Join us this Thursday for a FREE Canton holiday tradition, Light Up Downtown! The whole family will enjoy Light Up Downtown, produced by the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce and part of the Downtown Canton Event Series Presented by KeyBank. All of your favorite holiday characters will visit from winter wonderlands – and it’s all brought to life at Central Plaza.

TONS OF HOLIDAY HOOPLA!
The main stage show, featuring local dance and song troupes, begins at 5:45 pm, followed by a brilliant fireworks display presented by Kempthorn Motors at approximately 6:30 pm. After the fireworks, watch 14 city blocks come alive with attractions, entertainment, refreshments and fun for children of all ages.

Light Up Downtown will be held snow, rain or shine. There will be plenty of parking both on-street and in the former Timken High School and Stark County District Library parking lots, as well as parking in various decks and lots throughout downtown for a nominal fee.

FAQS ABOUT LIGHT UP DOWNTOWN:
WHAT ARE THE HOURS FOR THE EVENT?
Festivities begin on December 7 with a stage show at 5:45 pm, and will conclude at 8:30 pm

WHEN ARE THE FIREWORKS, AND WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO WATCH THEM?
The fireworks will be shot off immediately following the stage show (approx 6:30 pm). Anywhere in the Market Square green space will be a great viewing location.

WHEN WILL THE STAGE SHOW BEGIN?
The stage show begins at 5:45 pm. The stage is located on Market Ave. between 3rd & 4th Streets North.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN WE GET PHOTOS WITH SANTA?
Photos with Santa will be available on the main stage shortly after the fireworks have concluded. Photos will end promptly at 8:30 pm. Other venues will also feature Santa Claus. Check the map for locations.

WHERE CAN WE BUY SOUVENIRS?
A variety of official souvenirs will be available at the white tent located in front of the Chamber offices, Market Ave. between 2nd and 3rd Streets North.

(continued on page 12)
AultCare’s expanded network now has over 7,200 providers, including over 30 hospitals. AultCare is expanding, and you receive the benefits. AultCare now covers you in more places, giving you more choices for your health care.


Let us show you.
Those of us who watch the shale business paid close attention to an announcement last month that coincided with President Trump’s trip to China and other Asian countries.

China Energy Investment Corp Ltd. announced its intentions to invest $83.7 billion in shale gas development and chemical manufacturing in West Virginia over the next 20 years.

By comparison, private investment in Ohio by shale energy companies has totaled about $54 billion between 2012 and 2016. Fewer years. Smaller sum. Money already spent, not intended. Nevertheless.

The deal with China is non-binding. Still, it is a sign of something shale watchers have anticipated for the last few years. It is the likelihood that foreign investors have the shale gas regions of Northwest West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio on their radar screens. There is no place on the planet where energy resources are now more plentiful and economical than the United States. In particular, the Ohio River shale region, sometimes referred to as the Appalachian Basin, is ripe for development.

Shell Chemicals, a Dutch company, has reduced the risk by deciding that the region was a good location for its $5 billion to $6 billion ethane cracker, which will turn ethane gas into feedstock chemicals for the plastics industry. If Western Pennsylvania is a good place for Shell to invest its billions, the region is probably a safe bet for others.

The conversion of shale gases into petrochemicals is the downstream sector of shale energy. Economic development agents in the three states of the Appalachian Basin are working to attract investors that will manufacture petrochemicals here. They want an alternative to shipping these valuable gases to the U.S. Gulf Coast. Regional manufacturing will turn Utica gas into sustainable manufacturing jobs. Let’s see whether 2018 is a big year for downstream.

Congratulations to Stark Area Regional Transit Authority. Its executive director, Kirt Conrad, is known far and wide as an innovator in the application of hydrogen fuel cells to power transit buses. SARTA’s development of its fuel cell bus fleet is the reason why the national fuel cell bus conference was held this autumn at Kent State University at Stark. It drew attendees and presenters from throughout North America and Europe.

One of hydrogen’s source molecules is natural gas.

