



April, 2009

Dear Medina County Business Advocate:

In an economy where many businesses strive just to stay stable, it becomes more important than ever to celebrate those companies who have achieved outstanding growth. To recognize these accomplishments, the Medina County Economic Development Corporation has partnered once again with Westfield Bank, in cooperation with the Chambers of Commerce of Medina County, to present our **Sixth Annual Medina County Business Awards**.

This event will honor businesses and individuals in Medina County that have realized significant results in innovation, capital investment, small business management and community involvement.

The input of the county's business advocates is a critical element in the awards process. Below you will find a brief description of the six awards, along with a nomination form on the opposite side. Please consider nominating qualified individuals, companies, customers or associates that fit the criteria, which could include you. There is no limit to the number of the candidates you may nominate, since each qualifying nomination you make represents a strong goodwill gesture. Award winners from 2008 will not be eligible to win the same category in 2009, but are eligible in all other categories.

The deadline for nominations is August 14, 2009. All nominees will be notified of their nomination and asked to indicate their interest in participating in the awards program by providing additional information to the judges.

An independent judge's panel will evaluate the nominations and make the final awards decisions. Judging will be based on the nomination form and the information gathered from the nominees. Winners will be honored at the Eleventh Annual MCEDC Autumn Speaker Series to be held on October 22, 2009 at the Blair Center in Westfield Center, Ohio.

Please circulate the nomination form throughout your organization to ensure that the most worthy candidates are recognized. Additional copies of the form, along with a list of past award recipients, can be downloaded at www.medinacounty.org or www.westfield-bank.com. If you have any questions about the awards nomination process, please contact me at 330-722-9215 or bdentler@medinacounty.org.

Thank you,
Bethany Dentler, Executive Director
Medina County Economic Development Corporation

MEDINA COUNTY BUSINESS AWARDS DESCRIPTIONS:

- **ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR:** A Medina County owned/operated business, demonstrating substantial innovation in a product, production methods, market creation/development, and/or demonstrating rapid growth or potential for significant growth.
- **CAPITAL INVESTMENT:** A Medina County business with a capital investment of more than \$500,000 during calendar year 2008 that has provided a sustainable increase in revenue and/or employment or has enhanced our community's appeal by expanding, building or renovating a structure in the county.
- **SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE:** A Medina County owned/operated business with less than 50 employees and/or less than \$3 Million in total revenues demonstrating long-term commitment to sound business practices in operation, management and sustainability.
- **SUSTAINED BUSINESS GROWTH:** This award honors a Medina County company that has shown/averaged sustained growth in revenue and employment for at least five (5) years.
- **CORPORATE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR—COMPANY:** This award honors the Medina County *company* that goes well beyond the minimum expectation of community service. This award honors companies of all types and sizes that make outstanding civic contributions to their communities. This award's purpose is to encourage a charitable environment and recognize creative efforts that make a difference.
- **CORPORATE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR—INDIVIDUAL:** This award honors the *individual* who consistently goes well beyond the minimum expectation of community service. This award honors the individual who makes a difference; who demonstrates exceptional charitable involvement in his/her community or the county.

PLEASE NOTE: All nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 14, 2009.

PLEASE SEND ALL NOMINATION FORMS TO:

Medina County Business Awards
MCEDC

144 North Broadway Street, Medina, OH 44256

or: Fax: (330) 764-8449

2009 MEDINA COUNTY BUSINESS AWARDS



Section I

About the Nominee:

Company Name: _____ Year Founded: _____

CEO/President: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Business Nomination: Please provide specific details and information on nominee/company that justify consideration for one of the award categories listed below.

Section II

Nominated for:

Please check the appropriate award that your nominee best represents. Check only one category per nomination. Note that Corporate Citizen Category has two distinct categories. Descriptions for each category are on the opposite side of this nomination form.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneur of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Investment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business Enterprise | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustained Business Growth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Citizen of the Year— Corporate | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Citizen of the Year— Individual |

Section III

Nominated By:

Company/Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Award recipient finalists will be notified on or about September 30, 2009



MEDINA COUNTY BUSINESS AWARD RECIPIENTS

<u>Category</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Entrepreneur of the Year	2004	Debra Destro, Brunswick Tax Service
	2005	Clinical Research Management
	2006	Ovation Polymers
	2007	Healthcare Innovative Solutions
	2008	EBO Group, Inc.
Capital Investment	2004	Destiny Manufacturing (non-facility)
	2004	Trillium Creek (facility)
	2005	Liquid Resources of Ohio, LLC
	2006	BPR Rico
	2007	Mercury Distributing/Shamrock Industries
	2008	Brunswick Toyota
Job Creation <i>(only year for this category)</i>	2004	Destiny Manufacturing
Small Business Enterprise	2005	Griffith Holdings
	2006	Action-Flexo Graphics
	2007	Romeo's Pizza
	2008	Healthcare Innovative Solutions
Corporate Citizen of the Year <i>(only year for this category)</i>	2004	Patrick H. Norris, Norris Auto Mall
Corporate Citizen - Corporate*	2005	FirstMerit Bank, N.A.
	2006	Western Reserve Bank
	2007	The Ruhlin Company
	2008	Dorman-Farrell, LLC
Corporate Citizen - Individual*	2005	Jim Gerspacher, Gerspacher Real Estate Group
	2006	Mark Dorman, Dorman-Farrell, LLC
	2007	Ron Paydo, FirstMerit Bank
	2008	William Doraty, Bill Doraty KIA
Lifetime Achievement Award**	2004	Robert & Phyllis Leatherman, The Leatherman Group
	2006	Don Simmons, Simmons Brothers Construction
	2008	Congressman Ralph Regula

*A distinction was made between corporate/individual contributions.

**The Lifetime Achievement Award is a special award to express that the time, effort and contribution to the county are great and are truly reflective of a lifetime.