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Ronda Watson Barber—Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses

Celebrating 9 Years of Publishing

Are you registered to vote?

“If you do politics the right way, I believe, you can actually make people's lives better. And integrity is the minimum ante to get into the game.”

— Joe Biden



The struggle continues

No excuses

Deadline is: Oct. 9

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Third Frontier Supporting Innovation and Startups

Ohio Third Frontier Commission recently approved \$2.1 million to move new technologies out of the lab and into the marketplace, advancing medicine and helping patients.

“Many of these technologies could have a real impact on patients and their recovery,” said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. “We are helping get these products to market where they can make a difference.”

Technology Validation and Start-Up Awards

The Ohio Third Frontier **Technology Validation and Start-up Fund** (TVSF) provides grants to Ohio institutions of higher education and other nonprofit research institutions. The funding is to demonstrate that a technology is commercially viable through activities such as testing and prototyping. The ultimate goal is to license the technologies to companies.

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, located in the city of Cincinnati (Hamilton County), was awarded \$500,000 to help commercialize technologies including biomedical devices, digital health and care delivery, and diagnostics.

University of Cincinnati, located in the city of Cincinnati (Hamilton County), was awarded \$500,000 to create an innovative environment that brings technology to commercialization.

Companies aiming to license institution-owned technologies can also receive funding to accelerate commercialization through activities such as market research and further prototyping. This

See Technology on page 6

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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 200 words or less are preferred; all might be edited. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letter may appear on our website.

The 912 Group is an Ohio certified Minority Owned and EDGE business. The 912 Group is a certified FBE with the City of Columbus.

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Nominate a business for an OhioMBE Award

The 2018 OhioMBE Awards are accepting nominations for Top MBE, Top FBE and Top Family Business from Cleveland, Columbus, Toledo, Dayton and Akron/Canton.

The OhioMBE Awards will recognize the state’s top small businesses and their advocates during a scholarship luncheon on Thursday, October 25 at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Africa Event Center. The preeminent business networking event is attended by small business owners, bankers, elected officials, construction companies, corporations, government representatives and others.

A portion of proceeds benefits the Frank W. Watson Scholarship. The renewable scholarship is presented to students who are pursuing post-secondary education or training opportunities. One scholarship is earmarked for a Columbus East High school student-athlete. To date, there are six Frank W. Wat-

See Award on page 5

An estimated tax payment in 2018 could help avoid a penalty in 2019

Taxes must be paid as you earn or receive income during the year, either through withholding, estimated tax payments or a combination of both. A Paycheck Checkup using the IRS Withholding Calculator can help you see if you need to make an additional payment to avoid an unexpected tax bill or underpayment penalty when you file your tax return next year.

You may need to make estimated payments if you:

- have multiple jobs—especially if you don’t have each employer withhold taxes
- are self-employed or an independent contractor
- are a representative of a direct-sales or in-home-sales company
- participate in sharing economy activities where you are not working as an employee
- receive pension income

Visit IRS.gov to learn more.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE UPCOMING ELECTION

As the 2018 General Election quickly approaches, it is important that Ohioans have all the information they need to be engaged and active voters. To participate in the November 6 General Election, you must be a registered voter. If you are not yet registered, you can do so in a matter of minutes by visiting www.MyOhioVote.com. Online voter registration is both fast and easy, and you have until October 9 to get registered.

Absentee voting begins on October 10, which gives voters two convenient ways to cast a ballot.

For those who want to vote without ever leaving home, absentee voting by mail is available. This option gives voters nearly a month to request, receive, and cast their ballot. To make this process even easier, last month Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted mailed absentee ballot applications to every registered voter.

Absentee ballot applications must be received by a voter's county board of elections by noon on Saturday, November 3. Completed absentee ballots can either be returned by mail – provided they are postmarked by Monday, November 5 – or in person at the county board of elections office by 7:30pm on Election Day.

