News Coverage

January 2020

WRPA Ok’s Buying Mahoning Ave. Properties
The board of directors for the Western Reserve Port Authority unanimously approved the acquisition of properties along Mahoning Avenue, where a yet-to-be-named company will develop the site. The city of Youngstown’s Board of Control approved selling the 12-parcel, 1.5-acre site to the port authority for $1,601.78 at its meeting Jan. 23. The site fronts the corridor at 1586 and 1588 Mahoning Ave. John Moliterno, executive director of the port authority...

Economic Development WRPA Purchases West Side Sites for Development Project
A potential economic development project on a 1.5-acre site on the West Side represents just one step in plans to redevelop key local corridors. City officials and representatives of the Western Reserve Port Authority are tight-lipped about the project, which they caution is in its early stages. At its meeting Thursday, the city’s Board of Control approved selling 12 parcels, which includes...

Youngstown Charts Development Course for 2020
Positioning downtown as an entertainment district along the lines of Cleveland’s Playhouse Square and incorporating public transportation as an asset are among the components envisioned as parts of Youngstown’s development strategy. The strategy is...

Museum in a Box
The Trumbull County Museum in a Box educational program offers opportunities for classroom programs to bring history alive. Themes are Native Americans, Pioneer Life. Civil War and the Underground Railroad, and Victorian Life. The boxes are made
December 2019

Amphitheater seeks to grow shows in ’20
The Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre opened June 14, providing an outdoor venue for shows and events in the city’s downtown. Going forward in 2020, Jordan Ryan, executive director of Covelli Centre and the Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre, said the area can look forward to “similar-type” artists that were welcomed in 2019. Operated by JAC Management Group, the facility is located inside the Raymond John Wean Foundation Park. The complex is on property that...

The Raymond John Wean Foundation Awards YNDC a $550,000 grant for 2020
On Tuesday, December 3, 2019, The Raymond John Wean Foundation awarded YNDC a two year $1.1 million grant for general operations. YNDC will receive $550,000 in 2020. The grant will fund YNDC operations, programmatic activity, and...

Wean Foundation Renews Support for YNDC, TNP
At its December meeting, board members of the Raymond John Wean Foundation awarded $2 million in community investment grants to Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corp. and Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership. The community development corporations are strategic partners with the foundation due to their strong leadership roles in resident empowerment and sustained community development in Warren and Youngstown. “With input from community stakeholders...

November 2019

Foundation’s Advance Region’s Quality of Life
Last year, six regional foundations in the Mahoning and Shenango valleys awarded more than $50 million in grants to improve the region’s quality of life. The grants ranged from less than $1,000 to more than $1 million, each conforming to
the missions of the foundations and their component funds—and the overall well-being of the region. As the strategic plans of foundations start to align, it’s a sign that the nonprofit funding community is heading in the right...

October 2019

Turning, Wean Foundation award $53K in grants to Valley teachers
The Turning Foundation—in partnership with The Raymond John Wean Foundation—has awarded Innovative Teacher Mini-Grants to instructors in Trumbull and Mahoning counties. Recipients will receive cash awards up to $5,000, with a grand total of $53,497 impacting more than 3,000 students in Pre-K-12 classrooms during the...

Foundations award grants to 13 local teachers
The Turning Foundation, in partnership with The Raymond John Wean Foundation, has awarded 13 Innovative Teacher Mini-Grants to instructors in Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana and Ashtabula counties. Recipients will receive cash awards up to $5,000, with a total of $53,497 impacting more than 3,000 students in pre-kindergarten to 12th grade during...

Turning and Wean Foundation Grants Give More Than $50,000 to Area Teachers
The Turning Foundation and The Raymond John Wean Foundation have awarded 13 grants worth more than $50,000. The 13 Innovative Teacher Mini-Grants were given to instructors in Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull Counties. Grant recipients will receive up to $5,000, with a grand total being given of $53,497. Grant applications that connected...

Trumbull BDD Gets Grant for Employment Program
The Trumbull County Board of Developmental Disabilities has received a $5,000 grant from the Raymond John Wean Foundation to fund the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Employment program. “We are so grateful for the Wean
Foundation and this grant,” said Rick Mistovich, the board’s community employment coordinator, in a statement. “These funds will help us further develop our program and...