Jenny Camper and Angela Snyder at Lesic & Camper Communications, a public relations agency with offices in Cleveland and Columbus, are working with the National Association of Manufacturers on a grassroots public education campaign around natural gas. They are seeking experts, as well as natural gas end-users (residential or business) to communicate to fellow Ohio citizens about the benefits of natural gas. Angela and Jenny can assist with outreach such as letters to the editor, guest columns for a newspaper, or social media posts and tweets, to further the public’s understanding of the safety and efficiency of natural gas.

We are eager to help you and help Jenny and Angela. If you would like to express your views on the benefits of natural gas, please contact me at the number or email address below, and I will put you in touch with Lesic & Camper.

David Kaminski
VP for Energy and Public Policy
(330) 458-2059
davidk@cantonchamber.org
December AultCare Fast Break Breakfast:
“Higher Education: Stark County’s Asset, Stark County’s Future” with Dr. David King, President, Malone University
Education is the key to a successful future here in Stark County, and we’re fortunate to be home to five institutions of higher learning. Educated individuals earn higher wages, keep unemployment rates down, and help drive innovation. Dr. David King, president of Malone University, will speak on one of Stark County’s greatest assets as we look toward the future: higher education.
Friday, Dec. 8
7:30 – 9:00 am (Registration begins at 7:00 am)
Courtyard by Marriott
4375 Metro Circle, Canton
$18 Members/$25 Non-Members
Register by Dec. 6 at www.CantonChamber.org

December AultCare QuickConnect Networking Luncheon:
Join us for the AultCare QuickConnect Networking Luncheon on December 13 with Joe Palmisano, Captive Radiology, and “Dare to be Great!”
• What does it mean to be great?
• What is the definition of greatness?
• Am I capable of greatness?
• What is it that holds me back?
Wednesday, Dec. 13
11:30 am – 1:00 pm (Registration begins at 11:00 am)
Shady Hollow Country Club
4865 Wales Ave. NW, Massillon
$18/members, $25/non-members
Register by Dec. 11 at www.CantonChamber.org

Join Us at AultCare Fast Break Breakfast and AultCare QuickConnect Luncheon
Want to grow your contacts and leads? We offer the AultCare Fast Break Breakfast and the AultCare QuickConnect Networking Luncheon, each month! Whether you prefer your networking at breakfast, at lunch, or both, we’ve got you covered.

Every month, Fast Break and/or 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.

Baker, Dublikar, Beck, Wiley & Mathews
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Telephone: (330) 499-6000
Telecopier: (330) 499-6423

400 SOUTH MAIN STREET
NORTH CANTON, OHIO 44720

www.bakerfirm.com
THANKS TO OUR 2017 ADVANTAGE CANTON PARTNERS

Thank you to all the members of Advantage Canton, a group of strategic investment partners that support the mission of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce of leading the region in business and community development through collaboration and innovation. Advantage Canton’s economic development program is an investment in creating a stronger local economy which is good for everyone in Stark County.

Contact Mike Gill on how you can join this group of businesses!
mikeyg@cantonchamber.org • (330) 458-2090

Our Canton-Area Business Counts on CareWorksComp to Help Us Improve Safety and Control Our Ohio Workers’ Compensation Costs

The Canton Regional Chamber sponsors an Ohio workers’ comp program to help its members significantly lower their Ohio BWC premium.
Our results-oriented approach fully integrates accident prevention, risk control and claims management while delivering a significant return on your investment.
For a no-cost, no-obligation analysis of your potential group rating savings, please visit www.careworkscomp.com/groupratingapplication/Canton and complete our Temporary Authorization to Review Information form.

For employers who don’t qualify for group rating, CareWorksComp can still evaluate your best premium discount options.
For more information, contact CareWorksComp’s Robert Nicoll at 1-800-837-3200, Ext. 58595 or email robert.nicoll@careworkscomp.com.

