



The advantage is yours!

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OHIOHEALTH TO BUILD OUTPATIENT CENTER WITH ER IN PICKERINGTON



Exterior Design Site..provided by OhioHealth

OhioHealth Corp. is moving ahead on a \$42 million, 150,000-square-foot outpatient center and standalone emergency department in Pickerington.

The project's cost does not include a planned outpatient surgery center to be developed in the building as a joint venture with physicians, or any equipment in office space to be leased out to private practices, said Sean Huffman, president of the Columbus hospital system's Neighborhood Care outpatient division.

"Here's an opportunity to really expand and grow what we do in Pickerington, hopefully feeding off what that community needs," he said.

OhioHealth plans to seek approval of the site design on July 9 from the city's Planning and Zoning Commission and will seek a tax increment financing district to support road improvements to the intersection of Refugee and Hill roads. It plans to start construction this summer, with the center opening in early 2015. The company expects to employ 180 there, including a few jobs moved from existing therapy and primary care practices.

Columbus-based Daimler Group Inc. is developing the campus, and the architect is Chicago-based Cannon Design. The project cost includes \$7 million

spent acquiring more than 60 acres last summer.

Unlike its Westerville Medical Center, which added an ER more than a year after opening, Pickerington will have an emergency department from the start, Huffman said. An urgent-care center 3.5 miles away in Reynoldsburg "will be a spoke that feeds in," he said.

Hospital systems nationwide have been emphasizing outpatient campuses in suburban settings, giving patients a more convenient option with free parking and shorter waits while reducing overhead for less-complicated procedures and boosting hospital margins.

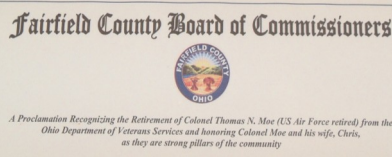
Through nine months ended March 31, the Neighborhood Care outpatient division encompassing two dozen locations has generated operating income of \$16 million with a 17.6 percent operating margin. That's down from \$20 million in operating income and a 21 percent margin in the same period of fiscal 2012. OhioHealth says in financial reports that patient visits are up at Westerville and its surgical joint ventures, but volumes have been declining in medical imaging, rehabilitation and sleep medicine.

Huffman said there are no plans yet to build on land OhioHealth has assembled in Grove City because of OhioHealth's existing facility there. Rival Mount Carmel Health System is building a standalone emergency department and medical campus in the suburb.

Carrie Ghose covers health care and medicine, higher education, technology and business services for Columbus Business First.

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Update: The July 9 Pickerington Planning & Zoning Commission approved the plan with recommended conditions and waivers.



On July 23, 2013 the Fairfield County Commissioners issued a proclamation " ...Recognizing the Retirement of Colonel Thomas N. Moe (US Air Force retired) from the Ohio Department of Veteran Services and honoring Colonel Moe and his wife, Chris, as strong pillars of the community..."

Pictured below left to right : Commissioner Mike Kiger. Chris Moe, Tom Moe, and Commissioner Dave Levacy



HOW DOES TRAC PROCESS ?

by Holly Mattei, FCRPC Director

Last month, the *Fairfield Advantage* included an article on the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC) ranking of the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) applications. The purpose of the article this month is to explain the TRAC process and how the MORPC rankings fit into it.

The TRAC is a nine member council that assists in developing the project selection process for ODOT's largest projects. All major/new transportation projects that have a total project cost greater than \$12 million and "which add transportation capacity, and are critical to the mobility, economic development and quality of life of the citizens of Ohio" must be submitted to the TRAC to be considered for funding. The TRAC has scoring criteria that are applied to each application, and it also conducts a series of public meetings around the state to discuss the applications it receives.

During the review process, the TRAC also asks the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to prioritize the projects that

are submitted within their regions. MORPC is central Ohio's MPO, which includes Bloom and Violet Townships in Fairfield County. For this reason, proposed projects within these townships are included in MORPC's rankings when submitted to the TRAC.

