Dear Member:

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. All members of our Chamber family – our 1,900 business members, community partners, staff and board – are on my mind each day as we navigate these uncharted waters together.

You’ve probably noticed a heavy volume of communication from our Chamber to help provide valuable resources for your business. You can find many of those resources online at CantonChamber.org/COVID19. Our staff is working remotely, but is committed to disseminating business information as soon as it becomes available.

In compliance with state and federal guidance, and for the safety of all involved in our events, we have cancelled or postponed all events through May 11, except for events that may go “virtual.” We are actively working to reschedule many events for later dates. Please be on the look-out in coming days for opportunities to connect virtually with fellow members.

Finally, I want you all to know that our Chamber is here to help. If you know of an urgent business need, please let us know. If you need help for your business, we will help point you in the right direction. It’s become almost cliché over the past few weeks, but it’s true: we need each other more than ever, and will get through this together!

Stay safe,

Denny Saunier • President & CEO • Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce
AultCare is invested in the health of our members and community, and we want to share updates and guidance towards prevention and treatment of COVID-19.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?
COVID-19 presents with symptoms similar to an upper respiratory infection:
- Cough
- Fever
- Shortness of breath
- Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure

HOW CAN I HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?
- Practicing basic hygiene is the most effective way to avoid spreading illness, including COVID-19.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Clean the palms and the backs of your hands and underneath your fingertips.
  » If soap and water aren’t available, use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Frequently clean and disinfect surfaces such as countertops, desks and phones.
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow if tissues are not available.
  » Do not cough or sneeze into your hands.
- Stay away from people who are or may be sick.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- The CDC does not recommend wearing a face mask to protect yourself.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?
Visit the CDC’s homepage at cdc.gov or the WHO’s website at who.int for the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 and travel restrictions.
Urgent Request

PPE NEEDED FOR STATE OF OHIO

As Ohio prepares for a surge in COVID-19 cases, our medical professionals and first responders are in urgent need of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to meet demand and provide necessary protection for our health care workers. The Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce has a request from the State of Ohio asking for the donation or sale of PPE from our business community.

PPE items include N95 masks, surgical masks, goggles, face shields, exam gloves, and disposable gowns.

The state of Ohio is asking residents and businesses who can donate PPE, or any other essential service or resource, to email together@governor.ohio.gov. Staff will receive these emails and coordinate how these resources can best be used to benefit all Ohioans.

Let’s help protect our frontline workers together!
Ohio Establishes Business Resource Website DURING COVID-19

The State of Ohio has a designated web page for business resources during COVID-19. The COVID-19 Pandemic has created a great strain on the nation’s healthcare system, but it’s not come without economic difficulties as well. State leaders are working to ensure resources are readily available to Ohio businesses and workers to ensure we all weather this difficult time, remembering we are all in this together.

The links will connect you with local, state and federal resources and funds for the following impacted categories:

- Individuals and families: unemployment resources, health insurance relief, school meals and more.
- Small businesses and non-profits: economic disaster loan program, bar and restaurant relief, publicly-funded daycares, ODOT modification for haulers, BWC deferment of premium payments, grace period for health insurance premiums, and more.

LEARN MORE AT CORONAVIRUS.OHIO.GOV.

FEDERAL COVID-19 LOAN PROGRAMS for Small Businesses

Over the past few weeks, the Canton Chamber has been providing updates on the public policy response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As federal, state and local governments have imposed significant restrictions on individuals and businesses, they also have launched numerous stimulus measures and relief programs designed to provide support to business and nonprofit organizations adversely impacted by the crisis.

Among the most important programs launched to date are Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) and Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, both of which are available to small businesses and nonprofits under the auspices of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

The SBA EIDL program makes disaster loans up to $2 million available to small businesses at low interest rates (3.75% for businesses, 2.75% for nonprofits). The CARES Act, passed on March 27 with support from Ohio’s entire Congressional delegation, added a $10,000 emergency advance to the EIDL program, which applicants should receive within three days of applying for a disaster loan. Borrowers will not be required to repay the advance, even if their loan applications are denied. You can apply online at https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/.

