



M MEDICAL **S** SERVICE **R** RELIGION **E** EDUCATION **M** MANUFACTURING **R** RETAIL **N** NON-PROFIT

M MEDICAL

Many complementary treatments in Clinton County

By Dana Dunn
For the News Journal

WILMINGTON — For the last decade or so, Wilmington and Clinton County have added a number of businesses in what has traditionally been called complementary/alternative medicine (CAM) or, more recently, integrative medicine.

Definitions vary for these practices, but according to the Mayo Clinic, CAM is the popular term for health and wellness therapies that have typically not been part of conventional Western medicine. Complementary means treatments that are used along with conventional medicine. Alternative means treatments used in place of conventional medicine.

CAM focuses on the whole person and includes physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health. It includes

mind-body medicine (such as meditation, acupuncture and yoga), manipulative and body-based practices (such as massage therapy and spinal manipulation), and natural products (such as herbs and dietary supplements), the Mayo Clinic reports.

Most CAM studies in the U.S. show that few people forgo conventional medicine. So the term “integrative medicine” is increasingly preferred. Integrative medicine combines, or integrates, the best of conventional medical care with the best of evidence-based CAM.

For purposes of this local update, the focus is on activities that take place outside a traditional healthcare setting such as a doctor’s office or hospital that are intended to complement but not replace a healthcare provider’s guidance.

Wilmington’s Dr. Janet Gick knows that everyone needs a primary care



Yoga instructor Jane Newman (left) with students (left to right) Charlene Camburn, Lorene Williams and Helen Skogstrum. Courtesy photos

physician and access to medical specialists, but believes some complementary therapies can be beneficial as well. Dr. Matrka practiced family health for more than four decades and taught

resident family physicians as well.

“Several modalities can be quite helpful,” Dr. Gick says. “Tai Chi improves balance which is especially important in the elderly to prevent

falls. Acupuncture, yoga, and massage therapy can improve chronic pain or fibromyalgia. Even bathing in warm mineral springs can improve arthritic pain.”

Dr. Gick is not a big fan

of ingesting large doses of certain antioxidants and supplements as a complementary routine, but that practice is not used by those businesses contacted for this article.

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M MANUFACTURING

Manufacturing works in Clinton County

By Bret Dixon
Clinton County Business and Economic Development Director

It always amazes people who come Clinton County for the first time. They have a perception our entire economy was built around an airport, then they see how diverse our economy really is — particularly in manufacturing.

Our industries range from automotive electronics at New Sabina Industries, to power steering units at American Showa in Blanchester, to pharmaceuticals at Alkermes, to paper bag manufacturing at Hood Packaging to medical devices at Ferno.

The list goes on and the level of investment and technical expertise can be staggering. In total there are 44 businesses classified as manufacturing in Clinton County with over 3,300 jobs with \$175 million in annual payroll and 200-300 new jobs in the pipeline for 2017.

When I think about our strong manufacturing environment, I think about when I was business student at OSU over 35 years ago. In a series of lectures, professors were claiming that America no longer needed or wanted to be a country that manufactured goods and that we desperately needed, and would move to, a Service Industry society. I understood that concept, because Massey Ferguson tractors were no longer being made in Detroit and it seemed like everyone who worked in the auto industry was continually being laid off.

We were moving toward a global economy and just a few clicks away from punch cards to personal computers.

During those years of transition, America and Clinton County struggled. Losing the Cincinnati Milacron and the Irwin Tool Company in the '90s was a big deal. The invention of the high-speed drill bit was the foundation for a lot of the Wilmington economy for over 100 years.

Eventually it became clear that service industry jobs also depended heavily on manufacturing jobs and manufacturing supplied some of the best-paying jobs with or without a college degree. Manufacturing underwrote a total transformation in America, and because of our strong history, location and workforce, we have been able to capitalize and benefit from those transformations in our communities.

Foundries have been transformed into state-of-the-art injected molded machines. Aluminum

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R RELIGION

Keys to a thriving congregation

By Gary Huffenberger
ghuffenberger@civitasmedia.com

Related to the 2017 Progress edition and its themes of onward movement or growth, the News Journal asked three Clinton County pastors the following question: What are two or three things that, in your experience or opinion, are keys to attracting and retaining church members?

The three men of the cloth are Paul Crisp with the Blanchester Church of the Nazarene, Kelly McInerney with the Bible Baptist Church of Wilmington, and Mike Holloran with Saint Columbkille Parish which includes Holy Name Chapel of Blanchester as well as Saint Columbkille Catholic Church in Wilmington.

Pastor Paul Crisp has been with the Blanchester Church of the Nazarene for more than 27 years. He gave several factors he feels contribute to either attracting church members or keeping them.

“I would say a viable ministry to children and youth, and that actually applies to both parts of the question — if you want to attract, it’s vital to have ministries to children and to teens, and if you want to keep,” said Crisp.

He added the youth ministries have to contain ongoing substance.

“In other words, after attracting, the church has got to have something to offer them over the long haul or else they won’t stay,” he said.

He also thinks to attract new people, a church needs to have a healthy outreach to its surrounding community.

The Blanchester Church of the Nazarene operates a street ministry called the “Exchange” which involves food and clothing and more. It is an outreach to the local community in which the



congregation resides.

