

CHAMBERLINK

SEPTEMBER 2025



Business After Hours at Wishmaker House Bed & Breakfast, Restaurant and Winery, located in Bellville.





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info@richlandareachamber.com



The Momentum is Truly Building

Jessica Gribben

Economic & Community Development Director



Hello Chamber Newsletter readers and engaged community friends! Jessica Gribben here, having the honor of speaking with you in this month's newsletter. I have been with the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development for 8 years this month, which is completely blowing my mind. In this time, I have seen a lot of changes happening in our community. We often talk about the building momentum we are feeling. In fact, I write a weekly newsletter for businesses in Shelby called Municipal Momentum, because we see the amazing things happening and wanted a venue to share the good news! I rarely have a week that I struggle to find something awesome happening in the community.

Similarly, I am seeing momentum swinging all throughout Richland County! It seems once the ball starts rolling, it picks up steam and projects along the way. I've been fortunate to be able to support a number of our hometown businesses grow and expand over my years here, and that is continuing. Most people think about economic development as chasing down new businesses that make major headlines, like Intel, for example. Trust me when I tell you, it's working with our local businesses, the ones that have already chosen us, the ones that sponsor Little League teams and buy your kids' rabbits at the fair; those are the ones that make this job so rewarding. They are already proven partners, and when they win, they give right back to their community. A beautiful example of that is the Milliron Family. Grant Milliron left a legacy of giving that is unmatched, except by Karl, who is on his own path of giving back to the community that raised him with two huge projects in Mansfield and Shelby.

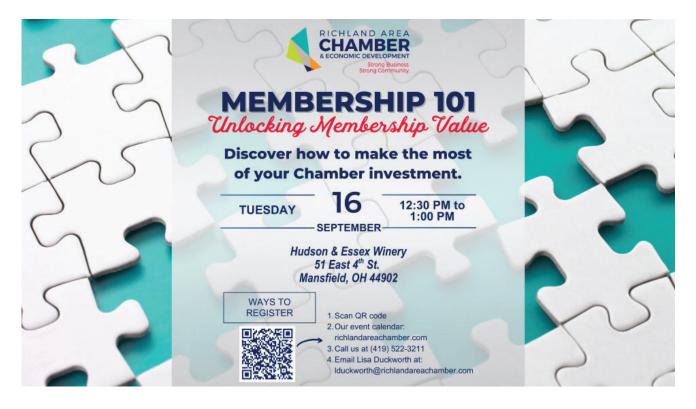
We often can't speak about all the wins that happen in our world until, quite frankly, they are old news and everyone already knows about them, but believe you me, I see wins every single day! Big ones, that will create jobs and infuse millions of dollars into our county, and small ones, when an entrepreneur opens a new storefront on Main Street, or adds an employee to keep up with demolition. Hopefully, you can feel that momentum building! Watching the downtowns transform in Shelby and Mansfield, seeing national retailers opening new locations in Ontario, watching our health systems grow to meet the needs of the community, and seeing local and out-oftown developers, take a chance on Richland County is exciting! Municipal Momentum indeed!

Jessica Gribben **Economic & Community Development Director**

COME FOR 2 EVENTS ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16! THE FUN STARTS AT 11 WITH THE MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON.



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP? THEN STAY FOR MEMBERSHIP 101!



PLEASE REGISTER FOR BOTH!

AUGUST RIBBON CUTTINGS











Thank you to our renewing members!

CATALYTIC LEADER / SILVER





Interested in enhancing your member benefits?

Contact Jennifer at (419)

BOOST & EXCEL

CCR Fleet Services, LLC. Major Metals Company Rooster's

BUILD & GROW

Advantage Credit Union, Inc. American Tower Company Brost Foundry

Brown Derby Roadhouse/Ontario **Event Center**

Clover Hill Early Learning Center

Crystal Clinic Orthopaedic Center Mid-Ohio Pipeline Company, Inc. Music Academy of Karate and Empowerment Richland County Board of **Developmental Disabilities**

Hoyt Lawn & Landscape, LLC.

