



The advantage is yours!

210
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
COURTHOUSE

Some of the highlights

BWC Prospective Billing	2
Business Begins with SOS	2
United States of Trade	3
Diley Ridge iTriage App	4
Guide to Hiring	4
Historical Parks Activities	5
Day of Athena May 15	6
Han & Eggs Donation	6
Cemetery Walk May 17	7
Revolving Loan Fund	9



Primary Election May 5

Publication Hyperlinks

In converting this publication from Publisher to Adobe it has come to our attention that some links may not be operational. If you experience a problem with a hyperlink and need that link, please let the office know. We continue to research the problem.

Thank you.

BUCKEYE LAKE ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

On March 16, 2015, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources made an announcement that alarmed the Buckeye Lake community. As a result of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report on the condition of the 4.1 mile earthen dam on Buckeye Lake, ODNR revealed it will not be filling the lake to its normal summer level of water. Boating and other recreational lake activities will be severely curtailed. This decision is expected to put undue hardships on many of the businesses that are located on or near the lake.

In order to determine the economic and fiscal impact that this decision will have, the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance commissioned Silverlode Consulting to conduct an economic and fiscal impact study of the Buckeye Lake region. This study is funded by Licking, Perry, and Fairfield Counties (Buckeye Lake has area in these counties), our regional economic development partner, Columbus 2020, and Buckeye Power. Silverlode will gather data about businesses, employment, tourist dollars, residential and other property values. In addition, it will provide summary information about the estimated impacts, both direct and indirect, on affected businesses, jobs and labor income, government revenue and total economic output.

This information will be used in several different ways. It will help local businesses prepare for the likelihood of reduced sales and the financial impact that will have. It will help bring attention to the fact that government assistance is needed to help these businesses survive and help individuals whose jobs may be lost. It will help state and local

governments quantify the loss of revenue from property, sales and income taxes.

The study may show that the new dam should be constructed in less than five years. It is likely that few businesses will be able to survive a five-year construction cycle. The study is expected to be completed by mid-May.

One of the amendments in the state budget bill, [House Bill 64](#), appropriates \$10 million to accelerate the timeframe of rehabilitation of the dam, and adds \$500,000 in each of the next two years to help promote the Buckeye Lake region.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Area Development magazine, one of the top site selector publications, recently surveyed top site selectors and corporations looking to expand. The survey results indicated that by a wide margin, the number one issue in deciding where to locate a plant is workforce availability. Does the location have the available skilled workforce needed when they are ready to open?

This is one of the main reasons the Fairfield 33 Alliance Workforce Development Committee was formed: to bring together economic development professionals, chamber officials, workforce devel-

opment (Ohio Means Jobs of Fairfield County), education community members, and companies to help build a better dialog among all involved, and to look for opportunities to partner and collaborate in workforce development and training needs.



Continued on page 7

BWC NEW PROGRAMMING DEADLINES

As you may be aware, BWC is switching to prospective billing July 1 for private employers. That means the policy period is moving from a six-month period to a full fiscal year; it will run from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Public employers, who will transition to prospective billing Jan. 1, 2016, will remain on a calendar year policy period.

As part of the prospective billing implementation, enrollment is currently underway for private employers to sign up for several of the Destination: Excellence programs. Destination: Excellence is a bundle of programs BWC offers that help businesses improve workplace safety, enhance injured worker care and save money on workers' compensation costs.

Private employers may sign up with BWC between now and May 29 for these programs:

Industry-Specific Safety Program, a 3 percent premium rebate for completing loss-prevention activities;

Drug-Free Safety Program, a 4 or 7 percent premium rebate for incorporating an alcohol and drug testing and education program;

Transitional Work Bonus Program, a 10 percent premium rebate for successfully returning an injured worker released with restrictions back to work.

BWC's new [Destination: Excellence brochure](#) includes more details about the programs and enrollment deadlines.

Coming soon ... in late May, BWC will mail all private employers a notice of estimated annual premium (like [this sample](#)). This notice will be based on your reported payroll for July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. It is not a bill, but please review it for accuracy and contact BWC if you feel something is incorrect.

Additional information on prospective billing, including timelines, frequently asked questions and key dates to remember, are available at bwc.ohio.gov.