For the current TRAC cycle, there were eight applications submitted to the TRAC that fall within MORPC's MPO boundary, and two of them, the Carroll Interchange and Pickerington Road Interchange, are within Fairfield County. The Carroll Interchange was MORPC's number four priority for the region, while the Pickerington Road Interchange was its seventh priority.

"I am very pleased with MORPC's ranking for the Carroll Interchange," said Holly Mattei, executive director of the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission. "Two of the three projects that are ahead of it are along I-70, which is a statewide corridor. Being ranked in close proximity to these projects, shows that MORPC recognizes that the U.S. 33 Corridor is the

life line to southeast Ohio."

The program is divided into three categories: Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III. The Tier I group includes projects that are recommended for construction during the upcoming four-year construction period. The Tier II group includes projects funded for additional environmental, design, or right-of-way development activities that are needed before construction dollars can be awarded. The Tier III group includes projects with previous phases funded for construction in the Tier I category. If a submitted project is not included within one of these categories, then it is not recommended for funding.

The TRAC reviews all of the above information to create a draft list of projects in each category. This draft list, which is expected to be published later this summer, is then subject to a public review period. After the public comment period, the TRAC reviews the comments received, and then votes on a final, complete, four-year Major New Construction Program.

CARROLL INTERCHANGE TRAC UPDATE

by Bob Clark, FCED Director

On Thursday, July 25, the Transportation Review and Advisory Council (TRAC) took another step toward approving design and construction funding for the U.S. Route 33/Carroll Interchange project. Governor John Kasich announced his support for this project three days earlier and stressed that it moves the project forward by 12 years. It was not scheduled to be considered for funding until 2026.

Final TRAC approval will be determined at the Council's September meeting. The interchange investment is roughly \$48 million to design and construct, and construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2015. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will design a full interchange just north of the current intersection and then remove the traffic light at Winchester Road/Route 33.

A great deal of effort has been made by many officials at the federal, state, county, and local levels, and there has been strong support from the Fairfield County Commissioners. If not for the initial efforts of Congressman Steve Stivers to jump start this project, when it appeared it would likely be another 12 year wait, and the support of Carroll's Mayor, Tammy Drobina, whose local community will be most impacted by the construction, this project would have probably not moved forward.

The Carroll Interchange will promote economic development locally, as well as throughout central and southeastern Ohio. U.S. Route 33 serves as a macro corridor highway for the State of Ohio, moving millions of dollars in commercial products and people throughout this region. ODOT has recognized the importance of maintaining fluid traffic patterns on Route 33 by investing over a half a

billion dollars in the last 20 years. ODOT District 5 has been a tremendous proponent of this project, working at lightning speed to secure all the necessary documents in order for this project to be considered during this funding round. After recognizing the safety hazards and traffic congestion at this intersection, they worked proactively with the local community to help alleviate this danger.

To view the latest map
of the Carroll Project

[Click Here](#)

LOCAL MANUFACTURERS HELP NEEDED

OH! Manufacturing, in collaboration with many state partners, is organizing events across the State of Ohio to bring the career potential of manufacturing to middle and high school students through tours of manufacturing facilities and technical schools. This effort is in conjunction with the NIST MEP Manufacturing Day events being planned nationwide.

Thousand of jobs exist today in manufacturing— good paying jobs—but kids don't know about them.

Contact Kirbie Earley at OH! Manufacturing: 614.776.5720 or email her at kearley@PolymerOhio.org

October 4, 2013 is Manufacturing Day Needed to Help Make This Day a Success

Manufacturers to provide tours for small groups of interested students

Sponsors to help pay the cost to transport students

Technical Schools to provide tours and information

Legislative Support to help promote the importance of this effort

Guidance Counselors and school administrators to promote this event both to students and their parents

FCED WEBSITE HAS A NEW LOOK

This is the SUMMER of SEO [search engine optimization] at webchick.com where the local design company is re-vamping and readying all designs for the new 2014 compliance. They are working everyday with major search engines to get clients' names visible on the web! These SEO changes happen each year as new rules of the world wide web are

announced.

