

CHAMBER MONTHLY



4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Richfield, Ohio 44286
www.richfieldchamber.com

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DECEMBER 2013

Greetings!

December is almost here, but winter has arrived ahead of schedule. Brr! The Browns seem to be collapsing right on schedule, though.

I'm writing this a few days before Thanksgiving, and I realize that I have much to be thankful for. I am thankful to have been able to serve as President of your Chamber of Commerce. I am thankful for the big update that we've made to our website to make it more member-friendly. I am thankful for the recent adoption of our amended by-laws to fit our rules to the new circumstances of the Chamber. I am thankful for the contributions of the other officers, committee chairs, and Chamber members in managing and improving the Chamber over the last two years. I am thankful for the great participation we had in our Links for Education golf outing and our Sweet Corn Challenge bicycle ride during my time as President. I am thankful for the wonderful speakers we've had at our luncheons. (There are many more things for which I'm thankful, but I don't want to make my column completely unreadable.) Finally, I am thankful for your interest in our Chamber and our community.

Please come to our December luncheon to vote for the officers for next year. The nominating committee has proposed Bruce Baylor of Baylor Associates for president, Steve McAlear of Pike Agency Allstate for Vice-President, Sophia Veillette of Schulte and Company for Secretary, and Village Councilman-Elect Roger Swan for Treasurer. We will accept nominations from the floor, so you can choose to run yourself or nominate a different chamber member.

Please give an atta-boy to the officers, committee chairs, and members who have contributed to our Chamber this year: Vice-President David Swift of Group Management Services, Treasurer Joe Mazur of the All-American Soap Box Derby, Secretary Eileen Sass of Sass Accounting Services, Sweet Corn Challenge chair Sue Serdinak, Links for Education chair Karen Smik, Scholarship chair and Website Committee chair Wendy Pollarine, By-laws Committee chair and Town Trust Liaison Jim Smith, and Sandy Apidone for handing out Halloween candy at the fire station on behalf of the Chamber. (I'm sure that I've missed someone, and I'm sorry for that.)

We appreciate your input. Thank you to those who answered our online survey during November. We will have our events at both the Taverne of Richfield and the Days Inn and Suites next year. We will have our annual banquet at the Taverne. Then, we will have the February luncheon at the Days Inn. Then, back to the Taverne for March, etc. I am pleased that the Chamber will support both

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jim Koewler



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

**WEDNESDAY,
December 4, 2013**

Gregg Cramer

*Vice President, Economic Development
of the Greater Akron Chamber*

Chad Hamman

*Vice President of the
Greater Akron Chamber.*

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 December 2nd .

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.**

continued on next page



Nominate Richfield 2014 Business of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce will honor the 2014 Richfield Business of the Year at the Chamber's annual banquet. 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 31, 2013.**

It can be emailed to: mail@richfieldchamber.com or mailed to:
Richfield Chamber of Commerce,
4300 W. Streetsboro Rd., Richfield 44286

President's Corner Continued

of the venues in Richfield that can accommodate us.

We will recognize a 2014 Richfield Business of the Year at our annual banquet. (Read how to submit a nomination on form to the left.)

Thanks to Heather Roszczyk for her presentation at our November luncheon on the activities of the Countryside Conservancy in our own national park. On December 4, we welcome Chad Hamman and Gregg Cramer of the Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce to discuss economic development. Our luncheons take place on the first Wednesday of each month and start at 11:45 with informal networking. The formal meeting starts at noon.