If a voter prefers to cast their ballot in person, but wants to vote prior to Election Day, in-person absentee voting is available. This option gives voters nearly 200 hours to cast a ballot in person at their county board of elections early vote center.

As always, the polls will be open for 13 hours on Election Day – Tuesday, November 6 – from 6:30am to 7:30pm. To ensure the day goes smoothly, an army of roughly 35,000 poll workers is deployed at polling places throughout Ohio to assist voters.

For additional information, voters can access an online voter toolkit at www.MyOhioVote.com to make sure they're prepared to participate in the general election. Those visiting the website will be able to check their registration, view a sample ballot, request an absentee ballot, access the early voting schedule, and find their Election Day polling place.

See Election on page 5

With strong voter turnout, Africans Americans have a chance to make history in Ohio this year

By Congresswoman Joyce Beatty

The right to vote is essential to the many rights, liberties and freedoms we all hold so dear as Americans. We need to be active participants in order to make our democracy work for us.

This is why I believe every eligible person should vote in every election. It's the only way we can get the representation we deserve.

In 2018, we have a tremendous opportunity not only to shape the future of our state for many years to come but also to send a message to the rest of America and the world.

On Nov. 6, 2018, we have the chance to declare that we reject the politics of division, corruption and chaos we are seeing in America today, and that we embrace fairness, and inclusion, and opportunity for everybody.

If we can turn Ohio blue, retake the governorship, win Ohio's other four statewide offices, re-elect U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, and make gains at the Ohio Statehouse and in Congress, it will send a signal that Ohio is a state that will take the lead and make change happen.

This is in *our* hands. It cannot happen without you -- your hard work, your dedication, your voice being heard at the ballot box. But I'm going to ask you for a little more than that. I'm going to ask you to help make sure others are making their voices heard as well.

Early voting in Ohio starts Oct. 10. Over the four weeks between then and Election Day, you can cast your ballot and bring your friends and neighbors, your aunts and uncles, your brothers and sisters to cast theirs, too.

Here's why we all need to be doing that:

In 2016, 64 percent of currently registered African-Americans

See Beatty on page 7



bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email news@ohiombe.com



Columbus City Schools issues solicitations on a regular basis for goods & services related to food, construction, technology, curriculum, & transportation. Interested vendors should periodically check our website at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Development is looking for diverse vendors and contractors who are licensed with the City of Columbus working in the following areas:

- **Graffiti Removal.** Contact Eric Voorhees (614-645-7934 or eavorhees@columbus.gov).
- **Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Removal.** Contact Mike Schwab (614- 645-7122 or mfschwab@columbus.gov).
- **Demolition and Asbestos Abatement.** Contact Mike Farrenkopf (614- 679-5873 or mifarrenkopf@columbus.gov) or Seth Brehm (614-645-5659 or swhbrehm@columbus.gov).
- **Mowing, Property Maintenance, and Miscellaneous Services.** Contact Audrea Hickman (614-645-8907 or aehickman@columbus.gov).
- **Construction trades including: General Construction, Home Improvement, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, and Lead Abatement.** Contact Tim Tilton (614- 724-3009 or twilton@columbus.gov).
- **Lead Safe Columbus has funding to train contractors for the Lead Abatement and Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Program.** Contact Erica Hudson (614- 645-6739 or ejhudson@columbus.gov).

To register for notifications on upcoming bid opportunities, please visit <http://vendors.columbus.gov/sites/public>.

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Visit www.OhioMBE.com and add your email address to our bid notice database.



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The Columbus Regional Airport Authority values diversity and inclusion and the impact small and minority-owned firms have on the Central Ohio econo-



my. The Columbus Regional Airport Authority invites you to access the following link: <https://columbusairports.com/doing-business-with-us/solicitation-opportunities> to sign-up for RSS feeds to automatically receive notifications of new bid opportunities and results.

Email BusinessDiversity@ColumbusAirports.com for questions about the Diversity Programs at Columbus Regional Airport Authority.



Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Southerly Electrical Infrastructure Improvements Project in Cleveland, Ohio which bids September 21, 2018. We are seeking quotes for any portion of the project listed that you are qualified to perform or provide supplies for which includes the following: Demolition, Rebar, Concrete Repair, Precast Concrete, Masonry, Misc. Metals, Roofing, Waterproofing, Doors, Protective Coatings, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, Instrumentation and Controls, Seeding, Fencing, Erosion Control, Video Surveillance, Piling, Asphalt Paving, and Trucking. Bidding documents can be examined online by emailing Sonja Nichols at snichols@kokosing.biz for the link. Please have your quote to Chad Lampe by 12:00 PM September 20, 2018: e-mail snichols@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be considered for publication or posting online. The preferred method is to text within an email. Please include contact information including letter writer's city and state. The letter must be fewer than 300 words. No more than four signatures per letter. We edit and/or trim letters as little as possible, but we reserve the right to do so as necessary. Send to news@ohiombe.com



If you dream and you believe, you can do it. - Sean Combs

bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email news@ohiombe.com



The Franklin County Board of Commissioners is seeking bids for Transportation Services for Franklin County Clients. There will be two Pre Bid Conferences. Attendance is not

mandatory but will provide participants an opportunity to pose questions. The first pre bid meeting will be held September 25, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. and the second pre bid meeting will be held October 2, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. Both Pre Bid Conferences will take place at Franklin County Animal Shelter, 4340 Tamarack Blvd., Columbus, Ohio 43229

Bid Date: October 30, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. The bid opening will be held at Purchasing Department, 373 South High Street – Floor 25 Columbus, Ohio 43215-6315

Bid documents are available at: <http://purchasing.franklincountyohio.gov/businesses/bid-opportunities/>

Request documents by email to jlfair@franklincountyohio.gov
Subject: "Bid Request ITB# 2018-02-22"

All submittals must be received in accordance with the requirements set forth in the bid documentation. All bids will be opened at the noted location.

All questions pertaining to this project must be submitted in writing to the attention of Jennifer Fair at jlfair@franklincountyohio.gov by October 12, 2018 to be considered for a response.

Board of County Commissioners
Kevin L. Boyce, President
Marilyn Brown, Commissioner
John O'Grady, Commission

OhioMBE can announce your next business event, employment notice or news item in an exclusive email blast.



We will also post it on our Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn Pages.

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Looking for bid notices?
Look for OhioMBE online!



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[www.ohiombe.com/
bid-opportunities](http://www.ohiombe.com/bid-opportunities)

Award from page 2

son Scholars.

The nomination form is online at www.OhioMBEAwards.com

The deadline for submitting is Sept. 30.

Election from page 3

So, spend some time today making sure you're ready to be an active participant in our democracy in the 2018 General Election.

Frank W. Watson
Scholarship A small black silhouette of a person standing with arms raised, positioned to the right of the word "Scholarship".

helps companies either raise funds or get the licensed technology to the marketplace faster.

Awareability Technologies, located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$100,000 to further develop a miniature “alpha-ion battery” that provides efficient low-level power.

PneumoCool LLC, located in the city of New Albany (Franklin County), was awarded \$150,000 to further develop a disposable blower that allows hospital patients with breathing difficulties to fan their faces.

LifeFlyte, located in the city of Dayton (Montgomery County), was awarded \$150,000 to further develop an unmanned aerial vehicle that is cooling capable for transport of medical needs.

LittleSeed, Inc., located in the city of Powell (Delaware County), was awarded \$150,000 to develop a virtual reality platform to help distract children from medical procedures and reduce their anxiety.

MediView AR, LLC, located in the city of Toledo (Lucas County), was awarded \$150,000 to further develop a surgical navigation system to help guide surgeons through a 3D holograph image.

Pressure Safe, Inc., located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$150,000 to further develop a sensor pad that provides feedback on movement to help reduce pressure for patients likely to develop pressure sores.

