



MEACO Helps Bring Pediatric Dental Practice to Mentor

With the help of the Mentor Economic Assistance Corporation (MEACO), Dental Specialists of Lake County has moved to a new state-of-the-art dental facility at 8484 Market St. in Mentor. Drs. Lisa Richards and Andrea Miller, pediatric dentists, were outgrowing their space and were considering a satellite practice. With the help of the Mentor Economic Development Corporation, they were able to secure a \$1.2 million funding package which includes a \$500,000 SBA 504 Loan and a \$25,000 Mentor Small Business Loan. "MEACO made it very easy for us to do an SBA loan," said Dr. Richards. "Everything was streamlined... and Tom Thielman, their Executive Director, was happy to come to our place of business to meet with us. That makes it so much more convenient for the business owner. We truly appreciate the way the City of Mentor, along with MEACO, has welcomed us here - and we are very happy to be here!" [Read more about this article.](#)



"We had spoken to many different banks looking for funding, and they required so much paperwork. With MEACO everything was streamlined."

Dr. Lisa Richards, Dental Specialists of Lake County

Heisley Road Widening

Construction started on the Heisley Road Widening Project in early July. The project includes an additional lane and resurfacing Heisley Road from Hendricks Road to State Route 2. Total project cost with engineering fees is approximately \$2 million. Tremendous growth has occurred along Heisley Road and the future is encouraging for more employment opportunities along this important business corridor. Because of Mentor's continued growth, the Ohio Department of Development has awarded the City of Mentor a \$540,000 infrastructure grant to help pay a portion of the costs associated with the widening project. The project should be substantially completed by November 15, 2008. [Read more about this article.](#)



Mentor Changes Tax Collection Agencies

The Regional Income Tax Agency (also known as R.I.T.A.) collects income taxes for 143 municipalities in the State of Ohio. Mentor retained their services beginning with the tax year 2008. R.I.T.A. has established a satellite office in the Mentor Municipal Center to assist taxpayers and businesses. Hours are 8 a.m. to Noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. To contact by phone call (800) 860-7482 ext. 3564 or (440) 922-3564.

Businesses are also advised that representatives of R.I.T.A. will be visiting many businesses within the City over the course of the next two to three months to verify income tax information. Employees of R.I.T.A. will have identification and a letter of authorization signed by the Director of Finance; however, you are

welcome to verify credentials by calling Shearin Ferguson, Assistant Tax Administrator, at (440) 974-5774.

[Learn more on current tax forms, and information on rules and regulations.](#)



Looking for Good Employees?

Visit the Lakeland Career Exposition

Lakeland Career Expo, November 12, 2008, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. located in the Athletic & Fitness Center. Over 500 job seekers attend this annual event.

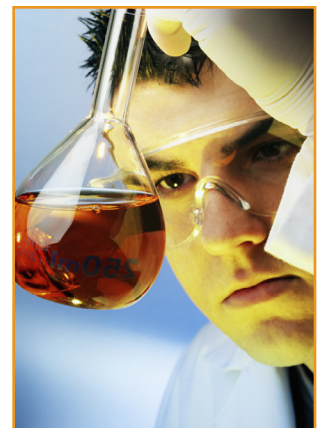
Of those with degrees, 42% held Associates degrees, 54% a Bachelors degree and 5% a Masters degree. Nearly half of those attending are Lakeland students or alumni.

[Additional information for employers and job seekers.](#)

Biotech & Bagels

Mentor Hosts Forum on Growing Biotech Cluster

The City of Mentor's Economic Development Team hosted a **Bagels & Biotech Breakfast Forum** last month, inviting Mentor businesses classified as "biotech" by the Food & Drug Administration. Recent reports indicate that Mentor ranks 4th in the State of Ohio in number of companies registered by the FDA in biotech operations. Topics of discussion included human resources, quality control, city involvement, partnerships, cataloging of existing local industry expertise, and business incubators. Watch for other group events targeted at specific industry clusters. Our goal is to build bridges between our leading companies, helping to facilitate growth and success. [For more information about the Biotech & Bagels Breakfast Forum, contact Ronald Traub, Director of Economic Development, at \[traub@cityofmentor.com\]\(mailto:traub@cityofmentor.com\) or call \(440\) 974-5736.](#)



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