WHAT BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS NEED TO KNOW

What do we as Stark Countians believe are the most pressing issues facing our community? What do we enjoy most about living here? Are we optimistic about the future? Are we staying in Stark?

We'll answer these questions and more as we take a “data dive” into the newly-released 2019 Stark Poll. Each year, the Stark Poll guides local leaders in monitoring quality of life of residents, as well as identifying community needs and preferences/behavior.

OUR LINE-UP OF EXPERTS INCLUDE:
Michelle Henry, president of the Center for Marketing & Opinion Research, who will provide an overview of the poll, including how the county is doing in key areas, how residents perceive living here, and where residents have the most concern.

Five panelists, who will provide expert insight on the poll, including Quality of Life, Jobs/Talent Attraction, Infrastructure, and Mental Health Resiliency/Opioids:

- Ally Bussey, President, Visit Canton
- Bob Fonte, President, Stark Parks
- Ryan Hartong, Pillar Leader-Workforce/Talent Retention, Strengthening Stark
- Keith Hochadel, President/CEO, CommQuest
- Janelle M. Lee, Economic Outlook Director, Strengthening Stark
- Richard Regula, Stark County Commissioner

You’ll gain added depth and perspective on real issues currently facing our community, including “where we go from here.”

NOVEMBER STARK FORUM
November 6, 2019
7:30 - 9:00 am
Embassy Suites
7883 Freedom Ave NW, North Canton
Cost: $30 per person - includes breakfast
Register online at www.CantonChamber.org

WHAT BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS NEED TO KNOW

Economic Outlook 2020 | Vote YES Issue 23 | RuffCare QuickConnect Luncheon | Stark Minority Business Association | United Way Stone Soup | Thanksgiving | MAGNET Innovation Center
Light Up Downtown | Hat & Mittens Drive | Downtown Ice Rink | SCORE | Membership Directory | MEWA | Leadership Stark County Informational Breakfast
Young Professional Profile | YP Meet Up | Casino Christmas | November Calendar | Safety Council Luncheon | New Members | BizBite | Mt. Coney Spotlight Co. Abbott Electric, Inc.

OUR MISSION: To lead the region in business and community development through collaboration and innovation.
As your advocate, we provide constant support for your healthcare and access to essential community resources. We provide comprehensive programs facilitated by our Care Coordination team of local physicians, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, and other clinical staff to help you control any potential and ongoing health and wellness issues. Through these no-cost programs, we offer preventive measures and perform as stewards of your healthcare dollars.

Pictured Above: Darlene, Medical Management Associate; Beth, Clinical Pharmacist; Kelly, Health and Wellness R.N.

AultCare provides PERSONALIZED Care Coordination

because you matter!

www.aultcare.com/carecoordination
The Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce and Greater Akron Chamber are pleased to present a panel of industry leaders from the Canton-Akron region who will provide insight on key trends, industry issues, and their expectations for regional and national economic performance in the year ahead.

The volatility in the nation’s economy has increased over the last year and, depending on who you talk to, the economy is signaling anything from slower growth to a recession in 2020. Our panelists have been looking at the economic trends for their businesses, considering global, national and regional conditions and leading their teams to a 2020 forecast that reflects their expectations for the year ahead.

In addition to providing a broad summary of regional trends, Jacob Duritsky, Vice President of Strategy and Research at Team NEO, will moderate the panel discussion featuring:

- **Sean Lyden**, Chief Strategy Officer, Akron Children’s Hospital
- **Jon Park**, CEO & Chairman, Westfield Bank
- **Doug Sibila**, President/CEO, Peoples Services, Inc.
- **Jackie Stewart**, Director of External Affairs, Encino Energy
- **Steve Strah**, CFO, FirstEnergy

**Friday, Nov. 22**
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Kent State University at Stark Conference Center
6000 Frank Rd NW
North Canton, OH, 44720
Register at www.CantonChamber.org

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**Vote Yes Issue 23 STARK PARKS**

The Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce has announced its endorsement of Issue #23, a 1.2 mill, 8-year property tax levy to fund Stark Parks. Issue #23 will appear on the November 5 ballot and replace the current 1 mill levy that expires this year.

“Stark Parks enhances quality of life and contributes to the economic vitality of the region, which is essential to the retention of a quality workforce and attraction of young professionals,” said Dennis P. Saunier, president and CEO of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce. “In addition, the parks offer abundant recreational opportunities that support a healthy lifestyle and can be enjoyed by all.”

Since 2014, Stark Parks has connected more communities through 40 miles of new trails, opened three new parks, taken ownership and management of 200 acres at Tam O’Shanter Park, restored the floodplain in North Canton, continued to offer free or low-cost activities, and promoted wellness opportunities like the Mindfulness Walk at Petros Park.

With the 1 mill replacement and additional 0.2 mill, Stark Parks will continue to make connections that create destination experiences for users, add more programs for health and wellness, improve accessibility within and between parks, and continue the buildout of the Stark County Trail and Greenway Master Plan.

