



The advantage is yours!

Some of the highlights:

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**Best Wishes
For a
Peace-Filled
New Year**



Annual Chamber Dinners

Lancaster-Fairfield
January 25, 2014
Fisher Catholic HS

Pickerington
February 8, 2014
Hickory Lakes

Canal Winchester
March 14, 2014
Crossroads Church
Lithopolis

Baltimore
March 15, 2014
VFW
Taste of Tuscany

ALLIANCE ANNUAL MEETING

fairfield 33 corridor Central Ohio's Road to Opportunity

The Fairfield 33 Development Alliance held their Annual Meeting December 13 at the Lodge in Lancaster to review 2013 and present plans for 2014. Howard Sniderman, Chairman, welcomed board members, investors and guests. A resolution to increase the numbers of board members from 20 to 25 was approved. Sniderman also received approval for the slate of officers for 2014 and confirmation of board members.

Serving the Alliance in 2014 will be: Howard Sniderman from Fairfield Medical Center as Chair; South Central Power's Brad Markwood as Vice-Chair; Helen Mayle of the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce as Secretary; and Lancaster-Fairfield County Chamber President Travis Markwood will serve as Treasurer. The approved Board of Directors for 2014 include Amanda Lemke (Canal Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce); Scott Reed (Fairfield National Bank); Pat Spires (Fairfield Homes); Ron Collins (Bremen Bank); Jeff Beard (Standing Stone National Bank); Dean DeRolph (Kumler Collision); Tim Kaylor (Glimcher Realty); Cathy Bitler (Lancaster Area CIC); Mayor Michael Ebert (City of Canal Winchester), Bill Vance (City of Pickerington); Carol Moore (Bloom Township); Dave Levacy (Fairfield County), Mayor David Smith (City of Lancaster); Gary Weltlich (Violet Township); Jon Buck, (AEP); and Jason Baker (Peoples Bank).

Treasurer Markwood reviewed the financials for 2013 and presented the 2014 budget for approval.

Sheena Metzger, Project Manager for Jobs Ohio was the guest speaker. She shared a brief history of the JobsOhio and how it has been more responsive to site selector needs and is working well with regional partners,

including Columbus 2020. She highlighted the fund/loan incentives that are available for hard assets, workforce training and development and revitalization.



Growth coming from Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is on the rise across multiple industry sectors including manufacturing, auto, and IT. Ms. Metzger talked about the opportunities to match work force needs of employers with education. When questioned about the issue of "Right to Work", Metzger shared that this is not the important factor that is once was.

Joe Henderson, Alliance Operations Team Member, introduced the new business attraction video produced by Innerphase Video. This video will be used for marketing purposes and will become an integral part of the new Alliance website. The video included testimonials from SRI of Ohio, Olan Plastics and Volunteer Energy.

Lucas Haire, Alliance Operations Team Member, shared some on the new projects that were announced or completed in 2013 including: NIFCO, Lucky Bones, CAM Logistics, Cyclone Power and Phoenix Electrotek. For a more complete list of projects in the area since Alliance inception please [click here](#). Haire also brought up the importance of the pending US 33/Carroll Interchange project. This ODOT project, scheduled to begin in 2015, will alleviate the traffic problems in that area and increase traffic flow.

Bob Clark, Alliance Operations Team Member and Director of the Alliance, looked ahead to 2014. A new website will be in place, allowing for ease in updating. Corporate calling will be done with identified business sectors. With FDI increasing, the team is planning

[Continued on page 2]

ALLIANCE MEETING

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

some international travel. The Area Development summer conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio and will be attended by all the ED Directors.

Clark thanked all the investors for their continued support of this public/private partnership, adding that there continue to be opportunities for additional investors. For more information on the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance please call Clark at 740.652.7160 or visit the website at www.fairfield33.com



Alliance Investors and Guests

The marketing video previewed at this meeting will be available on the Alliance's new website in the spring. Watch for that announcement!

SENATE BILL 1 FOR WORKFORCE

This act, effective October 11, 2013, creates the OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolving Loan Program for the purpose of assisting with job growth and advancement through training and retraining. The Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents must administer the Program and must award Program funds from the OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolving Loan Fund to an "institution." **Any of the following entities is an institution for purposes of the act:**

A state institution of higher education;

A private career school that holds a certificate of registration from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (that is, a for profit private institution or "proprietary school");

A private for profit institution (such as DeVry University) that is exempt from regulation by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools as prescribed under continuing law;

A private, nonprofit institution that holds a certificate of authorization from the Ohio Board of Regents (a private university);

A career-technical center, joint vocational school district, comprehensive career-technical center, or compact career-technical center offering adult training.