**Youngstown Area Jewish Federation turns to YSU nonprofit interns for staffing**

Since 2011, Youngstown State University’s Nonprofit Leadership Summer Honors Internship program has given 54 YSU students the chance to test their mettle in the nonprofit and public work sector. The biennial program provides full-time, 12-week paid internships with local organizations to 10 YSU students. At the session’s conclusion, students graduate and disperse throughout the workforce or continue their studies in graduate school. However, one participating organization has kept its interns close to...

**WorkAdvance Programs Fills Workforce Gaps**

Lifting workers out of low-wage-jobs, providing sustainable careers and giving people a second chance are some of the ways a job-skills training program is changing lives – and reversing the brain drain plaguing our communities and...

**July 2019**

**Tribune Chronicle Editorial – Orchid**

To Warren-based Raymond John Wean Foundation for promising $125,000 per year for 15 years to Youngstown for naming rights of the new riverfront park there. The park will include the new Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre, walking trails, 20 acres of recreational space

**Wean Foundation’s award helps transform downtown**

Over many of the past 150 years, a wide swath of land under the Market Street Bridge on the southern edge of downtown Youngstown stood prominently as a blazing behemoth of heavy industry. From its early years as a site for the manufacture of steam engines to its heyday as a producer of gargantuan rolling-mill steel units weighing up to 100 tons each, the
site of the former Wean United factories holds

**Wean Secures Riverfront Park Naming Rights**
Later this summer, The Raymond John Wean Foundation Park will serve as a community complex, including The Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre, 20 acres of recreational green space and 1.25 miles of walking paths. JAC Management Group and the City of Youngstown announced Monday that...

**Youngstown comes to a naming rights deal with Raymond John Wean Foundation on riverfront park**
City council is expected Wednesday to approve a $1,875,000, 15-year deal with the Raymond John Wean Foundation to name the riverfront park that includes the city’s new amphitheater after the organization. And Mayor Jamael Tito Brown said there could be more sponsorship deals for the 22-acre facility. “We may have some other ones sitting out there,” he said. “There are other possibilities.” Brown declined to give details...

**Foundation invests nearly $2 million into new park in downtown Youngstown**
The park that connects the Covelli Centre to the Youngstown Foundation Amphitheater will soon have an official name, and the money paid for those rights will help support it all. Youngstown continues the redevelopment of its downtown core with the opening of a new park along the Mahoning River. The city received financial backing for the park from...

**Wean Foundation secures naming rights to Youngstown Riverfront Park**
A local philanthropic organization that offered $1.9 million for 15 years of naming rights for a park being developed around the Youngstown Foundation Amphitheater has secured the naming rights to the area. Youngstown City Council considered the offer this week from the Raymond John Wean Foundation to pay

**Wean Offers $1.9M for Riverfront Park Naming Rights**
Part of the former Wean United property where the city developed its new amphitheater and riverfront park could once again bear the Wean name, pending approval by City Council of a naming rights agreement. During a special summer session, council will consider entering into an agreement to award naming rights to the Raymond John Wean Foundation for the downtown park adjacent to the recently opened Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre. The foundation would pay…

**New walking path can be place of solace, refuge, speaker says**
Whatever the reasons people may have to make use of a new walking path, they likely will feel a sense of spirituality and connectivity, both of which could supersede the benefits of any exercise or workout regimen, a religious leader contends. “This can be a place of solace for people to come to – a place of quietness, peace and a refuge,” the Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry said about…

**Announcing the 2019 Leadership Now: Ohio Fellows**
Rockwood is proud to announce the 2019 cohort of the Leadership Now: Ohio Fellowship! Rockwood has partnered with the Ohio Transformation Fund to offer an eight-month cross-sector fellowship program for 23 social change leaders in Ohio. Designed to create dramatic shifts in leaders’ capacity to engage their organizations and communities to build networks to drive statewide strategy, participants will develop leadership practices within…

**June 2019**

**Wean Foundation Funds Grant to Address Mass Incarceration**
At its June board of directors meeting, The Raymond John Wean Foundation awarded The Ohio Transformation Fund a multiyear grant in support of its work to address the impact of mass criminalization and incarceration in Ohio’s communities. OTF efforts include community organizing, policy advocacy and…

**Group Tours the Rose Gardens**
During a tour, members of the Historic Perkins Homestead Neighborhood Association shared their story of how they created the Perkins Rose Garden located behind City Hall. The English-style herbal, butterfly rose garden was created with a variety of rose plants and bushes such as David Austin roses. It sits near the entrance to Perkins Park. The program on the history of the garden and walking tour of the grounds was sponsored by...

