

CHAMBER MONTHLY

4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
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OCTOBER 2026

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dr. Mariah Southard

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Richfield Brewing Company's Oktoberfest! The Chamber held a 50/50 raffle during the event, and we truly appreciate everyone who purchased tickets and supported the Richfield Chamber of Commerce.

A special thank-you goes to Mike Lytz, owner of Richfield Brewing Company, for organizing such a successful first annual Oktoberfest and allowing us to be part of it. The event was a fun way to bring the community together, and we appreciate Mike and his team for all the time and effort they put into making it a success. We look forward to seeing it grow in the years ahead.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that Allison Howard, president of Cleveland's new WNBA team, the Cleveland Sirens, will be the featured speaker at our Annual Banquet on Jan. 21, 2027. We look forward to welcoming

Allison and hearing more about the new team, its future in Cleveland, and the excitement surrounding its arrival in Northeast Ohio.

With such an exciting speaker, we anticipate a sold-out crowd for this year's banquet. Members are encouraged to purchase tickets as soon as they become available. Additional information regarding tickets and event details will be shared soon.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and involvement in the Richfield Chamber of Commerce. We hope to see you at an upcoming luncheon or community event.

Dr. Mariah Southard, President,
Richfield Chamber of Commerce

As a final salute to the 250th anniversary of the signing of Declaration of Independence, everyone who attends the lunch on Oct. 7 will receive a free America250 t-shirt. Wear it on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, as a salute to all who have sacrificed for our freedom in the last 250 years.

ACCEPTING AWARD NOMINATIONS

**Nominate a Richfield business by Dec. 1 for the
2026 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**

See page 3 in this newsletter for the guidelines.

**The Richfield Chamber of Commerce would also like to
recognize a business that has enhanced their property in 2026.**

**Nominate a Richfield business for the
2026 BEAUTIFICATION AWARD**

Email mail@richfieldchamber.com with your nomination **by Dec. 1.**

The committee will view all nominated properties.



LET'S DO LUNCH!

**WEDNESDAY,
Oct. 7, 2026**

Speaker:

**Dan Flanagan, Founder,
Brain Enrichment Initiative**
*Mental Health in the Workplace
and Mentorship Program
for Teens*

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
or mail@richfieldchamber.com
by 10 AM Oct. 5.

Our October Speaker

**Dan Flanagan,
Founder, Brain Enrichment
Initiative**

*Mental Health in the Workplace
and Mentorship Program
for Teens*

Dan Flanagan earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2008. He joined Group Management Services in 2011 and started his career as a sales representative. He worked his way up to become a sales manager in the Cleveland office, vice president of sales for the northeast region, and now is the national director of Channel Sales. When Dan started at GMS in 2011, they had three offices in the United States and were 400th in size out of 900 professional employer organizations. Today GMS has 24 offices around the country and are 10th in size out of roughly 500 PEO's in the country.



Dan and his family were strongly impacted by mental health throughout his life. After getting sober in 2019 and reading *The End of Mental Illness* by Dr. Daniel Amen, Dan decided to start turning pain into purpose. He began exercising, eating healthier, and was determined to change the lives of others. This is a big part of how Brain Enrichment Initiative was created.

In his spare time, he loves spending time with his family, traveling and continuing to build BEI. He is married to Jess and they have two daughters, Brooklyn and Kamryn. Dan is an avid Cleveland sports fan and very passionate about serving others and being community first.

Oktoberfest was delightful and supported Chamber

The Oktoberfest that Richfield Brewing Company held on Sept. 26 and 27 was a fun event enjoyed by hundreds. Bands played through two days and evenings. Outside games and activities were available for children and adults on the section of Grant Street that was blocked off with bollards.

The Chamber co-sponsored the event, and both the Chamber and Bath-Richfield Kiwanis held a 50-50 raffle, which generated income for the nonprofits.

The Chamber is most appreciative of this collaboration and of the effort of Mike Lytz, owner of the brewery, in hosting this family-friendly event.

Test drive a Revere school bus

Explore a great career with a school-year schedule. Test drive an actual Revere school bus Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 a.m.-noon at 3622 Everett Road, Richfield.

Contract drivers earn \$23.19/hour, and substitute drivers earn \$20.87/hour, with paid training provided. Enjoy a

school-year schedule with no weekends, holidays, late nights or summers. No experience necessary – just bring a valid driver's license to the event.

For more information, contact AJ Neitenbach, transportation supervisor, at 330-523-3119 or aneitenbach@revereschools.org.

Mysteries and Legends of RHP Hike

The Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve are holding a "Mysteries and Legends of Richfield Heritage Preserve" history hike on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 2-4 p.m. Attendees will use the 3771 Oviatt Rd. park entrance and meet by the Kirby's Mill kiosk.

Friends' historian Lynn Richardson

will lead participants on a leisurely stroll through part of the former Kirby estate. The route will include some hilly terrain and is about one mile long, but participants will stop frequently to hear tales of history, mystery, tradition and legend.

Visit friendsofrhp.org for additional information and event updates.

Historical Society presents story of First Thanksgiving and offers walking tours

The Richfield Historical Society is sponsoring a free talk on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m., at Richfield Fellowship Hall. John Burke will present "The Real Story of the First Thanksgiving."

Hear Chief Massasoit of the Wampanoag tribe tell the real story of the first Thanksgiving dinner with the Pilgrims in 1620. Learn how Squanto

and Samoset helped the Pilgrims survive the first year in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Find out what foods were served at the initial harvest feast.

The Society is also holding History of Richfield walking tours from 1-2 p.m. every Sunday in October.

Visit richfieldohiohistoricalsociety.org for additional information.

Revere High School to host Veterans Day breakfast and program

Revere High School will honor local veterans with its annual Veterans Day Breakfast and Program on Wednesday, Nov. 11, from 8:45-11 a.m. The event will include breakfast and a special program featuring guest speaker

Lieutenant Colonel T.J. Lowe, United States Air Force, retired.

Veterans are invited to RSVP for breakfast by contacting Mrs. Zendlo at dzendlo@revereschools.org or 330-523-3202.

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.

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. 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 1, 2026.

It can be emailed to: mail@richfieldchamber.com

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