



Recently, I had the privilege of speaking at the monthly Middlefield Chamber of Commerce meeting and was pleased to see the number of individual business owners and managers present. I thank the Chamber for their hospitality and for promoting this event thereby creating the large number of attendees.

I discussed the activity in the Village and some of the future plans and projects that will occur in 2014. Again, this event magnified the reality of how important local business is to our community. Repeatedly, I include the tag line in my articles encouraging all to shop local and I hope this becomes more than just words. We have a great opportunity with the efforts I see and hear about in different segments of the community, to see real improvement in our local quality of life. We will

see substantial area job creation this year. Cardinal schools are moving positively and creatively to make a tangible difference in our school system. Retail businesses are remodeling, such as CVS and Harrington Square. I want this to be an area that provides all services, employment and quality education and I am more enthusiastic and encouraged this year than ever before. I thank all of you that have a stake and are contributing to the maintenance and betterment of our community.

We are experiencing some personnel changes this month and next in a couple of positions at Village Hall. Tiffany Mekeel our financial officer has accepted a new opportunity and although we hate to lose her, I wish her and her family the best as they move forward. Lieutenant Tucholski will be sworn in as chief at the April 3 Council meeting as well. We thank Chief Stanko for his service here and wish him the best as he moves forward. I've invited Officer Erin Thomas to attend this meeting. Erin was one of the officers involved in the shooting March, 2013 and is still involved in physical therapy and has not yet returned to duty.

Middlefield Summer Fest is slated for Saturday, July 26. Please save the date and if you have the ability to enter something in the parade please contact Village Hall, 440-632-5248. The parade route will change this year and we are hopeful the number of entries will continue to grow.

I encourage you to shop local, be informed, be involved and visit us at www.middlefieldohio.com.