While the Chamber is sensitive to additional tax burdens for county residents, the economic benefits of a strong county parks system, as well as the direct tie to the Chamber’s strategic objective to sustain the community through talent attraction and retention, outweigh the additional $1.39/month cost to taxpayers.

Support of Issue 23 was vetted and approved by the Chamber’s Government Affairs Committee and approved unanimously by the Chamber’s Board of Directors. Therefore, the Chamber recommends a **YES** vote on Issue #23 on the November 5 ballot.
Featuring Pam Cook, WHBC: “Radio! It ain’t what it used to be, but you still need it.”

How does a heritage business continue to succeed in the digital age? How does that business adapt and move forward while still holding on to what has made it great? It’s not done without some kicking and screaming. Over 95 years, WHBC has endured many changes, has felt the national assault on the media, and has seen the need to reinvent itself. But, one constant for WHBC is its connection to the community.

Pam Cook has been with WHBC for 30 years. She is the Content Director for WHBC-AM, the News Director and the host of Canton’s Morning News. Pam will share what has happened to the business over the years and how WHBC remains Stark County’s top radio station.

Wednesday, November 20
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
(Registration begins at 11:00 am)
La Pizzaria
3656 Dressler Rd. NW, Canton 44718
$18/members, $25/non-members
Register by November 18 at
www.CantonChamber.org

Entrée of the month: Small Cheese Pizza with a Side Salad or Chicken Chef

AultCare QuickConnect attendees can obtain business leads through enjoyable networking activities, hear a compelling speaker, meet new business contacts and enjoy a delicious meal. Plus, when you bring a door prize valued at $15 or more, you’ll receive 30 seconds at the microphone to promote your business.

New decade, new Partner
2020
Now’s the time to switch to Apple Growth for your business.

Accountants + Business Advisors
applegrowth.com/switch
The Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce and Stark County Minority Business Association (SCMBA) have announced a partnership to better serve small and minority businesses in the region. The SCMBA has established a dedicated office within the Chamber’s downtown location (222 Market Ave. N, Canton, OH 44702) to more closely align the efforts of the organizations, both of which serve business members throughout Stark County and beyond.

The SCMA is a 501(C) (3) organization comprised of business leaders invested in the economic growth of Stark County community and beyond. Since its inception in 2008, the organization has grown its scope and members, focusing on improved communications and collaboration between minority businesses and the other entrepreneurs in and throughout the Stark County area.

The Chamber recently completed a strategic plan update which includes a goal to “provide superior and recognizable value to members through health care, the Small Business Growth Network, member business events and networking for women, minority and retail businesses.”

“The alignment of our organizations helps better serve the small business and minority business communities, as well as supports the Chamber’s strategic objectives,” said Dennis Saunier, president and CEO of the Chamber. “The move is an important step as the Chamber works toward our goal of greater diversity and inclusiveness in the business community.”

“By working closer with the Chamber both in proximity and service to the business community, it enables us to work on projects and initiatives more efficiently and mindfully, with shared outcomes in mind,” said Leonard Stevens, CEO of SCMBA.

As part of the move, Stevens and Secretary/Coordinator Will Dent will serve as advisory members of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors which meets on a bi-monthly basis. The Chamber is offering the office space to SCMBA at no cost.

On October 14, the Chamber and SCMBA, along with State Rep. Thomas West and JobsOhio held an event at the Chamber to announce the move; $300,000 in funding for SCMBA secured by Rep. West from the state budget; and the expansion of a jobs program that will grow to include a minority business cohort from Stark County.

Thank you to the United Way of Greater Stark County for hosting our Chamber team as part of their Stone Soup program! In just one hour’s time, we made over 100 sandwiches and 12 casseroles providing 250 meals for those in need. Learn more or get involved at www.uwstark.org.
OUR CHAMBER Gives Thanks TO YOU AT THANKSGATHERING

NOVEMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS AT THE MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Join us on Thursday, Nov. 14, for a special Business After Hours hosted by the Chamber and presented by our 2019 Business After Hours sponsor, Express Employment Professionals.

We’re giving thanks for you – our members – at our annual Thanksgathering event here at the Millennium Centre building. Mix and mingle with Chamber staff and fellow members as you enjoy entertainment, specialty hors d’oeuvres, delectable desserts, and wine and beer donated from member businesses.

Participating businesses to date:
Cherry Blend Coffee Roasters
Santangelo’s Catering
The Twisted Olive
Gervasi
Canton Brewing Co.

Grinders Above & Beyond
Napoli’s Italian Eatery
Bubbas 33

Millennium Centre businesses include CareWorksComp, Schauer Group, Inc., and of course, the Chamber!

Give those in need something to be thankful for by bringing your non-perishable food item or $3 donation for the Stark County Hunger Task Force and receive FREE admission to our Member Thanksgathering event. Reservations are required.