1-800-837-3200 | www.careworkscomp.com | info@careworkscomp.com
On Wednesday, Nov. 8, the Canton Regional Chamber awarded its 72nd annual Community Salute Awards of Appreciation and Merit to outstanding area community stewards. Thanks to all for a wonderful evening! Congrats again to these award recipients:

(Front Row from L-R):

Renee Powell, LPGA/PGA Head Golf Professional, Clearview Golf Club-Special Award of Distinction; Tom Thompson, Executive Director, JRC-Award of Appreciation; Mike Gallina, VP of Outreach Services, AultCare-Award of Appreciation; Joni Close, President, Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton-Award of Appreciation; 

(Back Row L-R): 

Jerry Schroer, President, The Schroer Group-Award of Appreciation; Tom Cecconi, CEO Emeritus, Mercy Medical Center-Award of Merit; Ted Watko, CEO, Meals on Wheels-Award of Appreciation

Thank you once again to our sponsors for your generous support!
Current Schedule of Clubs

- Tuesday Breakfast at Denny’s Restaurant on West Tusc - **Led by Debbie Busby**
- Tuesday Lunch at Courtyard by Marriott – **Led by Molly Romig**
- Tuesday Lunch at Fox & Hound - **Led by John Mann**
- Wednesday Breakfast at The Regency on Whipple Ave – **Led by Molly Romig**
- Wednesday Breakfast at John’s Bar – **Led by Stacy Hoffman**
- Wednesday Lunch at Mulligan’s Pub- **Led by Denny Goodwill**
- Wednesday Lunch at Sylvester’s on Portage- **Led by Molly Romig**
- Thursday Breakfast at Samantha’s on Portage- **Led by Chylece Head**
- Thursday Lunch at Li Asian- **Led by Molly Romig**

Contact our Membership Department today to get started at 330.833.4400.
Hall of Fame City Ice Rink

DOWNTOWN CANTON!

HOURS
Mon-Thu: 10 am – 7 pm, Fri-Sat: 10 am – 8 pm, Sun: Noon – 6 pm
Free & Open to the Public | Skate Rental Available: $4
215 West Tuscarawas St., Canton, OH 44702 next to Arcade Coney’s

SKATING LESSONS
Beginner and Intermediate lessons available. Price: $10 (skates included)
Schedule: December 21-22, 27-29 at 10 a.m. Sessions are 30 minutes.
Enjoy mixing and mingling with friends at one of the county’s finest establishments, Brookside Country Club. We’ll be hanging in the charming, yet oh so masculine, Men’s Grill for the evening. If you’re feeling a little lucky, you can sit at the tables outfitted with poker, euchre and other casual, pick-up style card games. Or, if cards aren’t your thing, watch a game on TV and enjoy complimentary appetizers or a drink from the cash bar. Dress business casual or in that festive holiday sweater!

The night will include networking and toasts from various ystark! leaders to reflect and celebrate on being young professionals! Plus, each attendee gets the annual tradition of their 15 seconds of fame - a microphone and captive audience to tell us who they are and what they do for a living!

Only cash will be accepted at the bar. No credit cards please.

Thursday, December 14
5:30-7:30 pm
Brookside Country Club
1800 Canton Ave. NW
RSVP at www.CantonChamber.org
Cost: Free, but reservations are required

YSTARK! CEO MEET & EAT WITH THOMAS CECCONI

Please join us for our final CEO Meet&Eat of the year with Mr. Thomas Cecon of Mercy Medical Center.

To capstone a 44 year career within hospitals across four states, Tom will retire after more than 14 years of leading Mercy.

Enjoy lunch, a brief Mercy history lesson, and Tom’s personal wisdoms as we join him in his reflection of his impactfull career.

Space is limited, advance RSVP required.

Monday, Dec. 11
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Mercy Medical Center
Canton, OH
Cost: $15 (includes lunch)
Register at www.CantonChamber.org
For anyone interested in developing personal leadership and effecting positive change in our region, come to our information breakfast and learn about the programs offered by Leadership Stark County.

