

CHAMBER MONTHLY



4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Richfield, Ohio 44286
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Executive Secretary

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JANUARY 2016

It is a privilege to serve as President of the Chamber for 2016. I congratulate my fellow officers on their election: Timothy Ochwat of Meridian Construction Services as Vice-President, Steve McAlear of The Pike Agency-Allstate as Secretary, and Village Councilman Roger Swan will continue as Treasurer.

I will find it quite a challenge to follow in the steps of our outstanding past President, Sophie Veillette of Schulte and Company, CPAs. I greatly admire and thank Sophie for the enormous time and effort she has contributed to the Chamber. I am excited to have her stay on to organize Connect after Hours, two or three networking events allowing members to meet after work hours in businesses that are part of the chamber. Also continuing their positions are past Presidents, Jim Koewler of The Koewler Law Firm, and Bruce Baylor of Baylor Associates, Inc., covering membership and advisory capacities, respectively, among other duties. Thank you for your years of service to the Chamber.

I consider us all most fortunate that Sue Serdinak, of ScripType Publishing, continues on the Board and will head up Richfield's most famous and always successful event, the Sweet Corn Challenge. Sue and her team of volunteers are already hard at work for this year's Challenge. Karen Smik, of the Richfield Historical Society, will be continuing to chair the Chamber's annual golf outing, "Links for Education" Committee. If you would like to get involved, I am sure Sue and Karen would appreciate your help as well as that of your fellow members and friends whose time and efforts can be donated to these two committees. It is very important to these enjoyable and rewarding events. Please

give some thought to serving on one or more of the Chamber's committees such as: Beautification, Membership, Scholarship, and Website.

Lynn Blewitt can be reached at 330-659-3300; she will be able to direct you to the appropriate person.

The Chamber's Annual Banquet is January 13, at the Taverne of Richfield. The program will begin with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. We will feature Brittany Williams, Senior Project Manager of the Cleveland 2016 Host Committee. We will be recognizing a member as "Richfield Business of the Year" and presenting the Annual Beautification Award to the business that has made significant improvements to its outdoor facility. This year's award is again sponsored by OE Connection, to who we are grateful for this contribution.

There will be no luncheon this month because of the Annual Banquet. This year our luncheons will alternate between the Taverne of Richfield and the Days Inn. In addition to the informative speakers Timothy Ochwat will be arranging, we plan to make available a few minutes at each luncheon for the Spotlighted Business of the Month to share with us a bit more about their enterprise. The luncheons continue to be on the first Wednesday of each month and will start at 11:45 a.m. with informal networking. The formal meeting starts at noon. If you have information you'd like us to include in the newsletter, please submit your story via mail@richfieldchamber.com. We will give members up to 100 words per newsletter to discuss their business, a promotion, or an event.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Salena Parker



**LET'S DO
LUNCH!**

**WEDNESDAY,
February 3, 2016**
Speaker

To Be Announced

11:45 Informal Networking

12:00 Light lunch served

12:30 Speaker

1:00 Adjourn

**Please R.S.V.P. to
330-659-3300 by January 29.**

**at the
Days Inn**

Members admitted free with a reservation.

Non-members bring \$11 check payable to Richfield Chamber of Commerce
No-shows will be invoiced \$11 for their reserved lunch.

**Invite an associate!
Bring your business cards
to share.**

BUSINESS BOOKS

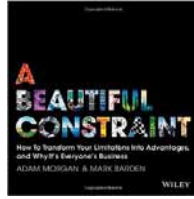
For those of you who have time for only one business related book a month, the Richfield Branch Library has gone into the shelves to narrow down trending title suggestions.

A Beautiful Constraint: How to Transform Your Limitations Into Advantages and Why It's Everyone's Business

By Adam Morgan and Mark Barden.
Wiley Publishing. c 2015.

While the Federal Reserve demonstrates the belief that the Great Recession is behind us by entertaining the thought of raising interest rates, feeling the effects of prosperity is a ways off. Realistically though, working under constraints, constraints of time, money, and staff that the Recession placed upon us, are here to stay; and that is why seeing the beauty in constraints is a great way to kick off 2016.

It has been my experience working at the library that we have done our best, most creative work under the immense constraints of staff, time, and money. The Recession taught us



to rethink our methods; how and why we do certain things, and challenge why we never considered doing other things. Constraints forced

us to do our best work by asking a lot of "what if?" and "how might we?" to break crippling patterns. Perhaps you have experienced the same?

If so, then you too have experienced the beauty in constraints. This book has everything I have ever researched on working under unshakable constraints in order to come away successful and even more energized to tackle the next challenge. Lessons from IDEO, Google, and Zappos, companies that have flourished no matter the financial climate, and are seen as being the most innovative to work for are in here. Beautiful Constraints teaches you how to see the abundance in scarcity, guides you to ask propelling questions, and shows how to use tension and emotions as good "fuel". I am pulling so much useful content out of Beautiful Constraints that I have bought my own copy to take notes, highlight, and basically wear down.

*Book reviewed by Jennifer Stencil,
Branch Manager, Richfield Branch
Library*

Banquet Speaker

Brittany Williams

Project Manager,
Cleveland 2016 Host Committee

Brittany Williams is the Senior Project Manager of the Cleveland 2016 Host Committee. She is responsible for assisting the apolitical organizing committee's leadership with strategic planning, overall administration and operations of the Host Committee, and the day-to-day management of committee initiatives.

Brittany is a life-long Clevelander. She served as the Executive Director of the Republican Party of Cuyahoga County and is a former elected member of the Ohio Republican Party's State Central Committee.

Brittany served as an Economic Development Officer for the Ohio Treasurer of State and has consulted for Fundación CODESPA in the Dominican Republic.

Brittany earned her undergraduate degree at Case Western Reserve University and her Masters degree at The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. She is also a Board Member of the Cleveland Area Golden Gloves amateur boxing association.



Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board Members

President – Salena Parker,
Center for the Healing Arts

Vice-President – Tim Ochwat,
Meridian Construction Services

Treasurer – Roger Swan,
Village Councilman

Secretary – Steve McAlear,
Pike Agency - Allstate

Past-President – Sophie Veillette,
Schulte & Company CPAs, Inc.

Sweet Corn Challenge chair –
Sue Serdinak, ScripType Publishing

Links for Education chair –
Karen Smik

Scholarship committee chair –
Jim Koewler,
The Koewler Law Firm

19th Annual "Links For Education" Planning Committee Members Needed

The 2016 "Links for Education" Golf Outing planning committee will hold its first meeting in mid to late January and will meet monthly thereafter (exact dates to be determined). The meetings are held at Memories in Richfield at 6 p.m. Any one interested in serving on this committee to help plan a most worthwhile event should contact Karen Smik at (330) 659-

4750 or kls1650@roadrunner.com. The outing will be held Wednesday, June 15 at St. Bernard Golf Club in Richfield. A portion of the proceeds will fund the Chamber's scholarships for graduating Revere High School seniors. Last year, five \$1,000 scholarships were awarded, and approximately \$87,000 has been awarded since the golf outing's inception.

As a Chamber Member,

If you have an event or special promotion or recognition that you would like to appear in the monthly newsletter, please submit it to mail@richfieldchamber.com by the 20th of each month. Please limit your release to 100 words. Attachments will not be accepted.



Eddy's Bike Shop

Sweet Corn Challenge



**Don't be left
in a pickle!**



Save the Date

Sunday

July 24, 2016