Thursday, Nov. 14 | 5:00–7:00 pm
Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce
222 Market Ave., N. in downtown Canton
FREE to members with a non-perishable food item or $3 donation
RSVP by Nov. 12 at www.CantonChamber.org

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NOW OPEN!

The Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, MAGNET (the Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network) and Ohio’s Manufacturing Extension Partnership joined forces to develop the newly opened Innovation and Growth Center. It is located near the Chamber’s main entrance in downtown Canton adjacent to Centennial Plaza.

The Innovation and Growth Center, which made its debut on October 4, showcases local manufacturers such as: Coastal Pet Products in Alliance; Haltec from Salem; Midwest Industrial Supply and TimkenSteel from Canton; and ProTech Security and Timken Co. in Jackson Township.

Chamber president and CEO, Denny Saunier explained, “the Innovation Center is meant to educate and help the local workforce realize what ‘manufacturing’ is today. Our job is to advocate for different thinking.”

As Ethan Karp, MAGNET’s president and CEO put it, “half of our economy is dependent on manufacturing. MAGNET is about helping these companies to thrive.”

The Innovation and Growth Center conveys that manufacturing jobs are alive, bright and relevant. Displays show the evolution of technology and how companies have changed over the years - complete with a robot that plays tic-tac-toe.

Visitors are welcome to check out The Innovation and Growth Center at 222 Market Ave. N. Hours are 8:30 am -5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

At Maloney + Novotny, we help your family business survive, prosper and transition.
LIGHT UP DOWNTOWN SET TO DAZZLE DOWNTOWN CANTON on Dec. 5

Light Up Downtown features all your favorite holiday characters in a very special main stage show that will light up the skies and light up your spirits with musical acts, fantastic fireworks and a ho, ho, ho-ly day visit from the Man in Red.

Downtown will be filled with holiday spirit, attractions, entertainment, sleigh rides, food and drink, singing, dancing, lights and more! Weather permitting, the Hall of Fame City Ice Rink will be open!

Santa Claus is coming to Downtown! Join us on December 5th in downtown Canton for the stage show at 6:00 PM, with fireworks immediately following the stage show. You’re in for a night of surprises and fun for all ages! Best of all? This festive festival is FREE!

Please visit www.lightupdowntown.com for more information. Light Up Downtown is produced by the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Downtown Special Improvement District.

For sponsorship information please contact Chris Gumpp, 330-458-2055 or chrisg@cantonchamber.org.

2019 HOLIDAY MOVIES
AT THE
PALACE THEATER

Dec. 6 7:30 pm
FREE*
* Reservations required

Dec. 20 7:30 pm
$6

DEC 5

FREE EVENT • DOWNTOWN CANTON
6-8:30 PM • FIREWORKS 6:45 PM

Presented by CANTON REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

7707 Lake O'Springs Ave NW, North Canton, Jackson Twp.
3,787 Sq.Ft. 5 Bedroom - 3 1/2 Bath for Lease
Home on 4.5 acres includes cathedral ceiling living room w/gas fireplace plus adjacent formal dining room, rec room, 3 season porch, central air, 150,000 cu ft free gas. 3 Bedrooms including master suite up stairs, 2 bedrooms with bath and family room on lower level.
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EST. 1985
LIGHT UP DOWNTOWN’S
Spread the Warmth Drive

When the Light Up Downtown festivities happen on Thursday, Dec. 5, the Canton Fire Department will be “Spreading the Warmth” by handing out hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and socks to children in need.

Be sure to support this crucial aspect of our event – DONATE new children’s winter accessories and socks between now and Nov. 26.

Drop-off locations for your donations include:

American Red Cross
408 9th St. SW
Canton, OH 44707

Arrowhead Vintage and Handmade Goods
534 Cleveland Ave. SW
Canton, OH 44702

Canton Brewing Company
227 Market N
Canton, OH 44702

Canton Fire Department
110 Seventh St. SW
Canton, OH 44702

Canton Palace Theatre
605 Market Ave. N
Canton, OH 44702

Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce
222 Market Ave. N
Canton, OH 44702

Cantonomy
306 4th St. NW
Canton, OH 44702

Carpe Diem
215 Market Ave. N
Canton, OH 44702

Center Ice Sports Complex
8319 Port Jackson Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Central Baptist Church
4736 West Tuscarawas St.
Canton, OH 44708

Courtyard Marriott Canton
4375 Metro Circle NW
North Canton, OH 44720

First Commonwealth Bank Branches:
Belden Village: 4555 Belden Village St. NW
Central Plaza: 100 Central Plaza S
East 62: 3100 Atlantic Blvd. NE
Foxboro: 5594 Wales Ave. NW | Massillon
Hills & Dales: 2917 Whipple Ave. NW
Canton Fulton: 2150 Locust St. S
Louisville: 2150 E. Gorgas St.
Massillon: 140 Lincoln Way W
North Plaza: 1110 30th St. NW
Oakwood Square: 6252 Middlebranch Ave. NW
Perry West: 204 Lincoln Way E | Massillon