The Fund, which the act creates in the state treasury, is to consist of a portion of the upfront license fees paid for the casino facilities authorized under the Ohio Constitution. The act appropriates \$25 million of this money in fiscal year 2014 to the Fund, transferring it from the Economic Programs Development Fund, which is used for state economic development programs that support regional job training.

The investment earnings of the Loan Program Fund must be credited to the Fund. The act reappropriates in fiscal year 2015 any amount that remains unspent and encumbered at the end of fiscal year 2014. It also allows the Chancellor and the Treasurer of State to each use up to \$250,000 of the appropriation in each fiscal year for administrative expenses of the Program.

An institution receiving Program funds must use those funds to award loans to individuals participating in a workforce training program that is administered by the institution and that has been approved by the Chancellor. For purposes of the act, a workforce training program includes courses, programs, or a degree from an institution, vocational classes offered to adult learners, or any other training program that is designed to meet the special requirements of a particular employer.

In awarding funds under the Program, the Chancellor must give preference to an institution for a workforce training program in which the institution partners with a business that is willing to repay all or part of a program participant's loan or partners with a business that also provides funding for the program over a program that does not have such a partnership. The Chancellor must consider a program that has employment opportunities in areas that are in demand, such as energy exploration.

The act requires the Chancellor to also consider all of the following factors in determining whether to award funds to an institution, to the extent these factors apply to a workforce training program:

The success rate of the workforce training program offered by the institution;

The cost of the workforce training program based on a comparison of similar workforce training programs offered in Ohio;

The rate that participants in the workforce training program obtain employment in the field in which they receive training under the program;

The willingness of the institution to assist a participant in paying the costs of participating in the workforce training program;

The extent to which the program has demonstrated support from business partners.

After the initial funds are awarded, the Chancellor must give greater weight to the success rate of the workforce training program than to the other prescribed factors. However, **the greatest weight must be given to an institution's business partnerships for the repayment or funding of the workforce training program.**

EXPORT-IMPORT HOSTS NEW BLOG

The Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank) unveiled a new blog by Ex-Im Bank Chairman Fred P. Hochberg. Titled "Fred's Thread," the new blog will provide readers with the latest information on Ex-Im Bank and trade finance trends.

"My plan is to share news about Ex-Im Bank and stories from American exporters across the country," said Chairman Hochberg. "I hope this new online platform provides readers with useful information as they learn how exports boost our economy, create U.S. jobs, and help

small and medium-sized businesses succeed in international markets."

[Please click here](#) to read the first posting from Fred's Thread.

ABOUT EX-IM BANK:

Ex-Im Bank is an independent federal agency that creates and maintains U.S. jobs by filling gaps in private export financing at no cost to American taxpayers. The Bank provides a variety of financing mechanisms, including working-capital guarantees, export-credit insurance and financing to help foreign buyers purchase U.S. goods and services. In the

past fiscal year alone, Ex-Im Bank earned for U.S. taxpayers more than \$1 billion above the cost of operations.

In FY 2013, Ex-Im Bank approved more than \$27 billion in total authorizations to support an estimated \$37.4 billion in U.S. export sales and approximately 205,000 American jobs in communities across the country. For the year, the Bank approved a record 3,413 transactions-- or 89 percent--for small-businesses. For more information, visit www.exim.gov.

THE 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

It appears another revolution is upon us - namely, the 4th Industrial Revolution. It portends to turn the manufacturing industry on its head, and perhaps our economy, too. The first three industrial revolutions are seen now as huge economic events that propelled the world forward, but each caused incredible disruption with lasting ramifications for countries and communities.

The steam engine and the advent of large machines created the first industrial revolution, the assembly line and mass automation created a second. Computer technology created a third wave of innovation not too many years ago.

The 4th Industrial Revolution is described on Wikipedia as a movement that will "equip all objects in the world with minuscule identifying devices or machine-readable identifiers that could transform daily life." [This presentation by Dassault Systems](#) goes a bit deeper and touches on some of the trends that this revolution could bring.