- How will Leadership Stark County participation benefit me or my company?
- What new competencies will I take away?
- How much time will it take to participate?
- How do I apply?
- How will Leadership Stark County change the way I solve problems, interact with team members, view my community, and approach the future?

Discover the answers to these and any other questions you may have. Leadership Stark County will soon be taking applications for our Signature Program and for the Spotlight for Young Professionals program. If you are interested in either of these programs please plan to attend the breakfast.

There is no cost to attend, however, reservations are requested by Monday, December 11. All are welcome. Make your reservation by calling 330-458-2095 or go to www.LeadershipStarkCounty.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 13
8:00-9:00 am
Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce
Free, but reservations are appreciated
SPOTLIGHT FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

BEGINS FEBRUARY 27!

It’s not too soon to think about starting off 2018 right by taking your career and community involvement to the next level. We are taking applications now for the spring session, so apply today and don’t miss out on all of the learning and growth opportunities.

The course includes sessions on:

• The history and future of Stark County
• Economic insight across a variety of industries
• Your personal GallupStrengths profile
• Using strengths in the workplace
• Individualized development plans
• And so much more!

The Spotlight Stark County program is geared toward enhancing the basic Leadership Stark County competencies of Effective Communication, Strategic Agility, Collaboration, Innovation and Technology, Service to Others, and Relationship Building.

Apply today at www.LeadershipStarkCounty.org.

NEW! Supercharge your Spotlight experience with Individual Leadership Coaching

To get the most out of your Spotlight for Young Professionals class, consider adding a Leadership Coaching package to your course. Leadership coaching is offered exclusively to Leadership Stark County program graduates and we are now offering it to you as you begin your Spotlight course. It’s the next step in our leadership programming and affordable, customized advanced GallupStrengths and Leadership Coaching services can be added to your Spotlight Stark County course. More information about how to add Coaching and about our coaches is at www.LeadershipStarkCounty.org.

Learn more about this and other programs of Leadership Stark County at the Information Breakfast on Wednesday, December 13 at 8:00 a.m. at the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce.

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

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

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• Injury Care
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• Pre-placement Physicals
• Random Management Programs
• Mobile Medical Unit

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

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WHERE ARE PORTABLE RESTROOMS LOCATED?
Portable restrooms are located in three areas: 5th Street & Market South (across from The Canton Repository), 4th Street North & Court Ave., and 5th Street & Market North.

WHERE CAN I GET AN EVENT MAP?
Maps and general information will be available at the information tent on the corner of 2nd Street and Market Ave. North.

WHICH BUSINESSES ARE HANDING OUT REFRESHMENTS OR DOING MAKE-AND-TAKE CRAFTS?
Each business decides how they want to participate, so we’re not sure which ones are offering refreshments or crafts. We can tell you that there are MANY businesses participating, so we encourage you to visit as many venues as possible.

WHERE CAN WE GO TO GET GLOVES, HATS, SOCKS THAT ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED?
Distribution takes place at Market Ave. & 5th Street South.

WHERE ARE THE CARRIAGE RIDES BEING OFFERED?
Carriage rides are available on Market Ave. South, in front of the McKinley Grand Hotel. No rides during the fireworks.

IS FOOD BEING SOLD AT LIGHT UP DOWNTOWN?
Outside of the refreshments being offered by participating venues, we do not have food for sale. Check with some of the great downtown restaurants who might be open for dinner.

2018 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY TO ARRIVE IN FEBRUARY
The annual Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce Membership Directory will be mailed to all members in February. This convenient resource provides our valued members with descriptions of key Chamber divisions and cross-referenced listings of your fellow Chamber members. Your 2018 go-to guide will provide valuable contact information right at your fingertips.

Be sure to check your mailbox for your Membership Directory in February, and as always, visit www.CantonChamber.org and click on “Business Directory” to access the online directory anytime.

Sponsors to date:

KeyBank

Kempton Motors

HP Products

Keystone Advantage

Metro PCS

The Canton Repository

Light Up Downtown is part of the Downtown Canton Event Series presented by KeyBank.

