

The CAO Workforce Solutions & Community Development Information Station

November 9, 2023

Portsmouth Area Chamber of Commerce cuts ribbons on 12 businesses



Business Resource Network partner Portsmouth Area Chamber of Commerce is proving Scioto County is open for business with a marathon of ribbon cuttings at a dozen locations over the summer and fall.

"I feel we have a thriving business community," Portsmouth Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lisa Carver said. "In addition to the Chamber, we have abundant resources to help businesses of all sizes navigate the hurdles and succeed.

Carver said that the group exploded with ribbon cuttings last year and that trend has continued into 2023.

"I believe this is in part because the Chamber proved its worth during the recent pandemic," Carver said. "Businesses recognized that the Chamber stands strong in the community and is there for them even in adverse situations. We connect people to businesses and businesses to people."

Currently, the chamber membership has over 500 members, which was a longtime goal for Carver. She credits exceptional leadership from board and staff that has led to increased services as to why the business community has grown, not only in individual business feats, but also in how much the community supports the organization.

"I believe the growing numbers are a direct result of the confidence the business community has in the Chamber and its leadership," Carver said.

Recent ribbon cuttings include Brace Yourself Orthodontics, Triple Lock Storage, Golf Lounge, Benestar Tortilla Factory, Old Monastery, Community Fellowship, Truth Seekers Gemstones, Par Mar Stores, Glockner Dodge, Ram, Chrysler Showroom, Salvation Army Family Store, Hisle Park Apartments, Rutman Burnside Realty



ECDI Women's Business Centers Central Appalachia Open for Business

Our mission is to invest in people to create measurable social and economic change by helping businesses in our area start-up, grow, and sustain. As the one-stop-shop for all entrepreneurs, we have business coaches on hand to guide you every step of the way and answer any questions you may have. From business plans to specialized training opportunities, we have an abundance of FREE resources!

Need access to capital, but are striking out with traditional lenders? Working through SBA, and other loan sources, we provide small business loans for working capital, equipment or inventory purchases, fund start-up businesses and more.

For more information or to get started with the WBC today, feel free to contact Kelly, Bonnie, or Codie.

What do you REALLY want?

By Coach Dave Beam

This question is tough. What do you REALLY want, and why don't you have it?

I propose that if you REALLY wanted it, you would have it or be in pursuit of it. If you SAY you want it and you don't have it, or are not in the process of getting it, you are lying to yourself. YOU DON'T REALLY WANT IT. (You are in denial). It's time to get REAL!!

If you REALLY wanted to lose weight, the fat would melt. If you REALLY wanted to be debt free, you would have a plan and do it. If you REALLY wanted to play guitar, or give a donation, or take a certain vacation, or own a certain car, or a certain business, or meet a particular person, or have great employees, or read a certain book, or write a book, or take a class, then you would be taking action to obtain it.

You might SAY you want something, but until you act, it is just interest, a nice idea, an enjoyable fantasy, a wispy hope. If there is no committed action, you don't want it and you won't get it.

The good news is that you can have it if you REALLY want it. All that is missing is action. Choose, commit, and act now. Figure it out. Say YES. Get needed help and GO. It might not be easy, but it IS simple. Action dissolves dreamy wishes and make it real.

Learn more about Dave Beam and his services at www.mentordavebeam.com

CAO Fatherhood Program expands

Hello! My name is Jared Timberlake. I am the Fatherhood specialist at Community Action of Scioto County. I have been serving fathers at CAO for 2 years and had had the privilege of helping over 200 Fathers.

The Fatherhood Program is very special to me because we are investing into the family. I am able to assist Fathers in many different areas equipping them with the tools they need to be successful in life and in Fatherhood. Some of the things I have been able to offer are Fatherhood classes using the 24/7 Dad's, Employment help Such as but not limited to Job Search, Resume Building, and interview prep, Child Support, Referrals to Counselors and other resources. As a Father, my bond with my children and my wife is one of the most important things in my life.

Together, we can make a brighter future one Father at a time!

The program, which has served Scioto County, is now expanding to Scioto, Lawrence, Pike Adams and Brown to make a difference in the lives of exponentially more families.

To inquire about the program and how it can help you or someone you know, reach out to Timberlake at jtimberlake@caosciotocounty.org.



OMJ Partner Spotlight

The Ohio Means Jobs Center in Scioto County serviced 2,530 individuals last year with finding employment resources with area companies and training providers. One of the members of the OMJ is the Scioto County Public Library. The library offers traditional print books, e-books and audiobooks, home delivery for those with mobility issues, and more. They offer computer labs, skills trainings, and dozens of events a month.

Learn relevant, professional skills on

LinkedIn Learning with your library card

Take your skills to the next level with LinkedIn Learning for free with your Scioto County Public Library card. Choose from more than 12,000 expert-led courses designed for any skill level. Courses range from computer programming to project management including instruction on various computer software, programming languages, and business topics. Learning paths are step-by-step structured courses, supported with quizzes, practice, and learning reminders to encourage you and support you as you make progress towards your goal. Examples of learning paths include how to become a web developer, manager, bookkeeper, project manager, small business owner, digital marketer, or digital illustrator. All you need is your library card number and pin. Need help signing in? Give us a call at 740-354-5688.