“Because we do this ministry, we have attracted a lot of people who have heard about it. It’s not even on our [main church facility] property,” commented Crisp. The Exchange is located at 116 N. Broadway in Blanchester, whereas the church building itself is at 10451 State Route 28.

When new people come to a church, it is important they find “a sense of authenticity,” said the Blanchester pastor. For building up a church family, it goes a long way when newcomers can sense genuine authenticity among the existing members, he thinks.

Long-term credibility among local residents and having a good reputation are helpful in attracting new people, said Crisp.

So if the existing church membership has the reputation of being interested in the general public and giving back to the local community and has done so for a long time, they build up credibility in the community.

“That’s huge. You can’t overstate the value of having favor with the community,” he added.

And the final thing Crisp mentioned to attract and keep members is a “willingness to change when you need to change.” For churches, that is easier talked about than done, he feels.

“To be an established church and yet be willing to change and adapt when you need to, it’s a

Outreach ministry receives kudos

The Blanchester Church of the Nazarene’s street ministry called the “Exchange” was complimented in a January press release from Blanchester Police Chief Scott Reinbolt. An 89-year-old woman from Miamisburg lost her way while driving and was in Blanchester trying to get back home. The only village officer on duty at the time contacted the Exchange and asked whether someone from the outreach ministry could come to the police station to sit with the woman until her daughter arrived, freeing the officer to answer radio calls. Associate Pastor Angela France came to the police station and provided company to the lady until the daughter arrived. Reinbolt stated, “We are extremely grateful to Pastor France and the staff at the Exchange for providing kindness and companionship.”

huge challenge,” Crisp said.

It is a big turnoff, he said, when people come to a church and they see that it’s “basically dug in, and it’s an ‘Us versus Them’ mentality.”

Bible Baptist Church of Wilmington Senior Pastor Kelly D. McInerney founded that congregation in 1995, and it has grown to be reportedly the church with the largest membership in Clinton County history.

“From our experience, we have found people respond to the preaching of the Word of God. We elevate the preaching message. People don’t just come for fellowship or ‘Game Night’ or youth activities. The very foundation is the preaching of the Word,” said McInerney.

Another way of putting it is that the Bible is held in the highest regard at Bible Baptist.

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2017 PROGRESS

Family Business *(in more ways than one)*

Even though they're not family-run, many businesses have a family atmosphere, from staff to customers.



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Meet Our News Journal Family

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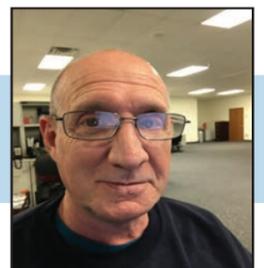
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NON-PROFIT

Non-profits 'Energize' Clinton County

By Mark Rembert
Co-Founder,
Energize Clinton County

Growing up in Clinton County, I often repeated the refrain uttered by generations of kids on hot summer days — there's nothing to do here.

There is something especially powerful about "somewhere else" that captures the young minds of kids growing up in small towns. It eventually became clear that waiting for something exciting to happen to me was a lost cause, and that if something interesting was going to happen I would have to go out and create it.

I was lucky to have a gang of friends who refused to give into boredom and worked together to entertain ourselves and those around us. One of our most notable creations started on a slow

fall day when we decided to fill our afternoon by hosting an NFL-style tailgate party in an empty Wilmington High School parking lot before a high school soccer game.

After grilling some burgers and hot dogs, our small crew of fans paraded down to the stadium chanting and pounding on five-gallon paint buckets which had mysteriously materialized. We found ourselves to be the only fans in the stands, but we screamed and pounded our buckets to support our team and drum up some fun for ourselves.

On that day we never could have imagined that this small act of creation would snowball, and it birthed a tradition of WHS sports "superfans" that continues today.

Growing up in Wilmington, experiences like these taught me some of



the most valuable lessons of my life.

First, I learned that it really was possible to shape the world around me, and the experience of doing so was fun and exciting.

Second, I learned that in a small town like Wilmington, someone with an idea and some energy could create something new, having an immediate impact and receiving the support of an encouraging community.

Finally, I learned that seemingly small and inconsequential actions and acts of creation could snowball and grow and take on a life of their own.

I never could have imagined how valuable these lessons I learned growing up in Wilming-

ton would be.

In 2008, we faced one of the darkest times in our community's history — DHL's announcement that it would be ending its operation in Wilmington left us all stunned. In conversations with friends, family, and neighbors, I was so inspired that the anxiety people were feeling didn't lead to a sense of defeat or despair, but instead provided motivation and drive to get to work rebuilding and recreating the community we love.

It reminded me of feeling that my friends and I shared growing up: there is no use waiting for something to happen, so we might as well create it ourselves.

It was on this idea that Energize Clinton County was founded in 2008. We believed then, and we continue to believe nine years later, that our local

economy is not something that exists beyond us as something that can be given or taken away, but it is something that we create each day by the decisions that we make and by our daily acts of creation.

Our approach to economic development isn't about attracting the next big employer, it's about building a stronger community helping people become more aware and engaged in the process of creating our local economy.

