

CHAMBER MONTHLY



4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Richfield, Ohio 44286
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OCTOBER 2017

Richfield Chamber Carried the Torch

The routes 303 and 176 intersection of Richfield had been the heart of Richfield for a century and a half. When the town leaders were advised in the 1990's that the downtown buildings had deteriorated badly and the community was in danger of losing its central historic district and its identity, the Chamber stirred into action.

The Sweet Corn Challenge bike ride was started in response to the alarm, and the chamber board determined that 80 percent of the event's profit would be earmarked for downtown historic and business preservation. Board members over the following years were diligent in growing the profit of the event until an investment fund could be established.

After 12 years the Richfield Town Trust, with a non-profit 501-C-3 classification, was formed to qualify for grants and gifts. It has received over \$203,000 in donations since its incorporation. This money, along with the Sweet Corn Challenge profits of over \$500,000 since 1994, have enabled the non-profit to operate as a foundation and provide business grants to the historic district using investment income.

The Richfield Chamber of Commerce is a small but mighty organization. Members, past and present, can be proud of what it has accomplished. The organization has had many boards since the organization's founding in 1992. Each board has had its own personality and has continued the legacy of leadership and creativity.

The Chamber presidents over those years were: Wayne D. Minich, Ken Bowmer, Sue Serdinak, Dave Hegedus, Rick Hudak, Jim Smith Jr., Bill Spann III, Frank Aveni, Mike Williams, M. Van Pedigo, Tom Kelley, Dave Clay, Jim Winar, David Wiedie, Sandy Adipone, Wendy Pollarine, Jason Long, Tim Ostrander, Ralph Waszak, Jim Koewler, Bruce Baylor, Sophie Veillette, Salena Parker and Tim Ochwat.

Richfield business leaders, working in the Chamber, have had a significant impact on the community. The Chamber invites other business leaders to join the board to become involved in continuing the forward thrust of the organization.

Consider submitting your name to be on the Chamber's 2018 board. If you're interested, call the Chamber office at 330-659-0303.



**LET'S DO
LUNCH!**

**WEDNESDAY,
October 4, 2017**

Joe Roberts
Area Vice President,
AJ Gallagher & Co.

11:45 Informal Networking

12:00 Light lunch served

12:30 Speaker

1:00 Adjourn

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.*

ACCEPTING BUSINESS NOMINATIONS

NOMINATE A RICHFIELD BUSINESS FOR

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

SEE PAGE 4 IN THIS NEWSLETTER FOR THE GUIDELINES

ALSO

NOMINATE A RICHFIELD BUSINESS FOR THE

BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

**CALL THE CHAMBER OFFICE WITH YOUR
BEAUTIFICATION NOMINATION. THE COMMITTEE WILL**

VIEW ALL NOMINATED PROPERTIES.

Our October Speaker

Joe Roberts

Area Vice President, AJ Gallagher & Co.

Joe Roberts is an Area Vice President of AJ Gallagher & Co. He works with employers throughout the United States, providing employee benefit planning solutions. Joe helps clients create purposeful benefit programs to help employers attract and keep great employees.

Joe was born and raised in the Cleveland area. He graduated from Kent State University with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Marketing. He resides in Hudson with his wife Nicole and their daughter, Emily.

Results are in for the 2017 "Links for Education" Golf Outing!

We're pleased to report that the 2017 "Links for Education" Golf Outing brought in a total net profit of \$7,119.26. Of that amount, \$5,695.41 will go into the Chamber's scholarship account and \$1,423.85 will go into the general fund. This should allow the Chamber to offer at least five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating Revere High School seniors in 2018.

Thanks again to the tournament sponsor GMS and all other special sponsors as well as hole sponsors, raffle donors, golfers and volunteers. We couldn't have done it without you!

Hope you'll join us at St. Bernard Golf Club in Richfield on June 13, 2018 for our 21st Annual "Links for Education" Golf Outing!

Richfield Candidates' Night

The Richfield Civic Organization will host Candidates' Night on Wednesday, October 25 from 7-9 p.m., at the Richfield Masonic Hall (parking lot located off Grant Street just before the entrance to the Richfield Library).

Candidates for Richfield Village Council, Richfield Township Trustee and Revere School Board have been invited to participate. Each candidate will have an allotted time to speak and will have an opportunity to field questions of a general nature from the audience. Members of the League of Women Voters - Akron Area will moderate the event.

For more information, contact Karen at (330) 659-4750.

OECConnection Awarded Patent

OEC, the Richfield-based technology provider for original equipment manufacturers' distribution networks, announced the issuance of a U.S. patent. The patent relates to MyPriceLink, a service that delivers real-time dynamic list pricing on original equipment collision parts based on timing and local market conditions. Several additional patent applications for MyPriceLink features are pending. OEC also sponsored a girls-only coding camp at Baldwin Wallace University for a second consecutive year and, in partnership with Tech Corps, held a cyber security camp at Cleveland State University.