The PPP loan program, which is also part of the CARES Act, provides loans up to $10 million to small businesses at 1% interest. The loans are intended to be used primarily to cover eight weeks of payroll expenses and may be forgiven up to the full loan amount if used to cover certain approved expenses. Applications for PPP loans, which must be filed with SBA-approved lending institutions, open April 3 for most small businesses and April 10 for self-employed individuals and independent contractors.


Please visit the Chamber’s COVID-19 resources webpage (https://www.canton-chamber.org/covid19#resources) for the latest updates and information.
Support Our Local RESTAURANTS & RETAILERS!

Even under a Stay at Home order, we can still shop many local businesses, which need our support now more than ever! Most of your favorite restaurants are still open for carryout or delivery, and many retailers are open online. And if a business is deemed an essential service, they are still open as well.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP:
- Order carryout or delivery
- Have a treat delivered to a friend’s door
- Buy a gift card to use later
- Shop small online
- Make a conscious effort to shop local
- Keep up with subscriptions and memberships even if you can’t use them right now
- Share a social media post for a local business
- Leave a positive review online

Many of our local restaurants are getting creative – offering family style meals, curbside pickup and even ice cream delivery.

PROVIDING CARRYOUT IN STARK:
Go to Stark County Take-Out Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/starkcountytakeout/
This is a platform for all restaurants to promote their take-out options.

Downtown Restaurants STILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

CARRYOUT / DELIVERY / GIFT CARDS / Changes daily so please call or go online for hours and other info!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Website Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMVETS Triple Nickel</td>
<td>(330) 452-8202</td>
<td>facebook.com/triplenickelcanton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arcade Coney</td>
<td>(330) 454-2294</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arcadia Grille</td>
<td>(330) 454-6055</td>
<td>facebook.com/arcadia.grille</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basil Asian Bistro</td>
<td>(330) 452-3888</td>
<td>basiliasianrestaurant.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bender’s Tavern</td>
<td>(330) 453-8424</td>
<td>benderscanton.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton Provisions Company</td>
<td>(330) 453-8424</td>
<td>cantonprovisions.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpe Diem Coffee Shop</td>
<td>(330) 455-2326</td>
<td>carpediemcoffeeshop.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Blend Coffee Roasters</td>
<td>(330) 483-5297</td>
<td>cherryblendcoffeeroasters.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cork and Canvas on 3rd</td>
<td>(330) 453-2263</td>
<td>cco3.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deli Ohio</td>
<td>(330) 453-7777</td>
<td>deliohio.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desert Inn</td>
<td>(330) 456-1766</td>
<td>desertinncanton.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed’s Smokehouse</td>
<td>(330) 915-6944</td>
<td>facebook.com/lizeliz42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fromage du Monde</td>
<td>(330) 274-9901</td>
<td>fromagecanton.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fronimo’s Downtown</td>
<td>(234) 360-8665</td>
<td>fromimosdowntown.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George’s Lounge</td>
<td>(330) 452-0029</td>
<td>georgescanton.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grapes in a Glass</td>
<td>(330) 453-9463</td>
<td>50shadesofwine.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2 Huth &amp; Harris Wine Merchants</td>
<td>(330) 805-3212</td>
<td>h2winemerchants.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muggswigz</td>
<td>(330) 754-1017</td>
<td>muggswigz.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskellunge Brewing Company</td>
<td>(513) 802-3417</td>
<td>muskellungebrewingcompany.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Napoli Italian Eatery</td>
<td>(330) 452-7456</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passion Blues Restaurant and Club</td>
<td>(234) 214-0396</td>
<td>passionbluesclub.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salumeria di Torre Italian Market and Deli</td>
<td>(330) 488-5763</td>
<td>salumeriaditorre.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samantha’s Downtown</td>
<td>(330) 453-1110</td>
<td>sunnysamanthas.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparta Steakhouse and Lounge</td>
<td>(330) 454-6343</td>
<td>spartasteakhouseandlounge.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That Little Italian Kitchen</td>
<td>(330) 499-2248</td>
<td>thatlittleitaliankitchen.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thatsa Wrapp</td>
<td>(330) 452-9727</td>
<td>thatsawrapp.net</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Quarry « Golf Classic
Friday, May 29

Swing into summer and save the date

Outing will include:
• Contests and Prizes
• Delicious Food and Beverages
• “Come Back and Play Free” Certificates
• Networking Opportunities
• Tons of fun on a great course

More details coming soon! CantonChamber.org

For questions or sponsor information, call Chris Gumpp at 330.458.2055 or chrisg@cantonchamber.org

It’s tee time!