First Ladies National Historic Site
205 Market Ave. S
Canton, OH 44702

Malone University
2600 Cleveland Ave. NW
Canton, OH 44709

Modern Ritual
326 Cleveland Ave. NW
Canton, OH 44702

Stark County Safety Council
222 Market Ave. N
Canton, OH 44702

Stark Library
715 Market Ave. N
Canton, OH 44702

Visit Canton
227 2nd St. NW
Canton, OH 44702

WHBC & Mix 94.1 Radio
550 Market Ave. S
Canton, OH 44702

Be sure to put the FREE downtown holiday extravaganza on your calendar! For more information, visit www.lightupdowntown.com

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OPEN TO ALL OF STARK COUNTY.
At SCORE, Strong Leadership CONTINUES TO FUEL GROWTH

During the last 15 years, strong leadership has fueled remarkable growth for the Canton Regional Chapter of SCORE. That trend is expected to continue with Brennon Wilson taking the chapter chair baton from Barbara Whiddon.

During Whiddon’s term, the chapter’s growth continued its upward arc. That can be seen in the chapter’s membership. Fifteen years ago, membership stood at about 20. Today it tops 60.

During those years, a succession of chapter chairs built on each other’s initiatives. Their names will have a familiar ring to many in the area’s business community - Bob Mann, Elizabeth Kral, Patricia Ripple, Bill Herrington, Bruce Ewing, Mike Johnson, Dick Evans, Ed Messerly, Tom Bender, Barbara Whiddon. Diverse as to gender, those leaders also were diverse as to range of experience, expertise and age. Wilson becomes the chapter’s youngest chair.

He is an example of how SCORE has evolved. Founded in 1964 with a single chapter in Washington, D.C., SCORE initially was an acronym that stood for Service Corps of Retired Executives. With an increasing number of members still working, the organization discontinued using its name as an acronym for retired executives. Several of the Canton Regional Chapter’s members still are building successful business careers.

Wilson now leads a chapter that five times has been named District Chapter of the Year and, in 2016, was voted National Chapter of the Year. During the 2018 fiscal year, the chapter’s mentors conducted a record 803 in person counseling sessions - a figure that was exceeded again in the just-completed 2019 fiscal year when the total reached 838. That figure stands as strong evidence of increasing awareness and understanding of SCORE in the area business community. Chapter members also mentor via email and phone.

With most chapter members having held leadership positions during their business careers, the chapter also benefits from strong leaders among those serving as chapter vice chairs, treasurers and committee heads. New chapter vice chair is Steve Katz.

Hosted generously by Kent State University-Stark, the Canton Regional Chapter serves both for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations and both start-ups and existing businesses. Its coverage area includes five counties - Stark, Tuscarawas, Holmes, Carroll and Harrison.

Nationwide, SCORE now fields 340 chapters with some 11,000 mentors, all volunteers.

More about the Canton Regional Chapter can be learned at its website: www.canton.score.org. Phone: 330.244.3280.
Did you get our letter about updating your membership directory listing? If you need to make changes or updates to your business listing, be sure to submit them to Debbie Busby, Director of Membership development, at debbieb@cantonchamber.org by Nov. 15.

If you’re interested in promoting your business in our membership directory with an ad, reserve your space now! The publication will include:

- Your member listing in the Membership Directory
- Your member listing in the Buyer’s Guide sorted by business classification
- The Chamber’s 2020 Executive Board & Directors
- The Chamber’s Executive Management and staff

The book will be distributed in early 2020 to just nearly 2,000 Canton Regional Chamber member firms and their employees, new residents of Stark County, and people seeking information about where to buy or sell products and services.

This useful directory is made possible only through the advertising support of our members. We appreciate your complete cooperation toward making this outstanding, professionally prepared publication a success. There are a limited number of preferred position ad spaces available on a first reply basis.

---

**Canton Regional Chamber Offers**

**HEALTH CARE COVERAGE OPTION TO MEMBERS**

For many businesses, the last quarter of the year is when you are determining your health care coverage for the following year.

The Canton Regional Chamber is proud to bring an affordable health care coverage option administered by AultCare to the small business community called the Canton Regional Chamber Health Fund. This is a self-funded plan made possible through a Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement (MEWA) and is designed to offer small businesses a competitive option in the health care marketplace.

The Health Fund was development to provide additional options and to help control the costs of healthcare benefits. Medically underwritten MEWA rates may provide a less expensive option than a smaller community rated plan obtained under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). All benefits are administered by AultCare.

Multiple plans are available, ranging from traditional co-pay plans to health saving account-compatible plans. Ancillary products including dental and vision are available.

To obtain health care coverage through the Canton Regional Chamber Health Fund, businesses must be a member in good standing with the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, which includes being up-to-date on membership dues. The Health Fund is exclusive to Canton Regional Chamber members. To become a member, contact the Chamber at 330.456.7253.

For additional product and eligibility information, please visit [www.aultcare.com/mewa](http://www.aultcare.com/mewa) or call AultCare at 330.363.6390.

