

MCEDC Early June Newsletter 2020



Beginning in 1959, Simmons Brothers began to partner with local developers and contractors to serve Medina County during the industrial boom of the 1960's. Over the next six decades, they have expanded their influence into the surrounding counties with office buildings, retail shops, and places of worship, in addition to warehouse and factory buildings, which have always been at the heart of this business.

In the past over 60 years, Simmons Brothers has employed hundreds of skilled trades people, in addition to scores of young apprentices who learn their trade while employed by Simmons Brothers.

The original Simmons Brothers have since retired; Harold in 1999 and Don in 2019. But the family trade carries on as the second and third generations continue to make Simmons Brothers Medina County's premier design-build team. Learn more at <https://www.simmonsbrothers.net>.

VOCAL FOR LOCAL Putting Our Money Where Our Mouth Is

Medina County's economy has not experienced a downturn as quickly or as thoroughly since the Great Depression as we have seen with the COVID-19 pandemic. Coming on the heels of some of the county's strongest growth in recent years makes this crisis even more challenging for our small businesses.

Recognizing this situation, a coalition of business support organizations developed a program to directly address the need to increase consumer spending and help to get people back to work. Vocal for Local – Putting our money where our mouth is has been designed to promote our local companies, help consumers understand how to shop so they can feel both safe and comfortable, and give them new options.

This county-wide, collaborative effort includes the Cities of Brunswick, Medina, and Wadsworth, the Village of Seville, the Greater Medina Chamber of Commerce, the Northern Medina County Chamber of Commerce, the Seville Chamber of Commerce, the Wadsworth Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Medina, Main Street Wadsworth, the Lodi Harrisville Economic Development Organization, the Facebook group Medina County Take-Out, and the Medina County Economic Development

Member News



620 Construction has recently added Paul J. Roeder to their company as Chief Executive Officer. He will also be Chief Executive Officer to sister companies Firelands Fabrica-

tion in New London and Janotta & Herner in Monroeville. Welcome to the team!

Westfield shares more than insurance tips! Check out their support for farm-to-table trends and learn how a tiny kernel of corn goes from the farmer's field to your local grocery store in as little as two months. <https://wf.insure/37c2XWv>

Leadership Medina County is celebrating leadership efforts exhibited in our communities. Thank you for your work Krista Wasowski, Medina County Health Department, Dr. Daryl Kubilus, Cloverleaf Schools, Grant Aungst, city of Brunswick, Adrienne Krauss, Main Street Wadsworth, and Dr. Andy Hill of Wadsworth City Schools. Read more at <https://leadershipmedinacounty.org/june-class-notes/>

Corporation. Program details are available at www.vocalforlocalmedinacounty.com.

“The goal of this effort is to really showcase our locally-owned businesses. These are the owners that support our school programs, city events, and participate in local programs. Now is the time to show them real support,” said Kathy Breitenbucher, Economic Developer with the Medina County Economic Development Corporation.

“Small business is the backbone of all of our communities. An effort like this starts with an idea and grows into endless opportunities,” said Grant Aungst, Community and Economic Development Director.

On the Vocal for Local website, consumers can read about Medina County’s local businesses through profiles, check out directories of businesses in each community, and obtain safe shopping tips.

“It is vital for people to spend money in our communities as that can have a multiplier effect of up to three times what is spent,” said Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director for the City of Medina. Karen Glass of the Lodi Harrisville Economic Development Organization stresses the importance of small businesses to our local economies: “We all need to step up and support our local entrepreneurs.”

Jaclyn Ringstmeier, Executive Director of the Greater Medina Chamber of Commerce is quick to point out that “we are also the only county that has a portion of the sales tax go to our schools. And that is even more important as we see cuts coming from the state.”

Janie Parish, Executive Director of the Wadsworth Chamber of Commerce added, “We know our residents want to help but need to know how. This effort is designed to help them understand how to support local business, find ones they might not have known about in the past, and feel confident in safely shopping.”

“While the effort is targeted at Medina County residents, we also know it will spill over into other areas,” said Jim Gray, Economic Development Director for the City of Wadsworth. “And we are happy to have other community members’ support as well.”