DANE J. MAYLE, CPA

The Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce announces its newest board member, Dane J. Mayle, CPA.

Mayle is a principal with CliftonLarsonAllen and has more than 25 years of accounting and consulting experience working with manufacturing, wholesale-distribution and professional services clients. He previously worked in the audit department of a national accounting firm in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mayle is co-director of the firm’s northeast Ohio Manufacturing and Wholesale-Distribution Services Group.

He provides services that include audit and financial accounting, risk assessment studies, cash flow analysis and forecasting, internal control procedures and documentation, employee benefit plans, and mergers and acquisitions, including experience with private equity transactions.

He is responsible for managing internal and external communication of local office educational information relating to the industry, including internal training, local client seminars and communications.

Mayle has developed specialized expertise in providing auditing services to defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, employee welfare plans and Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOP) ranging from 200-2,000 employees.

He earned his bachelor of science in accounting from University of Baltimore. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants. Mayle also served in the United States Navy.

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New Board Member

DANE J. MAYLE, CPA
For 23 years, AultComp MCO focuses on what matters most: our community and personalized care. We assist with the efficient return to work for your employees, all while delivering exceptional customer service.

ABOUT US

Specializing in workers’ compensation medical management, AultComp MCO’s mission is to deliver high-quality services to our business partners. As we strive to exceed customer expectations, we will continually manage our resources cost-effectively, and maintain trust and integrity in all our partnerships.

4650 Hills & Dales Rd NW
Suite 360
Canton, Ohio 44718

Phone: 330-830-4919 or 1-888-738-5800
Fax: 330-830-4902
Email: aultcompmco@aultcompmco.com
Web: www.aultcompmco.com
The kids are home from school. Our kids are missing a semester of learning and a host of questions goes through my mind… what about end of year tests, how about AP testing and ACT’s? And then I catch my breath as I know they (and by they, I mean “we”) will survive. If you think of it, millions of lives were disrupted due to 9/11 and World War II and eventually normalcy returned.

Higher Ed and k-12 instructors are figuring out how to teach remotely. Many teachers have the luxury of technology to communicate with their students through text messaging, school posts and blogs. Some of the cable companies are offering free 60-day broadband and Wi-Fi to students without internet. Also, many teachers sent children home with packets of material to work on while they are home. This disruption may change the way material is disseminated and taught to our children in the future.

And then of course there is also the issue of social services. A recent statistic states that 1 in 4 children in Stark County live in poverty. How can a child learn when they are worried about where their next meal is coming from? During this period the 22 school districts affiliated with the Stark Educational Service Center have created a great system to ensure that students have access to meals during this shut down. Each district is making this happen based on community needs.

We are also thankful to be in a well-networked community where agencies are working together to support children and families in need. The United Way leadership has facilitated conversations with other service organizations to coordinate support and services to our most vulnerable population. Help for families can be accessed by dialing 211 or 330-491-9997 or through 211stark.org.

When it comes to our children, we are Stark Strong, and we will survive this disrupter!

By: Barbara Hammontree Bennett, PE, PS, LEED-AP
Director of Education Initiatives
Should Tactics Come First?

MONTHLY BUSINESS ADVICE FROM CANTON SCORE MEMBERS

An area chamber of commerce reached out to the Canton Regional Chapter of SCORE, asking that one of its mentors meet with chamber members to help them strengthen their marketing.

The meeting was to begin at 7 a.m. in a room above a restaurant. The SCORE mentor was first to arrive and poured himself coffee. The first chamber member to arrive was a store owner. The two greeted and shook hands. The next words from the store owner: “I recently put up a sign on the way into town, but I’m not sure it’s doing any good.”

When the SCORE mentor heard those words, what he was thinking he didn’t speak: “Of course you don’t know. You’ve started with a tactic instead of first doing some upfront thinking.”