If you are interested in receiving a quote on the Canton Regional Chamber Health Fund, contact your Independent Broker or AultCare Representative.
Leadership Stark County
INFORMATION BREAKFAST

Tuesday, December 10, 8:30 a.m.
Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce
Free Event, Reservations Requested

For prospective applicants or employers, you’ll learn the answers to:

• What programs does Leadership Stark County offer?

• How will Leadership Stark County participation benefit me or my company?

• How do I apply? When do I start?

• How can I use my talents to solve problems, interact with team members, view my community, and approach the future?

Join us and discover the answers to these and any other questions you may have. There is no cost to attend but do let us know you are attending. Make your reservation by calling 330-458-2095 or www.LeadershipStarkCounty.org.

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www.walsh.edu/veterans

*For those eligible to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Additional funds also available through VA’s Yellow Ribbon Program and our Walsh University awards.
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: Rikki Kadri

Occupation/Title/Place of work: Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority Resident Services Coordinator

Age: 34

Why are you interested in Stark County’s Young Professionals initiative? Learning more about your community is the greatest thing! Getting connected with other YPs in the community and creating a base for resources and partnerships is key when you are first starting your professional journey!

What would you share to encourage other people to join? I tell people every day in my career to utilize the resources that are available. I needed to start listening to my own advice, and I’d encourage all young professionals to participate and join. Having this group of people allows you to be yourself, express triumphs and set backs, all with the ones that understand you the most.

Did you grow up in Stark? Yes! I’ve been in Stark County all my life, moved around a bit, but always in Stark County. I graduated high school from Fairless, my AA of Psychology at Stark State, and my BA of Psychology with a concentration in Human and Family Studies from Kent State Stark.

Why do you stay in Stark County, from both a personal and professional point of view? Growing up here, and experiencing childhood here, I always knew I’d be in Stark forever. My family is here, and I love that I work in the community that I was raised in.

What do you like MOST about Stark County? I like that Stark County is so diverse. There are so many different people, restaurants, and experiences you could have right here at home.

What would you change about Stark County if you could? The biggest thing I would change is the community awareness on programs and resources that are available to everyone. I run into people all the time, and there is always something that comes up that one has never heard of, or known about.

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? There are a ton of opportunities available for YPs in Stark County. With the array of volunteer opportunities, different boards or committees to partake in, or even your own initiatives, the possibilities are really endless.

What would attract more YPs to Stark County? I think that more YPs would be attracted to Stark County by more unique job opportunities. We are getting so diverse, but our jobs aren’t. Our younger generation likes the big city life, and if we could incorporate that into Stark, we’d reel them all in.

What do you do in the evenings or on the weekends for fun in Stark County or NE Ohio? Spending time with my family always comes first! I also love attending different events around Stark, like First Friday, Light Up Downtown, the Ice Rink, our local parks, eating and shopping local!

Could you see yourself spending your lifetime in Stark County and if not, what would cause you to leave? My heart will always be here in Stark. Maybe someday I’ll have a vacation property, but I’ll always be here!

Rikki Kadri

WorkPlayStay is sponsored by:

Aultman
Join us for the YP Meetup at Muskellunge Brewing Company in downtown Canton. Stop by for great conversations and networking. May we also suggest the Tiger Musky Double IPA or Pumpkinseed Pumpkin Spiced Ale while you’re there? Pub snacks provided and cash bar available.

This event is FREE to attend but registration is required.

Tuesday, Nov. 19
5:30-7:30 pm
Muskellunge Brewing Co.
425 5th St. NW
Canton, OH 44702
Register at www.CantonChamber.org
CASINO FOR A CAUSE
CHRISTMAS

Friday, November 15, 2019  6-10 pm

APPETIZERS - CASH BAR - CASINO TABLE GAMES

Courtyard by Marriott | 4375 Metro Cir. NW | North Canton

$30 per ticket | $50 per couple
Register online at www.CantonChamber.org

Proceeds and donations will benefit local families in need through Love the Children Ministries.
Cost includes $100 in “funny money” per person.
Winnings can be redeemed for tickets toward the raffle and other prize drawings.
November CALENDAR

6
Stark Forum Breakfast
www.cantonchamber.org
We’ll take a “data dive” into the newly-released 2019 Stark Poll which guides local leaders in monitoring quality of life and identifying community needs.
Wednesday, Nov. 6
7:30-9:00 am
Embassy Suites
North Canton
$30 per person
includes breakfast

14
Stark County Safety Council Safety Luncheon
www.cantonchamber.org
This luncheon features Kyle E. Weygandt who will cover the topic “The Safety Illusion.” Are you truly safe, or is it just an illusion?
Thursday, Nov. 14
11:30 am-1:00 pm
Alex D. Krassas Event Center
$17 per person

