

I've had recent communications from numerous major local companies that have a common message "we have jobs available and are struggling to fill the requirements". These are businesses that have long operational histories and many employees that have established lifelong careers with these quality local companies. We are a community blessed with many substantial companies currently providing quality employment and many are slated for expansion creating even more employment opportunities. Our Village will be an active partner in helping to resolve the present labor shortage. Middlefield means business and Middlefield has jobs.

I was invited by the Chamber of Commerce to present the annual State of the Village. I appreciate them providing this annual opportunity. When putting this presentation together, I compiled a list of all the new development within our Village. There is activity in all three categories of industrial, commercial and residential. In addition to new development, there are numerous commercial building renovations. The list is extensive and impressive and we appreciate the activity and investment in our village.

We have an opportunity to vote again in a couple of weeks. This is truly a privilege that many countries don't enjoy. Please don't take this for granted, and let your voice be heard. I encourage you to become informed on the issues, know the candidates and make the effort to vote. Your vote does make a difference. On the MiddlefieldOhio.com website information links are available and can be used to calculate the impact cost of levies.

I again want to express my observation and concern that we are becoming a self-focused society. I mentioned last spring I had a discussion with Commander Jeff Gardner of local VFW Post 9678 about his aging membership and who was going to back fill. He shared this concern and expressed that people are busy with everyday life. Jeff is doing an excellent job of sponsoring community-focused events that I hope will be sustained as people step up to become involved. I see and hear this story over and over from numerous organizations with years of existence and providing tremendous value to our community. I urge you to find an area of interest and become involved to keep these traditions that provide community value alive.

Be informed, be involved, shop Middlefield and visit ww.middlefieldohio.com