When initially meeting new clients who are seeking help with marketing, SCORE members are accustomed to hearing such clients first saying: “Would you like to see my website?” “I have a new brochure. Let me show it to you.” “Do you think I should buy Facebook ads?”

In all such instances and many more, SCORE mentors find themselves beginning to work with small businesses - both for-profits and non-profits - that begin to market thinking tactically instead of strategically. Doing so consumes - and too often wastes - time and money.

Thinking - or planning - strategically fundamentally means thinking comprehensively and long term. In planning strategically, SCORE mentors guide clients through a process that includes articulating - in the following order:

- aspirations
- opportunities
- challenges
- facts relevant to success (research)
- measurable objectives
- broad strategies designed to support objectives
- financing needs if any
- list of audiences and their expectations
- package of core messages meant to cause audiences to take actions that the client desires

Central to this process is a template that SCORE provides clients. Mentors then review and annotate the client’s draft of a plan. They then meet again to put on the finishing touches that produce a plan that the client can use effectively as a tool.

To learn more about this strategic planning process or for free business mentoring advice, contact SCORE at www.CantonSCORE.org or 330.244.3280. We are located at 6000 Frank Ave NW, Canton, OH 44720.

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AultWorks Occupational Medicine specializes in treating work-related injuries and illnesses. We are certified by the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation.

Our services include:
- Injury Care
- Drug and Alcohol Screenings
- DOT and Pre-placement Physicals
- Pre-placement Physicals
- Random Management Programs
- Mobile Medical Unit

www.aultman.org/aultworks
1-844-285-9675

At your location or ours, we’ve got you covered.

AultWorks Occupational Medicine

Canton
330-491-9675

Alliance
330-823-8864

Orville
330-684-4767

Carrollton
330-627-0091
Over the past 57 years, the annual Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival including Enshrinement Week Powered by Johnson Controls has expanded from its original four small events to more than 18 diverse events enjoyed by nearly 700,000 people and producing an economic impact of approximately $40 million for the Canton/Stark County area and nearly $65 million for the State of Ohio. In addition, millions of people experience aspects of the Enshrinement Festival as events are televised and covered by other media.

The celebration surrounds the induction of football players, coaches and contributors into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. This year’s 20-member Centennial Class of 2020 will be formally enshrined during two separate events, the annual Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival Including Enshrinement Week Powered by Johnson Controls in August, and the Centennial Celebration in September.

The five Modern-Era Players – STEVE ATWATER, ISAAC BRUCE, STEVE HUTCHINSON, EDGERRIN JAMES and TROY POLAMALU; two Coaches – BILL COWHER and JIMMY JOHNSON; and the three Contributors – STEVE SABOL, PAUL TAGLIABUE and GEORGE YOUNG – will be enshrined on Saturday, Aug. 8 during the Hall’s annual Enshrinement Week Powered by Johnson Controls.

The 10 Seniors – HAROLD CARMICHAEL, JIMBO COVERT, BOBBY DILLON, CLIFF HARRIS, WINSTON HILL, ALEX KARRAS, DONNIE SHELL, DUKE SLATER, MAC SPEEDIE and ED SPRINKLE – will be enshrined on Friday, Sept. 18 as part of the multi-day, once-in-a-lifetime Centennial Celebration in Canton to honor the Centennial of the National Football League which was founded in Canton on Sept. 17, 1920.

In-person voting on April 28th will only be available for individuals with disabilities who require in-person voting and those who do not have a home mailing address.

LEARN HOW TO REQUEST YOUR VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT AT VOTEOHIO.GOV

POSTMARK YOUR BALLOT BY APRIL 27TH 2020.

In-person voting on April 28th will only be available for individuals with disabilities who require in-person voting and those who do not have a home mailing address.
FOR TICKET & EVENT INFO CALL OR VISIT US ONLINE:
330.458.2048 • ProFootballHOFef.com

2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

AUGUST 8th INDUCTION
(modern era):
Steve Atwater, Isaac Bruce, Bill Cowher,
Steve Hutchinson, Edgerrin James,
Jimmy Johnson, Troy Polamalu, Steve Sabol,
Paul Tagliabue and George Young.