OHIO'S BUSINESS GATEWAY

Dear Ohio Business Leader,

Over the last four years, we have been focused on making it easier to do business in Ohio, including through the efforts of our Common Sense Initiative. I'm thrilled to tell you that as part of these efforts, we are taking on the challenge of modernizing and upgrading the **Ohio Business Gateway**.

As you probably know, the [Gateway](#) is already the primary source for business information, payment of a number of business taxes and other state business services, and will be even more so as Ohio's state government moves toward an increasingly online presence. So it is critical that the Gateway meet your needs.

While I am excited about the possibilities of this Gateway modernization, I need your help. Attached is a link to a survey that will help us plan the future of the Gateway through your feedback about how you use the Gateway, what works well already, what doesn't, what you need from the Gateway that you aren't getting now, and more.

The results of the survey – as well as follow-up outreach with Ohio's business community – will be the foundation for the future of the Gateway.

[Please click here to complete the ten-minute survey](#)

I know that you have countless demands on your time. But as a CPA who worked

with business clients for years, I assure you that this is worth your time. Ohio is moving in the right direction, and with your help, the Ohio Business Gateway will be one more resource to allow your business to focus less on government and more on what you do best. Thank you in advance for your participation!

Sincerely,

Mary Taylor
Lt. Governor

Gateway for those just starting a business [should click here.](#)

BUSINESS BEGINS WITH OHIO SOS

Hundreds of thousands of businesses call Ohio home. As the place where business begins, The Ohio Secretary of State's office launched "Ohio Business Profile" to highlight the great work being done in our state. The April issue highlighted the state's number one industry, Agriculture.

The Secretary of State's office also releases a [monthly report](#) of new business filings in Ohio. 10,102 new enti-

ties filed to do business in Ohio during March 2015, a high that marks a record month for the Buckeye State. These numbers are up significantly both compared to February 2015 where 7,918 new entities filed and for the same month last year, March 2014, when 9,271 new entities filed. In 2015, the Secretary of State's office has assisted with a total of 25,525 new business filings.

The historical high puts the state on track

for a record-breaking year in 2015. The state has experienced record business growth over the past five years, beginning in 2010. Under the leadership of Secretary Jon Husted, the state has made it possible for more than 80% of all filings to be done online with one in two companies now being established electronically through the Secretary of State's [Ohio Business Central](#) service.

UNITED STATES OF TRADE

Ever wondered what Ohio's chief agricultural exports are? Or how many billions of goods Ohio exports, in total?

Did you know that 89.4% of goods exporters were exported by small to medium sized business in 2013?

Did you know that Ohio exported transportation equipment totaling \$15.7B in sales?

Click on the picture (right) to view the maps published by the U.S. Trade Representative's Office and get a read on trade stats across the nation.

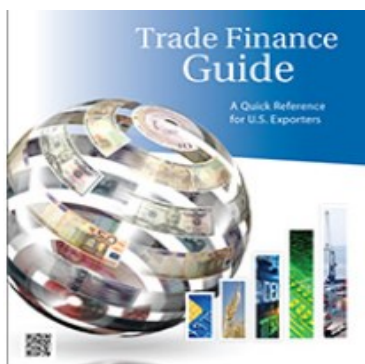


REFERENCE GUIDE FOR EXPORTERS

If you're an exporter, the ability to manage risk and cash flow is essential to growing your business abroad. The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) can help.

Trade finance support from EXIM empowers U.S. exporters to overcome the obstacles of doing business overseas and expand into new markets.

From protection against foreign buyer nonpayment to support that unlocks much needed financing, EXIM has options



tailored to the needs of exporters looking to grow their international sales.

Download the **FREE** Export Guide!

The guide, [A Quick Reference for U.S. Exporters](#), developed by the U.S. Department of Commerce, and provided to you by EXIM, delivers an easy to understand overview of the financial tools available to U.S. exporters and where to access them.

RESOURCE TRAINING SEMINAR SERIES

The Ohio Small Business Development Centers (SBDC), The Columbus District Office of the SBA, SCORE, The Business Development & Entrepreneurship Greater Cincinnati Urban League and Ohio Development Services Agency is offering a free 6 month Resource Training Seminar Series.

Each individual seminar is designed to enhance the setup and/or growth of your small business concern. Mark your calendar for these informative and very exciting small business seminars. **"You Owe Your Business, Every Opportunity for its Success."**

All classes are held at the Columbus SBA Office located at 401 N. Front Street, Suite 200; Columbus, Ohio 43215. Classes run from 9am to noon.