RedBud Software, Inc., located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$100,000 for market validation, final product development and commercialization of a software platform, Trellis, that provides greenhouse management.

S.A. Wyze Inc., located in the city of Dayton (Montgomery County), was awarded \$150,000 to further develop a tuberculous treatment monitor that combines currently available wristband devices with new antibody technology.

Sign up for [TechOhio](#) to learn how Ohio Third Frontier is helping grow Ohio’s technology economy. It tells the stories of Ohio’s entrepreneurs, sharing the breakthrough technologies, cutting-edge research and innovative companies being developed across the state. And follow TechOhio on Facebook and Twitter @TechOhioGov.

#bidnotices

Dr. Linda J. Burrs



- ✓ Are you where you want to be in your career or profession right now?
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- ✓ Do you want a way to better manage team conflict?
- ✓ Do you struggle with communication in your team?

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Office: (937) 866-7511
Email: Linda@DrBurrs.com website: www.DrBurrs.com

Executive Coach & Inclusion Strategist

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**GOT
YOUR
TICKET?**

**Tickets are going fast for the Sept. 27
OhioMBE Procurement Fair, hosted by the
Kokosing Industrial**

**Meet one-on-one to promote your
product/service**

The following organizations are attending:

Columbus City Schools

City of Columbus Dept. of
Development

Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA)

Kokosing Industrial & Kokosing Construction

Ohio Secretary of State

Park National Bank

Check our social media sites for updates

Register at www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com

Beatty from page 3

in Ohio voted, but in 2014, only 26 percent of currently registered African-Americans voted in Ohio.

But there are 1,074,705 African-Americans of voting age in our state, and the power we share together, working together, lifting our voices as one, can transform our state and our lives. We have this power; we only must use it.

If we set a goal of 70 percent of African-Americans registering to vote, that would require 60,997 newly registered African-Americans statewide.

If we set a goal of 50 percent of African-Americans participating in the 2018 election, that would require 345,649 African-Americans to vote.

So please visit IWillVote.com to check the status of your registration, update it if need be, and make a plan to cast your ballot and make your voice heard this election. Then go out and get your friends and family to do the same.

The momentum is on our side, and we can celebrate a great triumph over the forces of ill-intent in November if only we put in the effort, stand hand-in-hand, lock together arm-in-arm, and make our voices heard.

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- Discounts on OhioMBE & OBDC events



www.OBDC.org

www.OhioMBE.com



**Everything comes at a cost. Just what are you willing
to pay for it?** - Serena Williams

Ohio Diversity Network

Get a weekly email from OhioDiversityNetwork.com notifying you of upcoming events. Sign up online!

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at 11:30am
ECDI Capital for Construction Program Lunch and Learn Series: Cash Flow and Overhead Planning - Columbus

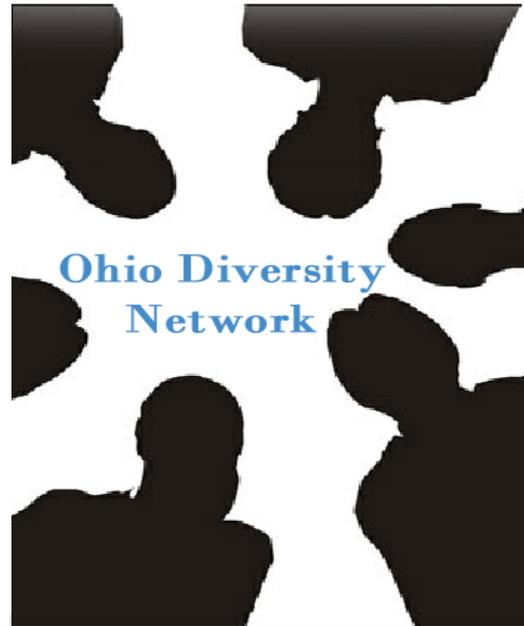
Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 1:00pm
OhioMBE Procurement Fair – hosted by Kokosing Industrial - Westerville

Friday, September 28, 2018 at 7:30am
COMTO Columbus Golf Outing

Monday, October 8, 2018 at 7:00pm **Columbus Branch NAACP – General Membership Meeting** - Columbus

Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 11:30am
ECDI Capital for Construction Program Lunch and Learn Series: Access to Skilled Labor - Columbus

Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 10:30am
Certification 101 at the WBC - Columbus



Hosting a business event?