Community Wellness Presentation

CVCC, in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic, will host "Vitamins and Supplements: Nutrition in a Pill?" on Tuesday, October 17 from 1-2 p.m. at the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. Lauren Kohley, PharmD from the Cleveland Clinic Pharmacy Team, will discuss the benefits and the recommended daily amounts of vitamins and supplements to take. CVCC's Culinary Arts students will prepare and provide light refreshments. The presentation is free and registration is required by October 10. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/CVCC-10-17-17> or email Marie Elias at melias@cvccworks.edu.

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.

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.

Barking Up the Wrong Tree: The Surprising Science Behind Why Everything You Know About Success is (Mostly) Wrong

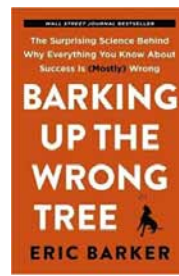
By Eric Barker
Harper One 5/17/17
ISBN-10: 0062416049

In his new book "Barking Up the Wrong Tree," author Eric Barker explains that everything we think we know about achievement in life is, in his words, "mostly wrong." The book is divided into six sections that explore traits that are shared by successful people in all walks of life, but in the end concludes that being successful in

work doesn't necessarily lead to happiness. Barker tries to reconcile that fact with many interesting, if off-beat, examples of how to achieve a life-work balance.

Among his observations are:

- On the Forbes list of the world's richest people, there are no high school valedictorians – but the list does include several college dropouts.
- We learn that nice guys usually do finish last in business, but are much happier and live longer than their hard driven colleagues.



• Instead of reading business books on team building and corporate cooperation, the best practical advice can be derived from studying gang members, pirates, and serial killers.

• Simple isn't always the best. When Pillsbury made instant cake less simple – by having to add the eggs yourself – sales soared.

The book is an easy read and is filled with many fascinating anecdotes. Anyone who enjoyed Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner's "Freakonomics" will appreciate the out of the box reasoning and creative conclusions that Barker delivers with humor and heart.

*Book reviewed by Mike Daly, Adult Librarian
Richfield Branch Library*

TakeMeBack:

The Role of the U.S. Navy During the Korean War

On Sunday, October 29 at 2:00 p.m., the Richfield Historical Society will offer its final TakeMeBack Series presentation for this year at the Historical Museum of Richfield (3907 Broadview Road). Bud Sawchik will speak about "The Role of the U.S. Navy During the Korean War." He'll share personal experiences in what is sure to be a very memorable talk. This free event is open to the public and no reservations are required.

Call 330-659-4750 for additional information.

Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board Members

President – Tim Ochwat, Meridian Construction Services

Vice President – Sheryl Wilson, Bay Pointe Technology

Treasurer – Roger Swan, Village Councilman

Secretary – Amy French, OEC

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

Richfield Joint Recreation District

A lot is happening at the Richfield Heritage Preserve (RHP). Thanks to donations from Sherwin Williams and the Friends of Crowell Hilaka (FoCH), the park's official friends group, several park buildings were recently repainted. FoCH also provided funds and manpower to help with the emergency front wall stabilization of Amity House (once the residence of the Neal Family whose fruit farm produce was sold in the structure that eventually became Country Counter and is now Giant Eagle). Tim Ochwat, owner of Meridian Construction and Chamber president, played a key role in this effort. Volunteers, known as the Weekend Warriors, have been busy every Saturday sprucing up the property. And most recently, the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Horseman's Council hosted their first bridle trail building weekend – with an end goal to construct a 4-mile natural surface trail throughout the park. If you haven't been to RHP recently, or have never been there, we invite you to stop by and enjoy the charm and tranquility of "Ohio's Hidden Treasure."

Nominate the Richfield Business of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce will honor the Richfield Business of the Year at the Chamber's annual banquet on Thursday, January 18. The Chamber Board of Directors is accepting nominations for this award. Large or small Richfield businesses can be nominated and businesses can nominate themselves.



To nominate a business, please send us:

- Your name and contact information
- The name of the business you are nominating
- The owner or CEO of that business.
- His or her contact information.

Then describe in 300 words or less how the business meets any or all of the criteria that follow:

1. This business demonstrates success and exceptional performance in business practices.
2. This business has been recognized in its industry or by an employee or business organization.
3. This business has made an economic impact on Richfield, the region or the state within the last one to three years.
4. This business has demonstrated corporate citizenship and/or community leadership.
5. This business overcame a diverse or extraordinary circumstance.
6. This business fills a unique void in the community.

Please submit your nomination no later than December 5, 2017.

It can be emailed to: mail@richfieldchamber.com

or mailed to: Richfield Chamber of Commerce,
4300 W. Streetsboro Rd., Richfield 44286