

Special
Event

DNA Diagnostics on May 5

Chamber kicks off 'Notable Neighbors' luncheon series

The Fairfield Chamber of Commerce will begin a new luncheon series in May called "Notable Neighbors." This series will feature area companies that have made national, and even international, news due to their unique products or services.

"Chamber members have asked for more programs about the businesses we have right here in our own back yard," said **Ginger Shawver**, Fairfield Chamber executive director. "We thought we would ask the companies that are making headline news to tell us about what they're doing and share their success stories," she said.

The four-luncheon series will begin with **DNA Diagnostics** on May 5. The series will continue with **Cincinnati Mills** on July 7, **Jungle Jim's** on Sept. 1 and **O'Gara, Hess &**

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Eisenhardt Armoring Co. on Nov. 3.

"We just completed a four-luncheon series on the importance of networking," said **Bill Solazzo**, Fairfield Chamber Luncheons Committee chairman. "This new 'Notable Neighbors' series will include networking opportunities along with short programs about area businesses, so that attendees can gain new contacts as well as meet area business leaders," he said.

First in the series is DNA Diagnostics Center (DDC), located on Corporate Court next to the Mack/Muhlhauser project. DNA Diagnostics, which employs almost 200 people, has grown to become the world's largest private DNA paternity testing lab and currently performs three of every four private DNA paternity tests in the U.S.

"The laboratory director at DNA Diagnostics was the first DNA expert to testify in court in a criminal case using DNA as evidence," said **Lisa McDaniel**, DDC communications director. "He was the DNA expert that NBC turned to during the O.J. Simpson trial."

Paternity testing is just part of the company's mission, however.

"This year we have expanded our services to include forensic DNA testing (CSI type testing), the world of animal DNA testing (AKC registration) and DNA banking for those heading to help rebuild Iraq," McDaniel said.

Cost of the luncheon is \$15 for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members. Chamber members also may sign up for the entire four-luncheon series at a reduced rate of \$48.

"We're also fortunate to have Cincinnati Mills in this series," Solazzo said. "Chamber members will get the scoop on what will be in the new mall (old Forest Fair Mall) one month before it officially opens."

To make reservations for one or more luncheons, complete the flyer in this issue.