To register, please call Robin at 614.4696860 x 282 or send an email to robin.wotring@sba.gov

April 6

The Resource Network
Resource Partners

July 9

Credit Report/Credit Score
Better Money Management

May 14

Starting Right and Beyond
Legal, Accounting, Insurance

August 13

Small Business Marketing
Media and E-Commerce

June 11

Access to Capital
Building Banking Relationships

September 10

Procurement
Opportunities and Certifications

DILEY RIDGE OFFERS *i*TRIAGE APP

Diley Ridge Medical Center has been providing the residents of southeastern Franklin and northern Fairfield counties with high-quality, people-centered care for five years. The medical center opened its doors in March of 2010 and was the first standalone emergency department to open in central Ohio.

"Diley Ridge is treating patients close to where they live," said Jodi Wilson, president and chief operating officer of Diley Ridge Medical Center. "We have received an incredible response from the community. They have welcomed us with open arms, and we are proud to be a community partner."

As it celebrates five years in operation, Diley Ridge continues to build on its history of innovation in delivering healthcare. The facility has launched a new service for mobile-device users. Patients going to the medical center can use the "I'm On My Way" feature through the iTriage app.

"I'm On My Way" asks patients to fill out some personal information and the reason for their visit. Once the form is filled out, the information is submitted to the Emergency Department through the app and staff are notified that a specific patient is coming.

"We know a lot of our patients are already using smartphones for other aspects of their lives, and we believe this app is a new, convenient option that can enhance their care experience," said Wilson. "Diley Ridge is the only Emergency Department in the Columbus area using Advance Notice."

iTriage also provides patients with hospital

details such as: services provided, specialties, and turn-by-turn directions using GPS capabilities. The app can also be used to learn more about specific medical conditions and providers in the Diley Ridge network.

iTriage is available to download for iPhone™, iPad™ and Android™ devices and is accessible from any computer.

More information on Diley Ridge and the iTriage App is available at <http://www.dileyridgemedicalcenter.com/patient-information/itriage>



GUIDE TO THE HIRING PROCESS

The goal of every small business owner is growth, but with growth comes more responsibilities and more work. You may already juggle being the boss, accountant, office manager, maybe even janitor, but at some point, you realize you can't do it all.

Finding a new team member can be a daunting task, and 42% of small business owners ([link is external](#)) say hiring new employees is their biggest challenge for 2015. Here are a few resources to make the employment process more manageable and effective for your small business:

Clarify your needs for the position

Don't say "I need help," but rather determine exactly what *kind* of help you need. In the recent SCORE webinar "Hiring the Right Employee ([link is external](#))," Tricia McLaurin, a senior human resources representative with Paychex, explains the importance of defining the job duties and company's needs. She says writing a clear, de-

tailed job description with tasks outlined and skills identified will help you find the ideal employee.

And make sure you are aware of compliance under state and federal law such as the Fair Labor Standards Act. Check out the webinar ([link is external](#)) to learn more about:

- Writing a job description.
- Critically reviewing a résumé.
- Implementing compliant interviewing procedures.
- Conducting background screening. Verifying I-9 documents.

Recruiting potential candidates

Once you are satisfied with the job description, the next challenge is finding suitable applicants. Today, advertising in traditional media or online job boards may not be enough. Social media has become a boon in the recruitment stage. This month's SCORE infographic, "Human Resources: What's Working When It Comes to Workers

([link is external](#))" illustrates the benefits of advertising job openings through social media:

- 94% of recruiters use or plan to use social media for recruiting.
 - 73% of millennials found their last job through social media
- Employers who used social media to hire found a 49% improvement in candidate quality over candidates sourced only through traditional recruiting channels.

Check out the full infographic ([link is external](#)) for all the statistics on how small businesses are facing challenges and achieving success as employers.

Selecting the best employee

At this stage of the game, it's important to be thorough; the Department of Labor estimates bad hires and employee turnover can cost a company 30% of its yearly earnings ([link is external](#)).

Continued on page 5

HIRING RIGHT (CONTINUED)

Rocket Lawyer's eGuide to Small Business Hiring ([link is external](#)) details the next steps in the selection process and will teach you more about fair practices requirements, such as avoiding discriminatory questions in the interview.

