

RICHLAND AREA CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# CHAMBER LINK

JUNE 2025



Business After Hours at Snow Trails.



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## Celebrating Progress: IEDC Week

### Sandy Messner

*Director of Marketing & Communications*



You may have heard the term “economic development,” but it’s not always clear what that entails.

Economic development is about creating the conditions for businesses and communities to thrive. While much of this work happens quietly in the background, its impact is far-reaching.

Our team at the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development works with community leaders, elected officials and partner organizations to further economic development goals. This is done in a variety of ways: Helping businesses access support and funding, guiding redevelopment efforts, connecting employers to workforce solutions, attracting new investment and businesses, promoting our region and celebrating business milestones through ribbon cuttings and marketing efforts, and more.

Whether a business is just starting out or has been in business for years, this work supports a healthy support system to retain and grow businesses. May 12-16, we joined the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) to celebrate Economic Development Week, an international campaign that spotlights this work and its value to communities like ours.

We created and shared a series of five short videos that highlight this work, covering topics like workforce upskilling, incentives and finance tools, partnership programs, ribbon cuttings, and site redevelopment. Each video tells the story of how collaboration leads to progress and how that progress strengthens the entire business community.

Whether it’s training your existing workforce or your next great hire, finding ways to strengthen your current business, opening a new location, or simply seeing new investment in your neighborhood, economic development plays a part.

We’re thankful for support from funding partners and you to do this work for our great community, Richland County! We are working to enhance and expand our work for the area – stay tuned for an update later this year!

If you have a business need or would like to invest in our region through a new project or expansion, please reach out to [dclark@chooserichland.com](mailto:dclark@chooserichland.com) or 419-522-3211 and we will connect you to the right partner for your need.

Continued...

See some examples:

[richlandareachamber.com/celebrating-progress-economic-development-week-in-richland-county](http://richlandareachamber.com/celebrating-progress-economic-development-week-in-richland-county)



### Upskilling in Richland County



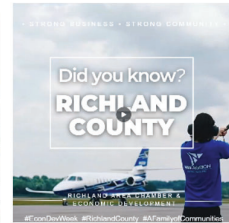
### Shelby Broadway & Main Revitalization



### Ribbon Cuttings – 61 Stories of Growth



### Healthcare & Economic Growth



### Business Incentives - Tools for Growth



Warm regards,

Sandy Messner  
Director of Marketing & Communications

## Momentum Builds at Mansfield Motor Speedway



Excitement continues to grow following the announcement that Matt and Jordan Tiffit have acquired Mansfield Motor Speedway and launched a bold revitalization effort. With a vision to transform the historic 178-acre site into a multi-use entertainment destination, the couple is investing over \$2 million in upgrades, repairs, and infrastructure improvements.

Plans include grassroots motorsports, car culture events, concerts, seasonal festivals, and more, bringing year-round energy to Richland County. Renovation work is

already underway, led by local firm Simonson Construction Services, with an official reopening slated for spring 2026.

Community leaders have praised the project, including Mayor Jodie Perry, who called it “an iconic property with a great history,” and Chamber CEO Ellen Heinz, who highlighted it as “an enormous opportunity for Richland County and Ohio.”

Follow Matt Tiffit's YouTube Channel for future updates.





## MAY RIBBON CUTTINGS



MANSFIELD RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC  
LIBRARY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE  
MANSFIELD PUBLIC ART COMMISSION



WIGTON HOMES/POWERED BY  
HOLDEN PROPERTY GROUP  
Grand Opening



MANSFIELD RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC  
LIBRARY – ONTARIO BRANCH  
Grand Reopening



KIND HEARTS HOSPICE  
Grand Opening



  
**RICHLAND COUNTY**  
A FAMILY OF COMMUNITIES  
*Eliza*

**SPACE TO —  
GROW.**



# Thank you to our renewing members!

## SHAPE & THRIVE

KeyBank - Ashland Road

## BOOST & EXCEL

Buckeye Imagination Museum  
Goyal Industries

Ritter's Office Outfitters  
Spitzer Motors of Mansfield

## BUILD & GROW

Akron Children's Hospital  
Brass Hanger Cleaners  
Mansfield Motor Group

Richland Lumber Inc  
Rinehardt Law Firm  
Studio 19 Salon & Spa

The Vault Wine Bar  
The Waterford at Mansfield

## ENGAGE & CONNECT

Absolute Assurance Restorations, LLC.

