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Posted: 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014

Fairfield Business Showcase also a job fair

By Eric Robinette

Staff Writer

FAIRFIELD — The annual Business Showcase by the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce not only gives businesses a chance to find customers, but it also gives attendees a chance to find new jobs.

This year's event, which is free and open to the public, runs from 1:30 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at Receptions Conference Center, 5975 Boymel Drive. It features booths for more than 100 businesses for members to network and find new clients.

Linda Weil, the CEO of the M&G Body Shop in Fairfield said the showcase always allows her to find new business for her collision repair center.

"First of all, it gives me a visibility I have not been able to find anywhere else. You get the visibility to other businesses, but you also get visibility in front of the general public. Everybody has a car, and everybody's cars get wrecked, so it puts me in front of everybody I need to be in front of. Every year I've been at that show, I've gotten up to 10 jobs I can place back to just that show. So that show probably gets me \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year," she said.

A small addition to this year's show is a mini job fair, with 11 companies that will take applications and have representatives on hand to answer questions. The companies are Access Financial, Butler County RTA, Fairfield City Schools, The Martin-Brower Company, MetroParks of Butler County, SeaBird Publications, Speedway, Home Depot, Trade Global, United Performance Metals, Western Southern Life and Without a Doubt Truck and Rental.

Another new addition this year are three mini-seminars, starting at 2 p.m. — "Take Down the Walls with Virtual for Growth," "10 Tips for Getting Your Website Found on Search Engines" and "Google My Business."

Kert Radel, the president of the chamber, said, "By having the mini-seminars, it gives people an opportunity to to be brought up to date on social media marketing. We also wanted to incorporate a mini job-fair for those looking to change their careers or looking for a job ... we put a real focusing on having different elements of the showcase that businesses can relate to."

This business showcase has a different layout than others, he added.

"How you normally have an expo is you go in the front door and you have the booths to your right and your left. That's not the way we have it. There are three main show rooms at Receptions ... you cross through all three showrooms in a maze to see all the booths that we have," Radel said.

The event will also feature "The Taste of Fairfield" from 4 to 5:30 p.m., in which area restaurants will hand out free samples of food.

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