

CHAMBER MONTHLY

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OCTOBER 2020

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Amy French

Happy Fall! I hope you are all well and managing through what continues to be a very unusual year. I'd like to start off by offering a sincere thank you to Mayor Wheeler for spending time with us earlier in September to provide an update on the Village. Thank you, Mayor, for the presentation and for your leadership. It was great seeing so many of you at this event!

Next up, we look forward to hosting Ilene Shapiro, our current Summit County Executive and candidate in the upcoming election, during our Zoom luncheon on October 7th. Executive Shapiro will provide a State of the County update and discuss her vision for the future. We certainly hope you can join us.

Also, a quick note, the Chamber is pleased to be able to continue providing college scholarship opportunities

to Revere High School students. Jim Koewler, scholarship chair, is planning to distribute applications sometime this month so that our Revere seniors are aware of the opportunity and can start thinking about their applications.

Please be sure to continue to send updates and photos from your businesses for us to share in special editions of the Chamber newsletter!

Stay safe -

Amy French

President, Richfield Chamber of Commerce



LET'S DO LUNCHE!

WEDNESDAY, October 7, 2020

Speaker

**Ilene Shapiro,
Summit County Executive**

Topic: State of the County

12:00 Zoom Virtual Luncheon

Meeting ID: 831 2663 3097

Password: 972846

We are hosting a virtual Chamber lunch via Zoom on **Wednesday, October 7!**

We will try to open the Zoom portal a few minutes before the noon start time. While this will be a 'bring your own lunch' event, the agenda will include the following:

Introductions – Participants are asked to introduce themselves and share a little about how they are conducting business in today's environment.

Speaker – Ilene Shapiro,
County Executive, Summit County
Q & A

You will need to download the Zoom app (it's free) to participate. Amy French, president of the Chamber, will moderate.

**For a direct link to join the Zoom meeting,
email: mail@richfieldchamber.com**

ScriptType can connect you with a vast pool of potential staff

Looking for new staff members? ScriptType publishes community magazines in Richfield and seven of our neighboring communities: Brecksville, Broadview Heights, Bath, Hudson, Hinckley, Independence and Sagamore Hills.

Support the publishing company of the Richfield Times and broadcast your open positions to the local communities, which boast of highly talented and educated residents. For more information on advertising with ScriptType, visit www.scriptype.com or call 330-659-0303.

As a Chamber Member, If you have an event, special promotion or recognition that you would like included in the monthly newsletter, please submit a press release to mail@richfieldchamber.com by the 20th of the month. Your release should be in paragraph format of 100 words or less. Attachments will not be accepted.

Our October Speaker

County Executive Ilene Shapiro

County Executive Ilene Shapiro became the fifth Summit County executive in August of 2016. As executive, Ilene manages a budget of nearly a half billion dollars and nine departments including administrative services, communications, community and economic development, finance and budget, human resources, job and family services, law, insurance and risk management, sanitary sewer services and the medical examiner.



Ilene Shapiro served on Summit County Council for nearly ten years, three of those as council president. Ilene served on various committees during her tenure on council, including serving as the chair of the planning and economic development committee for seven years.

Executive Shapiro is a business leader with a history of successful businesses and led Shapiro Consulting, which specialized in the areas of sales, marketing, business planning, workforce and economic development.

Shapiro currently serves on The University of Akron Research Foundation Board (UARF), the County Executives of America Board of Directors and is a member of the Greater Akron Area ATHENA PowerLink governing body. Shapiro is the chair of the Summit County Transportation Improvement District, and serves on the Summit County Information Technology Board, the board of the Akron Community Foundation, the Conexus Workforce Development Board and NACo's Community, Economic and Workforce Development Steering Committee. She is an alumna of both Leadership America and Leadership Akron. She is a past president of the Women's Network and is a founder of the Women's Endowment Fund of the Akron Community Foundation and was formerly the chair of the Summit County Green Task Force.

In recognition of her distinguished work, Shapiro was awarded the U.S. Small Business Administration Women's Business Advocate for the State of Ohio and the Judith A. Resnick Woman of the Year Award for Inspiration. In 2007 Women's Network Inc. recognized her with a Women of Professional Excellence Award and in 2008, ATHENA International and Inside Business Magazine Shapiro honored her as the 2008 Northeast Ohio Athena Award recipient. In 2011, the Akron Urban League named her a Pioneer at their annual Pioneer and Protégé's recognition event. In 2015, she received the Harold Stubbs Award for Government.

Business Spotlight: Village Auto Body

Richfield resident and local business owner Rick Hudak and his wife, Kevan, are involved in many civic groups including the Richfield Chamber. Hudak is a charter Chamber member, past Chamber president, and owner of the state-of-the-art collision repair facility Village Auto Body.

The couple enjoys participating



in local fundraising and social events such as the annual car show at Regina Health Center in Richfield. They are hoping social gatherings and events can resume soon. In the meantime, they wish everyone to keep safe and take care.

To check out what's happening at Village Auto Body visit villageautobody.org.

Improved FedEx Discounts for Chamber/NOACC Members

NOACC, Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce, has announced that members now have access to higher FedEx discounts rates than ever before.

As a member of the Richfield Chamber of Commerce, when you sign up for the NOACC Chamber Shipping Program, you'll save 45 percent on FedEx Express and 25 percent on FedEx Ground rates.

If you're currently using the program, re-enroll to get the im-

proved discounts. With all of the challenges businesses are facing right now, it's more important than ever to take advantage of cost-saving benefits.

