

CHAMBER MONTHLY



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SEPTEMBER 2013

Greetings!

September is here, and the Indians are still in the playoff hunt! School has resumed, so look out for students traveling to and from school during your daily commute. Also, come out to support Revere fall sports.

A few weeks ago, Richfield held its annual Community Day. The Chamber had its table in the vendor's tent again. Thanks go out to Renee Shipley, Karen Smik, Ruth and Roger Swan who worked the table on behalf of all of our members.

You love to talk about your job, right? Revere High School wants you. On October 16, the high school has Futures Day. On Futures Day, area business people describe their careers with sophomores and juniors. Please register to speak on the form at <http://tiny.cc/dseh2w>. The school would appreciate your help.

Thanks go out to County Executive Russ Pry who spoke at our August luncheon on economic development efforts in the county. On September 4, we welcome Manilath James, a Consumer Educator for the Ohio Attorney General's Consumer Protection Section. Our luncheons take place at the Taverne of Richfield on the first Wednesday of each month and start at 11:45 with informal networking. The formal meeting starts at noon.

The member benefit I'd like to mention this month is a web design service for business websites offered by GHI Internet Services. Through our membership in the Northern Ohio Chambers of Commerce (NOACC,) we have leveraged the buying power of hundreds of chambers and thousands of employers to bring you a preferred rate for this valuable service. Learn more from our website and from NOACC's web page at <http://www.noacc.org/benefits/employee-wellness/>.

Please visit our Facebook page. Better yet, please "like" our page. Yes, the Richfield Chamber of Commerce has joined the 21st century with a Facebook page. Check us out. Sonya Raybould, of the Taverne of Richfield, set up the page for us.

We also have a LinkedIn group, titled Richfield Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Membership in that group is limited to Chamber members.

As always, if you have material 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. (Please do not ask us to treat you as a regular columnist, though, or to attach anything to the newsletter.) I'll see you around town.

Take care,
Jim Koewler

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jim Koewler



**LET'S DO
LUNCH!**
at the **Taverne
of Richfield**

**WEDNESDAY,
September 4, 2013**

Mani James

Consumer Education Coordinator
from the Office of the Ohio Attorney
General, Mike DeWine

11:45 Informal Networking

12:00 Light lunch served

12:30 Speaker

1:00 Adjourn

at the Taverne of Richfield

Members admitted free with a reservation.

Please R.S.V.P. to
330-659-3300 by September 2.

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.*

Richfield Historical Society “*Judy’s Turn To Die*” Murder Mystery Event

The Richfield Historical Society’s “Judy’s Turn to Die”, will be held (with second annual murder mystery event, a 1950’s flair) on Saturday, October 19,

from 6-9 p.m. at the Taverne of Richfield. Cost is \$50 per person which includes light appetizers, dinner, dessert, and choice of coffee/tea/soda. There will be a cash bar open throughout the evening. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction as well as a prize for the person judged best dressed to fit the theme and prizes for those sleuths who correctly deduce “whodunnit”. All profit from this event will go toward supporting the many programs and activities of the Society.

Reserve your private eye status by mailing your payment (check to “Richfield Historical Society”) to: Richfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 215, Richfield, Ohio 44286. Deadline for reservations is October 15. For a further briefing on the case, call (330) 659-0336.

Regina Health Center News

The boards and leadership of the Sisters of Charity Health System and Regina Health Center, a high-quality elder care facility in Richfield, Ohio have named Mark Yantek as the next executive director of Regina Health Center. This follows the recent retirement announcement of the facility’s current executive director, Brian Flannery, who has been in that role since 1995.

The Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine (CSA) announced their newly elected Leadership Team:

Sister Judith Ann Karam as Congregational Leader, Sister Kathy Andrews as First Assistant, and Sister Marian Durkin as Councilor. An Installation Ceremony of the newly elected Leadership Team was held at Mt. Augustine on Sunday, July 28, 2013.

On Saturday, September 28, 2013, Regina Health Center will celebrate 20 years of care and compassion with a benefit dinner and auction at the Silver Grille in downtown Cleveland. For tickets or sponsorship information, please contact Nancy Ilg at 330-659-5142.



Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board Members

President – Jim Koewler,
The Koewler Law Firm

Vice-President – David Swift,
Group Management Services

Treasurer – Joe Mazur,
JW Mazur Group

Secretary – Eileen Sass,
Sass Accounting Services

Past-President – Ralph Waszak Sr.,
Village of Richfield

Sweet Corn Ride chair –
Sue Serdinak, ScripType

Links for Education chair –
Karen Smik

Town Trust Liaison – Jim Smith,
Exit 11 Truck Tires

Scholarship committee chair –
Wendy Pollarine, PNC Bank

Business Spotlight



Exceeding Your Expectations

Glencairn Corporation is a land development company which is currently selling its final phase of single-family and cluster lots in Glencairn Forest. Glencairn Forest is a 390 acre nature-preserved community featuring deep wooded ravines, rolling hills, waterfalls and streams.

