

GLR CONNECT

News • Events • Workforce • Membership • & More

Hello there,

In this issue, we're excited to share project updates, upcoming events, and all the latest happenings in the Greater Lima region.

PROJECT UPDATES

U.S. Route 30 Broadband Project

A major investment is underway to expand high-speed broadband access along U.S. Route 30 from Lima to Canton, with about \$20 million committed over the next two years. The project will impact 14 counties, extending reliable service to universities, hospitals, and local government buildings. By strengthening this backbone infrastructure, the effort also has the potential to lower costs for individuals and families by bringing broadband connections closer to their homes.

State leaders see this project as more than just an infrastructure upgrade—it's an economic development tool. As James Kennedy of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio noted, broadband has become as essential as water or electricity. Expanded access will not only support education and healthcare but also open new doors for remote work, helping rural counties attract and retain talent while strengthening the workforce across the region.



REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Lima Community Aquatic Park First Look

The Lima Community Aquatic Park is making a splash in the area! The AEDG team had the opportunity to attend the event on behalf of GLR, which donated towards the project and got its name included on the mural located inside the facility. They received a tour of the facility and learn more about how this transformative investment was developed. We are excited about this new addition to Lima!



CEDS Update

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) effort across our five-county region continues to move forward. Over the past several months, input has been gathered from businesses, community leaders, and residents through meetings, surveys, and roundtable discussions. This feedback, combined with regional data on workforce, industry trends, and community assets, is providing a foundation to guide the strategy.

Our consultant is now in the process of synthesizing the information, aligning the data analysis with the qualitative insights shared by stakeholders. This step is necessary to ensure the final strategy not only reflects the numbers but also captures the priorities, challenges, and opportunities identified by people throughout the region. The resulting plan will highlight goals and recommended action steps designed to strengthen economic growth and collaboration across all five counties.

WHAT'S NEW

New Owner of Winans in Lima

The franchise ownership of Winans/Lima was purchased by Tracie Sanchez, Drew Fields, and Michael Thompson on May 24 of this year. It is not only locally owned but also will provide locally produced premium chocolates and coffee. We are proud of the fact that this leadership team is a GLR partner. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS BUSINESS!



Mercy Tots Ribbon Cutting

The GLR Team was thrilled to attend the ribbon-cutting for Mercy Health - St. Rita's new childcare facility, Mercy Tots, on Thursday, August 28.



[Click Here for More Information on Mercy Tots](#)

JobsOhio Relocation Incentive

If you are a company in JobsOhio top Targeted Industry Sectors and are looking to hire candidates in STEM fields, check out the newly released JobsOhio Relocation Incentive. Help bring STEM and technical talent into the State!



[Click Here for More Information on the JobsOhio Relocation Incentive Program](#)

EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING

November 13, 2025

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**Shawnee Country Club
1700 Shawnee Road
Lima, OH 45805**

Save the date for the AEDG and GLR Annual Meeting—an evening of connection, collaboration, and great food! Details to follow closer to the meeting date.

RSVP HERE!

AEDG & GLR Annual Meeting

Save the Date! The AEDG and GLR Annual Meeting will take place on November 13 at the Shawnee Country Club! This event is a great networking event and is an update/informational time of interaction.

Please use the QR code in the image above or the link below to RSVP for the event. We look forward to seeing you there!

<https://forms.gle/s6SUAp7SF3EnscQQ8>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 03 SEPT 2025** GLR QUARTERLY ENGAGEMENT BREAKFAST @ THE SOCIAL HOUSE | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
- 09/10 OCT 2025** MAKERFEST '25 @ THE ALLEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- 13 OCT 2025** GLR STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY DEADLINE (SURVEY WILL GO OUT ON SEPTEMBER 15)
- 13 NOV 2025** GLR/AEDG ANNUAL MEETING @ THE SHAWNEE COUNTRY CLUB | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- 03 DEC 2025** GLR QUARTERLY ENGAGEMENT BREAKFAST @ THE MET | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

MAKER-FEST

We invite all participating companies to attend our pre-MakerFest event Sponsor Open House, where you'll get an inside look at this year's MakerFest, and everything planned to make it a success. This is your opportunity to walk through event details, explore the layout, ask questions, check out updates to the website and student interaction, and connect with other sponsors before the big day. By attending, you'll be fully prepared to showcase your company and maximize your impact at MakerFest. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for reading this month's edition of GLR CONNECT. We're excited about the growth and progress within our community, and we look forward to keeping you updated on future developments. Stay tuned for more exciting news, events, and opportunities to get involved.

If you have any feedback or want to contribute, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We value your input!

Until next time,

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