We do this in several ways. We help people keep their money in our local economy by creating a marketplace which connects them with the local entrepreneurs that continue our agricultural heritage at the Clinton County Farmers' Market. We provide opportunities for people to gain new training and skills

that make them more creative, more innovative, and more productive through our Reach Clinton County coding and development training program and our solar energy training program. We help young people see and experience the incredible impact that they can have as business and community leaders through our Clinton Community Fellows Program.

And looking forward, we want to put the actual tools and technology of creation and innovation in the hands of our community at the Pioneer Labs makerspace, which we are hard at work developing.

We encourage the community to get involved in participating or supporting our programs. You can find more info about Energize Clinton County and our work at <http://2016.energizecc.com>.

SERVICE



Chamber: Get involved, move forward

News Journal

For 60 years, the Wilmington-Clinton County Chamber of Commerce has worked to create an environment in which businesses of all sizes can thrive and grow.

Now, more than ever, the Chamber continues to be an active, productive, and effective force in sharing local business information and bringing economic development and job growth to our community.

Under the new leadership of Dessie Rogers, Executive Director, and Julie Bolton, Marketing and Communications Director (and co-director of Main Street Wilmington), 2017 will be another promising year for the Chamber of Commerce.

Through the newly re-branded "Local First Clinton County" initiative, the Chamber connects its near 300 business members to thousands of residents throughout Clinton County — sharing events, coupons, business features and more on a weekly basis.

Their newly designed website — www.localfirstcc.com — now hosts a partner mobile application (Local First Clinton County) where residents can access this information faster than ever on smart devices.

The Chamber is also unveiling an upgrade to their resourceful "business to business" tailored Chamber site — www.wccchamber.com — in early 2017. The Chamber site hosts the county's economic development resource page, as well as the hugely popular "Chamber Jobs Board." Through this online listing, the Chamber shared over 300 local jobs and received over 76,000 views in 2016 with a promise to only increase in the coming year.

2016 also saw a record for ribbon cuttings with the Chamber celebrating openings, expansions, and anniversaries at 33 member businesses and non-profit organizations.

The Chamber also hosts a monthly business roundtable, the "Economic Network Alliance," in partnership with the Clinton County Regional Planning Commission, in addition to their spring Annual Luncheon and their popular fall "Chamber Clay" shoot at Cherrybend Pheasant Farm.

To learn more, get involved, or join the Chamber, please contact 937-382-2737 or info@wccchamber.com.

E EDUCATION

Education by the numbers in Clinton Co.

News Journal

CLINTON COUNTY — From pre-kindergarten through college, educational institutions are in all corners of Clinton County.

Here's a quick look at education in Clinton County, by recent numbers:

BLANCHESTER LOCAL SCHOOLS

Square miles: 70.0 (state average: 67.7)
Enrollment (year-end): 1,642 (state average: 2,584)
Asian students: 0.23% (state average: 1.99%)
Black students: 0.41% (state average: 13.9%)
Hispanic students: 1.06% (state average: 4.38%)
White students: 96.66% (state average: 75.19%)
Multi-racial students: 1.58% (state average: 4.38%)
Pupil-teacher ratio: 17.9-1 (state average: 18.47%)
Teachers with 10+ years' experience: 49.5% (state average: 56.8%)

CLINTON-MASSIE LOCAL SCHOOLS

Square miles: 127.0 (state average: 67.7)
Enrollment (year-end): 1,839 (state average: 2,584)
Asian students: 0.4% (state average: 1.99%)
Black students: 0.12% (state average: 13.9%)
Hispanic students: 1.85% (state average: 4.38%)
White students: 96.57% (state average: 75.19%)
Multi-racial students: 0.98% (state average: 4.38%)
Pupil-teacher ratio: 18.71-1 (state average: 18.47%)
Teachers with 10+ years' experience: 66.1% (state average: 56.8%)

EAST CLINTON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Square miles: 129.0 (state average: 67.7)
Enrollment (year-end): 1,423 (state average: 2,584)
Asian students: 0.14% (state average: 1.99%)
Black students: 0.47% (state average: 13.9%)
Hispanic students: 1.49% (state average: 4.38%)
White students: 95.45% (state average: 75.19%)
Multi-racial students: 2.45% (state average: 4.38%)
Pupil-teacher ratio: 17.75-1 (state average: 18.47%)
Teachers with 10+ years' experience: 52.08% (state average: 56.8%)

WILMINGTON CITY SCHOOLS

Square miles: 161.0 (state average: 67.7)
Enrollment (year-end): 3,035 (state average: 2,584)
Asian students: 0.77% (state average: 1.99%)
Black students: 3.95% (state average: 13.9%)
Hispanic students: 4.53% (state average: 4.38%)
White students: 83.47% (state average: 75.19%)



Multi-racial students: 7.07% (state average: 4.38%)
Pupil-teacher ratio: 19.63-1 (state average: 18.47%)
Teachers with 10+ years' experience: 55.74% (state average: 56.8%)
Source: Selected categories from Ohio Dept. of Education 2014 Report

LAUREL OAKS CAREER CAMPUS

Laurel Oaks is one of four career campuses of the Great Oaks career-technical high school; the entire Great Oaks systems serves 36 school districts of Southwest Ohio.
At Great Oaks:
46% of graduates go directly to post-secondary education in a typical year.
96.7% of 2015 graduates earned college credit while still in high school.
95% of employers who have hired a Great Oaks grad would do so again.
22 Great Oaks students finished in the top 10 nationally in skill competitions related to their career program in 2015.

