



Newsletter

December 4th, 2025



**LOOKING FOR MEMBER
ANNOUNCEMENTS?**
CLICK HERE!

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MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER BENEFITS & MORE



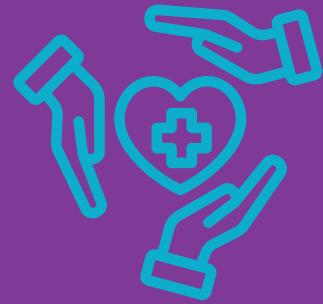
COSE BENEFIT PLAN WEBINAR

On November 18th, GSP hosted a webinar in partnership with Medical Mutual and the Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE), a multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) that offers competitive rates and a broad selection of plan options for businesses with 1 to 50 employees.

During the session, a Medical Mutual representative shared information on the COSE Benefit Plan and the potential savings on health care insurance costs for small businesses.

Learn more about the COSE Benefit Plan at
<https://www.cosebenefitplan.com/Health-Insurance>

For any questions, reach out to Patrick Shepard at
PShepard@greatersandusky.com



MEMBER ORIENTATION

GSP hosted a Perks and Pastries Member Orientation at Sandusky Book Bar. Attendees heard from our Director of Member Services, Patrick Shepard, about GSP benefits, upcoming opportunities, and ways to get more involved.

If you missed it, you can still learn about your Member Center capabilities [HERE](#).



MILESTONES

CELEBRATING BUSINESS & COMMUNITY

Congrats!



NOVEMBER 12TH
TUFFMAN EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY
50TH ANNIVERSARY



NOVEMBER 13TH
KATE REPOLA
ELECTED VP OF OHIO
MAIN ST. MANAGERS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE



NOVEMBER 18TH
BGSU FIRELANDS
FOUNDERS DAY & 60TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



DECEMBER 4TH
CEDAR POINT HISTORICAL MUSEUM
FIRST ANNIVERSARY

UPCOMING EVENTS



DECEMBER 11TH
MEMBER MIXER
FEATURING SIX FLAGS
SAWMILL CREEK
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

[DETAILS](#)



DECEMBER 5TH
NCYP CHRISTMAS
PARTY
TONY'S
6:00PM - 9:00PM

[DETAILS](#)



DECEMBER 31ST
FIRST NIGHT SANDUSKY
JACKSON ST PIER
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

[DETAILS](#)

[MORE EVENTS](#)

MEMBERSHIP

UPCOMING MEMBER EVENT



MEMBER MIXER

INSIDE LOOK AT CEDAR POINT

Thursday, December 11
5:00 - 7:00pm
Sawmill Creek Resorts

[Click Here to
Register!](#)

Colleen
Murphy-Brady

Jason
McClure

SPEAKERS

Join us for an engaging conversation about the park's evolution, upcoming innovations and its continued impact in the region





ERIE COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECTS SHOWCASE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2025

GSP hosted the Erie County Capital Projects Showcase to bring together community partners, project leaders and local officials for an in-depth look at the capital investments poised to shape the region's future.

The program featured updates on current and upcoming projects from organizations and communities across Erie County, offering attendees the opportunity to hear directly from project partners, ask questions, and gain insight.



PRESENTATIONS

- CAMPBELL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTER
- LION'S PARK, CITY OF SANDUSKY
- HORIZON EDUCATION CENTERS
- SANDUSKY STATE THEATRE
- HURON BOAT BASIN, CITY OF HURON
- VILLAGE OF KELLEY'S ISLAND

THANK YOU TO OUR PRESENTERS, ELECTED
OFFICIALS, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY
LEADERS WHO ATTENDED THE PROGRAM

[VIEW PRESENTATIONS](#)

[READ MORE](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANUFACTURING HIGHLIGHTS!



OKAMOTO VISITS SANDUSKY

Okamoto Industries recently visited the City of Sandusky to express gratitude for the City's continued support as they expand their West End Okamoto Sandusky Manufacturing facility near Lions Park.

The expansion will retain 133 jobs and create 10 new positions, adding roughly \$404,400 annually to the local payroll. To support increased truck traffic, the city is reconstructing Huron Street and resurfacing West Monroe/Edgewater Avenue, a \$1.1 million project funded mostly through state grants.

Okamoto's total investment of about \$1.4 million was made possible through collaboration with city, state, and regional partners to improve infrastructure and encourage job growth.



MANUFACTURING DAY 2.0

Held at Lorain County Community College, Manufacturing Day 2.0 brought together leaders, educators, and industry partners for a day focused on innovation, collaboration, and momentum for the regions manufacturing workforce.

Highlights from Manufacturing Day 2.0 included guided tours of LCCC's training spaces, a youth simulation activity presentation, and engaging discussions on workforce readiness, leadership development, and innovative child care solutions.

Thank you to our sponsors, including Hosting Sponsor, Lorain County Community College, and our program partners: Magnet Ohio, Terra State Community College, ONE Lorain County, Child Care Resource Center, Lorain County Chamber of Commerce, and North Point Educational Services Center

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



HOUSING SYMPOSIUM

Join us **January 29th** from **8:30AM - 11:30 AM** at **Kalahari Resorts and Conventions** to learn about emerging strategies for addressing regional housing needs, hear from local and statewide partners who are leading successful projects, and take part in a conversation about how we can work together to expand housing opportunities across the region.