SEPTEMBER 18th INDUCTION
(seniors):
Harold Carmichael, Jimbo Covert,
Bobby Dillon, Cliff Harris,
Winston Hill, Alex Karras, Donnie Shell,
Duke Slater, Mac Speedie, and Ed Sprinkle.

SUNDAY, JULY 26
2:30 p.m. COMMUNITY PARADE

FRIDAY, JULY 31
4:00 p.m. BALLOON CLASSIC & NIGHT GLOW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1
6:30 a.m. BALLOON CLASSIC
8:00 a.m. UP, UP & AWAY 5K and KIDS FUN RUN
4:00 p.m. BALLOON CLASSIC & FIREWORKS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2
6:30 a.m. BALLOON CLASSIC

ENSHRINEMENT WEEK

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5
10:00 a.m. PLAY FOOTBALL FIRST PLAY
6:00 p.m. PLAY FOOTBALL SKILLS CAMP

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6
Noon HOF FUN FEST & BEER FEST
3:00 p.m. CLASS OF 2019 AUTOGRAPH SESSION
PRESENTED BY PANINI
8:00 p.m. HALL OF FAME GAME:
DALLAS COWBOYS VS. PITTSBURGH STEELERS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7
11:15 a.m. GOLD JACKET PHOTO OP
11:30 a.m. FASHION SHOW LUNCHEON
Noon HOF FUN FEST & BEER FEST
5:00 p.m. ENSHRINEES’ GOLD JACKET DINNER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8
8:00 a.m. THE CANTON REPOSITORY GRAND PARADE
Noon RETURNING GOLD JACKETS AUTOGRAPH
SESSION PRESENTED BY PANINI
Noon HOF FUN FEST & BEER FEST
7:00 p.m. ENSHRINEMENT CEREMONY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
Noon HOF FUN FEST & BEER FEST
12:30 p.m. ENSHRINEES’ ROUNDTABLE
8:00 p.m. CONCERT FOR LEGENDS

Schedule as of March 2020.

Dates and times are subject to change. Times listed are general event start times. Please check the Web site at www.profootballhof.com for detailed information on the timing of activities within each event.

JOIN US AT THE NFL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN CANTON:
SEPTEMBER 17, 18 AND 19, 2020
(more information at www.profootballhof.com)
CalliNG ALL GREEN THUMBS & Urban Gardeners!

Spring is in the air, and gardeners in the Downtown Canton Community Garden are ready! Located at the corner of 5th & High NW in the Summit Neighborhood, this community garden started in 2009 with a mission of providing residents of the downtown area a peaceful and safe location to grow their own food, interact with other residents and strengthen their community.

Since then, it has grown to over 75 plots with many of the original gardeners still gardening today. Plots are 10’ x 10’ with double plots available. The cost of renting a plot for the year (April to March) is $10 per 10’ x 10’ and $20 for a 10’ x 20’. The location offers water on-site, a garden shed with shared tools, a compost pile, and a waste pile. It also offers a lighted, fenced-in space with locked gates.

For more information or to be added to the waiting list, please contact Project REBUILD at 330-588-3205, ext 115.

The downtown Summit Neighborhood Community Garden is presented by the Downtown Canton Special Improvement District and sponsored by Project REBUILD, J.P. Morgan, The Chase Foundation and the Stark Community Foundation.
Eat Local, Shop Local
Canton Farmers’ Market

Named one of About Magazine “Local Faves” for Favorite Farmers’ Market, our very own Canton Farmers’ Market is indeed a downtown favorite, and we’re looking forward to its return in June! Along with local produce, the market offers baked goods, herbs and flowers, honey, cheese, eggs, grass-fed meats, and much more.

Now in its 17th year, the market opens on June 13 and runs every Saturday through Sept. 26 from 8-11:30 am at Fourth St. NW and McKinley Ave. NW in the Nadine McIlwain Administrative Building parking lot. Plenty of on-site parking is available.