Savings + Special Perks = WIN-WIN!
Call 330-458-2070 or visit www.CantonChamber.org to purchase your tickets today.
There are now five generations in today’s workforce. Each generation has a different method of accomplishing tasks, giving and following instructions and communicating. In environments in which safety is of utmost importance, an understanding of these different methods is key to predicting how others react in difficult situations.

This predictability is key to building trust among team members. This program provides a brief overview of:

• The shared historical experiences that create each generation’s mindset about work
• An understanding of different generation’s work habits.

About Deborah Easton: Deborah Easton, an internationally-known trainer and owner of Easton Consulting, has presented the training program “Generations in the Workplace” to hundreds of audiences of varying industries including health care, manufacturing, banking, insurance, social services, technology and numerous professional organizations. The program’s emphasis is the universal need of all generations for respect, although each generation defines respect in its own way. Numerous aspects of this topic -- coaching generations, generational definitions of “good customer service,” accountability among generations and preparing for Gen Z, etc. -- have been incorporated into the training depending on the client’s needs.

Thursday, December 14
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Krassas Event Center
$17 per person
RSVP by Dec. 11
www.StarkCountySC.com

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Holiday Movies
At the Palace Theatre

Nov. 24 & 25
7:30pm $6
Dec. 1 @ 7:30pm
FREE
Dec. 16 @ 1:00pm
FREE
Dec. 10
7:30pm $3
Dec. 16
7:30pm $5
Dec. 17
7:30pm $5
Dec. 21
7:30pm $5

605 Market Ave. N, Canton, OH 44702 • 330.454.8772
www.cantonpalacetheatre.org

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Earn Your M.B.A. in as little as 12 Months

Graduate Information Session
Monday, November 6

Walsh University
A Catholic University of Distinction
The DeVille School of Business

Named a Best Online Program for 2017 by U.S. News & World Report
NEW MEMBERS

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

AFLAC - Maria Duer
(INSURANCE)
Maria Duer
4433 38th Street NW - Ste 4
Canton, OH 44718
(330) 309-4567

Better Financial Solutions, LLC
(ACCOUNTANTS - ACCOUNTING CONSULTANTS)
Marie Cutlip
6465 Frank Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720
(330) 494-5335

Dr. Constantin F Farah DDS
(DENTISTS)
Randa Farah
4410 Executive Cir. NW
Canton, OH 44718
(330) 494-7004
www.icgums.com

Eynon Software, LLC
(SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT)
Thomas Eynon
4105 Cleveland Ave. SW #C
Canton, OH 44707
(330) 956-5563
www.eynon.software

Farsight Management, Inc
(LEAD - PAINT INSPECTIONS & RISK ASSESSMENTS MOLD REMEDIATION)
Ronanne Hohler
6790 Middle Run Rd.
Dover, OH 44622
(330) 602-8338
www.usefarsight.com

Group Management Services
(HUMAN RESOURCE OUTSOURCING)
Mark Hurrell
10200 Brecksville Rd.
Brecksville, OH 44141
(234) 246-3006
www.groupmgmt.com

High Voltage Indoor Karting
(RACETRACK)
Marc Langworthy
333 Foundry St.
Medina, OH 44256
(330) 333-9000
www.highvoltagekarting.com

Malley’s Chocolates
(CANDY)
Megan Malley Cannon
3911 Everhard Rd.
North Canton, OH 44709
(330) 305-9340
www.malleys.com

Mother Angelica Tour
St. Raphael Center, Inc.
(TRAVEL TOURS)
Barbara Gaskell
4365 Fulton Dr. NW
Canton, OH 44718
(330) 492-7018
www.MotherAngelicaTour.com

Net2phone International
Domestic Telecom
(TELECOMMUNICATIONS [VOIP])
Patrick Harrison
520 Broad St.
Newark, NJ 07102
(330) 361-0889
www.net2phone.com