The staff at webchick, aka Crissy, captured more city resources for an over all Fairfield County experience. The site will provide more business tools to all cities and villages in Fairfield County. They are keeping the "Get Local" style with references to Fairfield County events and busi-

ness assets for the Fairfield County Community. The county development website has many updated links ohio.gov material which provides resources to businesses for economic growth.

Check out www.businesscounty.com

“HOW TO’S” FOR THE DREADED BUSINESS PLAN

As you prepare to purchase or start a business, you instinctively know you're going to be asked for a Business Plan. It's a topic instantly familiar, and quickly dreaded. For many entrepreneurial types, creating a business plan can be torturous. After all, visionaries do not always have a talent for the detail inherent in a business plan.

But, there are compelling reasons why a potential lender, investor or planning commission wants a Business Plan from you: If done even reasonably well, it will only have a positive effect on your success. After all, if you can't articulate your vision and plan, what will compel others to jump aboard your success train?

A Business Plan will:

* Communicate your vision to people

and establishments that can help you succeed

* Focus you in refining your vision more completely

* Compel you to sort through some critical details

First Steps

Never start with a blank page. Find a Business Plan template and make it your own—title it, put your name on it, the date and get started. Not every suggested section will apply to your business—but consider its value before dropping the section. The purpose of the Plan is to layout your vision for others. If you lose your way, stop and remember the purpose. Another trick is to read and assess your document as if you were the lender – what's missing, what needs to be more detailed. If you were backing this project – what details would

you need?

Some must-haves:

- * Bios of the principal players
- * Why you think this is a good idea now; your passion is a key element.
- * How are your skills uniquely leveraged in this business
- * What is your vision now and where do you see opportunities in the future
- * What are your staffing needs and do you already have candidates in mind
- * What about marketing/advertising plan, and how does your business differentiate itself from competitors. Who are your competitors?

Continued on page 4

BUSINESS PLAN [CONTINUED FROM PG 3]

Finally, what is the financial plan?

- * What money do you need at start-up—in detail!
- * What is your personal income plan during start-up?
- What is your first year budget? (Be conservative!)

Recruit Help

Not even the most talented individual will succeed in pulling these pieces together on their own. But you're not going into business to be a one-man show, so recruit others to help you. Even if this help comes in the form of long conversations with trusted advisors, it will help you to hone your concept and articulate your message. If you aren't good with spreadsheets, recruit someone to pull the numbers together, give them the general assumptions—you can make changes along the way. Think this takes more time than doing it on your own? Someone comfortable with numbers

will make progress while you are still pondering how to start.

First Draft

After you've at least touched on the various sections, pull a draft together, read it as if you were the investor or lender, then make improvements. Next have someone you trust critique the Plan then incorporate what makes sense to you.

Finale

You need a day or two after you've finished, before another read of the Business Plan. Read the Plan and ask yourself if anything has changed about your passion for the project. Certainly you will have come across unexpected elements: Will you need more money than you initially thought? Is your idea supported by your research? Do you have the talent that you need to start successfully? Have you built a cushion into your assumptions both in terms of dollars and days?

The final step is to make sure it looks great. It's no different than handing in a term paper, or a resume. It must look and act the part! This is the document that a potential key supporter of your business is going to read as soon as you walk out of their office, so make it easy for them to get caught up in your vision and plan!

Article contributed by Patti Riordan, controller of White Oak Partners, a central Ohio private equity investment company. She is also a new small business owner. She partnered with husband, Donald, to purchase the Smokestack Hobby Shop in Lancaster. She completed her own business plan for that project.