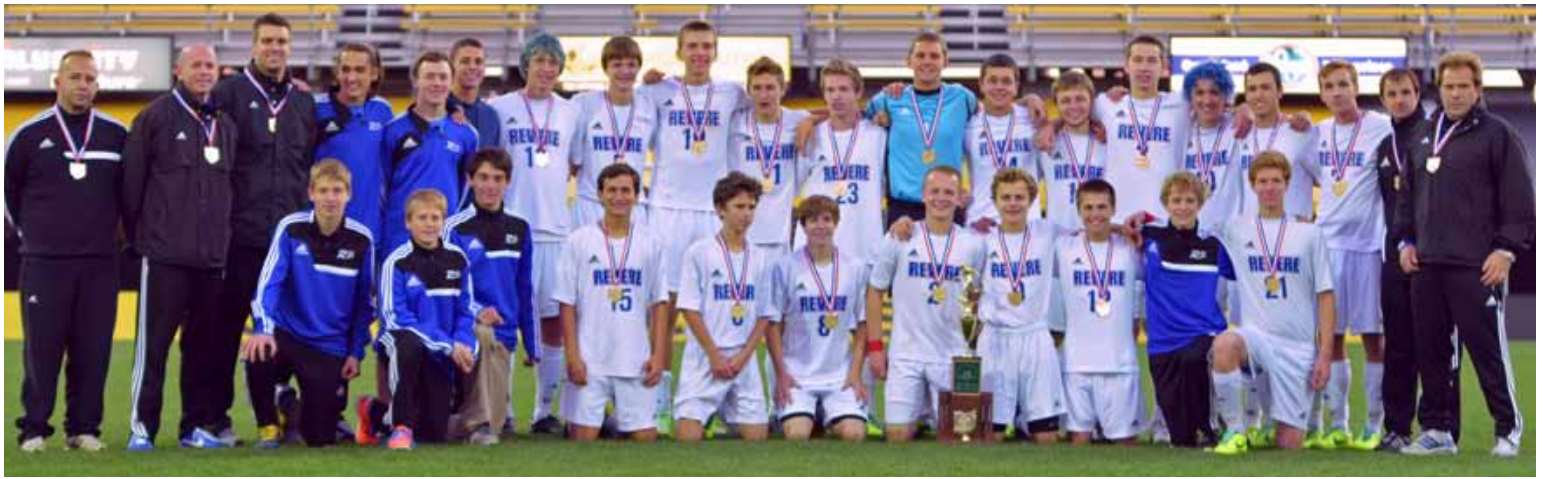
The member benefit I'd like to mention this month is you. Your participation, along with the participation of your fellow members, is the greatest benefit that we can have in the Chamber. The chance to meet and talk with other local business owners and representatives leads to business opportunities and to civic engagement. Please pat yourself on the back, and show your fellow members your appreciation for their participation as well.

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 Taverner 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 to 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



An Amazing Fall

While many wonderful events took place this fall in the Revere Schools, high school athletics certainly was one of the highlights.

Revere's Boys' Soccer Team won the Division II state championship. This is the first state title won by a Revere team. The hard work of the young men on the team as well as the talents and dedication of Head Coach Sandor Jakab and his staff brought the first place trophy to Revere High School. Senior Brandon Taylor was

named the "Ohio Division II Player of the Year."

The support of the Revere community for this team was as outstanding as team's record. The state championship game was held in Columbus against a Columbus area team, but the Revere fans significantly outnumbered them. It is that kind of support and sense of Revere Pride that makes our district and community unique.

The Girls' Soccer Team also had a

great season and advanced to District's for the first time in 17 years. They were awarded the 2013 Greater Akron Soccer Officials Association Female Sportsmanship Award. Girls' Tennis took first place in the Suburban League. Student athletics earned individual honors making this one of the school's most successful fall athletic seasons in school history.

Business Spotlight



Deciphering your telecom bills can be a headache. Easton, a Richfield based telecommunications provider of 21 years, would like to help. Easton offers multiple voice, data, internet, and wireless solutions to business customers nationwide. Its' services are carried over multiple underlying networks providing several product choices at competitive prices - all billed on one invoice. All calls to Easton are answered by a live operator and transferred immediately to the correct party - no lengthy waits on hold or annoying automated systems.

Telecom is complicated. Easton can simplify it for you.

Contact us today at 800-222-8122



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

Student & Parent Information Night

Thursday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC)

For high school students and their parents to learn more about opportunities available through the Center's nearly 30 career-technical programs-explore programs first-hand, meet teachers, ask questions. Snow date is Wednesday, December 11. For more information, visit www.cvccworks.edu (click on "High School"), or call 440-746-8286.

Adult Education

The Adult Education Department at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) offers a wide variety of personal interest classes. Register now for classes beginning in January by visiting www.cvccworks.edu/adult-education.

Tri -C classes are now offered at CVCC!

Cuyahoga Community College is are now offering classes at CVCC. Enroll now for spring! Classes begin on January 13, 2014. For a complete list of classes offered at CVCC visit www.tri-c.edu/cvcc or email Ken at khudiak@cvccworks.edu.

