

# MCEDC September Newsletter 2020



## WESTFIELD™

Westfield was founded in 1848 by a small group of hard-working farmers who believed in the promise of the future and the power of the individual. That promise is evident today in the company's mission to enable customers' peace of mind and financial stability.

Westfield is a regional property and casualty (P&C) insurance company and one of the largest non-public companies in Ohio. Today, as one of the nation's leading property and casualty (P&C) companies, Westfield remains true to its vision and dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of its customers offering personal insurance in 10 states, commercial insurance in 21 states and surety services in 50 states through a network of more than a thousand independent agencies. Westfield endowed a private foundation, Westfield Insurance Foundation, that reflects Westfield's desire to support communities in areas of family stability, disaster recovery and safety. Last year, Westfield donated more than \$3 million to worthy causes with a significant portion of the gifts remaining in Northeast Ohio.

Headquartered in Westfield Center, Westfield is the largest employer in Medina county with approximately 1,600 employees and another 1,000 working in service offices across the country and has been recognized as a "Top Workplace" in northeast and central Ohio. The Home Office campus includes the Westfield Country Club, Westfield Inn, and the Blair Conference Center, all unique assets making Westfield a desired destination for business and pleasure. The campus welcomes thousands of guests every year, affording the company the opportunity to foster strong relationships by connecting people personally and professionally.

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## Member News

### Meeting With Our Superintendents

For September's member meeting, MCEDC was very pleased to invite our seven school districts, both vocational programs, and Medina Christian Academy to participate in a panel discussion regarding how schools are handling the pandemic and how businesses can help.

The membership heard from:

Brunswick City Schools - Jason Niedermeyer

Buckeye Local Schools - Jeff Harrison

Cloverleaf Local Schools - Daryl Kubilus

Highland Local Schools - Catherine Aukerman

Medina City Schools - Kris Quallich

Wadsworth City Schools - Andy Hill

Medina County Career Center - Steve Chrisman

Four Cities Compact - Roger Wright

Medina Christian Academy - Joe Timco

Our schools wanted to give a big THANK YOU to Krista Wasowski and her team at the Medina County Health Department.

Congratulations to Leadership Medina County on launching the new Leadership Exploration And Development (LEAD Institute). For more information, contact

[lead@leadershipmedinacounty.org](mailto:lead@leadershipmedinacounty.org)

Medina County is proud of Wadsworth-based Clampco for sending their products into space with the SpaceX program! To learn more: <https://oai.org/clampco-products-inc-contributes-to-spacex-launch/>

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The Medina Farmers Exchange Company was recognized as the Best Commercial Rehabilitation project by Heritage Ohio.

This project was led by Beacon Marshall.

They have gone above and beyond to help the schools to determine how education can take place safely and anticipate as well as prepare for the challenges they would face. Dr. Andy Hill pointed out that other counties do not have the level of support or responsiveness our schools see here and they all agreed how invaluable that has been.

The overall message is that our schools are working hard to keep students, teachers, and staff safe and healthy while also providing the quality of education we count on in Medina County. Each school is a little different in how they have returned to the classroom, but everyone has seen the students come back with a true appreciation for being in school and part of those communities.

We want to thank our schools for all that they do to make our communities home and for their continued partnership with our business community.

If you would like to get involved in a Business Advisory Council, please contact Kathy Breitenbucher at [kathyb@medinacounty.org](mailto:kathyb@medinacounty.org).

For the full Q&A with the superintendents, visit [medinacounty.org/superintendents-panel/](https://www.medinacounty.org/superintendents-panel/)

Congratulations to Charles Marshall and the whole team!

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I.D. Images has acquired Kieran Label Corporation in San Diego. Congratulations to the team at I.D. Images!

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Philpott Solutions Group is proud to celebrate Beth Tresch for being honored at this year's Smart Women Awards Conference as an honoree for the Progressive Women Award. A well-deserved award!

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Tri-C was recently honored with the 2020 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award. We appreciate their leadership in this important area!

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RPM International has acquired Ali Industries, LLC, a leading manufacturer of sand paper and other abrasives. Congratulations, RPM!

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## **Your Stories Are Needed! 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](mailto:kathyb@medinacounty.org) and we'll add them to our YouTube channel!

Leadership Medina County and the Ohio State University Extension are hosting two Government Academy sessions for those interested in running for office or who currently hold office.

Public Meetings and Board Procedures

Thursday, October 8, 2020

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

Sunshine Ethics / Records Management

Thursday, November 12, 2020

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

The Government Academy is sponsored by Securitec

**MCEDC Energy Program**

IMPROVING YOUR INDOOR AIR QUALITY

COVID-19 has caused us all to evaluate ways to make our working and living environments as safe as possible. Working with a qualified professional to install and maintain proper ventilation and filtration remain the most important building blocks to improved air quality. Maintain the optimal amount of fresh air and keep your coils and filters clean. Industry experts recommend filters at or above MERV 13.

There are many technologies that can enhance air quality by reducing airborne bacteria and viruses. Two that we have identified in our research are bipolar ionization and ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (also referred to as UV-C). We have clients that have installed such products that use these technologies. They attribute these technologies to improved air quality that has prevented staff-to-staff infections.

If you'd like to learn more about air quality systems and products, please contact Claire Wilson, CEA's Energy Management Associate, at [cwilson@ceateam.com](mailto:cwilson@ceateam.com) or at (330) 800-9134.

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