What it will mean to our communities remains to be seen, but it is sure to have an impact on the entire global economy. If you have thoughts or examples of how this is already impacting our region, please let us know.

By Kenny McDonald



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OPEN ENROLLMENT THRU MARCH 31

The marketplace is still open for enrollment in Fairfield County and it is important for those who are uninsured.

The application for an affordable healthcare plan is available at healthcare.gov and open enrollment continues until March 31, 2014.

"To receive your healthcare services locally, it is important for you to know which plans your providers are participating in," said Sharon Scruggs, FMC

Contracts and Collections manager. "Fairfield Medical Center and Fairfield Healthcare Professionals are only in network with two marketplace plans."

Scruggs noted those healthcare plans include:
Anthem (Gold, Silver, Bronze) Direct Access Plan
Medical Mutual (Gold, Silver, Bronze) Market Classic

For questions or more information,

please the Fairfield Medical Center Business Office to speak to a Certified Application Counselor at (740) 687-8025.

Learn how the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Marketplace works from this three step infographic.

For more information about the Affordable Care Act, visit BusinessUSA.

[> Infographic](#)

COUNTY BUDGET REFLECTS PRIORITIES

The Fairfield County Commission approved the budget for 2014 on December 17, 2013. The general fund budget is \$39.8 million, a slight decrease over the current year budget of \$40.6 million. However, in January 2014, there are expected changes to the budget which will result in a relatively flat budget in 2014, as compared to 2013.

For example, a \$150,000 contract with the City of Lancaster for prosecution of criminal cases is expected to be renewed, and the approval of a \$15,000 grant match for prosecution will be presented for approval. Also, a modest allocation for the county Port Authority is under review for 2014.

The budget includes a \$2 million investment for the County jail project. The \$2 million will be added to the \$3.8 million that was dedicated to the project in 2013. Design plans and program requirements for the jail are expected to be completed in 2014. Along \$11.9 million appropriated for the County Sheriff, the investment in public safety represents 35% of the total general fund budget. These appropriations reflect the priority of public safety in the community.

In addition, a 2% increase in salaries was approved for all employees. A .7% increase was approved for health insurance costs.

Additional increases include \$80,000 for one additional employee and transfers of existing employees (salaries and fringe benefits) for the County Treasurer; \$60,000 for a new employee (salaries and fringe benefits) for Domestic Relations Court in order to address administrative needs and to support the public in navigating court systems, given significant increases in the number of Pro Se cases; \$36,000 of a one-time investment for the County Auditor's succession planning; \$25,000 for the Veteran Services Commission to purchase computer equipment and software for a new federal process; and \$60,000 to implement a pilot for Job and Family Services/Protective Services to address problems with children in crisis.

In 2014, revenue projections include \$18 million of sales tax revenues and \$ 1.62 million of casino revenues. The casino revenues are an important new source of revenues, critical to jail construction. No new taxes are proposed to build the jail. Commissioner Steve Davis, Board President, commented, "The cooperation of every elected official and department head

during the recent budget hearings was greatly appreciated. The dedication the county leadership has to the public is apparent in the thoughtful presentation of the budget, which is a management tool that will be monitored carefully in the coming months. There is a focus on the capacity to build the jail."

For 2014, actual revenues are expected to be just over \$38 million. An increase of \$500,000 in sales tax revenues and an increase of \$223,000 in conveyance fees are projected. The carry over cash balance at the end of 2013 is expected to be over \$11 million, and there is a similar carry over cash balance projected for 2014. Carry over cash is a balance needed for expenses that occur during the first part of the year prior to the receipt of revenues.

Looking ahead, for 2015-2017, no new positions for the general fund departments are planned. For the same timeframe, a 2% increase for employee salaries is projected.

For any budget inquiries, please contact Carri Brown, Executive Director of the Commission at 740.652.7096 or email at cbrown@co.fairfield.oh.us

OHIO AREA CODES CHANGING IN 2015

Starting in 2015 there will be a new area code for Ohio phone numbers. The new area code will come into effect when the 740 area codes run out, which is expected to happen the second quarter of 2015. The new code

220, was chosen by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator. The state has 330 and 440 area codes in north-eastern Ohio.

Current 740 customers will keep their

phone number but will be required to dial 10 digits for local calls starting March 21, 2015. There will be a six month grace period starting September 20, 2014 where current 740 customers can dial 7 or 10 digits when making calls.