Electrical Workers Local 688

IBEW - International Brotherhood of

Richland Screw Machine Products, Inc. Steve's Dakota Grill The Center for Cosmetic Dentistry, Inc. The Ohio State University at Mansfield

ENGAGE & CONNECT

Abdo Industrial Machine Services Adobe Acrobat

Advanced Dermatology of NCO, Inc.

Advantage Family Outreach &

Foster Care

Altrusa of Mansfield, Inc.

Apple Hill Orchards Bender Communications, Inc.

Blackwater Market Comics &

Coffee

Braintree Business Development

Center

Brechbuhler Scales, Inc. Buckeye Express Car Wash

Bytchn Kitchen

Charles Mill Marina

Elite1 Home Inspections, LLC. G & M Body and Paint Shop

Global Medical Foam, Inc. Hammett Asphalt Paving, Inc. Hess Industries, LTD.

Jack P. Stewart, Inc. Jays Truck And Equipment Repair, LLC. Jodie D. Dees, J.D., CO., LPA. Kara's Bread

Knapp Electric Local Project Pro, LLC.

Lock It Up West

M1 Church and Kids Academy

Martini's on Main

Mid Ohio Aesthetics & Wellness, LLC.

Midwest Aircraft Products Company

New Space Storage

North Central State College

Oak Hill Cottage (Richland County Historical

Society)

Ohio Social Sports Ooh La La Catering Ora K Beauty Products Pacific Impressions, Inc. Paul's Drive-In Prairie Peddler Festival Three Rose Enterprise, LLC. Village Catering Company Wade Gardens Landscaping & Gift Shop Winbigler Repair Center



AUGUST MEMORABLE MOMENTS





BUSINESS AFTER HOURS - WISHMAKER HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST, RESTAURANT AND WINERY





HR LUNCH & LEARN



WLC - EMPATHY IS NOT WEAKNESS, MARY HENTON



SISTER CITY VISIT



LEADERSHIP UNLIMITED ORIENTATION

SAVOR & SIP IS BACK AND WE'RE LINING UP FOOD VENDORS!

Would you like to be a food vendor?

There is no cost for Chamber members (we can possibly work out a trade for Chamber membership). You simply supply a "tasting" to encourage attendees to become future customers.

Contact Lisa at (419) 522-3211, or Iduckworth@richlandareachamber.com











Auction & Food Tasting

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 5-7:30

Mid-Ohio Conference Center A CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS CULINARY IN OUR AREA!

Enjoy mouthwatering appetizers, entrees, desserts, pastries, and beverages from some of the area's finest restaurants, caters, bakeries, deli's, and beverage companies!

- How does it work? Sample tastings from our different food vendors, enjoy live music, bid on silent auction items, enjoy local wines and beer, and more! Most attendees are full before they are able to try all the samples from over 20 vendors! See below for ticket price.
- Who can attend? This event is open to Chamber members and the general public, so invite your co-workers, family and friends.
- <u>Bid on auction items</u> Bid on the many fantastic auction items contributed by our Chamber members! Everything from overnight getaways to themed baskets, chocolates, gift cards, sports items and much more!
- Enjoy Live Entertainment ~ Great Food ~ Auction Items!

Tickets: \$30 if registered by 10/10/25 (\$40 after 10/10/25)

Vendor Registration



- 1. Scan QR code
- 2. Our event calendar: richlandareachamber.com
- 3. Call us at (419) 522-3211
- Email Lisa Duckworth at:
 Iduckworth@richlandareachamber.com

Public Registration





Savor & Sip Auction

A CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS CULINARY IN OUR AREA!

Item Donation Form

October 23, 2025 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM at the Mid-Ohio Conference Center

Why participate? This event is a great opportunity to **highlight your business** and potentially get some new long-term customers! Some great ideas include: gift cards, baskets, trips, gas cards, chocolate, tickets to sporting events, etc.