ADM Benefit Plans Agency  
American Homestead Exteriors  
Apex Academy  
Barrister Title Group, LLC.  
Blanton's Automotive  
C.B. Roofing & Building  
Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo

Crossroads Factory Store  
Daisy Capital LTD  
Great American Title Agency  
H.R. Choices, Inc.  
Hales Sport Center, Inc.

Hardline Heavy Equipment Solutions, LLC.

Haring Realty  
Health Insurance Options, LLC.  
Heartland Design Concepts  
Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio  
Lexington Local Schools  
Matt Quinn & Company  
Mohican Valley Title Agency, LLC.  
Monstervox Productions, LLC.  
MVP Sports Bar & Grill  
Northwestern Mutual  
Pioneer Career & Technology Center  
Prima Visual Media  
Richland County Children's Auxiliary  
- The New Store

Richland County Youth & Family Council

RLB CPAs, Inc.  
Slick Automated Solutions  
Snap Fitness Mansfield  
Succession Plus  
Techman Sales, Inc.  
Total Merchant Services  
Vitality Natural Wellness and MedSpa  
Wayne's Country Market  
Whitaker's Natural Market  
Wilson Family Realty  
Y-Not Cycling

Renewals reflect paid dues received from 05/02/2025 through 05/28/2025

Interested in enhancing your  
member benefits?

Contact Jennifer at (419) 522-3211, or  
[jwagner@richlandareachamber.com](mailto:jwagner@richlandareachamber.com)



**RICHLAND AREA  
CHAMBER**  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Strong Business.  
Strong Community.



## Charter Next Generation

Charter Next Generation is engineering the way for a better tomorrow. CNG has quickly become North America's leading independent producer of high-performance specialty film, flexible food packaging solutions, and other end-use markets that impact our local neighborhoods and beyond. We are committed to creating a better world by passionately pursuing sustainable solutions that protect families, strengthen the global community, and facilitate a greener future for generations to come. Our unwavering sustainability-first mindset enables a culture of growth and innovation, allowing us to reimagine what is possible and deliver best-in-class material science solutions.



## MAY MEMORABLE MOMENTS



DISCOVER RICHLAND TOUR



BRANDRICHLAND TOURISM AWARD



LEADERRICHLAND



NORTHERN OHIO DEVELOPMENT EXCHANGE

## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS- SNOW TRAILS







# Adult Outdoor Basketball League



**July & August**

**Tuesdays , 6-9 PM**

**Johns & Liberty Park**

**Register Online at [OhioSocialSports.com](http://OhioSocialSports.com)**





Owned and operated by Sonja Woerth and her "almost Korean" daughters, Almost Korean BBQ is excited to serve Mansfield and the surrounding areas with delicious, flavorful meals straight from the grill.

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[sonjawaerth@yahoo.com](mailto:sonjawaerth@yahoo.com)

Follow Almost Korean BBQ LLC on Facebook to see where they're popping up next and get a taste of what's cooking!






## ES Consulting

ES Consulting stands as a true Managed Services Provider (MSP), wholly dedicated to ensuring that industry standards, best practices, and client-specific needs are meticulously met. Unlike product-focused sales organizations, ES Consulting is a vendor neutral organization prioritizing standards over brand-solution commitments. With constant evaluation, when a solution lags, it is replaced.

Our commitment extends into deep integration with our clients' teams, actively supporting their goals, missions, and strategic IT demands. ES Consulting offers a flexible, a la carte selection of enterprise-level tools and comprehensive services, effectively serving as a complete IT department. This encompasses managing Security, Network Operations, Business Continuity, User Support, and Hardware/Software Evaluation, along with overseeing Management and Business Engagement.

Building on our robust security infrastructure, we provide expert CISO leadership and executive guidance to strengthen cybersecurity postures, align IT strategies with business objectives, and address complex security challenges. This is complemented by our specialized MSSP services, which focus on managing and monitoring organizational security processes.

Our core clients, regardless of their size, recognize the substantial value of partnering with a true MSP like ES Consulting. They value not only the tangible enhancements to profitability, productivity, and security but also the ways in which our services improve their corporate culture and forge stronger business relationships.

