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Independence Around Town

Economic Development Newsletter

Second Quarter 2015

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Summer has finally arrived! As a member of our community, I invite you to stop by our traditional Home Days celebration scheduled for July 31 and August 1. If your business has made a donation, please know that we appreciate your contribution to the success of this event!

I am proud to share the good news that the City was recently recognized as the "Second Best Location in Ohio to Start a Business," second only to Blue Ash near Cincinnati. This distinction confirms that the City's continued investment in our business districts, mindful planning and strong, bold moves make Independence a premier community to conduct business in Northeast Ohio.

Council and my Administrative Team continuously strive to further enhance and improve our relationship with the business community. One of the ways we are trying to better connect with our businesses is through social media. Be sure to visit the City's LinkedIn [page](#) and follow the Economic Development Department on Twitter ([@YourIndyOH](#)) for more ways to connect!

Enjoy your summer and I hope to see you at Home Days!



NOTABLE NEWS

INDEPENDENCE: THE SECOND BEST LOCATION IN THE STATE OF OHIO TO START A BUSINESS

Nerdwallet.com, a source for information, insight and consumer-driven advice about personal finance, named the City of Independence the second best location to start a business in the State of Ohio. "It's an example of the hard work of the Administration and the Economic Development Team" said Mayor Greg Kurtz. "I think it's another indicator that we are moving in the right direction as a community" said Kurtz on the recent ranking. [Read more...](#)

FOLLOW US!

The City of Independence Economic Development Department is proud to announce its official presence on LinkedIn and Twitter. "We understand and appreciate the growing value of these social networks as information sources for many people," said Mayor Kurtz. "We strive to maintain a personal relationship with our business community. Part of that is staying in touch and keeping them up-to-date with information they find pertinent." [Read more...](#)

NEW HOTEL APPROVED IN THE ROCKSIDE BUSINESS DISTRICT

At the June 2 meeting, the City of Independence Planning Commission approved the construction of a Home2 Suites by Hilton. The new four-story, 120-room extended stay hotel will be constructed on Patriots Way, just west of West Creek Road. The hotel includes an indoor pool, fitness room and lounge area. [Read more...](#)



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS



The Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce is conducting a survey to gauge current programs and services, identify relevant topics and speakers, and gain critical feedback to help improve overall membership benefits. The survey is available for current and prospective Chamber Members and will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete.

[Read more...](#)

OAK TREE BOULEVARD SOUTH RESURFACING

Over the past few years, the City of Independence has been prioritizing and scheduling major roadway repairs in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP is a fiscal management tool used to coordinate the phasing and financing of capital improvements over a multi-year period.

Included in this year's CIP is the resurfacing of Oak Tree Boulevard South. The project includes the repair of the existing concrete roadway joints, drive apron replacements, catch basin repairs and asphalt resurfacing. Much of the concrete work in front of driveways will take place on the weekends to minimize traffic impact and access issues to buildings. [Read more...](#)



LOCAL BUSINESS ACCOLADES

Lindsay G. Silverstein, Regional Executive Director for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society was recently awarded the Women Who Excel Award by Smart Business Online.

According to a list published by the Plain Dealer/cleveland.com, Independence is proud to be home to several top workplaces in Northeast

Ohio. The list includes Independence Excavating, Nations Lending Corporation, Precision Environmental, Blue Chip Consulting Group, The Merrymeeting Group, Alliance Solutions Group, CBiz, Total Quality Logistics, Fleet Response, Hylant Group and Microsoft Corporation. Click [here](#) to check out the complete list of the 2015 Northeast Ohio's Top Workplaces winners.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

Help us keep the community up-to-date on our newest neighbors! Drop us a line when you learn of a new business about to call Independence home.



CSA Group, a global provider of testing and certification services and a leading standards development organization, expanded its laboratory in Independence.

The expansion added an additional 4,000 square feet of laboratory space and includes a full service explosion/flame-proof lab, a gas detection lab, an energy storage laboratory with capabilities to test to North American and international standards and a new high-force laboratory.

Independence welcomes Rutronik to 3 Summit Park Drive.

Contex Shipping, Inc., has joined the Independence Community.

ODDS & ENDS

An important message from the Police & Fire Departments

SWIFTREACH FOR EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

During an emergency, municipalities and law enforcement agencies must have an efficient and reliable way to communicate with residents and businesses. The City of Independence utilizes SwiftReach, a leading provider of emergency notification solutions, to communicate with stakeholders during emergency situations.

The SwiftReach system efficiently alerts specific people or areas via recorded voice messages in the event of an emergency. The system can make thousands of calls in a minute to convey vital information such as: floods, fires, road closures, missing persons, evacuation orders and weather emergencies.

Data for SwiftReach is provided by a third party and only includes publicly listed phone numbers in the City of Independence. It is important for business owners to provide contact information such as unlisted, unpublished or cell phone numbers to ensure emergency information will be provided to stakeholders in a timely manner.

The SwiftReach system also allows for businesses to provide a secondary contact numbers. The secondary contact number would only be called if your primary business phone number is not answered by a person or answering machine.

All calls you receive will come from 216.487.7080. Your information will not be provided to any outside agencies or companies.

To update your businesses information, please follow the [link](#) and complete the form. If you are registering your business, please place the name of your company in the "name" space.

Contact the Independence Economic Development Team



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