

# CHAMBER MONTHLY

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

Anna Lukasik  
Executive Secretary

Ph: (330) 659-3300 • Email: mail@richfieldchamber.com

## DECEMBER 2024

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Mark C. Yantek

So, busy people, are you up for *one more* commitment? Your Chamber needs you! And this assignment isn't time-consuming or onerous. In fact, it's fun! We need you to step up and get involved on a Chamber Committee or the Chamber Board. The time commitment is minimal, the workload is light, and the people you'll work with are great business resources. There's really no downside to Chamber involvement. I encourage you to speak with one of the current Chamber board members or committee chairs to learn how you can give back to the Richfield business community while reaping genuine rewards for yourself and your business. Yes, I know you're busy - that's why I'm asking you!

Have you ever heard the phrase, "If you need something done, ask a busy person"? It seems contradictory at first, but if you think about it, there is wisdom and an element of truth there. Busy people accomplish a great deal, and they always seem to have the capacity for a little more. They have honed the skill of doing much with relatively little time or few resources.

This time of year, we're all "busy people." The month of December seems to have so much packed into it! From holidays to year-end celebrations and all of the fiscal year-end business tasks and responsibilities, it's difficult to imagine squeezing even one more thing onto our calendars. But truth be told, a lot of our "busy-ness" is of our own making; we take on projects because we believe they will enhance our life or our business in some way. When we look at it that way, the extras don't seem off-putting - they're fulfilling and empowering!



## LET'S DO LUNCH!

**WEDNESDAY,  
Dec. 4, 2024**

**Speakers: Heather Welsh  
and Dave Stribula,  
Sequoia Financial Group**

**11:45 Informal Networking**

**12:00 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 Dec. 2.**

### **Annual Banquet – Jan. 30**

#### **How will Valor Acres impact Richfield and the region?**

The Honorable Daryl Kingston, the mayor of Brecksville, will be the guest speaker at the Chamber's Annual Banquet, to be held on January 30, 2025. National Interstate Insurance has agreed to host this popular event.

In addition to the featured speaker, the Chamber will recognize the winner of the Business of the Year Award and the business chosen for the Beautification Award.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$45 person when a business purchases a table for eight.

Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, sponsored by National Interstate Insurance, will be served at 5:30 p.m.

A plated dinner of sautéed chicken and baked Coho salmon will be served at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Kingston will speak at 8 p.m. and Chamber awards will be presented.

Email the Chamber office if you have misplaced the registration form for this annual event. An extra form is also attached to this newsletter. The deadline to sign up is Jan. 17.

## Our December Speakers

### Heather Welsh and Dave Stribula, Sequoia Financial Group

*Topic: What You Need to Know  
About the Looming Sunset of the  
Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*

**Heather Welsh** is a certified financial planner and accredited estate planner who is committed to helping clients create financial roadmaps that support their long-term goals and prepare them for unexpected challenges. She currently serves as the lead of the Wealth Planning Department of Sequoia Financial Group and is a veteran in tax and estate planning. She guides clients in maximizing opportunities and preparing for upcoming legislative changes related to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Heather holds an M.S. in Financial Services from The American College of Financial Services and a B.A. in Business and Dance from Mercyhurst University. Heather lives with her husband and son in Brunswick Hills, where she volunteers with Saint Ambrose Catholic Parish. She also serves on the emerging leaders' advisory board of Akron Children's Hospital Foundation.



**Dave Stribula** is a certified financial planner and certified exit-planning advisor with a passion for guiding families and business owners through pivotal financial decisions. With an emphasis on exploring the "what if" scenarios, Dave helps clients make informed choices that align with their goals and values, even as they navigate complex changes, like the potential sunset of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. His approach centers on building resilient, goal-oriented investment portfolios designed to endure diverse economic conditions. Dave holds a B.S. in Finance with a Minor in Economics from Ohio University. A resident of Avon, Ohio, he enjoys raising his two daughters, Cleveland sports, camping, and perfecting his homemade BBQ.



## Friends present 'Under the Stars' Winter Wonders

The Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve are holding Winter Wonders in The Lodge at Richfield Heritage Preserve on Saturday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides from noon-2 p.m. for a small charge. Purchase homemade Christmas cookies, Friends' merchandise and holiday swags and shop from local artisans selling handcrafted items.

Refreshments will be offered for a donation.

There will be holiday activities/crafts, face painting and kids' storytelling at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. Sunny the Reindeer Horse will be in the park from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and Father Christmas will appear on horseback.

For specific details, visit [friendsofhrhp.org](http://friendsofhrhp.org).

## Different Branches expands to include wholesale

Different Branches has recently expanded to wholesale sales of their candles.

Owner Sarah Mitschke said she was able to pursue this expansion because her mother, Heidi

Mitschke, makes the pure beeswax candles in between her full-time job as a school bus driver for Revere Schools.

The Different Branches store is located at 4615 W. Streetsboro Rd.

## Revere Schools recognize student achievement

The following students received special recognition at the Revere Local Schools Board of Education meeting on November 19, 2024:

### Richfield Elementary School

Pledge Leaders: Damian Nakonieczny, Hailey Blystone and Layla Venditti.

### Bath Elementary School

Math Discovery: Lucas Salem.  
Sign Language Club: Benny Slusarz.

### Revere Middle School

Cross Country runners who helped a younger runner finish a race: Maria Abuhilwa, Lily Boelter, Grace Eldridge, Anabelle Guo, Stella Pirollo, Navanya Sen, Fabeha Safqat and Caroline Slaven.

### Revere High School

Created guidelines for staff to help students overcome tragedy: Anya Makkar.

*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](mailto: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.*

## Recognizing and thanking our 2024 Richfield Chamber of Commerce Silver & Gold Members

2024 Gold Members include:



2024 Silver Members include:





# 25th Annual Banquet

Thursday, January 30, 2025

*Guest Speaker*

## Honorable Daryl Kingston

### Mayor of Brecksville, Ohio

### “The impact of Valor Acres”

at National Interstate Insurance, 3250 Interstate Drive, Richfield

5:30 p.m. – Hors d’oeuvres & Cocktails - **Sponsored by National Interstate Insurance**

6:15 p.m. – Plated Dinner featuring Sauteed Chicken and Baked Coho Salmon, Salad & Dessert  
(Vegetarian option is available)

8:00 p.m. – Speaker and presentation of awards

*\$50 per person; \$45 per person for reservations for tables of 8*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners @ \$50 each. My check # \_\_\_\_\_ for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

-or- Please reserve a table of 8 @ \$45 each. My check # \_\_\_\_\_ for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I was a Gold Corporate member in 2024. Please reserve my two free dinners.

Please print names for name tags and indicate if vegetarian option is preferred.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ 8) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with your payment by **January 17, 2025** to:  
Richfield Chamber of Commerce, 4300 Streetsboro Road, Richfield, OH 44286.  
You may call 330-659-3300 for more information.