

# MCEDC August Newsletter 2021



It's been more than 150 years since Huntington Bank was founded in Ohio. Since then, it has grown into one of the largest and most respected banks in the Midwest, with \$123 billion in assets and a network of branches and ATMs across seven states. Huntington's

purpose is to help make people's lives better, help businesses thrive, and strengthen the communities they serve. Thanks to its growth, Huntington has been able to continuously invest in communities through the Huntington Charitable Grant Program, financial education and volunteerism.

"We believe that developing relationships and investing in local nonprofit organizations builds healthy and vibrant communities," says Ron Paydo, Community President of Huntington Bank's Medina County market. "Looking out for people means proactively caring those we serve. We notice when our customers are facing a challenge and we step in to help."

Huntington and its affiliates provide consumer, small business, commercial, treasury management, wealth management, brokerage, trust, and insurance services. Huntington also provides vehicle finance, equipment finance, national settlement, and capital market services that extend beyond its core states.

## School is Back in Session!

School is back in session with kids reluctantly returning and parents rejoicing. The goal of our schools is to turn out functional adults, ready to join the work world, enlist in the military, or go on to college. MCEDC is proud to partner with all seven school districts in Medina County and both vocational programs to support those efforts. Many of our companies would like to get involved in the schools but need to know how. So here's how!

**Business Advisory Councils** - Every school district is required to have a Business Advisory Council or BAC. The BAC's function is to bring companies and schools together to work on curriculum and provide good communication. The Medina County Career Center has advisory councils for each program at the high school and one for the adult education department, as well. And the Four Cities Compact has an advisory group. Getting involved in the BACs is a great way to learn about what's happening in our schools and provide support, feedback, and even programming.

One project coming out of a BAC is Own Your Skill. In discussions, the group felt that students don't realize the skills they build in their extra curriculums and how they can be valuable in a work setting. In order to help them see the value, the group de-

## Member News



Congratulations to Lit Communities on receiving the 2021 Star Award at Fiber Connect. Great job!

A big congratulations to our members named to LinkedIn's "Top Companies in 2021":

- Cleveland Clinic
- Key Bank
- PNC
- Huntington National Bank
- MTD Products
- Summa Health

Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director of the City of Medina, has been asked to lead the effort for the city's Comprehensive Plan. We know she will do a great job!

The Ruhlin Company welcomes Allen Nambi, their 2021 structural division intern. Nambi is attending Uganda

signed six posters around different skill sets - Athletics, Construction, Gaming, Makers, Music, and Social Media. Then the website [www.ownyourskill.org](http://www.ownyourskill.org) was designed with a great deal of original content as the material wasn't found out there already. This will be launched this fall in the schools and may be incorporated into curriculum.

Another way companies can get involved in the schools is through the Career Fairs offered onsite at the schools. Career Fairs are designed to help students understand the different jobs that exist in the world by speaking directly to the companies. Each school does it slightly differently, but we already have events scheduled at Black River, Brunswick, Cloverleaf and Wadsworth for the 2021-2022 school year. Details on how to participate will follow!

Another program available at several high schools is Career Based Intervention. Kids at risk for not graduating generally have multiple reasons for being in that situation. These programs provide direct assistance and special programming to help them graduate on time. They also use career opportunities as a way to help a student see the future. They can also use any mentors or visitors to talk to the students as well as mock interviewers and more.

Many of these programs need mentors, speakers, and tours so if you or someone in your company is interested in speaking, please let Kathy know at [kathyb@medinacounty.org](mailto:kathyb@medinacounty.org).

Getting involved with our schools helps shape the future workforce as well as support our students so they feel part of the community and want to stay here after graduation.



Christian University where she is majoring in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

---

Janotta & Herner celebrated Christmas in July to be able to donate to charities when giving is typically at its lowest. Benefiting in Medina County was United Way.

---

James LaRocca has been named the new CFO of Westfield Bank, replacing Scott Oboy who is retiring. We wish Scott a happy retirement and welcome James to the team!

---

SeibertKeck Insurance Partners was named the Top Insurance Employer by Business Insurance America for 2021. Congratulations to that team!

---

Congratulations to the City of Wadsworth on being named one of the Best Hometown 2021 award winners by Ohio Magazine. They are joined by Centerville, Chillicothe, Delaware, and Sandusky.

---

Arkinetics announced the hiring of Dale Grieder as a project manager. Dale joins the team to coordinate sections and details with engineers, working with the entire team to put a building together. Welcome, Dale!

---

The Recovery Center of Medina County, Serenite Restaurant, and Culinary Institute announced the hiring of John Liebler as their Executive Director. Be sure to meet John and learn about this amazing program!

---

Jobs for Ohio's Graduates (JOG) is proud to launch their new website. Check it out at <https://jogworks.org/>

---

RPM International announced Michael J. Laroche, chief financial officer for the Specialty Products Group operating segment has been appointed vice president, controller and chief accounting officer, and Mark T. Rankin has been named the vice president of global systems. Congratulations to both!

## Three Big Events You Don't Want to Miss!!!

**September 28** from 3:30 - 6:00 PM - **MCEDC will host an Open House!** Come and check out our new space! 144 N. Broadway, Suite 119, Medina. Refreshments will be served and a Ribbon Cutting ceremony will be held at 4:00 PM.

**October 1** - Made in **Medina County Day!** Come out and tour a manufacturing plant or two to celebrate national Manufacturing Day and Made in Medina County Day! Participating plants and tour times are available at <https://mimplanttours2021.eventbrite.com>. RSVP's are REQUIRED.

**October 26** - Networking begins at 4:00 PM - **Medina County Annual Business Awards!** Seating is limited so you MUST RSVP to attend! <https://2021medinacountybusinessawards.eventbrite.com>

## MCEDC Energy Program

### Carbon Offsets vs. Renewable Energy Certificates

You've probably heard the terms "carbon emissions," "renewable energy," and "carbon neutral" a lot recently. But what do they all mean and how will they impact your business?

Companies looking to reduce their carbon footprint while increasing attractiveness to investors can do so through the purchase of carbon offsets or renewable energy certificates (RECs). A REC represents the environmental attributes of 1 MWH of renewable energy generation. Carbon offsets represent a metric ton reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and can be used to neutralize the emissions of your organization.

So, what's the difference between carbon offsets and RECs? If you are looking to convert to renewable energy you can do so through the purchase of RECs. When you own enough RECs to match your electricity usage, you are effectively using 100% renewable energy. If you want to address your organization's carbon emissions—whether it be from onsite fuel consumption, vehicle fleets, or supply chain—you can do so through the purchase of carbon offsets. By purchasing carbon offsets to match your total emissions, you are effectively carbon neutral.

If you would like to learn more about how your company can utilize RECs or carbon offsets, please contact Claire Wilson at [cwilson@ceateam.com](mailto:cwilson@ceateam.com).

## Thank you to our Annual Premier Sponsors!



GerspacherGroup.com