With only 15 lots remaining, we invite Richfield community residents as well as neighboring area residents to capture this final opportunity to

reside within Glencairn Forest. Several of our remaining lots are adjacent to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Visit us at www.glencairnforest.com or drive through the development to select a picturesque lot of your choice.

Small Businesses Must Be On Guard Against Scams

By Mike DeWine,
Ohio Attorney General

Part of creating a legal climate in Ohio that encourages business investment and generates jobs involves protecting both consumers and small businesses from fraud, scams, deceptive behavior, and unfair business practices. That's the mission of the Consumer Protection Section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

In 2012, the section received more than 1,000 complaints and helped adjust, recover, or save some \$160,000 for small businesses. The section offers the same dispute resolution services to small busi-

nesses and nonprofits that it makes available to consumers. And, together with regional representatives from the Attorney General's Office, the section's Education Unit reaches out to inform business owners of Ohio's consumer laws. Working through local chambers of commerce and independent business organizations, staff members conduct dozens of informational training sessions every year.

Just as consumers can benefit from an "ounce of prevention," businesses, too, should stay informed and alert to keep from becoming victims of fraud. Some of the scams aimed at Ohio businesses include:

- The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) scam: Be wary if your business receives emails that appear to be from the FTC – scammers have sent thousands of these phony emails claiming that consumers have filed complaints about the recipients' businesses. For more information about this scam, click on www.businessftc.gov.

- Business directory scams: Scammers who pretend to represent local city government, chambers, or yellow pages call businesses, tell them it's time to renew their ad space in the local community map or directory, and use high-pressure tactics to get credit card numbers over the phone. The ads don't exist and the scammers steal money from the credit card numbers given to them in good faith.

- Government impersonation scams: Scammers offer to help businesses comply with new government regulations for a fee or pretend to be from the Secretary of State's office and ask for a payment to meet a new requirement. Free information is available to businesses in Ohio from their local or state governmental agencies. Scammers also call unsuspecting consumers, claiming to be from a court or a law enforcement organization, demanding money and threatening jail time. In fact, earlier this year our Help Center received reports of callers claiming to be from the Attorney General's Office and insisting that consumers use prepaid money cards to satisfy bogus debts. If a business or a consumer has a question about a debt owed, or possibly owed, they should contact our Collections Enforcement office at 877-607-6400.

- Fake invoice scams: Businesses that receive invoices for products or services they never ordered are often the targets of scammers who hope the businesses pay the fake invoices before they realize nothing was asked for or delivered.

Lies are the stock-in-trade of scammers and deceit is their standard operating procedure. They can only succeed if businesses don't pay attention. To learn more about the services and information available to businesses and about other scams and how to avoid them, visit www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov or call 800-282-0515.

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC)

Save the Date! Networking Breakfast for Area Chamber of Commerce Members

Tues, Oct 22, 2013 7:30-9AM, hot breakfast served in the Valley Inn Restaurant at CVCC, \$5.

FREE WORKSHOP SEPTEMBER 21 ON JUMPSTARTING YOUR JOB SEARCH

The first workshop in Cuyahoga Valley Career Center's (CVCC) Job Seekers Workshop series will be Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 9:00 to 11:00 am.

Job Seeker workshop participants receive career transition assistance from CVCC career specialists. The presentation will provide the latest tips and information on:

- Finding direction – identifying career interests/skills/values and comparing them with potential career opportunities; researching jobs and companies; performing a gap analysis to determine what to do to qualify for jobs desired.
- Doing research – finding out which companies are hiring, what they are looking for in potential employees, and how to align "KSAs" (knowledge/skills/abilities) with the companies' job descriptions.
- Preparing a portfolio – including a lean-and-mean resume and all documents that will validate specific KSAs; updating LinkedIn profiles so that they attract potential employers.
- Connecting with employers – writing a compelling cover letter; preparing for a behavior-based interview; following up without stalking.

The Job Seekers Workshops are free, but space is limited. Register online at cvccworks.edu. For additional information, contact pcoyne@cvccworks.edu or call 440-746-8233. Cuyahoga Valley Career Center is located at 8001 Brecksville Road, Brecksville 44141. The school drive is opposite Wallings Road on Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21).

Attend FREE Information Nights:

Meet the instructor, Dan Workman. Learn about the curriculum, Adobe certification and career options. See our state of the art classroom and computers.

