

MCEDC Late October Newsletter 2020



Firststar Precision Corporation was established over 20 years ago by three friends, with three CNC machines, five employees, and a vision of a manufacturing company where going above and beyond for the customer was the norm.

Firststar Precision has the capabilities to not only produce your most difficult parts but manage all the processing needed on everything they do. They bring their customers a full solution so they can stay focused on their own business.

Having moved to Brunswick in 2018, Firststar has quickly become an important part of the business community getting involved in the schools, service organizations and the support of manufacturing branding efforts. With a strong commitment to giving back, multiple students who would have not finished high school have gotten opportunities at Firststar to really see what can happen once they complete school. For the first time in their lives some of these students have people who care about them and they have vision of a future.

If you need a partner in problem-solving and understanding your needs, Firststar Precision Corporation is your one-stop-shop.

Medina County 2020 Business Awards



While the pandemic has put many things on hold, MCEDC and the Medina County Business Community celebrated how we have come together as a community to come out of the pandemic stronger than ever. Sponsored by Westfield Bank, the October 27 Business Awards Program acknowledged that Medina County businesses don't sit and wring their hands. They roll up their sleeves and get to work!

Those groups celebrated included Krista Wasowski and the Medina County Health Department. With an eye to keeping business open while staying safe, the Medina County Health Department was recognized for their leadership and dedication, strong communication processes, and an all-hands-on-deck approach. Thank you Medina County Health Department and Krista!

Our First Responders have had a difficult job made more difficult in this pan-

Member News

There is nothing better than members helping members strengthen our community. Congratulations to the Medina County District Library and construction partner, Ruhlin Company, on their renovations and new buildings. Check out the results here: <https://ruhlin.com/portfolio-item/medina-county-district-library/>

Congratulations to Dunlop and Johnston as they celebrate 110 years in business! You can check out their history on their website.: <http://www.dunlopandjohnston.com/history/>

Huntington Bank has again earned the top spot in the nation for SBA 7(a) loan origination by volume. This is the third consecutive year and marks the 12th year in a row they have achieved the No. 1 spot within their footprint. Congratulations!

Westfield Bank was recently recognized by ERC with a North Coast 99 Award, which honors Northeast Ohio workplaces for their efforts to recruit, retain, and develop top talent. Congratulations!

dem. And as police reform is discussed around the country, it is forces like those in Medina County that are used as examples of strong community policing. We thank all our first responders for their continued service!

Healthcare workers have been on the front line of the pandemic from the very first moments and their dedication and hard work are paying off. We salute our healthcare workers and thank them for helping our families!

The financial measures implemented by the Federal and State governments were terrific but they came with a lot of planning and programs to develop in a very short time. Our local banks went to work and ensured their clients got the most money possible through the Paycheck Protection Program. Creating the programs in a few short days, they were still able to work with both existing and new clients to keep our businesses open. Thank you bankers!

The Medina County Commissioners allocated around \$4 million to the Small Business Grant Program from what the County received in CARES Act Funding. The Commissioners felt strongly that supporting local business was the way to get the most financial impact, knowing that spending money with a local business returns back to the local economy seven times. The business community is grateful to the CARES Act and the Medina County Commissioners for their support.

County schools had to rethink their entire approach to education overnight in the spring and then be ready for anything come fall. And they did it. Our students are receiving a safe and well-rounded education and will even have opportunities for career exploration. A big thank you to our seven school districts and two vocational programs!

Small business needed more support than ever and as always, Medina County pulled together to celebrate Vocal for Local. Helping consumers feel safe and understand where and how to shop, www.vocalforlocalmedinacounty.com provides business directories, information, and profiles for people to learn about businesses they frequent, find new businesses, and spend their money locally, even online.

Congratulations to Dyer Roche and Rea and Associates for their merger. These two great companies will form a strong partnership and we are excited to see what comes next!

Kathy Warner has been named the new Job Development Services Manager at Jobs for Ohio's Graduates to help students get work experience. Congratulations to Kathy and JOG!

Thank you to Lorain Medina Rural Electric Cooperative for their donation to Black River Schools. Keeping our schools strong is important in economic development and we applaud this effort!

Did you Miss a Manufacturing Minute?

Never fear! Anything on the internet is there forever!

Visit [YouTube](https://youtube.com/channel/UChO8kuhr57IVEuHDx6MpN6w) (<https://youtube.com/channel/UChO8kuhr57IVEuHDx6MpN6w>) to watch all the interviews. Thank you to the manufacturers who participated.

Do you think your industry should be featured? We do too! If you would like to participate in an interview, please let Kathy know at kathyb@medinacounty.org

Your Stories Are Needed! Own Your Skill

Each school district participates in a Business Advisory Council and six of those districts partner with the Educational Service Center to bring school staff and businesses together. Their new program, Own Your Skill, helps students recognize the skills they already have as job skills and help research career options. You can learn more about Own Your Skill at www.ownyourskill.org.

As a county, we are fortunate to have terrific restaurants that are local and unique. They figured out how to take orders, payments, package up food, and do take out and delivery when the shut down came. Now, many have embraced that business and will continue as we go forward. Thank you restaurants for keeping us well fed during the pandemic!

Made in Medina County was different this year, but continued its focus on getting the message out about the importance of manufacturing to our county. Many of our manufacturers were deemed essential and had to quickly implement health measures as part of their safety program. And of course, they did. Thank you Made in Medina County and all our manufacturers for keeping the spirit alive!

MCEDC was proud to bring this program to the County and thank Westfield Bank for their support and the lovely gift boxes sent to attendees.

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

LEVERAGING SUSTAINABILITY IN BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Sustainability has become a cornerstone of many business operations today. But what does that really mean? Sustainability is ensuring future generations have the means to be as prosperous as our current society. Setting sustainability goals can help drive profits, reduce costs, and improve environmental impact.

There are not only inherent economic benefits of sustainability, but also long-term benefits that are not as easily measured in upfront monetary value. Many people today, especially Millennials and Gen Z, value sustainability. Promoting your company's sustainability goals can improve your current business operations while attracting a more diverse talent pool to fuel future growth.

If you have any questions about how sustainability can apply to your business please contact Claire Wilson, CEA's Energy Management Associate, at cwilson@ceateam.com or at (330) 800-9134.

Thank you to our Annual Premier Sponsors!

