

MCEDC July Newsletter 2020



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ATTORNEYS

Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston (“Critchfield”) is a law firm with deep roots in Medina and neighboring counties and a history that dates back to the Civil War era—that’s over 150 years for those who might be counting. Since that time, the firm has served as trusted legal advisors to thousands of successful businesses and individuals and set the standard for a climate of excellence, teamwork and client service.

At its core, Critchfield is a business-oriented firm that is known throughout Northeast Ohio for its ability to handle complex, high-stakes transactions of all kinds—from mergers and acquisitions to major real estate sales and development. We also provide our clients with leading-edge advice as they prepare their businesses and lives for the future, guiding them through complicated issues of estate, trust, tax, and business succession planning. Critchfield takes pride in exceeding its clients’ expectations—every day and in every transaction.

Beyond the provision of quality legal services, the firm is even prouder of its commitment to the communities in which its attorneys and staff live and work. Critchfield and its employees contribute time and resources to a number of local charitable and civic organizations. These contributions stem from the deeply-held conviction that giving back, both personally and as influential members of the legal and business communities, leads to a healthy, vibrant atmosphere that draws talented people and innovative businesses to Medina County and the rest of Northeast Ohio. For more information, please visit us at www.ccj.com

Team NEO - Our Regional Partner



The membership of MCEDC heard from long-time partner Team NEO at the July member meeting. Renee Ligon, Director of Partnerships & Engagement, shared who Team NEO is, their partnership with MCEDC, and some information on what impacts COVID-19 will have long term on the economy. If you would like a copy of the presentation, it is available: <https://www.medinacounty.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Medina-County-Presentation-7142020.pdf>

Member News

A huge THANK YOU goes out to Huntington Bank, First Federal of Lakewood, and Westfield Bank! Our schools are dealing with so many issues, but they have taken the issue of keeping students hydrated while in the building off the table. With donations of water bottles to Wadsworth, Buckeye, and Cloverleaf Schools, these kids will know their community supports them!

Another big thank you to the Faciana family at Pleasant Valley Corporation! When a recent tenant moved out and left a number of home goods behind, PVC donated to Let's Make a Difference, a local charity helping kids and families out of poverty. This donation made a world of difference!

Congratulations to Debbie Kiley on being named the new Director of Job and Family Services. We look forward to working with you!

We would also like to congratulate William Epling on being named the new president of SummaCare. He starts August 3 and we are sure he will be a great asset to this terrific team!

Congratulations to Fire-Dex on receiving the Family Business Achievement award from Smart Business. Well-deserved!

The Top Work Places for 2020 are in and Medina County companies top the list! Congratulations to:

Applegrowth Partners
Clampco
Cleveland Clinic
Fifth Third Bank
Huntington Bank
Integrity Staffing
Oswald Companies
Remington Products
Westfield Bank

Medina County Small Business Grant Program

As part of the CARES Act, Medina County has created a new Small Business Grant Program to help businesses and non-profits hit by COVID-19 and the resulting shut down cover expenses and maintain business growth.

“We are very pleased to put this effort together. We received the money the last week of June and we are committed to getting this program launched before the end of July,” said Commissioner Colleen Swedyk. “Our businesses need our help!”

“The five million dollars received by the county will be allocated to the cities, villages, townships, and County based on the Local Government Funding formula. These monies will be used to offset expenses incurred by these governmental agencies to comply with the Governor and Health Commissioner’s orders to address COVID 19. Unused funds will be available for companies and non-profits who have been financially affected by COVID 19 through a small business grant program,” explained Scott Miller, County Administrator. “We expect this amount to be in excess of 1 million dollars.”

“The opportunity to offer this program gives our small businesses and non-profits another outlet to help offset expenses,” said Bethany Dentler, Executive Director of Medina County Economic Development Corporation. “We can only reimburse expenses, but that includes benefits and salaries paid to workers who were furloughed, the cost of personal protection equipment, and rent and utilities to name a few examples.”

The program, allowed under the CARES Act, is outlined by guidance set forth by the U.S. Treasury Department. It allows local governments receiving CARES money to create grant programs. Other counties throughout Ohio have created similar programs, but they have been more restrictive.