If you are looking for help with your business plan contact Linda Kauffman at 740.652.7161

FREE SBA RESOURCES & TRAINING

Did you know that the federal government is the world's largest buyer of goods and services? It's a lucrative market – and small businesses play a big part. Learn how to get started or compete more successfully in the government contracting marketplace with these resources.

Free Online Training – SBA's [Government Contracting Classroom](#) offers a series of free courses to help you each step of the way. There are even specialized courses for

women- and veteran-owned businesses. SBA's [Learning Center](#) offers additional courses, chat sessions and videos to help you learn more about government contracting.

SBA Contracting Programs – SBA offers a range of [programs](#) designed to help small businesses sell to the government. These programs include small business assistance, as well as support for groups such as [women-](#) and [veteran-](#) owned businesses, [disadvantaged](#) businesses and those located in [economically distressed](#)

[areas](#).

Specialized Local Resources – [Procurement Technical Assistance Centers](#) (PTACs) provide local, in-person counseling and training services for small business owners who want to sell products and services to federal, state and/or local governments.

Learn more about government contracting, the opportunities available for your small business and how SBA can help [here](#) at SBA.gov.

ACA WEBINARS FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Looking for insight about how the Affordable Care Act will affect your small business and your employees? This [free webinar series](#) will help you understand key pieces of the law and what you should know about tax credits, cost containment and more. Join us and get the facts you need to know.

Thursday, August 1 at 2:00 PM ET: [Click to Register](#)

Thursday, August 8 at 2:00 PM ET: [Click to Register](#)

Thursday, August 15 at 2:00 PM ET: [Click to Register](#)



OHIO THIRD FRONTIER NEW PROGRAMS

Ohio Third Frontier added three new programs focused on moving technology products to the marketplace faster, creating jobs and strengthening the tech-based economy in Ohio. The requests for proposals were released May 2013 and may be submitted at any time.

Ohio is dedicated to innovation. It is investing in technology that supports the industries of tomorrow, making it a leader in development and commercialization while creating jobs," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Com-

mission.

The Commercial Acceleration Loan Fund offers Ohio technology companies loans to assist in developing products and services where they may otherwise have difficulty securing funding due to the risks associated with developing technologies. Loan amounts range from \$500,000 to \$2.5 million.

The Technology Commercialization Center program invests in new technologies with the goal of creating companies and jobs while helping businesses attract capital. Centers will commercialize research from universities, medical centers or nonprofit institutions and ad-

vance the technology into the marketplace where it can be profitable. The program offers up to \$25 million to create a center with the expectation that after four years the center will be self-sustaining.

The Technology Asset Grant supports shared infrastructure projects needed to develop new technologies. Program funding can go towards facilities and/or equipment when at least two Ohio companies or a federal procurement agency believes it is critical to commercialize technology. The grant program offers up to \$5 million per project for up to three years.

Contact: Katie Sabatino at (614) 466-6212
katie.sabatino@development.ohio.gov

OHIO FOOD EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES

November 13-15, 2013: The Ohio Development Services Agency and Food Export Association invite U.S. food companies to join a **Focused Food Trade Mission to Brazil and Chile**. In addition to one-on-one meetings with buyers and opportunities to learn about these two very unique markets, this mission will include a market analysis of your products prior to the visit, an in-market briefing, tours of food service providers, supermarket retail tours, buyer meetings, a product showcase, assistance with lead follow-up and a networking reception. Contact [Tim Sword](mailto:Tim.Sword@development.ohio.gov) at (614) 728-3120 to sign up.
Deadline to register: August 21, 2013

U.S. Commercial Service Trade Missions: For a complete list of USCS trade missions, please click [here](#)

Food Export Association of the Midwest

USA Trade Missions: For a complete list of Food Export trade missions, please click [here](#)

August 27, 2013 - The Central Ohio ITAC at Columbus State and the SBA will be hosting their FREE monthly **Rise and Export** series in Columbus. This month's topic is *Understanding Incoterms*. Attendees will learn what Incoterms are and how to utilize them for exporting their products. For more information and to register please visit [here](#).