About one out of 20 Great Oaks students are chosen for the National Technical Honor Society.
The campuses offer a range of English, math, science and social studies courses, plus these programs offered for 11th- and 12th-grade students: Animal Science and Management; Automotive Technology - Collision; Automotive Technology - Mechanics; Aviation Maintenance Technician; CareerX; Computer Service Technician and Networking; Construction Technologies; Cosmetology; Digital Arts and Design; Dental Assisting; Early Childhood Education;

SCHOOLS OF CLINTON COUNTY

Blancheater Local Schools
951 Cherry St., Blanchester, OH 45107; 937-783-3523
www.blanschools.org

Schools: Blanchester High School; Blanchester Intermediate School; Blanchester Middle School; Putnam Elementary School

Clinton-Massie Local Schools
2556 Lebanon Road, Clarksville, OH 45113; 937-289-2471
www.clinton-massie.k12.oh.us

Schools: Clinton-Massie Elementary School; Clinton-Massie Middle School; Clinton-Massie High School

East Clinton Local Schools
97 Astro Way, Sabina, OH 45169; 937-584-2461
www.east-clinton.k12.oh.us/

Schools: Sabina Elementary School; New Vienna Elementary School; East Clinton Junior High School; East Clinton High School

Wilmington City Schools
341 S. Nelson Ave., Wilmington, OH 45177; 937-382-1641
www.wilmington.k12.oh.us

Laurel Oaks Career Campus
300 Oak Drive, Wilmington, OH; 937-382-1411
[www.greatoaks.com/sites/HighSchool/Campuses/Laurel Oaks](http://www.greatoaks.com/sites/HighSchool/Campuses/Laurel%20Oaks)

Wilmington College
1870 Quaker Way, Wilmington, OH 45177; 800-341-9318
www.wilmington.edu

Southern State Community College
North Campus: 1850 Davids Drive, Wilmington, OH 45177; 937-382-6645
Central Campus: 100 Hobart Drive, Hillsboro, OH 45133; 937-393-3431
www.sccc.edu

Equine Science and Management; Health Technology; Industrial Diesel Mechanics; Masonry; Sports Rehabilitation and Therapy; Welding.
Source: Great Oaks

WILMINGTON COLLEGE
Students on campus: 1,150+
833 Students from Ohio
7 International Students (from Sweden, England, Kenya)
Students receiving financial aid: 99%
Majors: 25+

Top majors in order of popularity: Agriculture, Education, Athletic Training, Sport Management, and Business Administration
Full-time teaching faculty: 67 (51 with terminal degrees — Ph.D., etc.)
Clubs & organizations: 50+

Intercollegiate NCAA DIII sports: 18
35,835 visitors to WC's Website in January 2016
Source: Wilmington College

SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Southern State has four campus locations — Hillsboro, Wilmington, Washington Court House, and Sardinia — primarily serve the counties of Adams, Brown, Clinton, Highland and Fayette.

The school was chartered in 1975.
SSCC offers a diversified curriculum that serves to either train students for a particular career after receiving their associate degree or to prepare students for transfer to a four-year institution.

SSCC offers Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees.
Student-faculty ratio of 17-1.
Source: SSSC

R RETAIL

A new direction for Main Street Wilmington

News Journal

Co-Directors Julie Bolton and Darcy Reynolds joined Main Street Wilmington in late September, bringing dual leadership and expertise. Along with Director changes came a new mission statement to better reflect the group's purpose and priorities:

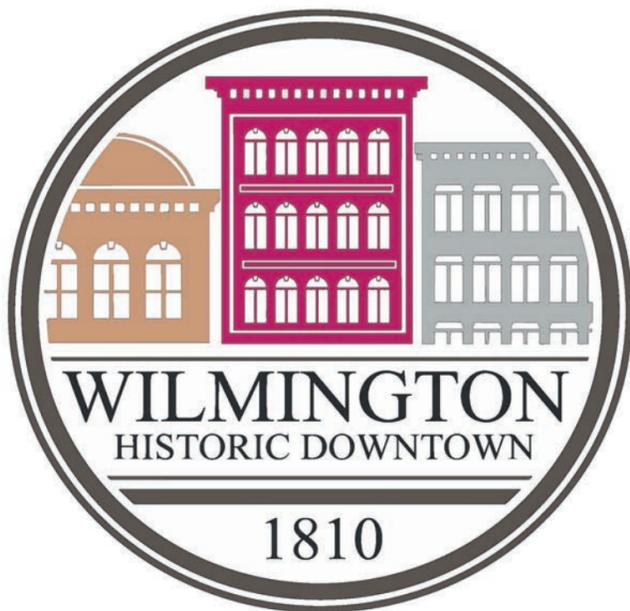
"Main Street Wilmington's mission is to promote historic preservation and economic development with the goal of maintaining a cultural downtown district that attracts entrepreneurs and retains businesses, serving as a vital hub for housing, shopping, dining and entertainment."