After perusing job applications and resumes, whittle your choices down to the top candidates. And when the interviews lead to promising results, reference checks can help determine someone's personality and work ethic. Examining all the factors, you finally pick

the ideal person for the job and your company's future. You make a job offer, and all parties are satisfied with the employment arrangements. Congratulations, you hired a new employee!

Building a successful, supportive team is a difficult challenge, and [SCORE mentors \(link is external\)](#) are always available with free, sound advice from their own experiences.



Bridget Weston Pollack is the Vice President of Marketing and Communications at the SCORE Association ([link is external](#)). She is responsible for all branding, marketing, PR, and communication efforts. She focuses on implementing marketing plans and strategies to facilitate the growth of SCORE's mentoring and trainings services. She collaborates with SCORE volunteers and develops SCORE's online marketing strategy.

QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP

If you can keep your head while others around you are losing theirs and blaming it on you... Rudyard Kipling

Sometimes, as leaders, our efforts to produce a positive outcome may be uncertain, but our intentions are always 'just'.

Certainty and uncertainty are an ever evolving process. Uncertainty arrives

when progress is slowed to a snail's pace. However, in the business arena "time waits for no man."; therefore, having to surrender to the flexibility of uncertainty is sometimes necessary in order to make the difference needed to move the process forward to the goal.

Successful leaders may bend at times to the 'winds of change', but they never resign to defeat. They work to find and

place perfect candidates to tasks in an uncertain situation to promote progress toward a positive outcome in a temporary 'imperfect' setting! Leaders learn to make furniture out of roadside abandoned wood! Failure is never an option to a leader!

*Submitted by Dr. Christopher Tobin
COO/ Tobin & Associates, Inc.*

WHAT'S NEW AT HISTORICAL PARKS?

The Fairfield County Historical Parks are busy improving the park system for you to enjoy. We are also excited to be offering the addition of Educational Programming. With the support and funding of the community, we are now able to offer several educational opportunities at various park properties. Upcoming programming includes nature hikes, historical hikes, nature walks on birding, blacksmithing at Smeck Historical Farm, and many more. We hope that you and your family will join us in exploring the parks and experiencing the programming we are now offering.

Other projects of the Historical Parks include new benches and picnic tables at several of our properties, restoration of the 1880's barn at Hansel Preserve, a new "covered bridge" shelter at Zeller Park, updating the entrance at Stonewall Cemetery along with a new parking lot and the addition of 120 acres of nature preserve through the

generosity of Fairfield County resident Ms. Deane Dorwart and a \$510,000.00 Clean Ohio Fund grant.

With the warm weather now here, be sure to make your way to several of the parks or covered bridges in the county. Check out how we are preserving the past, to engage the future! Call our office for more information 740.681.7249 or go online at www.historicalparks.org.

New shelter at Zeller Park



Upcoming Programs Include:

- April 26: Nature Hike—Spring Wildflowers (Wahkeena Nature Preserve)
- April 29: Wildflowers and Geology Hike (Two Glaciers Park)
- May 2: Birding for Beginners (Wahkeena Nature Preserve)
- May 3: Wildflowers and Geology Hike (Two Glaciers Park)
- May 9: Kids Blacksmithing - Registration Required (Smeck Historical Farm)
- May 9: A Labor of Need - Canal History Hike (Lockville Canal Park)
- May 10: Bird Walk (Wahkeena Nature Preserve)
- May 10: Nature Walk - Spring Wildflowers (Wahkeena Nature Preserve)

PACC “DAY OF ATHENA” MAY 15

The Pickerington Area Chamber is pleased to announce the nominees for the 2015 ATHENA Awards and “A Day of ATHENA” Workshop, presented by OhioHealth. The event is Friday, May 15, 2015 and will kick-off with a half-day workshop featuring keynote speaker and 2014 ATHENA recipient, Rita Ricketts, who will “Inspire YOU to Make a Difference.”

The prestigious ATHENA Award, presented annually by the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce, reinforces ATHENA International’s mission to support, develop and honor women leaders, to inspire women to achieve their full potential, and to create balance in leadership worldwide. The ATHENA Award honors individuals who demonstrate excellence, creativity and initiative in their professional endeavors, who contribute valuable service to improve

the quality of life for others in the local community, and who actively assist other women in realizing their full leadership potential.

Awards are given in three categories. Here are the nominees for this year.