REMINDERS:

The Ohio minimum wage increases on January 1, 2014, to \$7.95 per hour. The official Ohio Department of Commerce poster for your business is located at: http://www.com.ohio.gov/documents/dico_2014Minimumwageposter.pdf.

Under The U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety & Health Administration ("OSHA") Hazard Communication Standard (HCS), all employers with hazardous chemicals in their workplaces must have labels and safety data sheets for their exposed workers, and train them to handle the chemicals appropriately. The (HCS) was amended May 25, 2013 so that it is now aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). Under the new Standards, employers are required to have trained employees on the new label elements (i.e., pictograms, hazard statements, precautionary statements, and signal words) and SDS format by December 1, 2013. For more information go to:

<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>.

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.

Detroit: An American Autopsy

by Charlie LeDuff.

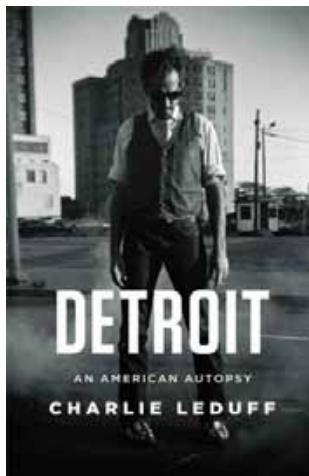
C 2013. Penguin Press.

ISBN: 978-1594205347 \$27.95

This is not a business book, per se. It will not teach you about customer engagement or disruptive technology, or return on investments (or maybe it does do that in a way). This is not about some great work place to exemplify like Google, or of rousing, role-model leaders, like Steve Jobs. With all that said, I think it is a business book just the same, as it brings to light the delicate balance of what leaders can do to alter, inspire, or crush the human spirit. Detroit: An Autopsy is a cautionary, "Scrooge" tale. But I can't even call it a tale because the events in here are all true. It could be a scientific study on what it looks like when the bottom completely falls out. Or what it looks like when leaders in politics, business, schools and com-

munities just give up.

What NY Times Best Seller author and fellow Detroit native Charlie LeDuff, does is tell the story of Detroit that will absolutely move you to take care. Once a beautiful and powerful icon of the Industrial age, Detroit today is drugs, scandal, illiteracy, unemployment, homelessness, crime, and decay. Detroit could be us... Akron, or Cleveland if we don't take care. DeDuff's Autopsy could put some perspective on where you are, where you are going, what you have, and what you want to do.



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.



2014 "LINKS FOR EDUCATION" GOLF OUTING

The 2014 "Links for Education" Golf Outing will be held on Wednesday, June 18, at St. Bernard's Golf Club in Richfield. The outing raises scholarship funds for deserving Revere High School students. Since the event's inception, approximately \$77,000 has been awarded!

Our planning committee will begin its monthly evening meetings in January. If you would like to be involved at the ground level to help plan this fun and most worthwhile event, please contact Karen Smik at 330-659-4750 or kls1650@roadrunner.com



The Taverne of Richfield will help bring in the New Year with their Black & White Jazz Night on December 31. Doors will open at 9:30 and Blu Monsoon will play jazz music throughout the evening.

Black & White Jazz Night

Black & white Jazz Night

will cost \$55 and will include six drink tickets, appetizers, a champagne toast, a memorable photo, door prizes and contests and pork and sauerkraut at midnight.

Tickets are pre-sale only. Call 330-659-0610 or email info@taverneofrichfield.com. The Taverne will serve dinner from 4:00 to 9:00, but this is not included in the package.

You'll Like your odds in the \$25,000 FedEx Advantage Sweepstakes!

Enroll now in the NOACC Chamber Shipping Program at PartnerShip.com/89NOACC and you'll receive one entry into the FedEx Advantage Sweepstakes. Once you're enrolled, every eligible FedEx® shipment you make — up to 50 — from Nov. 4, 2013, through Dec. 27, 2013, becomes another chance to win over 100 prizes totaling more than \$25,000.

If you're already enrolled in the NOACC Chamber Shipping Program, [click here to register today](#) and receive your first entry into the sweepstakes, and to receive additional chances based on your FedEx® shipping during the Sweepstakes time period. For complete details see [Official Rules](#).



Your Shipping Connection

This tip is brought to you by [PartnerShip®](#), the company that manages the NOACC Chamber Shipping Program. For more information or to enroll in the program, email sales@PartnerShip.com or call 800-599-2902.