Yes, I would like to donate an item to the auction!		
Business / Organization:		
Contact Person:		
Phone:	Email:	
tem(s): *		
* Item Enclosed? Y / N Need pickup	between (dates)	
Value of Item:		
Please respond by Friday, October 3:		

<u>Digital Form</u>

Call: (419) 522-3211 Fax: (419) 526-6853 Email: Iduckworth@richlandareachamber.com



Maker's

Savor & Sip Auction and Food Tasting

Previous events have sold out at 500 quests!







In addition to the silent auction and live entertainment, attendees enjoy 20+ food vendors offering tasting samples!

Presenting Sponsor

\$4,000 (Exclusive)

- 30 tickets included
- Naming rights (Savor & Sip presented by...)

JNIOUE

- Guaranteed seating at a VIP table
- Logo (small) on souvenir glasses (1 color)
- · Logo (1 color) on tote bags for attendees
- Logo (large) on event signage
- · Opportunity to set up a promotional table at the event to hand out information
- Company name/logo recognized on advertising
- Company name listed on all press releases
- Logo included in Chamber newsletter
- Logo included in Chamber emails about the event
- · Logo on cover of "Tasting Menu"
- Full page ad in the "Tasting Menu" (3.75"w x 10.5" tall)
- · Logo (large) on all event posters
- Business recognized on stage & in announcements
- Logo & link on event webpage
- Logo shared on social media
- · Right of first refusal for next year

Souvenir Glass Sponsor

\$2,500 (Exclusive)

- 20 tickets included
- Logo (1 color) printed on souvenir pub glass given to first 300 attendees, sponsors, & vendors
- Guaranteed seating at a VIP table
- Logo (1 color) on tote bags for attendees
- Logo on event signage
- Company name listed on all press releases
- Logo included in Chamber newsletter
- Logo included in Chamber emails about the event
- Logo included in the "Tasting Menu"
- 1/2 page ad in the "Tasting Menu" (3.75"w x 5"tall)
- Logo on event posters
- Business recognized on stage & in announcements
- Logo & link on event webpage
- Logo shared on social media
- Right of first refusal for next year

Platinum Sponsor

\$1.000

Tray Sponsor

\$700 (Exclusive)

- 8 tickets included
- Guaranteed seating at a VIP table
- Logo (1 color) on tote bags for attendees
- · Logo (color) on event signage
- · Company name listed on all press releases
- Logo included in Chamber emails about the event
- Logo included in the "Tasting Menu"
- Logo included on event posters
- Business recognized in announcements
- Logo listed on event webpage with link

8 tickets included

- Company logo on all trays passed out at event to every participant
- Guaranteed seating at a VIP table
- Logo (1 color/small) on tote bags for attendees
- · Name on event signage
- Company name listed on all press releases
- Name included in Chamber emails about the event
 Name included in the "Tasting Menu"
- · Name included on event posters
- · Business recognized in announcements
- Name listed on event webpage with link

Gold Sponsor 8 tickets included

\$550

Silver Sponsor

\$300

- · Logo (1 color/small) on tote bags for attendees
- · Name on event signage
- Name included in Chamber emails about the event
- Company Name listed in the "Tasting Menu"
- Company Name listed on event posters Business recognized in announcements
- Company Name listed on event webpage with link
- 4 tickets included
- · Company name on tote bags for attendees
- · Name on event signage
- Company Name listed in the "Tasting Menu"
- Company Name listed on event posters
- Business recognized in announcements
- Company Name listed on event webpage with link

Sponsors also receive exclusive pre-sale opportunity before tickets are released to the general public.

Chamber members can also support this event and promote their business by contributing an item to the auction. Contact Lisa Duckworth at 419-522-3211 or lduckworth@richlandareachamber.com.

LOCATION: Mid-Ohio Conference Center

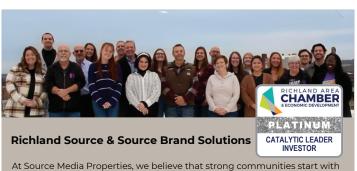
DATE: October 23, 2025

Promotion for Your Business

Audience: Area business leaders, professionals, support staff, general business crowd.

