

March 23, 2020



PREBLE
COUNTY

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

PROMOTE. ENGAGE. ADVANCE. LEAD.

MEMBER NEWS

COVID-19 Crisis Edition 5

A letter to our members

During the COVID-19 slowdown and recovery, and Ohio's current Stay-at-Home Order, the Preble County Chamber of Commerce office will be temporarily closed beginning Tuesday, March 24.

The staff of the Preble County Chamber of Commerce will be working remotely during this time in order to keep you updated on local issues and work to promote your businesses and recovery for our community.

We will continue to respond to emails and to your inquiries. It may be non-essential for our office to remain open, but we will continue to provide our members with essential information and updates to help you all as we get through this time together. If you have any questions please call Executive Director Leslie Collins and leave a message at 937-456-4949 or email at leslie.collins@preblecountyohio.com.

Remember to shop local and continue getting that takeout at your favorite restaurants, because we are all in this together! If your favorite shops and retail establishments are closed, see if they offer online options to purchase gift cards and certificates for use later! Neighbors helping neighbors is the way we get through this unprecedented time. Thank you for your patience during this difficult time.

— *Leslie Collins*

Member updates and news to keep you informed

FOSTER'S HOME IMPROVEMENT is now taking emergency services calls. Call 937-472-4671, or email dansherryfoster5@gmail.com.

THE REGISTER-HERALD will continue to deliver the newspaper and provide essential news to the community. The World Health Organization states the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from packages — including newspapers — that have been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is low. However, those who handle our printed products are taking precautionary measures. Second, while the home delivery and single copy sales of the printed publications will continue to remain available, the company will be providing the online version of *The Register-Herald* free to the public. During this crisis, they have removed the paywall for the daily Digital Replica Newspaper (E-Edition). This option is available to subscribers and non-subscribers. To access the E-Editions, visit the website: www.registerherald.com, and enter your email address to create an account. You will then be able to sign-in to access the publication at no cost. The R-H staff encourages you to share this option with family members, friends, and neighbors.

EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE has closed all campuses until further notice. They will continue to serve students remotely and all of the school's classes have been converted to distance education options through the Summer Semester. All of the Edison staff will continue to work from home.

NEW WEBSITE FOR BUSINESSES: Businesses and workers can now access all of the resources related to COVID-19 in one place at ohio.gov/BusinessHelp. The portal includes information on unemployment benefits, the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, the Liquor Buyback Program, modified rules for trucking to help ship critical supplies into the state, the delay of BWC Premiums, etc. Injury Disaster Loan Program, the Liquor Buyback Program, modified rules for trucking to help ship critical supplies into the state, the delay of BWC Premiums, etc.



Please, stay safe and healthy, practice social distancing (6 feet) and wash your hands!

Ohio Issues "Stay at Home" Order; New Restrictions Placed on Day Care for Children

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, Lt. Governor Jon Husted, and Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, today announced that Ohio will be under a "Stay at Home" order.

The order will go into effect beginning Monday, March 23, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. and will remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. on April 6, 2020, unless the order is rescinded or modified.

Read the full order here: [Director's Stay At Home Order](#)

"We haven't faced an enemy like we are facing today in 102 years - we are at war. In the time of war, we must make sacrifices, and I thank all of our Ohio citizens for what they are doing and what they aren't doing. You are making a huge difference, and this difference will save lives," said Governor DeWine. "Right now, we are in a crucial time in this battle. What we do now will slow this invader so that our healthcare system will have time to treat those who have contracted COVID-19 and also have time to treat those who have other medical problems. Time is of the essence."

More information: [Stay At Home FAQ](#)

CHILDCARE/DAYCARE

Beginning on Thursday, March 26, all operating child care centers in Ohio must do so under a Temporary Pandemic Child Care license and follow these guidelines:

- There should be no more than six children in a class.
- Ratios must be kept at one teacher to no more than six children.
- Children whose parents are employed by the same entity should be kept together whenever possible.
- The same teachers and children in each room should be maintained whenever possible.
- There should be limited use of shared space or mixing of groups.
- If shared space is used, a rigorous cleaning schedule must be in place. Parent interaction should be limited at drop off and pick up.

The program will operate until April 30, with the potential to extend and adjust as needed.

Not sure if you're company is "essential?" The Governor's Office is recommending that if after reading the full order you are still not sure, you should reach out to your legal counsel, and/or check with the local health department.

From Preble County Health Commissioner Erik Balster: "Why two weeks (14 days)? I'll do my best to explain this in just a few sentences. Since its estimated that the virus SARS-CoV2 takes up to 14 days (average of 5 days) to incubate, the idea is that if people stay either healthy or away from others while sick through the estimated amount of time, it will slow down the spread significantly. Slowing down the spread takes pressure off of hospitals and medical providers who are treating those with the most severe cases and allows them to handle a more plateaued case volume beyond the 14 day window. This article on [history.com](https://www.history.com/news/spanish-flu-pandemic-response-cities) pretty much explains the precedent [<https://www.history.com/news/spanish-flu-pandemic-response-cities>]. It's short and illustrates the point nicely. It's hard to say when we will be able to go back to our 'normal' lives, but I will say these next 14 days will be the deciding factor in that calculation."

A little good news!

Stuck at home with your little ones? Here's something that will be good for them until they're five years old! Preble County United Way, Preble County District Library, and Dayton Foundation have partnered with the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library to bring Dolly Parton Imagination Library to Preble County and enrollment is NOW OPEN! This program will deliver a free, age-appropriate book to ALL children ages 0-5 in Preble County! Families can enroll at ohioimaginationlibrary.org/enroll. Special thank you to Henny Penny Corporation for its generous investment into this program, SVG Motors, Gratis Eagles, and many individuals in the community for their donations. Let all your family and friends know where to enroll their youngsters!

**Email your updates to leslie.collins@preblecountyohio.com.
Deadline to be included in tomorrow's update is midnight tonight.**



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