ES Consulting is "IT the way IT should be!"

# LIVE@LUNCH

2025 SUMMER  
COURTYARD SERIES

## JUNE SCHEDULE

LIVE PERFORMANCES | FOOD TRUCKS\*

MECHANICS BANK | 2 S. MAIN STREET | MANSFIELD

**ALL PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD 11:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.**

<b>JUN 13</b>	<i>Nate Williams</i>	<i>Mr. Bill's Wood Fired Pizza*</i>
<b>JUN 27</b>	<i>Taylor Schlupp</i>	<i>Eshelman's Table*</i>

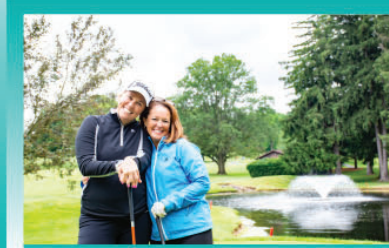
In the event of inclement weather,  
visit [MyMechanics.com/LiveatLunch](https://www.mymechanics.com/LiveatLunch) for updates.  
\*Food truck items available for purchase





34th Annual  
RICHLAND AREA CHAMBER

# GOLF Classic



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Jumbotron  
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Golf Ball  
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Premier Sponsors





# THE INTERNSHIP BLUEPRINT

## Building Programs that Work



Brought to you by:

CITRINCOOPERMAN®



**FRED BOLL**

*Executive Director*

Buckeye Imagination  
Museum



**JESSICA JOHNSON**

*Professional Recruitment  
Manager*

Spherion Mid-Ohio



**ASHLEY TUCKER**

*Human Resources Manager*

Warren Rupp



**EVAN STUART**

*Marketing Coordinator*

Richland Area Chamber  
& Economic  
Development

Join us for the next BOSS (Business Owners Sharing Solutions) event, where local business leaders and HR experts will dive into creating internship programs that actually work. If you're considering starting an internship program or looking to improve your current structure, this session will give you some practical insights you can implement right away.

### What you'll gain:

- Strategies to attract and retain quality interns
- Guidance on setting expectations and structuring intern roles
- Ideas for integrating interns into meaningful projects
- Best practices from businesses with successful internship programs
- Resources and community partnerships to support your efforts

### Fees/Admission:

- \$50 for non-members
- \$30 for Engage & Connect Members
- Always free for Build & Grow, Boost & Excel, Shape & Thrive, and Catalytic Leader Members.

WAYS TO  
REGISTER



1. Scan QR code
2. Our event calendar: [richlandareachamber.com](http://richlandareachamber.com)
3. Call us at (419) 522-3211
4. Email Lisa Duckworth at: [lduckworth@richlandareachamber.com](mailto:lduckworth@richlandareachamber.com)

## BUSINESS OWNERS SHARING SOLUTIONS



**Tuesday June 24, 2025**

8:00 - 10:00 AM  
Breakfast: 8:00 AM  
Program Starts: 8:15 AM



**DLX - Kobacker Room**

28 N. Main St.  
Mansfield, OH 44902





Big health benefits for  
**small businesses**



You put everything you have into your business. And we put everything into creating high-quality health insurance plans for you and your employees. We've partnered with the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development and Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE) to offer a unique benefit option for small businesses like yours. The COSE Benefit Plan is a multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) that allows businesses of 1–50 to experience rate stability, savings and the same great health benefits that large corporations have. Bundle your health plan with our dental, vision or life plans for a fully integrated benefits package.

Contact your broker | [COSEBenefitPlan.com](https://COSEBenefitPlan.com)



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Ohio's Hometown Health Insurer



## Empowered Women, Empowering Communities, and Why Connection Matters

This series, designed especially with women in mind, is hosted by the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development. Each month features powerful networking, a motivational "TED-type" talk, and the chance to learn more about our community. We look forward to having you join us!

Join us for an inspiring session highlighting the critical role of empowerment, connection, and community support.

- Learn about the vital work of The Domestic Violence Shelter and how it helps rebuild lives.
- Understand the unique challenges women face and how empowerment can break cycles of abuse and hardship.
- Discover how women supporting women creates lasting, positive change in families and communities.