Youth ATHENA Nominees

Lydia Stang, PHS Central
Shaili Kothari, PHS North

ATHENA Nominees

Peggy Portier, Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society
Barbara Meek, PCMA Food Pantry
Peg Tobin, Tobin & Associates
Sara Rose, Sara Rose LLC
Cristie Hammond, City of Pickerington

Emerging ATHENA Nominees

Alison Forche, Kristal & Forche Orthodontics
Maria Manzo, Title Boxing

The 2015 ATHENA Award winners will be announced after the workshop and during the luncheon celebration!

Registration for this event is now open.

RSVP to www.pickeringtonchamber.com, or call (614) 837-1958. Tickets are \$65 for workshop and awards luncheon or \$30 for the awards luncheon



CANAL WINCHESTER OPPORTUNITIES

City of Canal Winchester residents will have the opportunity to pick up a free tree at the city’s 16th annual tree giveaway at Stradley Park, located at 36 S. High St. in historic downtown Canal Winchester, on May 2nd from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., rain or shine.

Approximately 120 trees will be given away on a first-come first-serve basis. Limit one tree per household. The giveaway is open to City of Canal Winchester residents living within the city limits only. Proof of residency will be required, such as a city water bill or driver’s license.

The Canal Winchester Art Guild is proud to sponsor its fourth annual **Art Stroll** May 9 from 2-8pm. Artists will be located in local

businesses and studios throughout downtown Canal Winchester and in tents in the lawn behind Stradley Park. A wide variety of art and mediums will be displayed including paintings, collage, glass, wood, jewelry, photography, pottery, fiber art and mixed media. A map will be provided at the information booth of where each artist and event will be located

Music & Art in the Park, a summer concert series, will kick off Friday, May 15. Guests are invited to enjoy live entertainment, art demonstrations, and activities at Stradley Place, located at 36 S. High St. in historic downtown Canal Winchester, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

May’s event will feature a tribute to mili-

tary and first responders with entertainment by local steel drum band Winchester Steel Co.

Music & Art in the Park is a free summer concert series held the third Friday of May, June and July. Visit www.canalwinchesterohio.gov for more information.



HAM & EGGS MAY 6-9

More than 40 years ago, the Lancaster Men’s Chorus started performing its annual “[Ham & Eggs Show](#)” on the Wagner Theatre stage. Now, The Chorus is giving back to the venue that has supported them for nearly four decades. The Lancaster Men’s Chorus recently donated \$1,000 from its general fund to the Wagner Theatre Improvement Campaign.

The Wagner Theatre is a 475-seat theatre located in the heart of Brasee Hall at OUL. The space was constructed in the late 1960s. For nearly 50 years, the theatre

has been a venue for year-round theatrical, cultural, academic and artistic opportunities for our community, students and alumni. The time has come when OUL must update and upgrade The Wagner Theatre in order to provide the best experience for our audiences. To do this OUL has embarked on a \$250,000 campaign for The Wagner Theatre Improvement Project.

During the upcoming May, 2015 performance of “Ham & Eggs,” The Chorus will ask audience members to show their sup-

port for the Wagner Theatre Improvement Campaign too.

“We are going to collect donations during our shows May 6-9 in hopes of raising another \$1000,” said Lancaster Men’s Chorus President Eric McCrady. “One hundred percent of what is collected will be donated to the Wagner Theatre Campaign as a donation from the ‘Friends of the Lancaster Men’s Chorus.’”

About \$175,000 has been raised for the Wagner Theatre Improvement Campaign so far. For more information please contact Mandi Custer, director of development, Ohio University Lancaster Campus, 740-654-6711, ext. 234 or via email at custera@ohio.edu

CEMETERY WALK MAY 17

The Fairfield Heritage Association goes to Old Basil Cemetery Sunday, May 17, to explore the rich history of Baltimore.

Costumed re-enactors will portray former residents, including:

*Historian Lewis K. Cook (1899-1961), whose articles on Southern Ohio history and its people appeared in many papers. He had been paralyzed in a diving accident as a teenager, and so would go bird watching and exploring while he was carried on a litter. He typed using wooden pegs to pick out words on a typewriter, and he directed others to take the photos he wanted. But that's only part of his story.

*Henry Leonard (1812-1889), known as the "Fisherman of Heidelberg and Basil." Leonard was a tireless promoter of Basil as well as Heidelberg College, where he was the school's

financial officer and fundraiser.