JobFusion, the employment division of Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Fairfield DD), recently opened DiscoverU at River Valley Mall.

Located near J.C Penny and the Mall Management office, DiscoverU offers a unique opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to receive training and hands-on experience through classroom activities and internships.

Fairfield DD invites the public to attend

the grand opening and ribbon cutting January 14, 2013, at Noon. Attendees will have a chance to tour the location and learn more about the innovative ways Fairfield DD is working to bring about a vibrant community where people can lead fulfilling lives and make meaningful contributions.

While DiscoverU has just opened, the program is already garnering widespread interest throughout the state. Several other counties have visited the location, and the program is poised to become a statewide model in the DD service delivery system.

Currently, individuals apply for the 30 week program with DiscoverU. Once

selected, they spend each morning in classroom training. In the afternoons, individuals work in hands-on internships with businesses at the mall. Several partnerships have been developed with businesses which allow our individuals to gain skills and real world experiences in the marketplace. These businesses include Elder Beerman, Old Navy, Charley's Grilled Subs, and Claires. Additional partnerships are currently being pursued.

In March of 2012, Governor John Kasich signed an executive order which states that the primary and preferred outcome for individuals with developmental disabilities will be employment first. In partnership with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities and Project SEARCH, DiscoverU is one of the ways that Fairfield DD is addressing the Governor's directive.

TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX GRANT APP



The City of Canal Winchester is now accepting applications for its 2014 Transient Occupancy Tax Grant program.

The grant program is open to public agencies, non-profits or private organizations located within the City of Canal Winchester to help fund projects that will enhance Canal Winchester for residents and/or visitors to the community. Grants are funded with the hotel/motel

tax revenue collected by the City of Canal Winchester.

Grant applications will be competitively reviewed and awards will be made to those projects meeting all requirements and the intent of the program. Grant applications are currently available at the City of Canal Winchester's Municipal Building located at 36 South High Street, Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110.

Completed applications must be submit-

ted in person or by mail to the attention of the Finance Director at the above address no later than January 15, 2014. City Council will make awards by February 28, 2014 and all awards must be used in calendar year 2014.

Questions regarding the grant program or application process should be directed to Amanda Jackson, Finance Director, City of Canal Winchester at 614-837-7493 or ajackson@canalwinchesterohio.gov.

CWACC TO INSTALL OFFICERS

The Canal Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a Grand Luncheon and Annual Meeting on January 8, 2014, where the nominated slate of candidates for Board of Directors will be elected by voice vote of members present, then installed as Canal Winchester Area Chamber Board of Directors.

Canal Winchester Mayor Michael Ebert will assist in ceremonies. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Canal Winchester Community Center, 22 S. Trine St. in Canal Winchester.

Event Sponsor Sam's Club will also be on hand to award a \$1000 Business Growth Grant to one business, chosen

from applicants who attended the chamber's November 2013 Grow Your Business Boot Camp.

For more information, contact Amanda Lemke, President, Canal Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce, 614-837-1556.

The CWACC December Membership Networking Luncheon featured guest speaker Lt. Governor Mary Taylor. Taylor leads Ohio's Common Sense Initiative (CSI), a regulatory reform initiative for businesses in Ohio. Results show that comprehensive regulatory reform is helping revive Ohio's economy and create

jobs by generating a more jobs-friendly environment. ([Click here](#) for more on CSI)

The Lt. Governor added comments in her role as head of the Department of Insurance. The Department's work includes resolving disputed insurance claims. The insurance industry is one sector where jobs will be plentiful in the near future. They anticipate 17,000 job openings.

The luncheon hosted a crowd of nearly 60 business professionals and dignitaries from Franklin and Fairfield County and the Central Ohio region.



ANNUAL GATHERING OF SID/DDL IS JANUARY 30

2013 was a year of great change and momentum for downtown Lancaster. Several major building renovations are underway, events are bringing crowds to downtown, there's surge in volunteer involvement, and a new downtown manager at the helm. Downtown supporters will gather to celebrate these successes January 30 at 5:30pm at the Lodge in Lancaster for the Annual Gathering of Destination Downtown Lancaster (DDL) and the Special Improvement District (SID).

DDL/SID Executive Director Kate Ervin will provide an overview on the present state and future of downtown, volunteers and community partners will be recognized for their contributions, and awards will be given for significant in-

vestments and business achievements. The Lodge will cater heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available during the cocktail reception from 5:30 to 6:30pm. The two nonprofit boards will then briefly get down to the business of electing new officers before celebrating the successes of their dozens of volunteers.