**11 YSU Students to Spend Summer with Nonprofits**

Eleven students from Youngstown State University will spend the summer working at area nonprofit organizations as part of the biennial Nonprofit Leadership Summer Honors Internship. The program is supported by a $65,000 grant from the Raymond John Wean Foundation, Warren. All students have a minimum...

**May 2019**

**Business Briefs: Wean Foundation Names Officer**

The Raymond John Wean Foundation has named Korey Gall as its new capacity building officer. In this role, Gall will implement the foundation’s Capacity Building Program strategies, which include its Capacity Building Fund, Race Equity and Inclusion Initiatives, and Capacity Building Events. Prior to joining the foundation, Gall of Warren, served...

**Report: Decades of Discrimination in Housing Kept Areas in Trumbull Poor**

The effects of historical discrimination in certain parts of a city in the housing and home lending markets — often heavily impacting minority populations — are still felt in those neighborhoods. Many neighborhoods have remained poor after lenders refused...

**Gall Joins Wean as Capacity Officer**

Korey Gall has joined the Raymond John Wean Foundation, Warren, as its new capacity building officer. In this role, he
will implement the foundation’s Capacity Building Program strategies, which include its capacity building fund and events, race equity and inclusion initiatives. Before joining the foundation, Gall served as

Group Helps Citizens Return to Society
With the goal of helping people who have been incarcerated return as productive members of society, representatives of Citizens Uniting Citizens shared what they have done with...

April 2019

YNDC Celebrates 100th Home Rehab
The Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corp. celebrated its 100th home rehabilitation with the unveiling of a recently finished property at 4202 Rush Blvd. The nearly 1,800-square-foot South Side home in the city’s 7th Ward has...

Solar-Powered LED Lights To Be Installed in Areas of Youngstown
The Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation (YNDC) and volunteers including officers from the Youngstown Police Department and staff from Youngstown State University will be installing solar-powered LED lights east of Cottage Grove and west of South Avenue and from Florida Avenue south to Midlothian Boulevard on Wednesday, April 17.

YNDC Installing Residential Lights in Youngstown South Side
YNDC installing residential lights in Youngstown south sideYNDC, area volunteers and Youngstown police will work to put up the LED lights. They’re being donated by the Raymond John Wean Foundation to individuals who cannot afford outdoor lighting.

YNDC Facing Challenges Despite Decade of Success
Ten years ago, a partnership between the Raymond John Wean Foundation and the city of Youngstown gave birth to a nonprofit community organization dedicated to spreading the
early successes in rejuvenating the downtown area of Youngstown to many...

15 Women Nominated for 2019 Athena Award
The Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber has announced the 15 nominees for the 27th annual Athena Award dinner. The Athena Award honors women who “strive toward the highest levels of professional accomplishment,” according to a chamber release. This includes those who have...

Handel’s Neighborhood Association Hosts Community Meeting
Handel’s Neighborhood Association will host its community meeting from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Newport Library, 3730 Market St. Participants can learn more about how to get involved with the association. The meeting will include...

March 2019

Wean Foundation Announces $226K in Grants
The Raymond John Wean Foundation approved community investment grants totaling $226,383 at its quarterly meeting earlier this month, approving awards to seven organizations. Trumbull County Historical Society was...

Wean Foundation Community Investment Grants totalled $226,383
The Raymond John Wean Foundation board approved Community Investment Grants totaling $226,383 to four organizations at its quarterly meeting this month. The grants are to be used for integrated, equitable solutions aligned with...

Students Learn Healthy Living
Each week, fifth- to eighth-grade students at McGuffey PK-8 School spend time after school learning ways to stay healthy through fitness and food choice. McGuffey School guidance counselor Jill Redmond said the McGuffey fitness and wellness program is held for 14 sessions, once per week from...
Grant enables Warren nonprofit to help homeowners with emergency home repairs

Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership, an 8-year-old nonprofit best known for housing demolition, is expanding into emergency home repairs for low-income homeowners as it settles into its own new Mahoning Avenue facilities. TNP will begin accepting

TNP Builds a Better Warren at its New Home

Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership has arrived – literally. After spending eight years building a better Warren out of several different offices, in 2018 we moved into our permanent home at 736 Mahoning Ave., just out of downtown and into Warren’s residential central...