14
November Business After Hours - Thanksgiving Gathering
www.cantonchamber.org
Mix and mingle with Chamber staff and fellow members as you enjoy entertainment, specialty hors d’oeuvres, delectable desserts, and wine and beer donated from member businesses.
Thursday, Nov. 14
5:00-7:00 pm
Millennium Centre
Free with $3 donation but registration is required

15
ystark! Casino Christmas For A Cause
www.cantonchamber.org
Enjoy appetizers, cash bar and casino table games! Proceeds and donations will benefit local families in need.
Friday, Nov. 15
6:00-10:00 pm
Courtyard by Marriott
$30 per ticket, $50 per couple

19
YP Meetup
www.cantonchamber.org
Join us at Muskellunge Brewing Co. in downtown Canton. Stop by for great conversations and networking. Pub snacks provided and cash bar available.
Tuesday, Nov. 19
5:30-7:30 pm
Muskellunge Brewing Co.
Free, but registration is required

20
AultCare Quick Connect Luncheon
www.cantonchamber.org
Radio! It ain’t what it used to be, but you still need it. How does a heritage business continue to succeed in the digital age? Featuring Pam Cook of WHBC.
Wednesday, Nov. 20
11:30 am-1:00 pm
La Pizzaria
$18/members, $25/non-members

22
Economic Outlook 2020
www.cantonchamber.org
A panel of industry leaders from the Canton-Akron region will provide insight on key trends, industry issues, expectations for future regional and national economic performance.
Friday, Nov. 22
7:30-9:00 am
Kent State University at Stark Conference Center
$30/members, $50/non-members

DEC. 5
Light Up Downtown
www.cantonchamber.org
Enjoy a stage show, 14 blocks of attractions, ice skating, refreshments, sleigh rides, a visit from Santa and fireworks!
Thursday, Dec. 5
6:00-8:30 pm
Downtown Canton
Free event!
STARK COUNTY SAFETY COUNCIL NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

THE SAFETY ILLUSION
Are you truly safe, or is it just an illusion?

The November Safety Council luncheon features Kyle E. Weygandt, LSP-MSA, Just the F.A.C.T.S. With 30+ years in safety, law enforcement, and supervisory experience, Kyle's program is one of the most important you can attend!

This luncheon will address the importance of:

• The art of communication in safety.
• Evaluating the work environment through an employee-performed Job Hazard Analysis.
• The Psychology of an active “Safety Culture.”
• The three syndromes that careless employees suffer which leads to near misses, incidents, accidents and fatalities.
• The Ten Golden Rules of Safety

Thursday, Nov. 14
11:30 am-1:00 pm
Alex D. Krassas Event Center
Cost: $17 per person
Register at CantonChamber.org

FOCUS ON YOUR FUTURE
We’ll take care of the rest.

STARK COUNTY’S PREMIER CONFERENCE CENTER

- Premium meeting spaces, designed to meet your needs
- Professional staff committed to the spirit of service
- Corporate training in a world-class facility
- Refined culinary choices prepared to meet dietary needs
- Ample, free and convenient parking