The DDL and SID are parallel organizations working to ensure a vibrant downtown Lancaster. The SID is a district comprised of downtown property owners who voluntarily assess themselves a fee to provide special services including maintenance, economic development assistance, snow removal, and staff time for the nonprofit arm, Destination Downtown Lancaster.

DDL represents a wide range of downtown supporters, from businesses to residents and absolutely anyone who cares about the historic downtown.

Current volunteer committees include Placemaking, Marketing, and Economic Development. All are welcome to get involved and the Annual Gathering is a great time to start! Come introduce yourself and be a part of our growing community.

Tickets are \$15 for DDL/SID members or \$20 for nonmembers and can be purchased via PayPal at DestinationDowntownLancaster.com, credit card over the phone at 653-8251, or by check to 109 N Broad St Suite 100.

GARRETT PLAYERS HOST WORKSHOP

Garret Players will hold an Audition Workshop for adults to help encourage people to come out for auditions for their plays. They want to help you understand the auditions process and teach skills that can help you with your audition.

The Workshop will be held in the Garret on the third floor of the Main Library on Sunday, January 5 at 2:00 p.m., and again on Monday, January 6 at 6:30 p.m. It will last approximately one hour depending on how many people show up. Both sessions will be the same; come to one or both if you want.

The Workshop is FREE and there is no pre-registration. Please wear comfortable clothes and come prepared to have FUN!

The Workshop leader will be Ron Keaton and he plans to have the Directors of Garret Players' 2014 productions of *Crimes of the Heart* and *The Odd Couple* there to talk about auditions and answer questions.

If you would like to read about auditioning for theatre, *Audition* by Michael Shurtleff (1978) is good. Another good

book is *Auditioning: An Actor Friendly Guide* by Joanna Merlin (2001). For more information contact Ron Keaton at 740.243.1579 or email [in-fo@garretplayers.org](mailto:fo@garretplayers.org)



OUL THEATRE GROUP HONORED TO PERFORM AT THEATRE FESTIVAL IN JANUARY

Another honor has been bestowed upon the Ohio University Lancaster Theatre program. The entire cast of "To Kill a Mockingbird" has been asked to perform one scene from the show at the Kennedy Center College Theater Festival in January.

"We just officially received word that they wanted us to perform the scene," said Theatre Director Victor Jones. "I am beyond thrilled for our students."

In November, three student actors from "To Kill a Mockingbird" were nominated for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship and asked to perform at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Regional Festival in West Chester, Pennsylvania this January. Jones said he was notified this week that the entire cast has been selected to perform at the festival as well.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students," said OUL Theatre Director Victor Jones. "We have been asked to perform the 'Tom Robinson Courtroom Scene' at the festival."

The Kennedy Center American College Theater is a national theater program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide. The Kennedy Center festival has served as a catalyst to improve the quality of college theater in the United States, and has grown into a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country, where theater departments and student artists showcase

their work to receive outside assessment.

The Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship is named after the woman who played "Granny" on the television program "Beverly Hillbillies." OUL students Mason Taylor, Shannon Webb, and Jordon Leu-Voy will compete at the festival in an effort to be awarded scholarships. The scholarships provide recognition, honor and financial assistance to outstanding student performers wishing to pursue further education.

An OUL Theatre group that includes 14 men and 10 women will attend the festival. The Ohio University Lancaster Campus has dedicated some funds for the costs associated with the trip including the festival registration, hotel and transportation costs.

Additional funds will be raised through an e-mail that will be sent to alumni, and the campus theatre website will provide information for family, friends and other theatre-goers to contribute to support these students. Online gifts can be made to support the trip

to the Ohio University Foundation at www.ohio.edu/give.

You can designate your gift to the OU Lancaster Theatre Support Fund using the designation drop-down box. Gifts to this fund may also be mailed to Ohio University Lancaster Campus, attn. Mandi Custer, 1570 Granville Pike, Lancaster, OH 43130, and questions may be directed to Mandi at 740-654-5711, ext. 234, or via email at custer@ohio.edu. The Ohio University Foundation is a 501(c) (3) organization and the contribution is tax deductible in accordance with Ohio state tax laws.

