



Advocating for Business

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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4/6/09



Pictured left to right, are Bryan Nare, John Melvin, Michele Abraham, Lt Governor Lee Fisher, Antonio Doss, Ed Pregitzer, Kyle Duffy and Eric Troy. (Michele is the State Director for the Small Business Development Centers of Ohio. Antonio Doss is an Associate Director with the SBA. Eric Troy is an Associate Director with the Ohio Department of Education)

Chamber Honors National Entrepreneurship Week

Honoring National Entrepreneurship Week in Ohio, the Ohio SBDC at the Clermont Chamber of Commerce and Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development and Milford High School received a Certificate of Appreciation "for outstanding performance and valuable contribution to the education and development of Ohio's future entrepreneurs." This certificate was presented by Lt Governor Lee Fisher as part of the National Entrepreneurship Week in Ohio Program on February 23 at the Capital Theater in Columbus. Accepting certificates were Milford HS DECA students Kyle Duffy and Bryan Nare, long-time Great Oaks instructor for the DECA program Ed Pregitzer, and John Melvin, Director of the Small Business Development Center at the Clermont Chamber.

Furthermore, on March 19 at a meeting of the Milford school board, Pregitzer and Melvin received certificates of appreciation from the school board "in recognition of valuable contributions to Milford High School DECA program and National Entrepreneurship Week in Ohio".

DECA is an international association of high school and college students studying marketing, management and entrepreneurship in business, finance, hospitality and marketing sales and service. Great Oaks has supported the DECA program in Milford High School for over 30 years. In this year's competition, Milford DECA sets records on its way to an outstanding state competition. Twenty-one of the 35 students in the Great Oaks Milford High School DECA student organization earned the right to go to international competition this summer by placing 1st-4th in state competition in Columbus on March 14. Those students will have the chance to travel to Anaheim, California in April to demonstrate their marketing skill and knowledge.

The Ohio SBDC at the Clermont Chamber has been a key contributor to the DECA program over the years, helping students with general business advice, counseling students directly on their projects and providing focus groups from among the executive roundtable members.

Founded in 1969, the Clermont Chamber of Commerce promotes local and regional business through business attraction, retention & expansion, educational and networking opportunities, business consulting assistance and business advocacy for the over 1000 Clermont Chamber Members. Find us at www.clermontchamber.com. The President of the Clermont Chamber of Commerce is Matthew D. Van Sant, and the Chairman of the Board is Chip Gerhardt of Government Strategies Group, LLC.