"One of the most significant changes is the transition away from the old membership model to that of Business Partner," said Darcy Reynolds. "We want to be inclusive and welcome all downtown merchants to feel involved and invested in the overall community goal of a vibrant downtown. We are all in this together."

A new events schedule and planning strategies have taken shape, and Main Street Wilmington also has a new graphic brand and look. The website has had a facelift while being optimized to meet security and mobile-first requirements for page ranking and search. Take a look at it here: <https://mainstreetwilmington.com/>

Although Main Street may be best known for its signature events like Party at the Mural and the Wine Walk, Main Street serves as much more than just downtown party planners.

The group is also focused on the preservation and revitalization of downtown Wilmington. Currently the organization is working with the



Main Street Wilmington

city to design and develop a system of wayfinding which could include new information kiosks with maps and walking tours and historical building markers.

"We want first-time visitors to Wilmington to become repeat visitors because they had a great experience," said Julie Bolton. "There are some beautifully restored buildings like the Fife & Bosworth, and the murals that are a hallmark of our city. We want to celebrate and build on what we have in downtown Wilmington."

What happens in downtown Wilmington throughout the entire year is

critically important to its appeal and long term growth. The visitor experience, particularly for pedestrians, is an important focus for Main Street Wilmington.

"We know the downtown experience is combination of many factors," said Reynolds. "We want to work collaboratively with other local organizations on projects that affect both Wilmington residents and visitors, like streetscape beautification and pedestrian safety."

Your downtown needs you

With many goals and projects planned

for 2017, Main Street Wilmington is counting on community involvement and leadership. There is a new Volunteer Application on the website available to anyone in the community.

"There are many opportunities and you can volunteer at an individual or an organizational level," said Bolton.

First Merchant Meet & Greet — A Success

Main Street Wilmington hosted its first Merchant Meet & Greet on Friday, February 3rd at Jen's Deli. With nearly 30 downtown merchants in attendance, information about downtown, new development and upcoming events were discussed. Main Street will also be hosting similar gatherings with property owners and residents of the historic downtown area.

Contact Information

Main Street Wilmington shares an office with the Chamber of Commerce, Energize Clinton County, and United Way at 100 W. Main St.

Co-Directors Darcy Reynolds and Julie Bolton are in-office Tuesday through Friday, but they are often at meetings with merchants in their shops, at the Municipal Building, or "walking the beat" and meeting with community volunteers. It is best to call ahead or email and make an appointment.

937-382-2737

info@mainstreetwilmington.com
mainstreetwilmington.com
 Facebook: [facebook.com/DowntownWilmington/](https://www.facebook.com/DowntownWilmington/)
 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mainstreetwilmington/>
 Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/mainstreetwilmington/>

Clinton

From page 1

engine parts traditionally made in places like Michigan or Japan have found their way to us in our companies like Ahresty. Long

before Polaris became a major distributor in Clinton County, a local company was closely working with them on machining designs for the Polaris UTV's. The Chinette brand of products is produced in New Vienna. Camelback water bottles are

printed in Blanchester. Commercial display units are manufactured and shipped to grocery stores all over the eastern United States by Thirey Cabinetry.

In Ohio and the rest of the USA, manufacturing has been a hot topic of debate.

Locally and in Ohio as a whole, a lot of attention and resources have been given to training and education. There has also been a much-needed shift in educating our parents and younger students on the benefits of training and certificates related to

the good manufacturing jobs available in our communities today.

Again, we are fortunate to have many local resources in Laurel Oaks, Southern State and Wilmington College to support this.

I have traveled to many parts of the world

and have toured manufacturing plants of all kinds, so in that debate, there are many factors that make up why certain products are made overseas. I then come back to Clinton County and I understand, and I am reminded why it works so well here.

Thriving

From page 1

"That is the reason we're here, the preaching of the Word," McInerney said. At another juncture, he described this piece as preaching "straight from the Bible."

A second thing, he said, is the church does all it can to minister to the needs of every family, whatever the family's or individual's age bracket.

Some churches might focus on the 20- to

40-year-old age range, he said. But at Bible Baptist, they have developed ministries to cover the entire spectrum: young couples, middle-age couples, things for senior saints, widows, teenagers, and single parents, said McInerney.

He described it as a balanced ministry for all ages.

"There is no specific demographic group that is our favorite or that is our target. We're going to minister to everybody that God sends in our doors," said the pastor.

The third thing he mentioned is going out into the community.

"We tell people about the church, through [newspaper] advertisement, and door-to-door information," he said. The advertisements sometimes highlight upcoming free concerts featuring well-known Southern Gospel groups, or worship services with particular speakers, McInerney added.

"We have literally knocked on every door in the city of Wilmington at least four times in 22

years," he remarked. Not everybody was at home or glad to see them, he added.

For the door-to-door canvassing, the city's residents would be covered a neighborhood at a time by church members bearing informational packets.

Then in 2011, which was the 400th anniversary of the King James translation of the Bible, the church purchased full King James paperback Bibles.

Though it took more than a year to do it, they

stopped at every residence in Clinton County, leaving a free Bible as a gift. The door hanger bag also held brochures about the Bible and the church.

"We actively promote the church through advertisement and word-of-mouth and community outreach," McInerney summarized of the third factor he cited.

