

Recently, Dan Weir and I had the opportunity to attend an Economic Toolbox meeting hosted by Commissioner Tracy Jemison. In attendance were many county agencies, Auburn Career Center, Geauga Growth Partnership as well as representatives from the City of Chardon. Middlefield was the only other municipality represented. As I listened to presentations from each of the entities represented, I knew Middlefield has something special. The efforts we are making to get Middlefield Village recognized are working. Those in attendance were aware of our efforts and were able to provide additional information during the session. Dave Dietrich was in attendance on behalf of the County, but his representation of Middlefield was outstanding and complimented the information that Mr. Weir and I provided. We are excited as activity of interested new businesses increases. Our goal is to retain and support our existing businesses by keeping the lines of communication open and also to be responsive to new potential opportunities.

Dan Weir, Dave McDowell and Dick Schill, members from the EDC (economic development committee), attended a workshop about the sharing of municipal operations. We are continuing to look for opportunities to provide the utmost service to Village residents at the most reasonable cost.

One of my goals this year has been to provide transparency in Village government. Please explore this new Village Web site and become informed about events as well as Village business. I value your input; it will help us work toward an improved Village.

Happy New Year,

Ben Garlich, Mayor