[REGISTER](#)



A NEW HOME FOR MARGARETTA SCHOOLS

Margaretta Local School District has officially resumed construction on its new PK–12 school, bringing all grade levels together on one modern campus.

The project will replace multiple older buildings with a single, updated facility designed for current learning needs, including improved classroom layouts, shared student spaces, secure entrances, and upgraded athletic and activity areas. The new facility will strengthen both student learning and its role as a resource for the wider community.



COMPANY SAVES WITH CAPITAL LEASE PROGRAM

Heritage Cooperative saved \$270,000 through the capital lease program, a tool provided by the Erie County Port Authority, administered by GSP. Heritage Cooperative will be investing \$10 million in a new 40K square-foot facility, helping to retain 20 local jobs.

Special thanks to Heritage Cooperative and Wyandot County Economic Development for trusting GSP with this project.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY!

SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO



**2026 DESTINATION
DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
AVAILABLE IN ERIE AND
OTTAWA COUNTIES**

**SHORES &
ISLANDS
OHIO**

Shores & Islands Ohio is now accepting applications for its 2026 Destination Development Grant Program. Projects should focus on improving amenities, attractions, and facilities, fostering connections between residents and visitors, and aligning with S&IO's mission and strategic goals.

New this year, grant applicants are required to attend an informational meeting before they are allowed to apply. There will be a virtual option for those who cannot attend in-person. If unable to participate in any of the sessions, the applicant must schedule a one-on-one review with Amanda Smith Rasnick before applying.

Email amanda@shoresandislands.com with questions regarding the info sessions or to schedule a personal review.

Applications are due February 25, 2026, with award meetings scheduled April 1–3 and April 6–8.

CLICK TO LEARN MORE

Upcoming Informational Sessions:

**MONDAY
DEC. 8TH**
**10:00AM &
3:00PM**
S&IO EAST
**125 E. Water
St., Sandusky**

**TUESDAY
DEC. 9TH**
**9:00AM &
2:00PM**
S&IO WEST
**770 S.E.
Catawba Rd.,
Port Clinton**

PROGRAMMING & PLACEMAKING



SANDUSKY MERCHANT MEETING

The merchant meeting was held downtown to bring together retailers, restaurateurs, and local business leaders to discuss upcoming events and initiatives impacting their businesses.

These meetings serve as a valuable opportunity to network, collaborate, and share ideas.

DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY STOREFRONT CONTEST

Local businesses were invited to decorate their storefronts for the “Deck the Storefronts” Holiday Contest!

Judges will stroll through Downtown Sandusky on Friday, December 5 at 5 PM to select winners in four categories: Classic Christmas, Humor, Merry & Bright, and Creative & Artistic.



Small Business Saturday

Small Business Saturday, held on November 29, brought communities together to celebrate local shops and makers. In Sandusky, over 20 vendors and small businesses showcased their goods at the Hofgre Building, while in Huron, 15+ businesses along 511 Main participated in the festivities.



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN THE REGION



Sandusky
CHRISTMAS
MARKET
EST 2024



Main Street Vermilion's
**LIGHT UP
VERMILION!**
December 5th 5-8 pm



DECEMBER 6TH
HURON WINTER FEST
1:00PM - 6:30PM

WEEKENDS
NOV 28-DEC 13
SANDUSKY
CHRISTMAS MARKET
FRIDAY- 5-8PM
SATURDAY - 12-8PM
SUNDAY- 12-6PM

DECEMBER 5TH
LIGHT UP
VERMILLION
5:00PM- 8:00PM

DECEMBER 6TH
PERKINS
TOWNSHIP
WINTER FEST
3:00PM- 8:00PM

TEAM HIGHLIGHTS



40 UNDER 40 RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Our Director of Marketing and Creative Services, Alissa Fisher, on being named a 40 Under 40 honoree by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCES).

This national recognition highlights emerging leaders making an impact in the chamber industry. We're proud of Alissa and grateful for the creativity, leadership, and care she brings to our work every day.



NEW TEAM MEMBER

We're pleased to welcome Braden Michel to the Greater Sandusky Partnership team as our new Project Development Manager. In this role, Braden will support investment, development initiatives, and long-term economic growth throughout the Sandusky region. We're excited to have him on board and look forward to his contributions to our community.

TEAM HIGHLIGHTS



THANKS-FOR-GIVING AT WORKSPACE

November's Thanks-for-Giving: A Day for Local Nonprofits held at WorkSpace, brought together community leaders for a day of learning and inspiration.



Alissa Fisher, our Director of Marketing, shared tips for saving time in marketing. Beth Maiden, President of the Erie County Community Foundation on Building Better Boards.



SELF ADVOCACY AT GIBSONBURG HIGH SCHOOL

At the Sophomore Shake event at Gibsonburg High School, Jarvis Cole represented Greater Sandusky Partnership by leading the "Self-Advocacy" station.

He guided students through real-world school and sports situations that challenged them to confidently speak up for themselves. Following each scenario, Jarvis provided personalized feedback to help students strengthen their communication skills and build confidence in advocating for their own needs.

Thank You

NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS!



SANDUSKY CLUB OF BLACK BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN



K.D.H. CONSTRUCTION LLC

LAKESIDE REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS LLC



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