Father Michael Holloran of Wilmington-based Saint Columbkille Parish identified three things he believes people are looking for and hoping

to find.

"One — the truth, clearly, convincingly and compassionately presented," he stated in an email.

"Two — worship, that reaches down into the soul and opens us up to God," Holloran continued.

"Three — community, that makes a person feel connected to fellow believers and encourages them in their walk as a disciple of Christ," he said.

Reach Gary Huffenberger at 937-556-5768.

Treatments

From page 1

Jane Newman says when she and three fellow yoga enthusiasts (Sue Hanna, Tammy Reed, Theresa Rembert) started Main Street Yoga Center in Wilmington nine years ago, "We wanted to have a center dedicated to the practice of yoga based on our own experiences of how beneficial it had been in our lives."

The business has attracted a mix of people with different goals in mind. "Some athletes come because of tightness and a desire to work on their flexibility," she says. "Others find that it is very stress relieving and quiets the mind. It offers a lot of mental benefits like improving concentration and does a beautiful job of settling the nervous system."

When practiced correctly under the guidance of professional instructors like those at Main Street Yoga Center, Newman says yoga can also relieve

chronic pain, improve cardiovascular and general health and help with weight management.

Newman said her center does not get regular referrals from a doctor or group practice, but that more students are showing up on recommendations from doctors who see the benefit of yoga, including less reliance on medications in some instances.

"I have heard from yoga students that joint pain and muscle tension decrease with regular yoga practice and they were able to stop taking pain medication," Newman says.

Women taking part in a recent class at the center offered various benefits they receive from yoga, including better posture, ability to relax and sleep better, and pain relief.

Licensed massage therapist Tabitha Speaight operates Dawn of Healing Therapeutic Massage in Wilmington. "My goal is to help clients reduce their pain level, increase their range of motion and learn to maintain

themselves with an individualized self-care program," Speaight says. "By evaluating every client as an individual I am able to work within the clients comfort level using a combination of myofascial release and medical massage. Most clients have reported an increase in range of motion and a decrease in pain along with being able to perform daily tasks with greater ease."

One of Speaight's satisfied clients is 36-year-old Jonce Kessler of Sabina, a Marine Corps veteran who served in Iraq and who has lower back pain as a result of that experience, wear and tear from several years as an auto mechanic, and in his current vocation as an airplane mechanic. "She has changed my life for the better," says Kessler, who adds that he sleeps better and can now play with his kids without pain.

A number of complementary services are neighbors of Speaight in her location on West Main Street, including providers who offer Reiki,



Tabitha Speaight (left) and client Jonce Kessler of Sabina.

bamboo fusion massage, salt scrubs, herbal wraps, aromatherapy and cranial sacral therapy.

Outside of Martinsville you can find Peaceful Acres Lavender Farm where offerings include

gong meditation, reflexology, energy balancing sessions and natural aromatherapy remedies.

Area fitness centers as well as chiropractic offices have or have offered complementary services.

Check with the Wilmington-Clinton County Chamber of Commerce or do an online search if you are interested in finding our more about local complementary health and wellness providers.



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R RETAIL



Courtesy photo

Falgner Realty's team is eager to serve you.

Falgner Realty treats you like family

By Beverly Drapalik

Falgner Realty, LLC is a hometown realtor helping you find your way home — be it a house, farm or commercial property.

Tony Falgner opened the doors to Falgner Realty in November 2014 after 11 successful years with a national franchise helping clients buy and sell homes, farms, lots and commercial properties in Blanchester and the surrounding counties.

As broker/owner, Tony was initially joined by his sister, Betsy Falgner Hart. Today the company has expanded to include two more agents with the addition of Chuck Rich and Leah Grant, both local residents. Jenny Ward, Real Estate Assistant, rounds out the staff and is responsible for entering new listings and monitoring the closing schedule allowing agents to spend more time focused on our clients and customers.

Tony is also a member of both the Cincinnati and Dayton Multiple Listing Services.

Falgner Realty's agents are all full-time real estate professionals committed to providing high quality service to its customers and clients. We pride ourselves on listening to and getting to know our clients to connect them with the opportunity that best meets their needs.

As more than one client has said, "Thank you for going above and beyond to close my deal and for responding to all my calls and texts so promptly."

While our team members bring different experiences and skills to Falgner Realty, there is a real family atmosphere fostering cooperation and support within the office resulting in a true commitment to the clients and customers.

"Our previous careers are invaluable in serving our clients throughout Clinton, Clermont, Highland, Warren and Brown Counties," Tony said. In addition to our real estate business and spending quality time with family, Falgner Realty staff are members and supporters of various civic groups, sports programs, churches, and even a local fire department.

So, if "finding your way home" means buying or selling a house, a farm or a commercial property, Falgner Realty is here to help you.

Contact them at (937) 783-4040 or on the web at www.FalgnerRealty.com when you are ready to buy or sell. We are ready to work for YOU!

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tfalgner@gmail.com

E EDUCATION



Courtesy photo

Wilmington College's Center for the Sciences and Agriculture (CSA) opened in August 2016.

WC students enjoying enhanced hands-on learning opportunities

News Journal

After two decades on the wish list, several years in planning and 24 months under construction, the fully renovated and expanded Center for the Sciences and Agriculture (CSA) was open for business when Wilmington College students arrived August 2016.