Northeast Roofing Systems, LLC
(ROOFING - INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL)
Wes Keim
2230 TR 415
Dundee, OH 44624
(330) 473-2466
www.northeastroofingsystems.com

Pegasus Farm Country Store & Gardens
(COUNTRY STORE)
Karen Layton
7656 Edison St. NE
Hartville, OH 44632
(330) 935-2300
www.pegasusfarm.org

Personal Touch Floor Care Specialists
(CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING SPECIALISTS)
Douglas Thurman
3411 Dunmore Ave. NW
Canton, OH 44708
(330) 833-8916

St. Raphael Books & Gifts
(GIFT SHOP - RELIGIOUS)
Barbara Gaskell
4365 Fulton Dr. NW
Canton, OH 44718
(330) 492-7018
www.catholicbook.net

Total Energy Resources, LLC
(UTILITIES - ELECTRIC & NATURAL GAS - SAVINGS)
Ryan Williams
3115 Carie Hill Cir. NW
Massillon, OH 44646
(330) 809-6245
www.totalenergyresources.com
### December Calendar

#### 7

**Light Up Downtown**  
[www.lightupdowntown.com](http://www.lightupdowntown.com)  
14 blocks of free family fun! Stage show at 5:45 pm, fireworks at 6:30 pm, then entertainment, refreshments and fun for all ages primarily along Market Ave.  
**Thursday, December 7**  
5:45-8:30 pm  
Downtown Canton  
Free!

#### 8

**December Aultcare Fast Break Breakfast**  
[www.cantonchamber.org](http://www.cantonchamber.org)  
“Higher Education: Stark County’s Asset, Stark County’s Future” with Dr. David King, President, Malone University  
**Friday, December 8**  
7:00-9:00 am  
Courtyard by Marriott  
$18 members,  
$25 non-members

#### 11

**ystark! CEO Meet & Eat**  
[www.ystark.org](http://www.ystark.org)  
Please join us for our final CEO Meet&Eat of the year with Mr. Thomas Cecconi, CEO Emeritus, Mercy Medical Center, who is retiring after leading Mercy for 14 years.  
**Monday, December 11**  
11:30 am-1:00 pm  
Mercy Medical Center  
$15 (reservations required)

#### 13

**Leadership Stark County Information Breakfast**  
[www.leadershipstarkcounty.org](http://www.leadershipstarkcounty.org)  
For anyone interested in developing personal leadership and effecting positive change in our region, come to the information breakfast and learn about the programs offered by Leadership Stark County.  
**Wednesday, December 13**  
8:00-9:00 am  
Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Free

#### 13

**December Aultcare QuickConnect Luncheon**  
[www.cantonchamber.org](http://www.cantonchamber.org)  
“Dare to be Great!” is the topic at December’s AultCare QuickConnect Luncheon with Joe Palmisano, Captive Radiology.  
**Wednesday, December 13**  
11:30 am-1:00 pm  
Shady Hollow Country Club  
$18 members,  
$25 non-members

#### 14

**Stark County Safety Council December Luncheon**  
[www.cantonchamber.org](http://www.cantonchamber.org)  
“Generational Views of Safety” at our next Safety Council Luncheon, plus our annual Toys for Tots Toy Drive!  
**Thursday, December 14**  
11:30 am-1:00 pm  
Alex D. Krassas Event Center  
$17 per person to attend

#### 14

**ystark! Monthly Meet-Up**  
[www.cantonchamber.org](http://www.cantonchamber.org)  
Enjoy mixing and mingling with friends at one of the county’s finest establishments, Brookside Country Club.  
**Thursday, December 14**  
5:30-7:30 pm  
Brookside Country Club  
Free, but reservations are required
Stark County District Library is pleased to announce that Derek Gordon has been named the Library’s new Owner Representative. In this new role for the Library, he will be responsible for the management of new construction and renovation projects, including planning, establishing project delivery systems, procuring architects and engineers, oversight of the bidding process, construction administration, and project closeout. Gordon joins the Library from Canton Parks and Recreation where he has served as Director since 2013. He was responsible for the oversight of 800 acres and more than 60 park properties. He has also served as the Assistant Director of Public Safety and Service for the City of Canton and as Project Manager for the Mayor’s Administration.