September 18, 2013 - The Ohio Development Services Agency and the Food Export Association of the Midwest USA will host the **2013 Learn and Sell** in Columbus, Ohio. Food companies will have an opportunity to schedule one-on-one meetings with buyers from around the world. The one-on-one meetings will take place at a major hotel and companies will have

approximately 25 minutes to meet with each buyer that they've preselected based on buyer profiles. For more information and to register, please click [here](#) or contact [Tim Sword](mailto:Tim.Sword@development.ohio.gov) at (614) 728-3120.

September 25, 2013 - The International Trade Assistance Center (ITAC) and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Columbus State will be hosting the **2013 Export Matchmaker**. The second installment of this event will feature a trade show, one-on-one meetings with international trade facilitators, and breakout sessions on various international topics

UPCOMING WEBINARS

[Full list of Export.gov webinars](#)
[Previously recorded Export.gov webinars](#)
[Global Training Center webinars](#)



BLAZE YOUR OWN TRAIL

The Ohio Development Services Agency is teaming up with partner organizations to hold the third annual Blaze Your Own Trail: Close the Sale on Saturday, August 10, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Columbus State Community College Conference Center, located at 315 Cleveland Avenue.

The Small Business Development Centers (SBDC), the U.S. Small Business Administration and ECDI have sponsored Women Educating Women, Inc.,

for this all-day conference to provide women who are interested in starting a business or who currently own a business with information on how to grow or expand their enterprise. This year's program features a focus on developing leads and turning prospects into customers. Everything from perfecting body language from the inside out to asking for the order will be addressed.

Morning sessions will feature sales "lessons learned" and workshops on net-

working and branding. Afternoon sessions include coaching systems, closing the sale, and certification and government resources. Unique features of this year's conference include roundtables led by area entrepreneurs who share their knowledge and experiences in targeted discussions and a marketplace for vendors to sell their products. A dedicated marketplace time is set aside for attendees to visit and interact with vendors.

A limited amount of scholarships are available. Call for eligibility requirements. For more information call 614-837-8370 or email: info@womeneducatingwomen2day.org. Registration can be processed at www.womeneducatingwomen2day.org.

CW BLUES & RIBFEST AUGUST 2-3



Everyone is invited to downtown Canal Winchester for a weekend of sizzlin' ribs and smokin' blues at the 4th annual Blues & Ribfest.

Ohio's only all-Blues and Rib-themed festival will be held Friday, Aug. 2 from 5-11 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 3 from Noon to 11 p.m. As always, admission is free!

Just over 30,000 people converged into Canal Winchester to attend this popular mid-summer outdoor festival in 2012. Changes have been made for the 2013 Blues & Ribfest to enhance the experience and comfort of festival goers. At the same time, attendees can continue to expect a wide variety of quality food and rib vendors, continuous live blues music (19 acts on two stages), children's activities, fan-cooled dining tents and the ever-popular beer garden which has now been expanded to

accommodate more guests.

According to Bruce Jarvis, Executive Director of Destination: Canal Winchester and lead organizer of the Blues & Ribfest: "People in this part of the country can't seem to get enough BBQ or live blues and we're happy to be able to bring it all together into one event for them. For their ears, we have a very strong music line-up that includes blues "royalty" like Teeny Tucker and the amazing rock-blues guitarist Kelly Richey. And for their stomachs, we have a solid roster of award winning "rib burners" and over 20 other specialty food vendors including the Schmidt's Sausage Haus food truck this year. Add in the children's area and several local art & craft vendors and you have a classic family-friendly event. The best part is that our guests won't need a dime to get in to experience some of the very best sounds, tastes, and smells of summer!"