The College christened the \$14 million facility as its newest jewel in the crown at a grand opening celebration that was preceded by a visit from U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, who described the CSA as a "value-added opportunity" for students.

The former Kettering Science Hall served Wilmington College students well since opening in 1960, but its aging infrastructure and the recent influx of students in agriculture and the sciences brought about a need for its renovation and expansion. To date, fundraising efforts have eclipsed the \$7 million goal



with more than \$8.5 million secured in gifts and pledges, including a \$1.5 million gift from the State of Ohio championed by House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger and State Sen. Bob Peterson in support of agriculture education.

The Center for the Sciences and Agriculture includes the renovated 34,000 square-foot Kettering Science Hall and a 13,500 square-foot addition. The facility hosts 10 classrooms, 10 laboratories, three research labs, two 100-seat lecture halls and 30 offices. The CSA earned LEED certification as an environmentally friendly facility.

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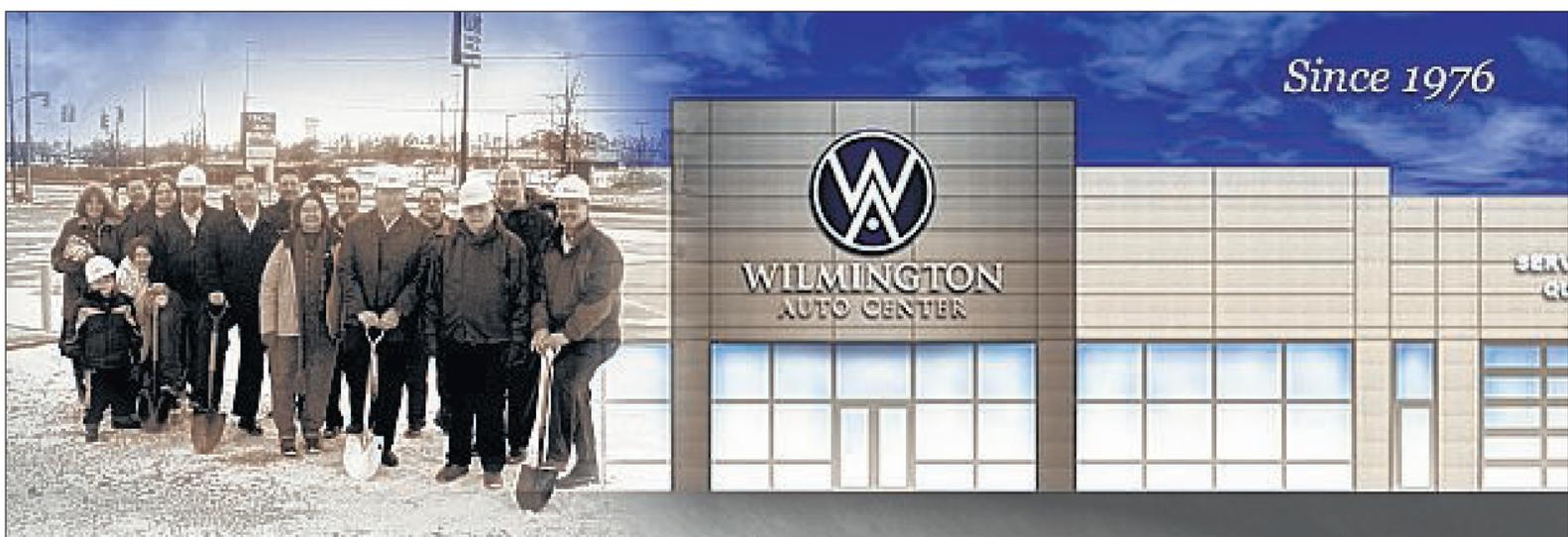
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R RETAIL



Wilmington Auto Center has always been a local, family-owned business.

Courtesy photo

Wilmington Auto Center thanks community

Wilmington Auto Center

For more than 40 years Wilmington Auto Center Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM has been serving our community.

The local family-owned and operated business started by Dale Adkins is now run by his sons, David and John Adkins. The Adkins family and dealership team would like to thank Wilmington for 41 years of loyal business.

This year Wilmington Auto Center has become a New Vehicle Franchise dealership with the purchase of the Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM brands. They will be the premier dealer for Ohio, Clinton County and surrounding areas.

David and John believe in exceeding customer expectations through integrity, customer service and faith-based principles.

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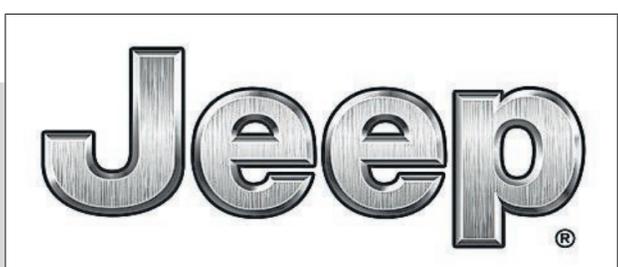
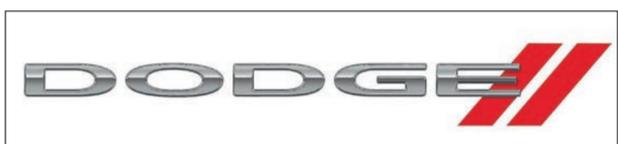
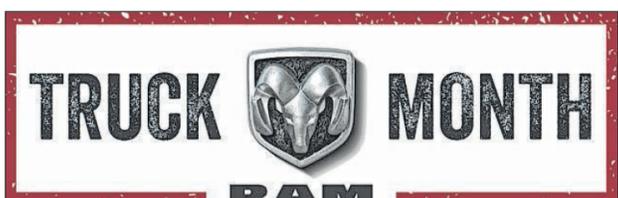


along with an expanded service center, Wilmington Auto Center Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM offers warranty service and certified technicians for all trucks, cars and SUV's.