Courtroom scene from the OUL production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*



“ON THE TWELTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS”

On Sunday, January 5, 2014, the twelfth day of Christmas, beautifully arranged sacred carols and familiar holiday favorites will be performed by the Lancaster Handbell Ensemble at two post-Christmas concerts celebrating the New Year! The first concert will take place at 2:00pm, at the Fairfield Christian Church, 1965 North Columbus Street, Lancaster, Ohio. A second concert will be held at 7:00pm, at the Logan First Presbyterian Church located at 2 West Hunter Street, in Logan, Ohio. Both performances are free and open to the public.

A freewill offering will be collected. Musical selections include: Here We Come a Wassailing, Catalonian Carol, The Twelve Days of Christmas, Carol of the Bells, We Three Kings, Huron Carol, Riu, Riu Chiu, and Selections from the Nutcracker Suite.

The Lancaster Handbell Ensemble is a dynamic and energetic handbell choir

dedicated to musical excellence and handbell education through their exciting and uplifting performances played on five octaves of Malmark bells and chimes. For more information, contact LHE Director Leta Cook at (740) 653-1594 or visit the LHE website at: lancasterhandbellensemble.org.



Lancaster Handbell Ensemble members include: Tom Sibrik, Paul Caravano, Kathy Kittredge, Ted Milbaugh, Christine Caravano, Becky Raybourne, Molly McFerin, Linda Burns, Jodi VanDyke, John Snively, Alethia White, Joyce Snyder, Paula Gorby, and Peggy Pound.



WE ALL NEED A LAUGH...FEBRUARY 8

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fairfield County will be hosting **Laugh for Kids' Sake** Saturday, February 8, at the Eagles Event Center in Lancaster featuring comedian Mike Green.



Mike Green

Quickly becoming one of the top and most requested National headliners, Green has a natural like-ability. With original jokes and the knowledge to make it all look made up every time...Clever "Clean Comedy" is what he brings to the table.

With a strong improvisation background, he takes you on a "comedy vacation".

While developing his show, Mike as worked with such luminaries as Tim Allen, Jerry Seinfeld, Chris Titus, and Ellen DeGeneres. Now Mike has a polished act that he has performed in 48 states. He headlines the Comedy Stop at the Tropicana in both Las Vegas and Atlantic City, as well as, in countless other clubs from New York's Comedy on Broadway to L.A.'s Ice House.

The evening will open with a live band, the Gear Heads, beginning at 7pm followed by the opening act, Rob Busboom, taking the stage at 8pm. Mike, will round out the evening with his clever wit and fast paced humor. There will be a cash bar, 50/50, and lots of fun!

Seating is limited, so be sure to buy your tickets early. You won't want to miss out on one of Lancaster's most entertaining events.

Tickets are \$20 and are available at all Standing Stone Bank locations, at the Big Brothers Big Sisters main office, or online at the agency's website! Tables are available for groups of 8. The show is suitable for 18 and older crowd.

2014 Comedy Night Sponsors: Midwest Fabricating, Fairfield Homes, Fairfield Medical Center, Fairfield Federal Savings & Loan, Buffalo Wild Wings, and the Eagles.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fairfield County has been serving children in our community for over 25 years, creating and nurturing relationships that have direct and lasting

impact upon the lives of young people; changing perspectives of children and giving them the opportunity to do great things. Last year, the agency served 250 children in caring relationships that positively impacted their lives. Big Brothers Big Sisters relies on volunteers and donors to make it all happen. Laugh for Kids Sake is the agency's second largest fundraiser. 100% of the proceeds from the event will stay in our community to help children facing adversity to reach their potential.



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
Fairfield County**

111 South Broad Street
Suite 106
Lancaster, OH 43130
740.687.9477

www.bbbs-fairfieldoh.org

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE MARCH 21

STAND UP, STAND OUT



Dr. Jean Kilbourne
Keynote Speaker

Internationally recognized media educator Dr. Jean Kilbourne will be the keynote speaker at Ohio University Lancaster | Pickerington's **Celebrate Women** event in March. The theme for this year's event is "Stand Up, Stand Out."

Kilbourne is known for her pioneering work on the image of women in advertising and her critical studies of alcohol and tobacco advertising. She was featured on the PBS program "Makers: Women Who Make America." Her films, lectures, and television appearances have been seen by millions of people throughout the world.