Canal Winchester is proud to host the Blues & Ribfest for the fourth consecutive year. The festival benefits the community by promoting regional musicians and local artists and craftspeople. The festival site radiates out from the High and Waterloo Street intersection (closed to vehicle traffic) in historic downtown Canal Winchester.

Blankets and chairs are recommended due to limited seating. Outside food or beverages are not permitted. Skateboards, bicycles, rollerblades, scooters, other "recreational wheels" and pets should be left at home. Parking will be available in the areas adjacent to festival grounds.

For more information, visit www.bluesandribfest.com.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BALTIMORE FESTIVAL



The 25th annual Baltimore Festival will be held August 8th-10th in Johnson Park. Take this opportunity to meet new friends and see old ones.

The festival opens on Thursday August 8 with the Queen's Pageant followed by Teen Night with Johnny Garber. Events start at noon August 9 with Crafters, and Food Vendors. The Air-Evac team will be on the grounds. (weather permitting) The Car

Show starts at 4pm and rounding out the night will be The Paul Clark Party Band.

A great Saturday schedule begins with the 5k Race from the festival grounds, the Grand Parade with Grand Marshal, the 1993 State Champion Girls Basketball Team, and Special Guest, the Basil Garden Club.



The parade will also have Queens, dignitaries, bands and many other entries.

Afternoon events include the Kiddie Tractor Pull, a Gospel Group, *In 4 Jesus*, and the Community Jazz Band, followed by Arnett Howard's Band, fireworks and the Grand Prize Drawing.

This community festival involves many volunteers who serve faithfully on the Festival Board, the businesses who offer their specials, and open early on Saturday for the parade, and those who set up their chairs along the parade route. Because this is a free event and family friendly, Baltimore invites you to join them for a fun filled exciting festival. Get back to your roots or plant some new ones. Come out and spend some time with at The Baltimore Festival.



CARROLL OLD TIMERS FESTIVAL

The Carroll Old Timers Festival will be August 22-24 in downtown Carroll. Activities include free entertainment. Enjoy Phil Dirt and the Dozers on Saturday night and the Cedar Hill Boys bluegrass band, 1860's base ball games for both women and men,

car show, kiddie tractor pull, parade at 10am Saturday, raffles, games, food, and much more.

For info, visit www.carrolloldtimers.org.



Hot Air Balloon Festival

August 2 & 3
Fairfield County Airport
6:30am to 10pm

[Details](#)



Sweet Corn Festival

August 28 - 31
Millersport
Check Website for Daily Times

[Details](#)



Labor Day Festival

August 31 to September 1-2
Canal Winchester
Check Website for Daily Times

[Details](#)



LITHOPOLIS HONEYFEST

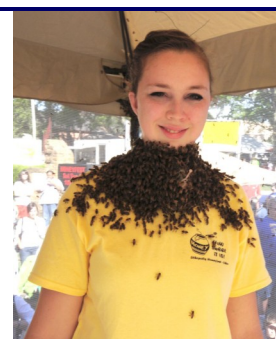
Celebrate National Honey Month and Lithopolis Honeyfest Day in Ohio at the 7th annual Lithopolis Honeyfest...Saving the planet, one honey bee at a time. Experience the science and wonder of apiculture in the Village of Lithopolis located 30 minutes SE of Columbus in NW Fairfield County. Taste honey of all flavors, colors and textures. Watch honey being extracted from the hive. Learn about life as an Ohio beekeeper and explore bee-keeping equipment hands-on. See a real

queen bee close up with her colony under the glass of an observation hive. Treat your taste buds to delicious foods made with honey. Relax at the mead (honey wine) and wine tasting and the Bloom Carroll Kiwanis honey beer garden. Shop for arts and crafts, listen to music from two stages, and let the kids have craft fun at the Gilmore Group HER Realtors Busy Beehive. Free admission, parking and shuttle. With other questions, contact Ginger Brenning 614.837.2031

September 6 11am to 7pm

September 7 9am to 7pm

www.LithopolisHoneyfest.com



FAIRFIELD COUNTY HAS LAST OPERA HOUSE

The Victoria Opera House is the last of its kind in Fairfield County. It was common for each town to have their own performance theater known as "opera houses" at the turn of the century. Most of those structures were housed in the Town Hall. The Victoria Opera House, built in 1905, functioned as The Victoria Theater until 1936 when it became a movie house called the Ohio Theater.