With something “extra” happening most every weekend, you’ll enjoy nutrition and health education from Aultman Hospital, cooking demonstrations, live music, organic gardening tips, children’s activities, and more! There’s always something NEW at the Canton Farmers’ Market. With over 25 vendors, along with activities for the whole family, the market is the best way to kick off your weekend. Come down rain or shine!

The market is managed by the Downtown Canton Special Improvement District and supported by Aultman, The Canton Repository, Mix 94.1 and News-Talk 1480 WHBC AM, the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Canton.

Visit CantonFarmersMarket.com for vendor application information, as well as a complete listing of vendors and weekly events.
In times of crisis such as we are experiencing now, the need for informed, passionate, and principled leadership is more vital than ever. Through the Signature Program, participants are connected with a group of like-minded community advocates to explore and facilitate solutions. Our flagship program, this 10-month intensive experience will change the way you think about leading and affecting positive change in Stark County.

Applications are available now for the 2020-2021 program that begins in September. In recognition of economic pressures on small businesses, non-profits, and entrepreneurs due to the COVID-19 crisis, tuition assistance applications are available. Apply online at LeadershipStarkCounty.org

Since 1922, the tradition of community service established by our founders continues today. Throughout the years, we have remained committed to serving our community and to improving the quality of life in Canton and its surrounding areas.

We look forward to partnering with a new generation of entrepreneurs, business leaders and organizations to continue to foster the economic development of our region.

Our passion for legal excellence drives our dedication.

Our commitment to providing exceptional service sets us apart.

Experience the difference.
Get to know the young professionals who will shape the future of Canton/Stark County! Each month, we’ll introduce you to a YP who is living or working, but most importantly, thriving in Stark County!

Name: Michelle Hout

Occupation/Title/Place of work: Trainer and Qualification/Training and Qualification Pillar Lead/Shearers Snacks

Age: 34

Why are you interested in Stark County’s Young Professionals initiative? I want to build connections with other active and motivated individuals.

What would you share to encourage other people to join? That it is a group that is committed to motivating and helping our community.

Did you grow up in Stark? Yes

Why do you stay in Stark County, from both a personal and professional point of view? My family is located in Stark and I am committed to growth and development at Shearers.

What do you like MOST about Stark County? Massillon Tigers

What would you change about Stark County if you could? More outreach groups for children and more advertising of volunteer opportunities.

Could you see yourself spending your lifetime in Stark County and if not, what would cause you to leave? I can see myself staying in Stark County unless a professional opportunity opened in NYC.

What would attract more YPs to Stark County? More advertising.

What do you do in the evenings or on the weekends for fun in Stark County or NE Ohio? Go to Cultured Coffee or workout at Jackson twp YMCA.

What do you see as valuable opportunities for YPs in Stark County when it comes to career opportunities, cultural access, leadership or community involvement opportunities? Valuable opportunities are opportunities that can tie professional and volunteer opportunities together.
NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME to our newest members, who joined Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce in February. We encourage you to patronize their businesses. If you know of other businesses that would benefit from Chamber membership, please contact the Membership Department at (330) 458-2051.

**NEW MEMBERS**

2 Gals and a Bus
*Featuring Foodie Field Trips*  
(Travel Tours)  
Ann Dixon & Joanie Callas  
205 Sutton Ave. NE  
North Canton, OH 44720  
(330) 575-9588  
www.foodiefieldtripsohio.com

**Albert T. Domingo MSMD, Inc.**  
(Physicians & Surgeons)  
Karen Monahan  
3120 Parkway St. NW #A  
Canton, OH 44708  
(330) 452-9460  
www.drdomingo.com

**ARCOA**  
(Electronics Recycling)  
Jeff Datkuliak  
219 East Maple St. Ste. 125  
North Canton, OH 44720  
(330) 266-1188  
www.sanctuarymg.com

**A-Z Home Healthcare Services**  
(Home Health Care)  
Marge Frease  
113 4th St. NW  
New Philadelphia, OH 44663  
(330) 309-6730  
www.azhomehealthcare.net

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Louisville, OH 44641  
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www.goingyardllc.com

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330-331-4423  
www.JMCBands.com

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www.hofvillage.com

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Ronda Alexander  
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www.patjoyceinsurance.com