Advertising/Promotion via: Email Blasts, Social Media Posts, Newsletter Ads, Event Program, Event Banner & Event Posters, Newspaper





At Source Media Properties, we believe that strong communities start with informed citizens and thriving local businesses. That's why we bring together award-winning journalism and powerful marketing services—all under one roof.

We believe great things happen when you Start at the Source. Need to understand what's happening in your school or neighborhood? Want to reach thousands of local customers with a smart, custom campaign? Looking for help telling your story in a way that resonates? We're here for all of it.

Our newsroom informs, inspires, and connects our community with trusted, independent journalism focused on solutions, not sensationalism. We're proud to be the first read for thousands of readers looking to stay informed about their local community every day - and the go-to media partner for dozens of local businesses and organizations.

Through Source Brand Solutions, our in-house marketing agency, we help small and mid-size businesses stand out with digital ads, content storytelling, SEO, social media, and more.

No one else does both. No one else knows this region like we do.

We combine the depth and trust of local journalism with the tools and talent of a modern marketing agency. That makes us unique - and uniquely valuable - to the readers, businesses, and civic partners who rely on us every day.

So whatever you're trying to accomplish—know what's happening, reach more people, share a great story, or grow your brand—Start at the Source.



SEPTEMBER 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.

SEP 5 Tom's Kitchen Table Cub Country*

SEP 19 Emily Raff Exclusively Yours*

In the event of inclement weather, visit MyMechanics.com/LiveatLunch for updates. *Food truck items available for purchase







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







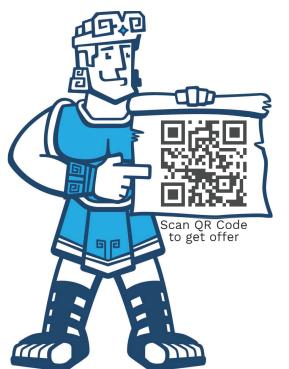
DID THIS PIGEON POOP ON YOUR CAR?

* - NOT A HERCULES EMPLOYEE

KEEP IT CLEAN with a monthly wash package from



SPECIAL OFFER TO ALL CHAMBER MEMBER COMPANIES & THIER EMPLOYEES



\$5 OFF Our most popular unlimited monthly wash package



Wash as often as you want!

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



FREE VACUUMS WITH EVERY WASH

Hercules Express Wash | 1401 Lexington Ave. | p: (419) 709-9000

w: www.herculeswash.com





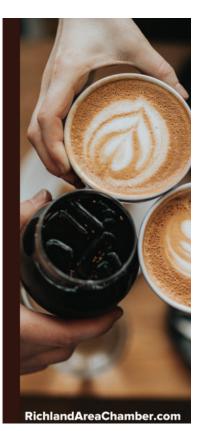


When: Friday, Oct 3, 2025 8-9 AM

Where: Music Academy of Karate and Empowerment 44 W. Fourth St. Mansfield, OH 44902

Why: Coffee, connections... and did we mention coffee???







Jay Industries



It's knowing you're right at home.

Start the next chapter of your best life today with less stress pre-approvals and new options that could lower your down payment.

MyMechanics.com/mortgages



Subject to credit approval.
Additional terms and conditions apply.





To be considered for the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development Small Business of the Year Awards, the nominated business must:

- Be headquartered in Richland County
- Employ 250 or fewer full-time equivalent employees
- In operation for at least three years
- Have annual sales revenue of less than \$20M
- Demonstrate an active concern for the community

Eligible applicants will be judged on the following:

- **Business History & Performance**
- Staff Training & Motivation
- Community Involvement
- **Customer Service**
- **Business Strategies & Goals**

To be considered for the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development Non-Profit of the Year Awards, the nominated business must:

- Be headquartered in Richland County
- Total budget of \$2M or less
- In operation for at least three years
- Must be a 501c3 organization

Eligible applicants will be judged on the following:

- Collaboration with other organizations
- Employee Practices
- Financial Performance (diversification, income streams, rainy day fund, etc.)
- Customer Service
- Strategic Planning long range

2024 Small Business of the Year Winners





NOMINATE

Deadline for nominations is September 15, 2025

Small Business of the Year Awards

Luncheon recognizing Richland County's small businesses and small non-profits!