STARK Conference Center

REQUEST A PROPOSAL

- 330-244-3300
- WWW.KENT.EDU/STARK/CUCC
**NEW MEMBERS**

**WELCOME** to our newest members, who joined Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce in September. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW MEMBERS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1211 Group LLC</strong> (Financing)</td>
<td>Vanessa Devoll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2612 Blue Ash Ave. NW Canton, OH 44708</td>
<td>(330) 704-1092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>33 JordynStrong Foundation</strong> (Non Profit Organization)</td>
<td>Lindsey Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4786 Dressler Rd. NW #134 Canton, OH 44718</td>
<td>(330) 990-1446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Comfort Heating &amp; Cooling</strong> (Heating &amp; Cooling - Residential &amp; Commercial)</td>
<td>Steve Baade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1748 Brownlee Ave. NE Canton, OH 44705</td>
<td>(330) 454-2665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bilfinger Westcon Skilled Trades Academy</strong> (Schools - Construction &amp; Industrial)</td>
<td>Amy Flinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4525 Vliet St. SW Canton, OH 44710</td>
<td>(234) 203-0382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Canton South Dental</strong> (Dentists)</td>
<td>Matthew J. Earich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3702 Cleveland Ave. SW Canton, OH 44702</td>
<td>(330) 484-6401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E &amp; T Lawn and Landscape</strong> (Landscaping &amp; Maintenance &amp; Design Snow Plowing &amp; Salting)</td>
<td>Tina Horning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2814 Edison St. NW Uniontown, OH 44685</td>
<td>(330) 961-7110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Earth ’n Wood</strong> (Landscaping &amp; Garden Centers)</td>
<td>John Ziss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5335 Strausser St. NW North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>(216) 986-7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fairway Mortgage</strong> (Mortgage Bankers)</td>
<td>Rachel Latin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840 Town Park Blvd. Ste. D Uniontown, OH 44685</td>
<td>(330) 618-7064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>King Machine &amp; Tool Co.</strong> (Manufacturers)</td>
<td>Kelly Kapper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1237 Sanders Ave. SW Massillon, OH 44647</td>
<td>(330) 833-7217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Living Faith Family Fellowship</strong> (Churches)</td>
<td>Sue Ellen Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7475 Middlebranch Ave. NE Canton, OH 44721</td>
<td>(330) 829-9218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meritech Office Technologies</strong> (Office Technology)</td>
<td>Theresa Sebrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>440 Grant St. #100 Akron, OH 44311</td>
<td>(234) 205-1705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NCHB Investments, LLC</strong> (Property Development &amp; Management)</td>
<td>Floyd Williams Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5151 Tuscarawas St. W #310 Canton, OH 44708</td>
<td>(330) 265-1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Promo Sales Queen</strong> (Promotional Products)</td>
<td>Stephanie Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2099 McGinty Rd. NW North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>(330)268-3296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rainbow International of Canton</strong> (Property Restoration)</td>
<td>Jeremy Horn</td>
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<tr>
<td>2236 Rutgers St. NW North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>(330) 754-3090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RGC Printing Company</strong> (Printing Services)</td>
<td>Michael Gonzalez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2897 Bridlewood St. North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>(330) 323-9416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starbucks</strong> (Coffee Shops)</td>
<td>Mike Regimbal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>309 Court Ave. NW Canton, OH 44702</td>
<td>(330) 705-0411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Three30 Group</strong> (Software Solutions)</td>
<td>Brian Harr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>309 Court Ave. NW Canton, OH 44702</td>
<td>(330)339-4017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>United Surface Finishing</strong> (Plating)</td>
<td>Robert Horger</td>
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<tr>
<td>2202 Gilbert Ave. NE Canton, OH 44705</td>
<td>(330) 575-3115</td>
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David Baker and The Pro Football Hall of Fame issued the following statement on the passing of Hall of Famer Willie Brown: “The entire Hall of Fame family mourns the loss of a great man. Willie Brown was the epitome of the Raiders’ motto of 'commitment to excellence' that was integral to the team's sustained success. He embodied virtues like passion, integrity, perseverance and always led by example. His character, on and off the field, made all those around him better. His legacy will be preserved forever in Canton, Ohio to inspire generations of fans.”

The Pro Football Hall of Fame aligned with the important mission to “Honor the Heroes of the Game, Preserve its History, Promote its Values and Celebrate Excellence EVERYWHERE,” will salute the military throughout the month of November. Free museum admission and parking will be provided to all veterans and active military plus a guest from Nov. 1-11, 2019. Throughout the rest of November, veterans and active military receive $5 off Museum admission and their spouses and dependents (under 18) receive $3 off with free parking. The Hall of Fame's annual Veterans Day Event takes place on Saturday, Nov. 2 at 11 a.m. This year’s program “Honoring Our Nation's Heroes” will include special guest of honor and NFL Legend Donnie Edwards. The Pro Football Hall of Fame Store is selling several items from the 2019 Salute to Service collection.

Stark Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Stark County in partnership with The Center for Community Solutions released the 2019 Stark County Community Assessment, a comprehensive data report. The assessment pulls together, in one place, the most timely, relevant data on health, social and economic conditions in Stark County. The assessment is not meant to be an exhaustive compilation of all data on Stark County, but rather a curated set of data to inform decision-making. The data sheds light on a variety of community conditions including: Demographics; Families, Households and Neighborhoods; Education; Economics; Environment and Health.

Kent State University at Stark will present Guitar Weekend, a three-day festival for guitar enthusiasts, Oct. 31–Nov. 2. Free and open to the public, the event is a celebration of all styles of guitar playing and features some of the most respected guitarists nationwide. Organized by Professor Erin Vaughn, lecturer of music and coordinator of guitar and studio ensembles at Kent State Stark, Guitar Weekend is in its fourth year and blends a series of guitar workshops and concerts during the three-day span. This year’s event features guitarists who have performed with Van Morrison, Norah Jones and more.

Canton Rotary and Mercy Medical Center offer reduced cost health screenings on Saturday, November 2 from 7a to 11a, greatly discounted health and wellness testing will be available to all citizens throughout Stark and surrounding counties. The testing will take place at Mercy Medical Center in the Mercy Hall Auditorium, 1320 Mercy Drive NW in Canton. Now in the 10th year of bringing this service to Stark County, the Rotary Club of Canton and Mercy Medical Center have teamed up to offer this vital resource to the community. To date over 1600 people have taken advantage of these tests, many relying on them for their annual check-up. If paid for out of pocket, these tests would amount to over $750 in expense if not covered by insurance. All tests are performed by Mercy Medical Laboratory Services. Other free screenings along with informational materials and giveaways will be available on site. Register in advance at www.cantonrotary.org.

The Canton Museum of Art (CMA), one of Northeast Ohio’s premier American art museums, along with the Canton Symphony Orchestra and Massillon Museum announce nominations are now being accepted the NEW Art Educator of the Year Award, alongside nominations for the fourth annual Music Educator of the Year Award, sponsored by the Canton Symphony Orchestra. The awards will be presented at the January 25, 2020 Canton Symphony MasterWorks concert. Nomination form is available on CMA’s website at https://www.cantonart.org/art-educator-year-award.