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(330) 305-6960  
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(Fitness Club)  
Allison Shelley  
6065 Strip Ave. NW  
North Canton, OH 44720  
(330) 329-0103  
www.rcfitnessohio.com

**Sanctuary Marketing Group**  
(Digital Marketing)  
Kelly Brown  
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Bolivar, OH 44612  
(864) 491-8291

**SB Welding & Design, LLC**  
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(330) 268-6292

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(330) 639-3874  
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(330) 484-2884  
www.tomtreyco.com

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(Home Improvement)  
Seth Beverly  
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ArtsinStark kicked off its 2020 Annual Arts Campaign. Bob Belden, Chairman and CEO of Belden Brick, will lead the 11-week marathon to raise $1.66 million for all the arts.

“We use arts to create smarter kids, new jobs, and healthier communities in every single community in Stark County,” said AIS Board Chair Brian Zimmerman, “and we reach more than 150,000 people every year doing it.” The Annual Arts Campaign runs March 2 to May 20. More information at www.artsinstark.com/donate or at 330-453-1075.

WRL Advertising announced that Jon Molnar has been promoted to a new position, Director of New Business Development. Molnar previously worked as an account executive and food styling specialist with WRL. In his new role, Molnar will assist the growth of the agency with new business development, oversee and expand the department as well as develop new programs. He will also be working with others on the team regarding agency promotions and budgeting.

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) announced that Siffrin Inc. has been accredited for a period of three years for its Employment Services and Community Housing service programs. The latest accreditation is the tenth consecutive three-year accreditation that the international accrediting body, CARF has given to Siffrin.

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to an organization and shows the organizations substantial conformance to the CARF standards. An organization receiving a three-year accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. It has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable and of the highest quality.

Home Savings Bank is pleased to announce the addition of Donald Stimpert as Branch Manager of the Aurora Office. Stimpert brings with him over 35 years of banking experience. He most recently served as Branch Manager of a national bank headquartered in Minneapolis, MN. In his new role, he will lead his team to deliver an exceptional customer experience, ensuring a focus on driving growth and developing key business and community relationships. Stimpert will work to effectively represent the bank in the Aurora community while proactively helping clients succeed financially.

He currently resides in Howland, OH with his wife, Diana. Together they have three children, Arielle, Steven and Nicholas. Stimpert’s office is located at 7075 N. Aurora Road in Aurora, OH. He can be contacted at DStimpert@homesavings.com or 330.995.6800.

The Dallas Cowboys and Pittsburgh Steelers will kick off the National Football League’s season in the city where the league was born. The Cowboys and Steelers are scheduled to face each other in the 2020 Hall of Game on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 8 p.m. ET in Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, adjacent to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. www.profootballhof.com/tickets

Steelers coach BILL COWHER and safety TROY POLAMALU, along with former Cowboys Coach JIMMY JOHNSON will be enshrined into the Hall of Fame two days later as members of the Centennial Class of 2020. STEVE ATWATER, ISAAC BRUCE, STEVE HUTCHINSON, EDGERRIN JAMES, STEVE SABOL, PAUL TAGLIABUE and GEORGE YOUNG will also be enshrined at the annual Enshrinement Ceremony, which is set for Saturday, Aug. 8, 2020 at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium

The 10 Seniors for the special Centennial Class will be formally enshrined during the Centennial Celebration slated for September in Canton. Safeties CLIFF HARRIS (Cowboys) and DONNIE SHELL (Steelers) will be enshrined on Friday, Sept. 18 along with Centennial Class of 2020 enshrinees HAROLD CARMICHAEL, JIMBO COVERT, BOBBY DILLON, WINSTON HILL, ALEX KARRAS, DUKE SLATER, MAC SPEEDIE and ED SPRINKLE.

Gervasi Vineyard announced they are in the process of procuring the necessary ingredients and packaging supplies for production of hand sanitizer. The estate’s newest addition, the distillery, known as The Still House, has most of the equipment and ingredients, including grain alcohol, to produce this much needed product during the pandemic.

“As soon as we learned we were permitted to convert our distillery operation to making hand sanitizer, we knew this was something we wanted to do,” said Scott Swaldo, General Manager, GV Destinations. “Repurposing the distillery gives us a unique way to really help our community with something desperately needed during this crisis.”