On November 3, Mercy Medical Center hosted a reception and open house to celebrate 10 years of providing accessible dental care for the general public, including the uninsured and underinsured, and offering a superior dental residency education program. Hospital administration and board members, Mercy Dental Services clinical directors, Mayor Thomas Bernabei, City of Canton, members of the Stark County Dental Society, representatives from foundations that supported Mercy Dental Services, local dentists, and current and past dental residents came together to celebrate Mercy Dental Services achievements and milestones over the last 10 years. According to a report from the Ohio Department of Health, dental care remains the state’s No. 1 unmet health care need for children and low-income adults.

The Karcher Group announces the hire of its new Data Services Manager, Scott Keenan. Adding capable and experienced data services and IT professionals has been a priority for the agency as they expand their offerings. “Scott brings a strong background in IT, network security and network design to our team,” said Geoff Karcher, Owner and President of The Karcher Group. “He adds yet another level of security we can offer our clients who want a more hands-on approach to data services that big companies just can’t provide.”

Gold Force Administrative Support is proud to celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2017. In July 2007, Gold Force Administrative Support opened its virtual office doors and began serving businesses locally and nationwide. At that time, virtual assistance had been in existence for 20+ years, yet many business owners had no knowledge of the industry or what it could bring to their business. Owner Michele Randolph helped increase awareness of the industry by educating on the benefits of virtual assistance while supporting the administrative needs of a diverse mix of businesses within CRCC and across the country. To learn more about virtual assistance and Gold Force, visit www.goldforcesupport.com.

Come celebrate the opening the Canton Museum of Art’s latest exhibit “Elijah Pierce: An American Journey” at a FREE public reception for all ages on Thursday, December 7, 2017, 6pm-8pm. Enjoy the jazz music of HUBBS GROOVE, complimentary hors d’oeuvres, cash bar, and free gallery admission, plus a brief discussion of the exhibit from Museum Director Max Barton and Guest Curators Tim Keny and Dr. John Moe. An American Journey explores the work of self-taught, American folk artist, Elijah Pierce (1892 – 1984). Pierce was one of the most prolific African American wood carvers and storytellers of the 20th century. He is known for his brightly painted sculptural panels illustrating biblical stories, moral lessons, historical events, and images from popular culture – a landscape of wood-carved art that is unlike any in America.

New York City Ballet dancers will perform the leading roles in Canton Ballet’s sparkling holiday showpiece The Nutcracker in four performances December 8-10 at the Canton Palace Theatre. NYC Ballet principal dancers Sterling Hyltin and Canton Ballet alumnus Zachary Catazaro will dance the leading roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier in all performances. This is a rare opportunity for Stark County audiences to see performing members of America’s premiere ballet company here at home. Performances will be Friday, December 8, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 9, 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, December 10, 2:00 p.m.

United Way of Greater Stark County’s Young Leaders Society (YLS) hosted a STONE SOUP volunteer project on November 11th at Turnaround Community Outreach in Canton. The children’s story of Stone Soup is the premise for the activity, where people will come together in the spirit of cooperation. Pre-made meals are assembled for homeless shelters, transitional housing and hot meal sites. More than 12% of the Stark County population lives in poverty and this is just one of the many ways people can get involved and help local men, women and children. 60 YLS volunteers participated in the family-friendly event, preparing energy bites, 200 hot meals and 416 peanut butter & jelly sandwiches. Each participant brought an ingredient for the snacks and meals. The peanut butter and jelly were donated from Canton South High School Key Club and employees of H-P Products. All children at the event received a copy of the Stone Soup book.

Aultman Hospital has been named one of the nation’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals by IBM Watson Health in the 2018 study, released in November. The annual study, conducted by Truven Health Analytics, now part of IBM Watson Health, identifies the top U.S. hospitals for inpatient cardiovascular services by using a balanced national scorecard of hospital performance metrics to identify the highest performing cardiovascular service lines in the nation.