*Hardware store owner James M. Weaver (1864-1952). His store had a prominent place in local history. He will be portrayed by descendant Richard L. Weaver.

Tours will begin at 2 p.m., with the last tour beginning at 3:30.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 the day of the tour, and \$5 for students 5 to 18 years old. They may be purchased online at www.fairfieldheritage.org; by phone by calling 740-654-9923, or by going to the Fairfield Heritage office at 105 E. Wheeling St., Lancaster.

On the day of the tour, visitors can enjoy more history with free tours of the Baltimore Area Community Museum, 12-5 p.m.,

the Poplar Creek Schoolhouse, 1-4 p.m., and the Victoria Opera House, 12-5 p.m.

"This community has many wonderful stories to tell," said Andrea Brookover, FHA executive director. "We hope everyone will make time not only to attend the cemetery walk but also explore these fascinating sites as well."

For more information, contact: Mary Lawrence, marketing director
Fairfield Heritage Association
740-654-9923



WORKFORCE [CONTINUED]

Several meetings that included economic development professionals, chamber leaders, workforce development, and various educational institutions (Ohio University-Lancaster, Lancaster City School's Vocational Program, Eastland-Fairfield Career Centers, and Fairfield Education Service Center) were held to organize the Committee. While collaborative efforts already existed between some of these educational partners on the Committee, additional partnerships are being fostered through these discussions.

The Committee sought to obtain additional information regarding the training needs of companies, so it commissioned a survey. Fifty-four small, medium, and large manufacturing companies in Fairfield County were asked about employment issues they may be experi-

encing in attracting, retaining, and training employees. Some of the questions the survey asked were: What level of education is needed for various positions found in a manufacturing facility, what skills are missing in recent applicants that precluded them from being hired, and how long does it take them to fill a job opening?

Once all the results are compiled, the Committee will analyze it to see if any training programs can be created or altered to address possible issues. Also, the Committee has followed up with the companies receiving the survey by inviting them to participate in a forum with the Committee members to get a better understanding of their particular employment training needs. The results will also give the education commu-

nity an opportunity to explain current training programs and the possibility of creating individualized training courses for a company. As soon as the forum date and location are confirmed, the businesses will be notified.

If you are a manufacturing company located in Fairfield County and would like to participate in this forum, please contact Bob Clark at rdclark@co.fairfield.oh.us or Mike Miller at mike.miller@ifs.oh.us.

Please note that we will be looking to expand this workforce development committee concept beyond manufacturing to other business sectors, once we determine the impact of these efforts.

OPEN ENROLLMENT AT OUL

High school graduation time is approaching in central Ohio and many soon-to-be graduates are trying to figure out what comes next. Some have already been accepted to college, but are learning that the price tag is more than they can afford.

"We are an open enrollment campus," said Enrollment Manager Pat Fox. "What that means is that we have no application deadline and accept any applicant who has completed high school or received their GED. Ohio University Lancaster is also a more affordable option.

Since it is a commuter campus, there are no room and board costs. It is also very affordable to take classes. Tuition for one year is around \$5,000.

Students interested in attending Ohio University Lancaster | Pickerington must pick up a paper application or apply online. There is a \$20 application fee. The applicant must also provide a final high school transcript or a copy of their GED certificate.

"Ohio University Lancaster | Pickerington

administrators will help guide applicants through the remaining procedures," said Nate Thomas of admissions. "We will help them apply for financial aid, schedule placement testing and orientation. We will also arrange a one-on-one meeting with one of our student academic advisors to schedule classes."

Fall Semester at Ohio University Lancaster | Pickerington begins on August 24.

Downtown Lancaster Saturday Cinema

Free family-friendly movie downtown the first Saturday of each month through August 1!

Bring a lawn chair or blanket!!



Location: Main & Broad Streets, downtown Lancaster
Time: Movie begins at dusk (approx. 8:30 PM)

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER EVENING AND DAY CLASS

JOIN US

FRIDAY, MAY 1, FROM 5 TO 8 PM

OR

SATURDAY, MAY 2, FROM 1 TO 4 PM



\$45 FOR MEMBERS AND \$50 FOR NON-MEMBERS

Call 740.687.0101

Tuesday - Friday, 1pm to 4pm to register.