In 2009 the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission granted the funds to tuck point and fix the chimneys of the structure, and they placed a plaque upon the building proclaiming it the last Opera House in Fairfield County. When the Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee (BDRC) began work to restore the structure, Baltimore Village Council agreed to revert to calling the space the Victoria Opera House. In addition, by returning recognition to Victoria Opera House name, it iden-

tifies the space as multifunctional for stage, screen and more.

The structure is in excellent condition because the Village of Baltimore offices are housed on the first floor. BDRC needs to purchase the adjacent property to create an addition to house the HVAC, elevators and restrooms. The Opera House's immediate needs are the rewiring of electric and restoration and repair of the windows and doors.

There is a fund at the Fairfield County Foundation for the purpose of the restoration of the Opera House, and donations can be made to the foundation with Victoria Opera House on the memo line.

Website: www.SaveTheVictoria.org

GoFundMe: www.GoFundMe.com/savethevictoria



Zoom in on the picture below to read the Ohio Theatre marquee sign.



LOCAL AUTHOR SHOWCASE AUGUST 16



Business Is Our Business
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Canal Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce and The Southeastern Franklin County Chamber of Commerce will partner with the Columbus Metropolitan Library Southeast Branch (3980 S. Hamilton Rd. Groveport, OH 43125) to host a local Au-

thor Showcase on August 16, 2013 from 6:30-8:30 P.M.

The free event will be open to the public and will showcase the works of local authors. Participating authors will be available for book signing, and some selections will be available for purchase.

Library services and resources will also be highlighted at this event. Light refreshments will be available.

For more information, please contact Amanda Lemke, 614-837-1556

SELF PUBLISHED AUTHORS SOUGHT

Have you ever written a book? Would you like the opportunity to sell your material at a special library event? The Pickerington Public Library is hosting a Local Author Fair September 28 from 1-3pm. Set up time is one hour prior to the event.

The fair will allow each author to have a table to display their material. Authors may sell their books, talk with other authors and introduce themselves to the public. Payment may be made to the Pickerington Public Library in the form of a signed donated book.

Register at the [library website](#) and click the green tab Local Author Fair.

Registration deadline is September 25, 2013. Contact [Colleen Bauman](#), Community Service Coordinator at 614.837.4104 x 221 with any questions

DO YOU KNOW YOUR OHIO HISTORY?

On the Fourth of July, history comes alive. It's easy to imagine the Founders working away in Philadelphia during the stifling summer heat, talking with the windows shut firmly, lest British spies overhear their plans to rebel.

But many Ohioans probably don't know as much about how their state got its start and the people who contributed to its rich heritage. To fill the need, Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted has launched two websites to increase civic engagement and help students learn their history.

At www.OhioFoundingFathers.com, Husted has posted important national documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Federalist Papers. Each includes a brief explanation to add context and perspective.

The other site, www.OhioHistoricalDocs.com, is fun and fascinating. Here are important Ohio documents, including the 1851 Ohio Constitution, but also offbeat quizzes and facts: For instance, the state beverage is tomato juice and the state insect is the ladybug. Or, check out election results dating back

decades.

Ohioans also can test their knowledge about the state's astronauts, tallest building and other trivia by taking the "Do You Know Ohio" quiz. Scores can be shared with friends on Facebook and Twitter.

"This is the kind of history lesson we hope kids will be receptive to," Husted said.