Consumers National Bank has announced that Joseph B. Shemasek has joined the bank as Vice President and Business Development Officer. He will serve business clients in Columbiana, Mahoning and Jefferson counties in Ohio as well as businesses in western Pennsylvania from the bank’s Lisbon Office. Shemasek will report to Scott Dodds, Executive Vice President and Senior Lender. “We are pleased to add Joe to our lending team. His experience and knowledge of the markets he will serve capture the spirit of the Consumers National Bank model of true community banking,” said Dodds. Shemasek has 27 years of banking experience, predominantly as a commercial lender at community banks. In his most recent position, he was as a relationship manager for commercial lending, and has held a variety of roles including chief commercial loan officer.

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.
Ted Swaldo started with one-tenth of next-to-nothing and one great talent... "seeing possibilities.

One of ten children of a coal miner, he built the world’s largest automotive water pump manufacturer. At one time, ASC Industries sold 90% of all aftermarket water pumps because they understood how badly customers needed reliable inventory. Faith in his manufacturing processes and his employees led Ted to promise a national retailer 95% order fulfillment or he’d, voluntarily, pay a 10% penalty. ASC got the order and hit their targets. The same attention to customer needs led him to create Gervasi Vineyard, Canton’s second most popular travel destination.

But, we’re getting ahead of ourselves.

Before Gervasi, his Italian mother’s maiden name, there was an odd period in Ted Swaldo’s life after he sold ASC and retired to Florida. 45 days later he realized he knew more about what he was retiring from than what he was retiring to. He was already bored.

His thoughts turned to his Canton farm, purchased because “I knew there was only so much dirt in the world and I wanted my share.” It seemed like a good a place to “make a little wine and sell some trail bologna, although I knew next-to-nothing about making wine.” Son, Scott, upped the ante when he told Ted he’d always wanted to be involved with a restaurant. The “make-a-little-wine-sell-some-trail-bologna” idea grew bigger.

With the help of The Ohio State University’s agricultural college near Wooster, Ted learned the best grapes for Ohio’s climate, and how to graft them to sturdy root stock. He sensed the possible when he met Andy Codispoti, a retired electrical engineer who became Gervasi’s part-time winemaker. His winemaking talents, developed as a child in the family’s Italian vineyards, created international award-winning Gervasi wines.

With Scott and the rest of his family, Ted turned the old farm into a world-class restaurant, because they don’t seem capable of thinking small.

Again, customers led the way. One told Ted she wanted to be married in a vineyard, was his available? Soon 35 weddings were booked. Common math told him he could build a scenic Pavilion for less than the rental costs of 35 tents.

Brides asked where to house their out-of-town guests. Soon a town of villas was built across the lake.

Demand for more casual dining led to the Crush House over a small bridge from the original Bistro.

Demand for wine at the restaurants led to installation of expensive Italian wine-making equipment with a 40,000 gallon yearly capacity. The restaurants only needed 30,000. To fill capacity another restaurant, Twisted Olive, was opened in an elegant old hunting lodge across the street from ASC Industries. Ted was right back where he started, on top of the world.

Ted Swaldo always sees potential others miss and listens to his customers. Twice he’s proven that one-tenth of next-to-nothing can become something great when employees share the vision and have the processes and discipline to do things right. As they say at Gervasi Vineyard, “What you’re looking for is right this way. Follow me.”

Go to www.neobrightestlights.com to learn about the other nominees!
Mercy Medical Center is now in network with AultCare and AultCare’s PrimeTime Health Plan. **AultCare**

We welcome you to experience the quality, compassionate, affordable and accessible care available at our medical center and ten health centers, conveniently located in Stark, Carroll and Tuscarawas Counties. **Learn more about Mercy at cantonmercy.org.**

**Complete list of accepted plans:**
cantonmercy.org/insurance-information