Web Design & Animation Information Night Aug. 27; 6:30-7:30 p.m.
<http://tinyurl.com/kzcpmb>

Graphic Design for Print & Web Production Information Night
Sept. 9, 6:30-7:30 p.m. <http://tinyurl.com/n5qkds>

BUSINESS BOOKS

For those of you that 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.

Boring Meetings Suck: Get More Out of Your Meetings or Get Out of More Meetings

by Jon Petz

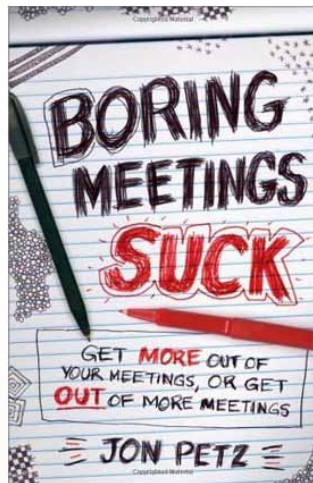
c. 2011. John Wiley & Sons Inc.
ISBN 978118004623 \$22.95

Of course we have all encountered our fair share of poorly run, pointless, and “will-this-ever-end?” meetings. Some of us may have experienced the nightmarish, nauseous feeling of leading a meeting that went unexpectedly south. Or worse, being called on the carpet to lead a meeting with little-to-no notice. I’ll admit that I have had the pleasure of experiencing all of the above, and I am sure I am not alone. Right? At first, this title piqued my interest for a cheeky review to throw in. But I soon realized that Boring Meetings might just have a few tricks up its sleeve to be noteworthy.

Take note of:

- New Meetings Styles – Yes, the suggestions here are different, and so much so that they are that breath of fresh air.

- Reasons why you want your staff to keep their cell phones and devices ON.
- Skip these key preparation steps and you are just asking to bring on the nightmare. No matter how many meetings under your belt, never become lax in this area.
- PowerPoint (and Keynote for Mac users) has turned into a buzz kill, for those using it and those receiving it. But if it is all you’ve got, Boring Meetings begs you to liven it up with one simple key ingredient!



- How to turn the tables and put some of the ownership on the attendees and facilitators to be engaged, participatory, and prepared to pitch in.

Meetings can’t and shouldn’t go away. Relive those awesome, energetic, unstoppable, fulfilling, done-right meetings every single time.

Reviewed by Jennifer Stencel, Branch Manager of the Richfield Branch Library.

Boring Meetings Suck was borrowed from the Massillon Public Library thanks to the Search Ohio library service. Search Ohio allows you to borrow from other Ohio Libraries outside the Akron-Summit County Public Library System for free.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Employers must report their payroll and pay workers' compensation premium for the 01-01-2013 through 06-30-2013 reporting period by 08-31-2013, in order to prevent a lapse in coverage. If you report and pay online through the BWC's website, www.ohiobwc.com, you can use the 50/50 plan and as well as earn a 1% rebate. 50/50 lets you pay only half your premium before 09-01-2013. The other half must be paid before 12-01-2013.

You can also earn up to 1.7% discount on the premium that may be due for payrolls incurred from 07-01-2013 through 12-31-2013 by paying it early.

Now is the time to see if you can cut your workers' compensation premium for 2014 through the Richfield Chambers' workers' compensation program. Contact our program's Administrator, Bruce Baylor at (440) 546-7600 or bbaylor@baylorwc.com for more details and to complete an application or any questions you may have concerning your workers' compensation.



Richfield Chamber of Commerce 16TH ANNUAL LINKS FOR EDUCATION Golf Outing

Once again, thanks to everyone who participated in, helped sponsor and/or provided a raffle item for our 2013 “Links for Education” Golf Outing. All the financial calculations have been completed and the figures are now finalized. This year’s event ended up making a net profit of \$6,883.76 -- with \$5,507.01 (80%) being set aside for our scholarship fund.

The Chamber awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships to Revere High School graduating seniors this past June, and approximately \$77,000 has been awarded since the golf outing's inception! We were thrilled to have one of our 2012 scholarship recipients, Ian Slifcak, participate at this year's outing. He told us he was extremely appreciative of the Chamber's financial assistance and wanted to help support our event so that future Revere graduates will also be able to benefit from our efforts.

If you haven't already done so, be sure to mark your calendars now for the 2014 “Links for Education” Golf Outing which will be held on Wednesday, June 18, at St. Bernard Golf Club. If anyone is interested in serving on the 2014 event planning committee, please let me know. We'd love to have you join us. Our first meeting will be sometime in mid-January.