**OHIO GLASS MUSEUM
& Glass Blowing Studio**

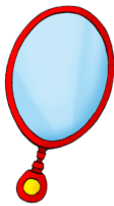
124 West Main Street
Lancaster, OH 43130



Ohio Museum of Glass Presents:

"THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS"

...reflections on the many uses of glass in our daily lives.



Exhibition Dates: March 21 ~ August 30

◇ Featuring - American Scientific Glassblowers Society and Lancaster Glass Collections. [More details!](#)

THIS IS THE DAY!




*A fundraising event to benefit the Camp Angel Project. Beer, wine, appetizers, dinner and entertainment. **Cost is \$125 per person.** Register at www.genevahills.com.*

Date: Fri, May 01, 2015

Time: 06:00 PM

Location: Geneva Hills, Lancaster



THE BREMEN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Historical Society Museum Exhibit
May 2 - November 1: Booming Businesses of Bremen
Saturday & Sunday hours 2-6pm
Contact: Terry Borah 740-438-9211

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 a limited amount of working capital. Funds cannot be used to restructure existing debt.

An application must be processed and approved before a project can begin.

HOW TO APPLY

Speak with a private lender first. The Revolving Loan Fund can only lend money in conjunction with a lending institution. RLF participation is determined by the lenders willingness to participate in the 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. 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.

LOAN FUND BALANCES

As of April 27, 2015

EDA \$ 529,648.68
CDBG \$ 173,561.57

Scheduled Loan Review Committee (LRC) Meetings

May 19, 2015
June 16, 2015

Loan applications should be received in the Fairfield County Economic Development office at least one week 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 for that next step where your passion can become a profit center, call Fairfield County Economic Development at 740.652.7160 to discuss some next steps!

- ◇ Am I prepared to spend the time, money & resources needed to get 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
Bob Clark/Director
rdclark@co.fairfield.oh.us
Linda Kauffman/Assistant
lkauffman@co.fairfield.oh.us



Make Fairfield County
Your Advantage!



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 : June/Sept/Dec 1st Wednesday~11:30am~230 N Columbus St.
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 29: Young Professionals (YPL) Power Breakfast~7:30am~JFS~[RSVP](#)
- May 1: WLC Meeting ~ 8:00-9:00am ~ Title Boxing Club ~ [Details](#)
- May 5: Primary Elections ~ Register and get out to vote!
- May 11: Congressman Steve Stivers Job Fair~10am~[More](#)
- May 15: "A Day of ATHENA" Workshop ~ 8:00am-1:30pm ~ [More](#)
- May 15: WOW Networking Coffee ~ 8:30-10:00am ~Diley Ridge~ [Details](#)
- May 15: Lancaster Chamber Golf Outing~9am Shotgun Start~Valley View~ [More](#)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- May 1-Oct. 30: [Bremen Produce Auction](#)~ Tue. & Fri. ~ 12pm ~ Local Produce
- May 1: Olde Pickerington Village Chocolate Hop ~ 6:00-8:30pm ~ [More](#)
- May 1: [Pickerington Community Theatre](#): "Oliver!" 8pm-Fri/Sat ~ 2pm-Sun
- May 3: [Lancaster Choral](#) Concert: "Alleluia" ~ 4pm ~ St. Mary Church
- May 6-9: 44th Annual "Ham & Eggs Show"~OUL~8pm each evening~ [More](#)
- May 8-10: [Community Days Festival](#) ~ Rides, Games & Food! Free Admission
- May 9: Canal Winchester Art Guild Art Stroll ~ 2pm-8pm ~ [Details](#)
- May 15: Garret Players Theatre Production: "The Dinner Party" [More here!](#)
- May 16: "[Tapas and Talk](#)" ~ Enjoy appetizers ~ Support Lancaster Festival
- May 19: ADAMH Annual Dinner~6:30am~Liberty Center~RSVP 740.745.1984
- May 25: 77th Annual Bloom Township Firefighters Fish Fry~614.837.5530~11am

Chamber Contacts
Click on a Chamber

Baltimore (BACC)
Judith Cosgray
740.438.0837

Bremen
Connie Moyer
740.569.9150

Canal Winchester (CWACC)
Kevin Douglas
614.837.1556

Lancaster-Fairfield
Travis Markwood
740.653.8251

Pickerington (PACC)
Theresa Byers
614.837.1958