### Meet Our Speaker:

Colleen Rice is a passionate advocate for women's empowerment and a key leader at The Domestic Violence Shelter. Her work has helped create programs that provide safety, healing, and the tools needed for survivors to rebuild their lives with dignity and purpose. With deep insight into the barriers women face, Colleen champions the power of connection, resilience, and community—calling on us all to take part in building a more compassionate and empowered future.

Come connect, learn, and leave inspired to uplift others and help transform lives through the power of support and solidarity.

SPONSORED BY:



**JUNE 18, 2025**  
11:45 am - 1:00 pm

DLX | Kobacker Room  
28 N. Main St.  
Mansfield, OH



**COLLEEN RICE**

The Domestic Violence  
Shelter

**REGISTER NOW**



## DEMYSTIFYING AI WORKSHOP

### Building Clarity, Capacity, and Confidence with AI and Automation

AI doesn't have to be overwhelming. In this 90-minute session, you'll learn how to use AI to simplify tasks, enhance communication, and support your team all while staying ethical and strategic.

You'll walk away with:

- Practical ways to start using AI now
- Confidence to lead with purpose
- A better grasp of AI tools and risks

Facilitated by Colleen Cook, President of Vinyl Marketing, known for making strategy smart, soulful, and approachable.

Bonus:

Apply for a \$2,500 Microsoft TechSpark scholarship toward a custom AI Blueprint to map out automation opportunities for your organization.

Let's make AI work for you.



**REGISTER**



Presented by:  
Colleen Cook  
President  
Vinyl Marketing





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\* - NOT A HERCULES EMPLOYEE

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~~\$37~~

A Month

**\$32**

A Month

Only available to chamber company  
members and their employees by scan-  
ning the QR code and signing up online

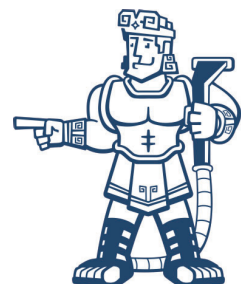


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w: [www.herculeswash.com](http://www.herculeswash.com)







Program Day Sponsor



The Young Leaders Institute students completed the program and had a graduation ceremony on May 7! Over six sessions, 39 high school sophomores from seven school districts explored Richland County, diving into local government, healthcare, tourism, and business and nonprofit operations.



3rd Cup Tea owner Braxton Daniels III shared an encouraging keynote speech. These students now have a fresh perspective on their community and are better equipped for leadership and service.



For their capstone project, they hosted a collection drive for The New Store, and raised over \$2,100!





The Leadership Unlimited May program day began with a Health Equity & Access panel with representatives from the Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board, Area Agency on Aging, and Nationwide Children's - Mansfield Close To Home Center.



Richland Public Health shared about key programs to keep residents safe and well including the Richland AED program.



Third Street Health Services shared about locations and services. Catalyst Life Services team members discussed their mental health and crises services, addiction, and vocational services. The class participated in an engaging Plinko game. Discussions centered around ensuring all citizens, from infants to seniors, have the care they need to thrive. The Richland County community is fortunate to have access to quality primary care, specialists, mental health, substance use, and public health preventative programs. And yet, there is a need for continued advocacy for vulnerable populations and to ensure federal and state funding continues.

Learn more about program days at [facebook.com/LeadershipUnlimited](https://facebook.com/LeadershipUnlimited).



# EMAIL MARKETING

Exclusively for Chamber members, the Member Message Email Marketing program is your ticket to directly engage with over 2,700 employees of Chamber member businesses. Here's a quick rundown:

- **Timing and Exclusivity:** Your Member Message email goes out on Tuesdays or Thursdays, ensuring maximum visibility as the sole sender on your chosen day.
- **Reservation and Availability:** Due to high demand, each member can send one message per quarter. Secure your preferred date by reserving early.
- **Open Rates and Cost:** Enjoy an impressive 30% average open rate for just \$175 per email blast (\$150 for non-profits).
- **Ease of Process:** Provide your content in a PDF or share text, 1-2 images (like your logo), and up to 3 links. Supply content 3-5 days before your slot for a proof before sending.

Don't miss out! Amplify your marketing with Member Message Email Marketing and make a lasting im-pact on the Chamber community. Contact Evan Stuart at [estuart@richlandareachamber.com](mailto:estuart@richlandareachamber.com) to get started!