Did you know you can post it on OhioDiversityNetwork.com

Email: news@ohiombe.com for login information

OhioDiversityNetwork.com is sponsored by:

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OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

34th annual
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY BREAKFAST
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Monday, January 21, 2019
Doors Open 7am
Program Begins 7:30am
Adjournment 10am

Greater Columbus Convention Center
in Exhibit Hall C
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Columbus OH 43215

keynote speaker
JOHN B. KING, JR.
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The promotional image features a young boy in a green polo shirt and blue jeans, carrying a black backpack. In the background, there are silhouettes of other children. To the right, there is a portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The overall design is vibrant with orange and yellow wavy lines.

National Preparedness Month: Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.

The U.S. Small Business Administration is committed to ensuring America's 30 million small businesses have the resources they need to address any challenge they face – and no challenge is more daunting than a disaster like a hurricane, wildfire, flood, tornado or earthquake.

SBA is on the ground immediately after a disaster strikes, helping individuals rebuild their homes and replace personal property, while partnering with non-profits and businesses of all sizes so they can get back on their feet with the help of low-interest disaster loans.

Instead of relying on your insurance or a loan to rebuild after a disaster, why not have a plan in place that will make your organization resilient in the face of any crisis? Preparation will ensure you are better able to rebound quickly if you're forced to halt operations when an emer-

gency happens.

September is National Preparedness Month. SBA has partnered with the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) to help businesses become more aware of their risks while also helping them develop a continuity plan. Advance preparation is key to protecting your assets and reopening your business as quickly as possible. Here are two upcoming online events to help you learn more about how to prepare for a disaster:

- On Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 3:00 p.m. EDT, SBA, IBHS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will co-host a twitter chat on disaster preparedness tips for businesses. Follow along with hashtag #SBAchat.
- On Thursday, Sept. 27 at 3:00 p.m. EDT, SBA, IBHS and FEMA will co-host a webinar focusing on effective business continuity planning. To sign up for the webinar, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/>

register/3468715487197848321

This year's National Preparedness Month theme is "Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How." This effort, led by FEMA and sponsored by the Ready Campaign, is aimed at increasing public awareness of the importance of disaster preparedness. It's never too early to think about contingency plans. Here are three steps you can take now to make your potential recovery a lot less time consuming and costly:

1. **Plan to Stay in Business.** For small businesses, time is money. In order to reopen faster and get back to business after a workplace disruption, create a business continuity plan using IBHS's [Open for Business-EZ](#) tool. This guide is comprehensive and easy to use.
2. **Talk to Your Staff.** Employees are a company's most valuable asset. Shar-

