

Geauga Growth Partnership, Inc.

Press Announcement Release
For Immediate Release
Newbury, Ohio
June 13, 2012

Two Family-Owned Geauga Businesses Receive International Awards

Middlefield Cheese and Great Lakes Cheese were both recognized by the Geauga County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, June 13, for their outstanding achievement. Both Geauga County companies won Bronze Medals in the 2012 World Championship Cheese Contest, an international honor.

Middlefield Cheese received the Bronze Medal in the Baby Swiss Cheese category, and Great Lakes Cheese Co. received the Bronze Medal in the New York Sharp Cheddar Cheese category. These two companies were two of 2504 entries from twenty-four countries, and were judged by an international panel of 40 judges from 17 nations. The competition is the largest technical cheese and butter competition in the world and was held in Madison, Wisconsin, in March 2012.

In 1958, a Swiss Immigrant named Hans Epprecht began delivery of bulk cheeses to neighborhood stores. His small enterprise has now become a large, internationally recognized company called Great Lakes Cheese Co. that has won over 110 awards in the past twenty years. They now have eight facilities across the United States in Utah, New York, Wisconsin, and Ohio.

Located in Middlefield, Ohio, Middlefield Cheese was created on July 4th, 1956 by Hans Rothenbuhler. The small –town business has now blossomed into a large manufacturing company whose cheese is internationally ranked. All cheese is made on site with only kosher certified ingredients and 100% grade A milk, and sold to visitors from all over the world.

Mary Samide, County Commissioner, presented these two companies with the Commissioners' Resolutions at the Geauga Growth Partnership Annual Meeting at the Fowler's Mill Golf Club.

Geauga Growth Partnership, Inc. is a business-led organization dedicated to the retention, growth and attraction of jobs, investment and economic growth in Geauga County. For more information visit www.geaugagrowthpartnership.com or call 440-564-1060.



John Rothenbuhler, Middlefield Cheese; Tracy Jemison, Geauga County Commissioner; John Epprecht, Great Lakes Cheese.
(photo by Middlefield Post)