The winery and distillery teams are working together to collect the necessary blend of ingredients to create the hand sanitizer. In addition, research for the correct formula and following the legal guidelines are a top priority.

David Grabowsky, President of Standard Plumbing & Heating Company was awarded the Entrepreneur of the Year Award presented by The M. Conley Company on February 27 at the 2020 Business Expo.

Have business news you’d like to share via Biz Bitz? Send your news release to Collyn Floyd, director of marketing, at collynf@cantonchamber.org.
M. Conley, a 110 year old company, celebrates entrepreneurs who will make the next 100 years exciting. One nominee per month. One winner per year. Twelve reasons to believe in the future of northeast Ohio.

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The 2020 M. Conley Entrepreneur-Of-The-Year Award: NOMINEE #1

NORMAN ECKINGER, INC.

Canton, Ohio

From SMART to FINISH.

One evening in 1971, Norm Eckinger Sr. was at the dinner table with his wife and five young children. The oldest, Norm Jr., was all of 10 years old and distinctly remembers his father telling them that he was going to start his own business so they were all going to have to tighten their belts for awhile. Norm Jr.’s only comment was, “You’re doing what?!?”

Almost 50 years later, Norm Eckinger Jr. sits in the chair where his father once sat as the head of Norman Eckinger, Inc. It’s been a long, happy road. Norm Sr. was a hard-working carpenter who first worked for his own father and brother Walt Jr. It was a good living, but limiting for a guy with seven mouths to feed, so Norm Sr. struck out on his own and hired two carpenters. He had two business advantages: craftsman-level skills and a belief that if you treated people right, they’d do the same to you.

Norm Jr. loved carpentry as well, and started helping his father after school and most Saturdays. By the time he graduated high school, he was a valuable employee. Then a near-tragedy changed everything. At the relatively young age of 48 Norm Sr. had a heart attack. Suddenly, at age 26, Norm Jr. found himself running a small business with no guidance except the business lessons he’d absorbed working side-by-side with his father. His father’s recovery took 6 months, but Norm Jr. kept things going until Norm Sr. could return to work.

In 1992, Norm Sr. asked him to buy in as a full 50/50 partner. Norm Jr. remembers being somewhat hesitant about becoming a partner because he was enjoying life and didn’t look forward to paying off the new office and shop building his father was getting ready to build. Norm Jr. knew that if something happened to his father, the investment would be on his shoulders to pay off. On the other hand, he worried that if they waited too long, his father would not have as much time to enjoy what he’d built before he retired. Together they took the plunge and never looked back.

One of the company’s biggest steps forward came in 1998 when they pursued, and won, appointment as exclusive area agent for Butler Buildings, America’s premier steel building supplier. Norm Sr. had the foresight to see how this affiliation would change their business. It gave them needed selling knowledge, as well as good, well-designed products to sell. They became part of an exclusive group of only 1,200 builders nationwide. Most important, it supplemented their building design knowledge, giving them the ability to sell a design/build package to end users rather than simply bidding on someone else’s designs. Butler Buildings helped them provide even more value to their customers while being fairly compensated for their design and construction work. Norm Jr. used this new-found capability to build a commercial building company strong enough to last through business downturns. Key was the loyalty Norman Eckinger, Inc. built with key customers, many now building multiple buildings with the firm.

Today, Norm Jr. sits at the head of one of Stark County’s most successful commercial building firms. His office is still located where his father and he first built, although everything has been modernized and expanded. Looking back he sees four major reasons for the company’s success: (1) Their design/build capabilities. (2) Customer and employee loyalty. (3) An inherited belief in treating people the way you’d want to be treated. (4) A reputation for getting things done when promised.

Now there’s a third Norm Eckinger working at the company, the son of Norm Jr. who now finds himself passing along more than a company capable of handling commercial building projects from “Smart to Finish.” Norm Jr. is now the conduit of hard-earned business wisdom passed from one Norm Eckinger to another Norm Eckinger and, soon, another.

Go to www.neobrightestlights.com to learn about the other nominees!
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