Previous (in-person) attendance - 200+

Presenting Sponsor

\$6,000 Exclusive

- Two (2) tables of 8 at the luncheon
- Naming rights (Small Business Awards presented by...)
- 4 Minutes at the podium to make remarks at event
- Opportunity for a company representative to be an awards presenter
- Opportunity to have a promotional table at the event
- Logo included in Chamber event emails for this event
- Company name listed on all press releases
- Logo in Chamber newsletter
- Logo on cover of program
- Full page color ad in the event program (4.5"w x 7.5" tall)
- Table signs with corporate logo
- Logo recognition (dedicated slide) on slide presentation
- Multiple verbal recognitions at event
- Logo & link on event webpage
- Be recognized at the nominee breakfast
- Logo shared on social media
- Right of first refusal for next year

Finalist VideoSponsor

\$3,500 Exclusive

- · One (1) table of 8 at the luncheon
- Logo on the "credits" page of each finalist video profile (shown at luncheon & social media)
- Opportunity for a company representative to be an awards presenter
- Logo included in Chamber event emails for this event
- Company name listed on all press releases
- Logo in Chamber newsletter
- Logo (small) on cover of program
- Full page color ad in the event program (4.5"w x 7.5" tall)
- Table sign with corporate logo
- Logo recognition on slide presentation
- Logo & link on event webpage
- Recognition at nominee breakfast
- Multiple verbal recognitions at event
- Logo shared on social media
- Right of first refusal for next year

Premier Sponsor \$800 (Limit of 6)

- · One table of 8 at luncheon
- Opportunity to be on stage to present awards
- Logo (small) on cover of program
- Logo included in Chamber event emails for this event
- Logo in Chamber newsletter
- Half-page color ad in the event program (4.75"w x 3.75"tall)
- Table sign with corporate logo
- Logo recognition on slide presentation
- Multiple verbal recognitions at event
- Logo & link on event webpage

Regional Leader Sponsor \$400

- · One table of 8 at the luncheon
- Logo (small) in the event program
- Table sign with corporate logo
- Name recognition on slide presentation
- Verbal recognition at event
- Company name & link on event webpage

- 4 seats at the luncheon \$250
- Company name in the event program
- Name recognition on slide presentation
- Verbal recognition at event
- Company name and link on event webpage

Entrepreneur Sponsor

- · 2 seats at the luncheon
- Company name in the event program
- Verbal recognition at event
- · Company name on event webpage

DATE: Typically held in December

Promotion for Your Business

Audience: Area business leaders, small business owners & managers, professionals, media, elected officials

Advertising/Promotion via: Email Blasts, Social Media Posts, Newsletter Ads, Chamber Website, and Event Program

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Richland Area Chamber ATHENA Leadership Award

Nominate an exceptional woman for the Richland Area Chamber ATHENA Leadership Award! This prestigious recognition celebrates individuals who excel professionally, contribute to their community, and empower other women. Nominees should have ties to north central Ohio. Be a part of this distinguished tradition and submit your nomination by October 3, 2025. Recognize remarkable women in the categories of professional support, business accomplishments, community service, and more.

Join us at our Annual Meeting on February 11, 2026, sponsored by Park National Bank, as we honor these outstanding leaders. Don't miss the chance to acknowledge their remarkable contributions.



NOMINATE

Member Message Email Marketing

Exclusively for Chamber Members

Directly engage with over 2,900 employees of Chamber member businesses!

Why Choose Member Message Email Marketing?

- Timing & Exclusivity: Your message goes out on Tuesdays or Thursdays as the sole email of the day.
- High Demand: Limited to one message per member per quarter—reserve early!
- Results & Cost: Achieve a 30% average open rate for just \$175 (\$150 for non-profits).

How It Works:

- Submit content as a PDF or share text, 1-2 images (e.g., logo), and up to 3 links.
- Provide content 3-5 days in advance for proof approval.

Amplify Your Marketing!

Contact Evan Stuart at estuart@richlandareachamber.com to claim your spot today!