See Disaster on page 10

OhioMBE Certification 101 at the WBC

Create new business opportunities. Get your business certified

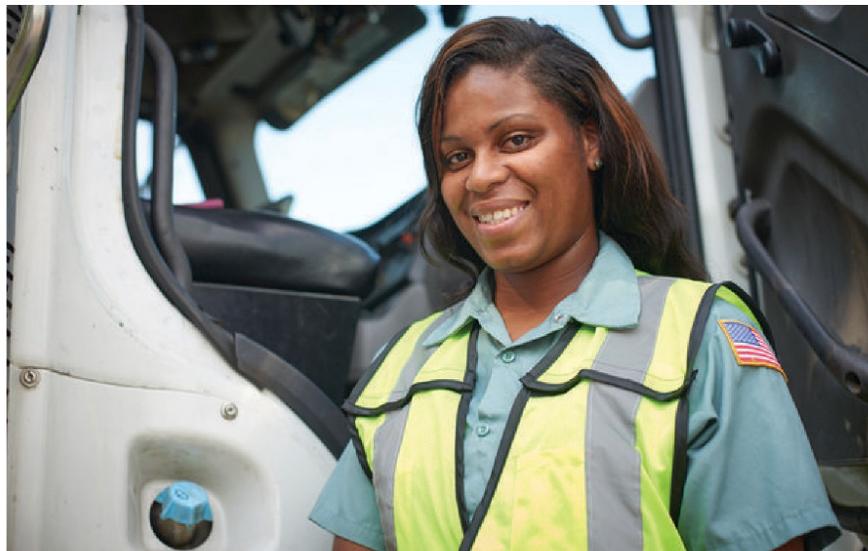
There are several reasons why you should get your business certified:

1. Some entities have purchasing goals. Only certified businesses can participate.
2. Certification adds legitimacy to your business. You have gone through a process that has determined that your business is owned and controlled by a minority, woman or disadvantaged business.
3. Certification can afford you loan and bonding opportunities. The State of Ohio has loan and bonding programs specifically for certified minority owned businesses.
4. Certification can be a marketing tool for your business. You can add your certifications to your marketing materials, business cards, website, etc. Many consumers like doing business with veteran, minority or woman owned businesses.
5. Certification can be used in the private sector. Many companies don't have a certifying program but in an effort to have supplier diversity, will accept the certifications from some governmental agencies.



www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com

Next class: Sept. 15 at the Columbus WBC



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(Disaster from page 9

ing your plan with your staff will help them return to work faster and will allow your business to get back to normal more quickly and efficiently. Continually reviewing and practicing your plan with your staff will help them understand their role in disaster planning and recovery.

3. **Protect Your Investment.** It's important to know which natural disasters and severe weather events pose a risk to your business. Protect your business by considering the following:

- Review the related terms of your insurance coverage.
- Store your important business records safely at an offsite location, and save as much as you possibly can to the digital cloud.
- Prepare your supply chain and

develop relationships with alternative vendors in case your primary contractor isn't available.

These steps can also help your company mitigate the damages experienced in an isolated incident—such as a flood caused by the malfunctioning sprinkler system—that won't be covered by a federal disaster declaration.

The entrepreneur with a solid disaster preparedness plan for how they will quickly renew their revenue flows and get their employees back on the job is more likely to stay in business and reopen sooner after any interruption. Planning your next move ahead of time, including incorporating the disaster assistance resources SBA provides, is an important action you can take now to protect your business and your community.

Source: www.sba.gov

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2018 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Opponent
1	Sat. Sept. 1	Oregon State
2	Sat. Sept. 8	Rutgers
3	Sat. Sept. 15	at TCU
4	Sat. Sept. 22	Tulane
5	Sat. Sept. 29	at Penn State
6	Sat. Oct. 6	Indiana
7	Sat. Oct. 13	Minnesota
8	Sat. Oct. 20	at Purdue
9	Sat. Oct. 27	Bye
10	Sat. Nov. 3	Nebraska
11	Sat. Nov. 10	at Michigan State
12	Sat. Nov. 17	at Maryland
13	Sat. Nov. 24	Michigan

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The City of Columbus is seeking contractors in the following areas:

- Graffiti Removal
- Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Removal
- Property Maintenance
- Construction Trades including: General Construction, Home improvement, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing & Lead Abatement



Attend the Sept. 27 OhioMBE Procurement and make new contracting connections. Meet one-to-one and introduce your company & skills.

Register at www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com

Get your ticket

MBE **Ohio** ²⁰¹⁸
Awards

October 25, 2018

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Waste Management | Ohio Business Development Center | The Columbus Zoo & Aquarium
The City of Columbus Dept. of Development

Tickets on sale at www.OhioMBEAwards.com