[CONTACT](#)

## OSHA EMPHASIS PROGRAMS

### What Employers Need to Know

OSHA's mission is to ensure workplace safety across industries like construction, agriculture, and general industry. To target specific hazards, OSHA uses **Emphasis Programs**—temporary initiatives based on national or regional injury and inspection data.

### Types of Emphasis Programs:

- **National Emphasis Programs (NEPs):** Target hazards across the U.S., including heat, trenching, silica, warehousing, and fall prevention.
- **Regional/Local Emphasis Programs (REPs/LEPs):** Focus on specific concerns in regions—Ohio is in Region 5, with focus areas like food manufacturing, powered industrial vehicles, and grain handling.

These programs help direct OSHA's resources, guide inspections, and promote proactive safety outreach. Employers should review the emphasis programs to see if their industry or NAICS code is a target.

### Why It Matters:

Engaging with these programs improves safety, reduces risk, and can lower long-term costs.

If you have further questions regarding OSHA's Emphasis Programs or would like more information, please contact Andy Sawan at [andrew.sawan@sedgwick.com](mailto:andrew.sawan@sedgwick.com) or 330.819.4728.



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# BUZZ OFF!

## PREVENT MOSQUITOES BEFORE THEY BITE



Learn how at [richlandhealth.org](http://richlandhealth.org)



# 5th Annual Block Party

Saturday, August 2, 2025

12:00 - 3:00 pm

Malabar Intermediate School  
205 W Cook Rd, Mansfield, OH

*Walk-in clinic, games, free lunch,  
community resources, giveaways, and  
more!*





# It Takes A Village: Share Your Thoughts

We are sharing this opportunity on behalf of a community partner working on a series of in-depth stories about child care in Richland, Ashland, and Knox counties.

The goal is to better understand what is working, what is not, and how access to high-quality care impacts families, providers, employers, and children throughout the region. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, teacher, care provider, employer, or simply someone who cares about this issue, your input is valuable.

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete. Responses will help guide local reporting and may be featured anonymously in upcoming stories. Participants are free to skip any questions that do not apply to them.

At the end of the survey, you may choose whether to be contacted for a follow-up conversation with a reporter.

Your voice can help paint a clearer picture of the child care landscape in our communities and support the search for meaningful solutions.

[Take the survey.](#)

## THE VALUE OF YOUR TPA RELATIONSHIP

As a Sedgwick TPA customer, you receive comprehensive support for your workers' compensation needs—including a dedicated claims examiner who will guide you through the Ohio system with expert advice and a detailed action plan.

When a claim is filed, your examiner is notified within days and begins reviewing documentation to identify potential concerns, such as:

- Prior injuries to the same body part
- Delay in treatment
- Vague injury descriptions
- Discrepancies in medical records
- Injuries following disciplinary action
- Risky hobbies or co-existing health issues

Once the claim is reviewed, your examiner will help steer it toward resolution—either through return to work or settlement. Early communication helps reduce delays and keeps your claim moving forward.

While most claims are valid, your examiner is a key partner in helping you manage costs and make informed decisions.

If you have any questions, contact our Sedgwick program manager, David Deyo, at 614-376-5401 or [david.deyo@sedgwick.com](mailto:david.deyo@sedgwick.com).



# UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Register for these events **HERE**  
or visit our event calendar at  
[www.richlandareachamber.com](http://www.richlandareachamber.com)

- 06/06/25 2025 Reigonal Economic Forum, The Blueberry Patch & 1285 Winery, 12-3pm
- 06/12/25 Leadership Unlimited Alumni Dinner & Class of 2025 Commencement, Kingwood Center Gardens, 5:30-7:30pm
- 06/18/25 Women's Leadership Connection, Colleen Rice, DLX, 11:45am-1pm
- 06/20/25 Chamber Golf Classic, Deer Ridge Golf Club, 7:30am
- 06/24/25 Business Owners Sharing Solutions - The Internship Blueprint, DLX, 8-10am
- 06/30/25 Demystifying Ai Workshop, Buckeye Imagination Museum, 1-3pm
- 08/14/25 HR Summit, Area Agency on Aging, 11:30am-1:30pm
- 08/21/25 Business After Hours, Whishmaker House Bed & Breakfast, 5-7pm
- 10/23/25 Savor & Sip



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- Document Destruction



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## Element of Art

s t u d i o / g a l l e r y

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