Fund may be used throughout Fairfield County, while the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund cannot be used within the City of Lancaster or City of Canal Winchester.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Loans may be made to private, for-profit businesses located in Fairfield County. Applicants may be in the manufacturing, agribusiness, wholesale, service and/or retail sectors and must have fewer than 200 employees. All taxes must be current and an Equal Opportunity Employment policy must be in place and followed.

Loan applications may need to be prioritized. Criteria may include the enterprise's ownership, (women or minorities), number of jobs created, industry, and/or reinvestment in an existing facility.

Funds received from the Revolving Loan Fund may be used to purchase land or an existing building, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures, inventory, and possibly a limited amount of working capital. Funds cannot be used to restructure existing debt.

An application must be processed before a project begins.

HOW TO APPLY

Speak with your banker first. The Revolving Loan Fund can only lend money in conjunction with a lending institution. RLF participa-

tion is determined by the bank's willingness to lend money for a project.

The application package requires the same information as your bank, including tax returns, a business plan for start-ups, financial reports and projections for existing, expanding businesses, a personal financial statement, and a signed application detailing the project and requested use of funds.

The RLF process from application to loan approval and disbursement of funds can take from 6 weeks to 4 months, depending upon the project and fund requirements.

The application is presented to the Loan Review Committee, which meets the third Tuesday of every month. This committee discusses the application and reviews the strength of the borrower and viability of the proposed project. Plan ahead, ask your commercial lender if the RLF can be a participant in your project and call the office for the program and the process.

LOAN FUND BALANCES

As of March 28, 2014

EDA \$ 532,970.78

CDBG \$ 109,038.14

Scheduled Loan Review Committee (LRC) Meetings

April 15, 2014

May 20, 2014

June 17, 2014

Loan applications should be received in the Fairfield County Economic Development office at least two weeks prior to a scheduled LRC meeting if possible.

740.652.7160

ARE YOU READY TO START A BUSINESS ?

Many people dream of having their own business. To see if starting a business is right for you, ask yourself some important questions.

The questions at the right will help you identify your readiness to start a business. [Click Here](#) for a Free Readiness Assessment.

When you are ready, call Fairfield County Economic Development to help make your dream a reality.

- ◇ Am I prepared to spend the time, money and resources needed to get my business started?
- ◇ What kind of business do I want?
- ◇ What products/services will my business provide?
- ◇ Why am I starting a business?
- How much money do I need to get my business set up?
- ◇ Who are my customers and who is my competition?
- ◇ Will I need to get a loan?
- ◇ Do I have professional people to help me ** a banker, a lawyer, an accountant?
- ◇ What will be the legal structure of the company?
- ◇ How long can I finance the company until I start making a profit?

**Fairfield County
Economic
Development**

210 East Main Street
Rooms 404 & 407
Lancaster, OH 43130

Phone: 740.652.7160
Email:
Bob Clark/Director
rdclark@co.fairfield.oh.us
Linda Kauffman/Assistant
lkauffman@co.fairfield.oh.us



*Make Fairfield County
Your Advantage!*

Chamber Contacts
Click on a Chamber

Baltimore (BACC)
Judith Cosgray
740.438.0837

Bremen
Mike Hermick
740.569.9150

Canal Winchester (CWACC)
Amanda Lemke
614.837.1556

Lancaster-Fairfield
Travis Markwood
740.653.8251

Pickerington (PACC)
Helen Mayle
614.837.1958

CHAMBER & BUSINESS EVENTS

RECURRING CHAMBER NETWORKING LUNCHEONS
*RSVP's Needed [Visit Chamber website or call]
Location and time may vary with a Special Event*

Lancaster/Fairfield : First Wednesday at 11:30am at 230 North Columbus Street
Baltimore : Second Tuesday at 6:00pm at Baltimore VFW Post 3761
Canal Winchester : Second Wednesday at 11:30am at 22 Trine Street [Senior Center]
Pickerington: Third Thursday at 11:30 at 150 Hereford Drive [Senior Center]
Bremen: Fourth Tuesday at Noon at 161 Carter Street [Bremen Historical Society]

- April 4: WLC~Life Long Learning~8-9am~OU Pickerington~614.837.1958
- April 9: Wear Blue to Work Day to Raise Awareness about Child Abuse & Neglect
- April 16: Annual State of Fairfield Medical Center~FMC Assembly Rooms~5:30~RSVP 687.8108
- April 17: MORPC State of the Region~Columbus Hilton~11am~RSVP 614.233.4127
- April 18: WOW~8:30-9:30am~Hyde-n-Seek Enterprises~5 S High St~614.837.1556
- April 23: Administrative Professional's Day Luncheon~Cheers Chalet~11:30am~RSVP 653.8251
- April 25: W4W~8:00am-9:00am~Reflections~2750 W. Fair~740.653.8251

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- April 6-May 18: Artwork of Sally Ayers~FCDL~3rd Floor Garrett
- April 7: Goddard School Open House~9am-6pm~6405 Canal St~614.920.9810
- April 10: Harlem Wizards~Canal Winchester HS~7pm~[Tix & More Details](#)
- April 11: DDL Chocolate Walk~5:30-8:30pm~[Tickets Online](#) or call 740.653.8251
- April 12: Living History Trade Faire 1700-1890~Fairgrounds~9am-5pm~740.653-6081
- April 13: Living History Trade Faire~Fairgrounds~9am-3pm~\$3.00 & under 12 FREE
- April 16: [Civil War 150](#)~Emma, the Union Spy~7pm~FCDL~219 N Broad
- April 24: Circus Night ~JFS 239 W Main St~5-6:30pm~Followed by Candlelight Walk
- April 23: FairHoPe Compassion Fatigue Seminar~Cheers Chalet~7:30am~800-994-7077
- April 26: Pancake Breakfast & Earth Day Activities~Alley Park~8am-11am
- April 26: Eagle-Gazette Spring Craft Show~Fairgrounds~9am-3pm
- April 26: It's a Wonderful Life Dinner Auction~Fisher Catholic~5:30pm~654-1231
- April 27: [LCCA](#) ~New York Brass Arts Trio~3pm~Fairfield Union HS