Barbco, Inc., a capital equipment manufacturer in the horizontal boring, trenchless excavating, and underground manufacturing industries, decided to celebrate 30 years of being a family owned business by giving back to children in need of hope and support. The St. Baldrick’s Foundation was selected as a partner in this noble endeavor by the team at Barbco, Inc. Volunteers sponsored by family, friends, and employers shave their heads or “chop” their ponytails in solidarity with children who typically lose their hair during cancer treatment in order to raise funds.

The event, entitled Bald Is Beautiful at Barbco, Inc., was held on Wednesday, October 16th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm in the Barbco Employee Lunch Room which was converted into a Barber Shop for the event. Over 30 Shavees and about 100 guests enjoyed the festivities which, in addition to the head shaving, included free coffee and donuts, 50/50 drawings, and special raffles. The community came out strongly to support this first time ever event at Barbco, Inc. In addition to a dozen, passionate volunteers, fifteen Corporate Partners joined in to help! These generous organizations include SACS Consulting and Investigative Services, JB Jewelers, Kraft Fluid Systems, Alro Steel, NAPA Auto Parts, TRS Trenchless Rental Solutions, National Steel Tube, U.S. Shoring & Equipment, Peace Love & Little Donuts of Canal Fulton, Atwood Industries, Midwest Mole, and C. Massouh Printing Services. We are nearly halfway to our ambitious goal of raising $10,000 for the children.

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 109 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.
TO NOMINATE A COMPANY VISIT: WWW.NEOBRIGHTESTLIGHTS.COM

The 2019 M. Conley Entrepreneur-Of-The-Year Award: NOMINEE #6

ABBOTT ELECTRIC, INC.
Canton, Ohio

It had been a frustrating day for Mike Abbott as he spent hours searching fruitlessly for some critical pipes in the former Mercy School of Nursing. Finally he called his father Jim who remembered installing those conduits when the building was under construction in 1969. “Look behind the closet in the corner,” he told his son. It was not the first time two generations of Abbotts worked together to solve a tough problem.

In multi-generational family companies, the first generation often flies blind to give succeeding generations the gift of sight. Jim Abbott graduated from Timken High’s electrical shop program and became foreman for a number of commercial electrical contractors in the area. To help care for his young family, Jim bought a laundromat at Meyer’s Lake, then a car wash.

By 1978, Jim was ready to leave a solid union foreman’s job to start Abbott Electric out of the back of his station wagon. 41 years later the move looks like a stroke of genius, but nothing was certain at the time. Looking back son Mike Abbott knows exactly how his father made it work. “He was the hardest working and smartest business person I’ve ever been around.” Apparently, the Timken High shop graduate was born with an MBA, or at least an uncommon dose of business sense.

Son Mike surpassed his father in academic achievement, graduating from Notre Dame with a degree in Electrical Engineering, but got his business acumen from the School of Jim Abbott. When Jim’s work ethic took Abbott Electric as far as possible, he began acquiring many of the same companies he’d worked for in the past.

Meanwhile, Mike was building a life in Chicago with a good job at Commonwealth Edison. When Jim acquired Horn Electric in Tuscarawas County, he asked Mike to come home to help manage the fast-growing company. Apparently, Jim wasn’t persuasive enough as Mike stayed in Chicago until a two-hour Chicago traffic jam did the job Jim couldn’t. Mike knew it was time to come home.

Mike took charge around 2007 and under his leadership Abbott Electric has become one of the most successful design/build electric contracting companies in Ohio. They design systems as well as build them, providing more value to business owners and general contractors. The electrical engineering capabilities Mike brought to the company also give Abbott a substantial speed advantage when it comes to quoting jobs and making changes on the fly.

By surrounding himself with an outstanding team, Mike has been able to continue his father’s practice of buying other firms to extend Abbott’s reach and capabilities. At the same time the rest of the Abbott family has been doing their part. Brother-in-law, Brent Fatzinger, is CFO while brother, Steve, started a division to analyze the electrical safety of industrial plants. Another brother, Tony, works as an electrical engineer at the company.

Today, Abbott Electric stands at the top of the area’s electrical contracting industry with a team of loyal employees, many having worked there since Jim’s time. Looking back, Mike can see three lessons from his father that have remained foundations of the business: 1. Work hard. 2. Treat people fairly because the business depends on repeat customers. 3. Always do the job the right way.

These three business guideposts have helped Abbott Electric survive the two most challenging times in any company’s history; the start-up years and passing the business to the next generation. The Abbotts found the key to keeping the power flowing is to learn from one another.

Visit www.neobrightestlights.com to learn about the other 2019 nominees.
CANTON REGIONAL SM
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ONLY 4-STAR RATED HOSPITAL
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A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System

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