"We are so excited to have Jean Kilbourne as the keynote speaker for Cele-

brate Women," said Dr. Pam Kaylor, coordinator for the event. "Our students, faculty and staff will gain great knowledge by hearing her speak in person."

Kilbourne was named by The New York Times Magazine as one of the three most popular speakers on college campuses. She is the author of the award-winning book *Can't Buy My Love: How Advertising Changes the Way We Think and Feel* and co-author of *So Sexy So Soon: The New Sexualized Childhood and What Parents Can Do to Protect Their Kids*.

Kilbourne has served as an advisor to the Surgeon General and has testified for the U.S. Congress. She has received many awards, including the Lecturer of the Year award from the National Association for Campus Activities.

"Jean Kilbourne is a cultural icon who has changed the lives of girls and women through her eye-opening and profound research," said Kaylor. "This is a rare opportunity. I have been a fan for such a long time. She's a rock star to me – her work changed the way I look at the world."

Celebrate Women will be held on Friday,

March 21, 2014 in the Lancaster Campus's Brasee Hall. The annual conference is planned in conjunction with Women's History Month. The focus of the event is to bridge women's relationships from the areas of community, university and business.

"In addition to Kilbourne, we already have several other speakers and topics lined up for Celebrate Women," said Kaylor. "Topics include 'Women Standing Out in their Careers,' 'Balancing Your Life' and 'Women in Science and Technology'."

Registration and program information will be posted on www.ohio.edu/lancaster/celebratwomen.cfm.



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

Lancaster | Pickerington

NOTES FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

FROM... *KIDS.GOV*

Lesson Plans and Games About Money, Banking, and More

Looking for lesson plans that have fun activities to teach kids about money, banking and personal finance? Check out the [Federal Reserve Education page](#). They offer a variety of [lesson plans](#) by grade and money topics. Your students will enjoy trying out their [money games and simulations](#)

Current Events and News For Kids

Kids are curious about the things they hear in the news. Sometimes it is difficult to find current events resources that are relevant and interesting to kids. Have your students check out our current events pages [for kids](#) and [teens](#). We have links to sites that feature news stories and blogs about things going on in the government, the environment, in their own back yards, and across the world

Career Exploration for Students

The Department of Labor has been busy redesigning the [student](#) and [teacher](#) areas of their website. They've organized the career exploration pages to make navigation easier. Students can drill down into career categories to locate specific job titles and get quick career facts including median salary, education requirements, and employment projections. The teacher's desk offers classroom activities. For additional career resources, have your students explore our [Kids.gov Jobs page](#) and our [career videos](#).

RLF LOANS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

HISTORY

The Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) was created in 1992, using grants from two separate agencies — the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD), Office of Housing and Community Partnerships, through its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Matching funds were contributed by the City of Lancaster and Fairfield County.

The purpose of the Revolving Loan Fund is to assist new or existing small businesses achieve their goals and create jobs in Fairfield County.

Typical loans range from \$10,000 to \$100,000 with a fixed rate that is generally 2 points below prime at the time of application. Terms vary according to collateral and may be up to 20 years.

The EDA Revolving Loan Fund may be used throughout Fairfield County, while the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund cannot be used within the City of Lancaster or City of Canal Winchester.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Loans may be made to private, for-profit businesses located in Fairfield County. Applicants may be in the manufacturing, agri-business, wholesale, service and/or retail sectors and must have fewer than 200 employees. All taxes must be current and an Equal Opportunity Employment policy must be in place and followed.

Loan applications may need to be prioritized. Criteria may include the enterprise's ownership, (women or minorities), number of jobs created, industry, and/or reinvestment in an existing facility.

Funds received from the Revolving Loan Fund may be used to purchase land or an existing building, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures, inventory, and possibly a limited amount of working capital. Funds cannot be used to restructure existing debt.

An application must be processed before a project begins.

HOW TO APPLY

Speak with your banker first.

The Revolving Loan Fund can only lend money in conjunction with a lending institution. RLF participation is determined by the bank's willingness to lend money for a project.

The application package requires the same information as your bank, including tax returns, a business plan for start-ups, financial reports and projections for existing, expanding businesses, a personal financial statement, and a signed application detailing the project and requested use of funds.

The RLF process from application to loan approval and disbursement of funds can take from 6 weeks to 4 months, depending upon the project and fund requirements.