Whether you're shipping orders to customers, getting shipments in from suppliers, or managing customer returns, you'll be able to reduce your costs.

Visit noacc.org/benefits/shipping/ for more information and online enrollment.

Akron Children's location offers urgent and primary care, plus a whole lot more

When your child is hurt or sick, help is right around the corner at Akron Children's Health Center in Boston Heights where you can stop in for Urgent Care, or schedule primary care and specialty service visits.

Sports physicals for your teenager are also available by appointment. Learn more at akronchildrens.org/sportsphysicals.

Akron Children's is safeguarding your family's health with extra precautions at every location. Learn more at akronchildrens.org/COVID19.

Akron Children's Hospital's Health Center is located at 328 E. Hines Hill Road.

Adult Education programs enrolling now at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center

Are you looking to start a career as a medical administrative specialist, emergency medical technician, machinist, cosmetologist, or licensed practical nurse? Check out these careers and many more

at CVCC.

Student financial aid and payment plan options are available to those who qualify. Find your career today by visiting cvccworks.edu, or call 440-526-5200.

Friends of Crowell Hilaka to host a 'Kirby Christmas'

This year's Winter Wonders event, scheduled for December 5 at Richfield Heritage Preserve, will be somewhat altered because of COVID-19. All activities have been moved to the southwest portion of the park accessed from Route 303 and Oviatt Road. To be held outdoors following all pandemic safety protocols, this event will help kick off the Richfield Joint Recreation District board's centennial celebration of inventor Jim Kirby's presence on the property. Event details will be featured in the November newsletter.

The Friends of Crowell Hilaka are looking for businesses and individuals to donate funds for the purchase of items such as fresh roping, wreaths, and ornaments to decorate Kirby's House, Kirby's Mill, Garfield House and some of the shelters at the south end of the park. Interested parties may contact Karen Smik at kls1650@roadrunner.com.

Complimentary educational webinar for small business owners

1Direction Strategy is offering a complimentary webinar for small business owners who are looking to reignite the fire within and regain control of their business.

Using their "7 Steps Framework" process, small business strategist Rob Wentz will present transformative strategies that will change the way you think about success in business, and will offer a straight-forward roadmap to a better future and more fulfilling life.

Virtual Presentation and Q&A
Wednesday, October 14,
12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.
To register visit:
1dstrategy.com/our-events

Share how your business has adapted during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Chamber's next newsletter. Please send a short (50 word maximum) summary of changes you've made and how you are continuing to serve your customers, including any photos you wish to provide, to mail@richfieldchamber.com.

CPA advises of new federal policy regarding withholding Social Security tax

The IRS has released guidance regarding the postponement of withholding and remittance of the employee's share of Social Security taxes as permitted under an August 8 Presidential Memorandum.

The Memorandum allows Treasury Secretary Mnuchin to make available a postponement of withholding, deposit, and payment of the employee's share of Social Security tax (6.2%) on wages paid from September 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020 that are less than \$4,000 on biweekly pay period or equivalent amount in other pay periods. The threshold is determined on a pay period by pay period basis.

The IRS has released Notice 2020-65 that postpones the withholding and remittance of the employee share of Social Security tax ratably between Jan. 1, 2021, and April 30, 2021.

Penalties, interest, and additions to tax will begin to accrue on May 1, 2021 for any unpaid taxes. The Notice states that if necessary, the employer may make arrangements to collect the total applicable taxes from the employee.

The guidance, however, does not address several concerns, such as:

- How does an employer collect taxes from a terminated employee?
- Can increased take-home pay be used for 401(k) loan repayments, garnishments, child support payments, etc.?
- How will postponed amounts be reported on the 2020 Form W-2?

The postponement of the withholding and remittance of the employee's share of Social Security tax is optional for the employer. Employers may seek input from their employees, but this is

not required. Whether employers permit employees to opt in or opt out of the postponement is at the discretion of the employer and not addressed in the recent guidance.

An IRS spokesperson has explained that Form 941 is being revised for the third quarter of 2020 to report postponed taxes for employers who elect the postponement. The final Form 941 will be released late September for filing in October. The Notice permits employers who have elected the postponement to withhold the employee's share beginning January 1, 2021. However, such withholding may have unforeseen and detrimental consequences for employees and possibly employers.

With so many questions remaining, we advise employers to proceed with extreme caution at this time when opting for the postponement. The IRS has stated that regardless if the amounts are recovered from the employee, for example in the case of a separation, the employer will remain liable for the employee's share and must remit the postponed withholding of the employee's share of Social Security tax by April 30, 2021. However, if you choose to elect the postponement, we recommend a notice be provided to employees that clearly states that the employee's share of Social Security is postponed until December 31, 2020 and withholding for these amounts will occur ratably between Jan. 1, 2021, and April 30, 2021, and will be in addition to employment tax withholding otherwise required on wages for January through April 2021.

- SCHULTE & COMPANY CPAs
INC.

Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board Members

President – Amy French (OEC)

Vice President – Lynn Seifert (Seifert & Cox LLP)

Secretary – Mark Yantak (Regina Health Center)

Treasurer – Justin Hamlin (HFS Wealth Advisors)

Past President – Sheryl Wilson (Bay Pointe Technology)

Taste of Richfield Chair – Sue Serdinak (Scriptype Publishing)

Links for Education Chair – Karen Smik (Richfield Historical Society)

Scholarship Committee Chair – Jim Koewler (Koewler Law Firm)