



My Stark Story

I am Robert Gessner from Massillon, and this is my Stark Story!

Giving back to my community is in my blood, it's part of my DNA. My Massillon roots date back to the mid-1850's with my family owning and managing Hess-Snyder, a cast iron furnace company. My family later established The Gessner Family Foundation in memory of my grandmother who was actively involved in service projects and activities in Stark County. Each year, the foundation awards grants to 35-40 area nonprofit organizations striving to make a difference.

My parents started MCTV Cable almost 60 years ago and I took over the business in the 90's. Although I'm retired now, I remain engaged with MCTV and other local initiatives. My daughter, Katherine, is the current President and is carrying on our family traditions, values and philosophies to create a community-minded business and family-like culture. Today, MCTV employs 170 employees from Stark and Wayne counties alone.

I am Robert Gessner, and that is how I am Strengthening Stark!

If you want to learn more about the Strengthening Stark effort email info@strengtheningstark.com

A Need for Change....A Need for Strength.

Strengthening Stark began as an Economic Plan and has transformed into an active movement through community partners, organizations and stakeholders to transform Stark County into a growing, younger and more prosperous community. Email info@strengtheningstark.com to see how you can join the movement to:

- Strengthen our Talent Supply Chain
- Retain & Grow Existing Businesses
- Grow Targeted Industries
- Catalyze Entrepreneurship
- Improve Connective Infrastructure