The application is presented to the Loan Review Committee, which meets the third Tuesday of every month. This committee discusses the application and reviews the strength of the borrower and viability of the proposed project. Plan ahead, ask your commercial lender if the RLF can be a participant in your project and call the office for the program and the process.



LOAN FUND BALANCES As of December 27, 2013

EDA	\$ 504,934.97
CDBG	\$ 106,603.70

Scheduled LRC Meetings

January 21, 2014
February 18, 2014
March 18, 2014

Loan applications should be received in the Fairfield County Economic Development office at least two weeks prior to a scheduled LRC meeting if possible.

(740) 652.7160

ARE YOU READY TO START A BUSINESS ?

Many people dream of having their own business. To see if starting a business is right for you, ask yourself some important questions.

The questions at the right will help you identify your readiness to start a business. [Click Here](#) for a Free Readiness Assessment.

When you are ready, call Fairfield County Economic Development

- ◇ Am I prepared to spend the time, money and resources needed to get my business started?
- ◇ What kind of business do I want?
- ◇ What products/services will my business provide?
- ◇ Why am I starting a business?
- ◇ How much money do I need to get my business set up?
- ◇ Who are my customers and who is my competition?
- ◇ Will I need to get a loan?
- ◇ Do I have professional people to help me ** a banker, a lawyer, an accountant?
- ◇ What will be the legal structure of the company?
- ◇ How long can I finance the company until I start making a profit?

210 East Main Street
 Rooms 404 & 407
 Lancaster, OH 43130

Phone: 740.652.7160

E-mail:

lkauffman@co.fairfield.oh.us

rdclark@co.fairfield.oh.us



*Make Fairfield County
 Your Advantage!*



Chamber Contacts

Click on a Chamber

Baltimore (BACC)

Kasey Farmer
 740.438.0837

Bremen

Mark Morgan
 74.569.9150

Canal Winchester (CWACC)

Amanda Lemke
 614.837.1556

Lancaster-Fairfield

Travis Markwood
 740.653.8251

Pickerington (PACC)

Helen Mayle
 614.837.1958

CHAMBER & BUSINESS EVENTS

RECURRING CHAMBER NETWORKING LUNCHEONS

RSVP's Needed [Visit Chamber website or call]

Location and time may vary with a Special Event

Lancaster/Fairfield : First Wednesday at 11:30am at 230 North Columbus Street

Baltimore : Second Tuesday at 5:30pm at Baltimore VFW Post 3761

Canal Winchester : Second Wednesday at 11:30am at 22 Trine Street {Senior Center}

Pickerington: Third Thursday at 11:30 at 150 Hereford Drive [Senior Center]

Bremen: Fourth Tuesday at Noon at 161 Carter Street [Bremen Historical Society]

Jan 3: PACC Women's Leadership Coalition ~185 W Columbus St~8-9am

Jan 7: Safety Council Record Keeping & Updates~7:30am~Eagles~740.653.8251

Jan 14: DiscoverU Ribbon Cutting~12:30pm~River Valley Mall

Jan 15: Fairfield County Port Authority~8am~Commissioners Hearing Room

Jan 17: WOW Networking Coffee~8:30am~Hidden Lakes Winery

Jan 30: Annual Gathering for SID/DDL~5:30pm~Lodge in Lancaster~see pg 5

Feb 26: Lancaster State of the City~7:30am~Olivedale~253 Boving Road

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Jan 12-Feb 14: The Ackers Art Group~FCDL~3rd Floor Garrett

Jan 2-March 9: [Ohio Glass Museum](#) *Birds of a Feather Capture in Glass*~687-0101

Jan 7: An Introduction to Homeopathy~6pm~Wagnalls Memorial

Jan 12: *Winter Off-Trail Hike*~Wahkeena Nature Preserve~1pm~Reservations

Jan 16: Fairfield County Genealogy ~503 Lenwood Ave~6:30pm~Open

Jan 18: Hocking Hills Winter Hike~Continuous Starts from 9-11am~[More](#)

Jan 18: *An Eastern Woodland Native American Celebration*~Fairgrounds~10am-7pm

Jan 19: *An Eastern Woodland Native American Celebration*~Fairgrounds~11am-5pm

Jan 25-April 13: [Decorative Arts Center](#)~*My Best Friends are Potters*~Times Vary

You are Invited to Submit

Calendar Events and/or Press Releases for this Publication

Linda Kauffman

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