



Update

A monthly communication for officials in Mahoning and Columbiana Counties

JANUARY 2012

Cene, MVMC Reps Meet With Governor's Office

MCTA Director Bert Cene and Brian Benyo, president and chairman of the board of the Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition (MVMC), met with Rich Frederick of the Governor's Office on Jan. 23 in Columbus. The meeting informed the governor about the newly formed group and its efforts to address the skills mismatch facing manufacturing companies in the region. Frederick praised the organization for bringing together educators, workforce organizations and businesses to seek ways to ensure a quality workforce for the future. He offered to see what support might be available for the group from the governor's office. Also participating in the meeting was Jessica Borza, executive director of MVMC. Benyo is president of Brilex Industries Inc., Youngstown.

Initial Unemployment Claims*

Week Ending	Mahoning	Columbiana
12/31/2011	481	184
1/7/2012	469	228
1/14/2012	353	143
1/21/2012	285	122

*Ohio Labor Market Information Statistics

Kindle Joins MCTA

William Kindle joined MCTA on Jan. 17 as a Youth Job Developer at the MCTA office in Youngstown.

One-Stop Traffic

DECEMBER	2011	2010	Change
Columbiana	425	654	-35.0%
Mahoning	1,370	1,323	3.6%
Oakhill	477	571	-16.5%

Training Trend Shifts

In early 2011, the Area 17 Workforce Investment Board that establishes the policies and directs how WIA funds are spent in Mahoning and Columbiana Counties, approved a shift in service delivery that places more emphasis on On-the-Job Training (OJT) and short-term training with the goal to get more individuals back to work faster.

An analysis at the end of December showed the implementation of that directive. A breakdown of funding showed that 75 percent of MCTA's training dollars are planned to be spent on training of less than 12 months in duration and OJTs. OJTs are for the period needed for a new hire to acquire skills necessary for his/her job but can not exceed six months. In the comparable period a year earlier, only 48 percent of training dollars were planned for short-term training and OJTs.

Local, State, US Unemployment Rate*

	Jobless	Dec11	Dec10
Columbiana	4,400	8.8%	11.2%
Mahoning	9,400	8.3%	10.1%
Youngstown	2,700	9.7%	11.2%
Ohio	441,700	7.6%	9.2%
U.S.	12,692,000	8.3%	9.1%

* Not Seasonally Adjusted

Payne Joins Council

John Payne is the newest member of the MCTA Executive Council. Payne was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Columbiana County Commissioner Penny Traina who at the beginning of the year accepted a position in the private sector in New Jersey. The six commissioners of Mahoning and Columbiana Counties make up the MCTA Executive Council.