Adrienne Krauss, Executive Director of Main Street Wadsworth added, “A bustling downtown or larger shopping area also helps anyone passing through recognize activity and success. And everyone wants

to be part of a successful community.”

“Bringing people together to support our business community has always been a focus of all of our organizations and we have always operated under the philosophy of a high tide raises all ships,” said Matt Wiederhold, Main Street Medina’s Executive Director. “The more commerce we can encourage, the more everyone wins.”

June 20, 2020 will be designated Vocal for Local Day and all residents are encouraged to shop on that Saturday. “Think of this as Small Business Saturday, Medina County style,” said Bethany Dentler, Executive Director of Medina County Economic Development Corporation. “We are confident that our communities will support our locally owned businesses and make a real difference.”

Residents are encouraged to visit www.vocalforlocalmedinacounty.com and or follow the effort on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vocalforlocalmedinacounty/. On June 20th, find a local store that you may not have visited before either in person or online and be sure to get takeout or visit a patio. Vocal for Local wants everyone to stay safe and support local business!

Member News (con’t)

You may recall hearing from economist Ned Hill at MCEDC’s Annual Meeting a few years ago. He is doing a series of articles on the recovery, and you can read them here.

Thank you TGC Engineering LLC for volunteering your services as a part of a project along with Engelke Construction Solutions to assist the Brunswick Historical Society. We appreciate both companies working to preserve our heritage!

The Medina County District Libraries will reopen on Monday, June 15. Visit the FAQ on their website to learn more about temporary hours, changes to services, and safety protocols.

Husted Announced TechCred Awards,
Program Changes to Support COVID-19 Economic Recovery



On May 28, Ohio Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted, who serves as Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, announced that 150 companies have been approved for TechCred funding. This funding will help employers upskill their current and incoming workforce to meet the needs of an increasingly tech-focused economy, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many of the TechCred pre-approved credentials can be completed virtually through Corporate College, a division of Cuyahoga Community College. Examples include Agile Project Management, Certified Digital Marketing Professional and Information Technology programs. The state will reimburse up to \$2,000 of training per employee upon completion of a technology-focused credential. More information can be found at techcred.ohio.gov.

Corporate College is Offering A Free Webinar Series

Hear from experts in the field who provide tools and techniques to help you succeed in business and life. Upcoming live webinars are listed below and advance registration is required.

www.corporatecollege.com/webinar

Live Date: June 10 | Noon

Using Agile to Address Waterfall Challenges

As management struggles to see project success, they increasingly leverage Agile to reduce likelihood of project failure.

Presented by Andre Bryan, MBA, BBA, PMP, LSSBB, SCRUM

Live Date: June 12 | 9 a.m.

Taking Your Jogging/Biking Performance to the Next Level

No matter your experience level, learn tips to safely improve your exercise performance.

Presented by Chris Faciana, MS, Exercise Physiology

Live Date: June 17 | 9 a.m.

Three Keys to Creating the Life and Business You Want

Know your vision and commit to it by investing time in yourself to create the life and business you desire.

Presented by Tamsin Astor, Ph.D.

MCEDC Energy Program

Take Advantage of Historic Lows in Electricity & Natural Gas Prices



If you are in an electricity or natural gas supply agreement today, you may benefit from shopping for your next rate sooner than later. The electricity market is currently near 7-year lows and natural gas near 20-year lows.

If your contracts are up for renewal in the next 18 months, you could benefit from shopping for a “future start” agreement now. A “future start” allows you to lock in today’s prices for your contract renewal without

cancelling your current agreements, thus avoiding any early termination fees.

To explore your renewal options, please contact Rick Davidson at rdavidson@ceateam.com and we will create a custom procurement strategy for your company.

**Medina County Career Center
Adult Education Office is Open!**

The Adult Education Office is open and staff is working Monday through Thursday from 6:00 am – 8:00 pm and our full-time classes are in session.

Dental Assisting will be held in the evening from 5:30 – 9:30 pm

Medical Office Administrative Assistant will be held from 2:45 – 5:15 pm with 100 hours online

Our catalog is available at: <https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/fullscreen/63217008/adult-ed-course-catalog-2020-2021>

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