Jammi McClead Vice President

Senior Financial Advisor Senior Portfolio Advisor

10/15/25

11:45 am - 1:00 pm DLX | Kobacker Room 28 N. Main St. Mansfield, OH



REGISTER NOW ->







2025 REMAINING EVENTS



PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT October 18-19 Land-Grant, Columbus



BASKETBALL LEAGUE Thursdays 6-10 pm

October/November



VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Tuesdays 6-10 pm October/November



REGISTER ONLINE

www.OhioSocialSports.com Questions? Call/Text 954.803.8655

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YOUNG LEADERS INSTITUTE



First Wednesdays:

October, November, December, January, February, March 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Young Leaders Institute (YLI) offers high school sophomores an opportunity to explore their community and learn leadership lessons along the way. Community members are encouraged to nominate a students.

Contact:

Angie Cirone, Program Director acirone@richlandareachamber.com 419-522-3211, ext. 103

Program days consist of exploration of a Richland County region. Students will talk with elected officials and tour businesses, healthcare organizations, nonprofits, and area attractions.



Apply by Sept. 9:

richlandareachamber.com/workforce/young-leaders-institute



Look Before You Lock Richland





Prevention You Can Count On

Even the most attentive caregivers can become distracted. Whether it's a child in a car seat or a pet in

the backseat, it only takes a few minutes for danger to set in, especially in harsh weather conditions.

That's why Richland Public Health is launching the **Look** Before You Lock Richland initiative—combining smart and simple tools to help prevent hot car incidents before they happen.

This initiative supports all caregivers-parents, grandparents, pet owners, and community memberswith practical safety solutions and peace of mind.



Free for Richland **County residents!**

How to Participate

- Slap Wristbands and Window Cling with Working Thermometer: These easy to use low tech tools remind you (and those around you) to double check your car's backseat for kids and pets! Contact or visit Richland Public Health to receive yours and start using them today!
- Bluetooth Car Seat Sensor: The Doona SensAlert detects the presence of a child on board and warns the caregiver (or emergency contacts) with three incremental levels of alert if the child is left unattended in the car. It uses an intelligent cloud-based system to send messages and calls, so it does not depend on the phone's signal or status. To install a Doona SensAlert in your vehicle, you must set up an appointment with an RPH Car Seat Technician. *Proof of Richland County residency is required. Limit 1 Doona SensAlert per child.

richlandhealth.org/lookbeforeyoulock



Whether it barks or babbles, if it rides in your car—it deserves protection. Let's work together to create a community where no loved one is left behind.





555 Lexington Ave Mansfield, OH 44907



419-774-4541



smyers@richlandhealth.org

LET'S KEEP EVERYONE SAFE

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Register for these events HERE or visit our event calendar at www.richlandareachamber. 09/16/25 Member Appreciation Luncheon, Hudson & Essex Restaurant & Patio, 11am-12:30pm

09/16/25 Membership 101, Hudson & Essex Winery, 12:30-1pm

09/25/25 Business After Hours, Buckeye Imagination Museum, 5-7pm

10/03/25 Chamber Coffee at Music Academy of Karate and Empowerment, 8-9am 10/15/25 Women's Leadership Connection - Jammi McClead, DLX, 11:45am-1pm

10/23/25 Savor & Sip, Mid Ohio Conference Center, 5-7:30pm

11/29/25 Small Business Saturday

12/09/25 Small Business of the Year Awards, Kehoe Center, 11:30am-1:30pm

02/11/26 Annual Meeting and Economic Excellence Awards Dinner 2026, Mid Ohio Conference

Center, 5-8pm

























- ADENA CORPORATION
 ALUMNI ROOFING CO
 CLEVELAND FINANCIAL GROUP
 - MIDWEST AUTOMOTIVE TRUCKING MILLIRON AUTO PARTS
 - AVITA HEALTH SYSTEM CHARTER NEXT GENERATION EDGE PLASTICS
 - FIRST ENERGY HAMILTON INSURANCE GROUP, INC JAY INDUSTRIES NEWMAN TECHNOLOGY WESTBROOK COUNTRY CLUB