Adults, too. Democracy depends on educated people capable of governing themselves. By reviewing these documents, you may be reminded of all that the Founders risked for your freedom.

DD OPERATING NEW BUSINESSES

The Fairfield County Board of DD Opportunity Center is working with a group of volunteer OSU Extension Master Gardeners who have helped the people the Board supports plant, cultivate and harvest produce in a 6,500 square foot garden.

This newest farmer's market is located at 4465 Coonpath Road NW in Carroll, at the back part of the property. Right now, they have lettuce, cucumbers, squash and

other fresh vegetables for sale. Starting July 15, they'll be open M-W-F from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. daily.

Sweet Innovations, owned and operated by Fairfield Industries, in partnership with the Fairfield County Board of DD, exists to serve sweet treats while providing employment and training opportunities for people with Development Disabilities. **Take advantage of 20% savings at grand opening.**

Grand Opening + Ribbon Cutting

Tuesday August 6

11:30am

River Valley Mall Food Court

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, agri-business, 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 participation 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 second Wednesday 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 a deeper understanding of the program and the process.



LOAN FUND BALANCES

As of July 26, 2013

EDA	\$ 528,861.62
CDBG	\$ 90,861.72

Scheduled LRC Meetings

August 14, 2013

September 11, 2013

October 9, 2013

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

(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?

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

Phone: 740.652.7160

E-mail:

lkauffman@co.fairfield.oh.us

rdclark@co.fairfield.oh.us

We're on the web
www.businesscounty.com

Farmer's Markets

Baltimore

Fridays: June 7-October 11

4 to 7 pm

Basil Park

Bremen Produce Auction

Tuesdays/Fridays

Noon

1511 Mt. Zwingli Road

Canal Winchester

Saturdays May 18 thru Oct 19

9am-Noon

Wednesdays in July & August

5 to 7pm

36 South High Street

Carroll

1st & 3rd Sundays

June 2 thru October 20

Noon to 3pm

Bessie Benson Park

Lancaster

Tuesdays Apr 30 to Oct 1

3:30pm to 6:30pm

Corner Goslin Rd & E Main

Saturdays April 27 to Oct 26

8am to noon

Corner Wheeling & Memorial

Olde Pickerington Village

Thursdays starting June 6

4-7pm

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 5:30pm 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]

July 30: *Premiere Innovation Engineering Workshop*~9:30-3:30~Columbus~[More](#)

Aug 14: Economic Update~11:30am~OUL~RSVP to 740.653.8251

Aug 31: Bremen Chamber *Golf Outing*~8:15~Pumpkin Vine~740.569.9150~[More](#)

Sept 5: Taste of Fairfield County Agriculture~Ruff's Seed Farm

Community Healthfest

Saturday August 3, 2013

9am to 1pm

1965 North Columbus Street, Lancaster, OH

Free Health Screenings * Kids Activities * Food * Blood Drive * [More](#)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 29-Aug 2: American Legion State Baseball Tournament~740.215.4155~[More](#)

Aug 1-4: OUL Theatre~*The Producers*~7pm~Sun 2pm~[Tickets](#)~740.6711x650

Aug 4: *Remembering Virginia Pickering*~Ice Cream Social~11am-1pm~Pickering Hse

Aug 11: *Lancaster Community Band Concert*~4pm~Rising Park~Bring Lawn Chairs

Aug 14: Star Gazing~Alley Park~8pm

Aug 16-18: Antique Tractor Show~Alley Park ~10am-5pm~ [Details](#)

Aug 29: Athena Banquet~Lancaster County Club~RSVP 740.653.8251

Sept 7: WW II USO Style Hangar Dance~Lancaster Airport~7-11pm~[More](#)

Sept 19: FMC *Wine, Tapas & Fundraising*~5:30pm~Fisher Catholic HS~687.8107

To submit calendar events for this page, please email Linda Kauffman

lkauffman@co.fairfield.oh.us or call the office 740.652.7161