“It was important for us to include all types of businesses including independent contractors, LLCs, corporations, and non-profits. All businesses and non-profits with less than 50 employees in Medina County are eligible,” said John Burke, Medina County Treasurer.

Recognizing small business as the lifeblood of a community, this effort, partnered with others being managed throughout the county, will help support our businesses and ensure they continue long after COVID has been managed. Eligible applicants will be located in Medina County, have fewer than 50 employees, less than 1.5 million in revenue, and not received other federal funds to cover expenses related to COVID-19 and the government-mandated shutdown. To apply, visit <https://www.medinacounty.org/small-business-grant-program/>

Vocal for Local

Medina County

**Putting Our Money Where
Our Mouth Is!**

When has anyone told you it is your civic duty to shop?!

Shop Online

Shop In Person

Try a new store

Visit your favorite store

Order Out

Eat In

Take Action – Help our small businesses!

At www.vocalforlocalmedinacounty.com we are highlighting stores and restaurants you might have missed. We also have directories and helpful information on how to stay safe while supporting our businesses!

Get out there Medina County and be Vocal for Local!

Own Your Skill

How do we help young people get into the workforce successfully and start their careers? This is a question the Business Advisory Council has been wrestling with and came up with a unique solution. The Own Your Skill program is designed to help students recognize those skills they already have that translate to business.

But we need your help! Through our research we have learned that young people are stressed about making a mistake when taking that first job. So we need them to understand the first job is not the last job.

Record a video of you or someone else talking about why they took their first job, what it meant, what they learned, why they aren't in that field anymore, or anything else that could help a kid connect. Send them to kathyb@medinacounty.org and we'll add them to our YouTube channel!

MCEDC Energy Program

BENEFITS OF AN ENERGY MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

Utility costs often represent a third of a building's operating budget. Insight into these expenses empowers organizations to make decisions to help reduce annual utility spend and maximize efficiency. An energy management platform that includes bill management and real-time monitoring can play a crucial role in assisting a company in managing its energy portfolio.

Bill management systems automatically organize utility bills in one location, avoiding time consuming cataloguing and data entry. Real-time monitoring systems provide up-to-the-minute feedback of how a building is consuming electricity or natural gas. Instead of waiting for the end of the month, a company can respond to rogue usage before it impacts a monthly bill.

For assistance in identifying if an energy management platform might be right for your organization, feel free to reach out to Kevin Lauterjung at MCEDCEnergy@ceateam.com.



WESTFIELD | **BRIDGESTONE SENIOR PLAYERS**

BE OUR GUEST

Westfield's InspireHER: The Inclusion Journey

Diversity without inclusion is a story of missed opportunities.

Join us for a virtual event to discover the power and potential when diversity and inclusion combine to change lives and move businesses forward. Leaders will reveal the business and leadership practices that invite dialogue and drive progress.

Leave with inspiring ideas – both personal and professional – and lead the change you want to see in the world!

This free virtual event is sponsored by Westfield and the PGA Tour.

August 11, 2020 | 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

RSVP by August 5



Check Out the Brunswick University Center!

An extension of Cuyahoga Community College's Western Campus, Brunswick University Center offers affordable and convenient options for obtaining an education to residents of southern Cuyahoga County and Medina County.

Students can take classes to complete an associate degree or earn transfer credits to a four-year institution. The center also offers workforce development, career training and personal enrichment programs for seniors. Corporate College® programs offer professional development opportunities, while manufacturing programs include **Fundamental Manufacturing Technical Readiness and Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship**.

For more information, visit www.tri-c.edu/brunswick or contact Radiah Blanton at 216-987-5757 or radiah.blanton@tri-c.edu.

MAGNET Webinar Series - Business Risks and Implications of COVID-19

Please see the detail and the registration links [here](#).

The purpose of this webinar is to contextualize what is known - and not known - about the current and near-term business environment. And, to provide the attendees with an informed understanding of what they are facing.

[Jul 30, 2020 12:00 PM \(Register Here\)](#)

Thank you to our Annual Premier Sponsors!

