

CHAMBER MONTHLY

4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
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NOVEMBER 2023

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Mark C. Yantek

November is the harbinger of many things: it heralds the arrival of the Holiday season, beginning with Thanksgiving and carrying through to Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanza and the New Year. November also brings us the "final approach" into the end of the calendar year. For many businesses, it's the end of the fiscal year as well. But for others, such as retailers and seasonal suppliers, November marks the beginning of the busy season, after which they hope to find themselves "in the black". For many businesses, November is the month to finalize next year's budget plans and projections.

For the Richfield Chamber of Commerce, November is the month when we encourage current Chamber members to renew your membership for 2024. We, as the Chamber Board, are excited and optimistic for another year of promoting and advocating for our local Richfield business community. Membership dues are modest and reasonable, but the value you receive is exceptional! Each month, you have the opportunity to attend our business luncheons, where you can network

with other local business professionals and hear engaging and knowledgeable speakers. Our monthly newsletter affords you the opportunity to submit news items and showcase events about your business. Our *Business After Hours* events provide additional networking and socializing opportunities, and our fundraisers allow you to support, and participate in, the Richfield business community.

When we come together and support one another as the Richfield Chamber of Commerce, we are proactively promoting our individual businesses while showcasing the dynamism and diversity of our Richfield community. So, encourage your peers who have not yet joined the Chamber get on board, and watch for your renewal notice. What more reason do you need to renew your Chamber membership *now*!?



LET'S DO LUNCH!

**WEDNESDAY,
Nov. 1, 2023**

Speaker

**Christine Gardner Marshall,
Executive Director,
Summit/Medina
Workforce Area Council
of Governments (COG)**

11:45 Informal Networking

12:00 Light lunch served

12:30 Speaker

1:00 Adjourn

at

**Venue South at
Quality Inn & Suites,
Richfield**

Members admitted free with a reservation.

Non-members bring \$20 check payable
to Richfield Chamber of Commerce

No-shows will be invoiced \$20 for their reserved lunch.

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

**Please R.S.V.P. to
330-659-3300 by 10 AM Oct. 27.**

ACCEPTING BUSINESS NOMINATIONS

Nominate a Richfield business by Nov. 30, 2023 for

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

See page 3 in this newsletter for the guidelines.

ALSO Each year the Richfield Chamber of Commerce
recognizes a business that has enhanced their property.

Nominate a Richfield business for the

BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

Email the chamber at mail@richfieldchamber.com with your beautification nomination.
The committee will view all nominated properties.

Our November Speaker

Christine Gardner Marshall,
Executive Director,
Summit/Medina
Workforce Area Council
of Governments (COG)

Christine Marshall will present research project, "Where Are The Workers?" at the next Richfield Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Wednesday, November 1.

The research project made possible with funding from the U.S. Department of Labor was conducted across Medina, Portage and Summit Counties that involved 2,400 working age adults. The goal of the research was to learn local root causes for the labor shortage, specifically how the worker felt about work during and post COVID-19.

Christine Marshall's 24 years in public service began in several leadership roles with Summit County Job & Family Services. Prior to public service she worked for several non-profits and private business entities.

In 2014, she was tasked to implement the federal Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act ("WIOA") program/services and the Summit/Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments (COG) was created as a result. In 2017, she was selected as the COG's first director with oversight of the Summit/Medina public workforce system.

She currently serves on United Way of Summit/Medina Counties' Community Impact Task Force; the Summit County Metro RTA board; the Conxus-NEO board and as the Treasurer for the Ohio Workforce Association.

Christine holds a political science degree from Kent State University and resides in Akron with her husband and two sons.

As a Chamber Member, if you have an event, special promotion or recognition 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.



SAVE THE DATE!

Richfield Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet

Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024

Speaker: Chris Berry, President, OhioX www.ohiox.org

More information will be provided in next month's newsletter.

Historical Society celebrates 25th anniversary of the Richfield tree in Rockefeller Center

The Richfield Historical Society will present "Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Richfield Tree in Rockefeller Center" on Saturday, November 4, 2023, 2:00 p.m., in Richfield Fellowship Hall, 3903 Broadview Road.

In 1998, Rockefeller Center Gardens searched for the perfect Christmas tree to grace Rockefeller Center in

New York City – and a 75-foot-tall Norway spruce was found in Richfield! Lauren Lanphear, a certified arborist and President of Forest City Tree Protection Co. Inc., will share all the steps that were taken to ensure its health and safety. It's an amazing story you won't want to miss!

Visit richfieldohiohistoricalsociety.org for updates.

Friends of RHP presents 'Symbols of the Season'

The Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve are sponsoring "Symbols of the Season" on Sunday, November 12, 2023, 2:00-3:00 p.m., at the Richfield United Church of Christ (4340 W. Streetsboro Road). For hundreds of years, Christmas celebrations have been intertwined with nature. Many of those elements remain part of our holiday traditions, but their meaning

has been overshadowed by cultural change and commercialism. Presenter Chuck Jakubchak will remind the audience why we display decorated wreaths and evergreen trees – and discuss more recent nature-related traditions.

After the program, join the Friends for a one-hour easy hike – held rain or shine – at Richfield Heritage Preserve.

Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board Members

President – Mark C. Yantek (Regina Health Center)

Interim Vice President – Jim Koewler (Koewler Law Firm)

Secretary – Brian Palone (Wayside Farm)

Treasurer – Justin Hamlin (HFS Wealth Advisors)

Past President – P. Lynn Seifert, Esquire

Resource Chair – Sue Serdinak (Scriptype Publishing)

Membership Chair – Don Laubacher (Township Trustee)

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

Scholarship Committee Chair – Jim Koewler (Koewler Law Firm)

Nominate the Richfield Business of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with Koewler Law Firm, will honor the 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 November 30, 2023.

It can be emailed to: mail@richfieldchamber.com

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

Koewler Law Firm is sponsoring this 2023 award.