Since 1976, Wilmington Auto Center Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM has dedicated themselves to serving the local and surrounding commu-

nities. The Adkins Family and Dealership Team look forward to many more years.

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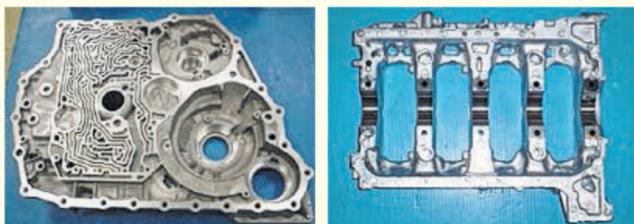


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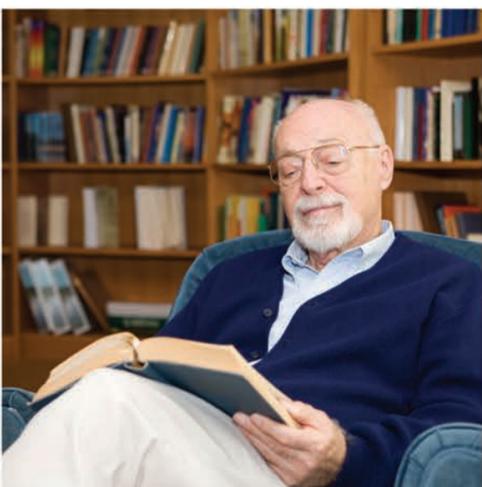


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M MEDICAL

At Clinton Memorial Hospital, growth is a game-changer

Fellow community members:

The growth we've experienced at CMH over the last two years has been game-changing. Last year alone, we brought on 31 new providers to our medical staff, including a fully-staffed hospitalist team, two general surgeons, radiation oncologist, and new primary care providers in Sabina, Blanchester, and Wilmington.

We touched over 32,000 lives across over 106,000 visits, and we saw an 11% increase in admissions from 2015, as more patients chose CMH for their care. This is truly remarkable, and it's due to our caregivers and their commitment to putting this community first every single day.

High-quality care is always our very first priority, and this year was another banner year. Our home health team was ranked among HomeCare Elite for the 11th year in a row, making us one of only eight agencies in Ohio to make the list for 11 consecutive years, and one of only 104 agencies nationwide (of over 9,000 agencies reporting). We were named a Blue Distinction Center in maternity care, an elite ranking by Blue Cross Blue Shield for facilities that meet certain standards of quality and efficiency in providing specialty care, and we earned our certification as an Acute Stroke Ready Hospital from The Joint Commission.

Second to patient care, I'm most proud of the ways we've been able to work in and for the community.

In 2016, our department leaders committed to serving monthly at Your Father's Kitchen, an experience that has brought them closer to the people we serve than ever before. We helped celebrate the Wilmington High School boys basketball team on their run to state, helped outfit the Blanchester High School

football team with all-new practice jerseys, sponsored Little League teams, collected warm clothing for elementary students, and awarded two college scholarships to the family members of CMH employees.

We were proud to support Dr. John Hollon in his quest to be a dancing star in Clinton County, and matched \$10,000 in contributions to the historic Murphy Theatre. Our employees planned and hosted community dog walks and chili cook-offs and community health screenings and education events.

We consider it a privilege to serve patients in this community, and a responsibility to give back.

We have a lot to look forward to this year, and we remain diligent in setting our sights higher. We have more primary care providers joining us in the next two months — in Wilmington and in Washington Court House — we're laying the groundwork for an interventional cardiology program and a geriatric friendly emergency department, we're making a million-dollar upgrade to our linear accelerator to be on the forefront of radiation therapy technology, and hiring nursing staff throughout our clinical departments to accommodate continued growth.

I can't begin to say how proud I am of our team and all that we've accomplished in the last year, but what excites me most is all that we have to look forward to. CMH is committed to being this region's healthcare provider for many years to come, and we're working hard every day to bring you greater access, more specialties, and a higher quality of care.

Thank you for your trust, confidence and support.
Greg Nielsen
 Chief Executive Officer



Student volunteers from Wilmington, Blanchester, Clinton Massie, and East Clinton High Schools packing bags for Brake for Breakfast



A few of our new providers in 2016; left to right: Dr. Achint Choksy (primary care), Deanna Davis, CNP (hospitalist), Paul Amriott, PA (emergency medicine), Melissa Jones, PA (primary care), Dr. R. Brian Boster (hospitalist), Dr. Rachel Lovano (general surgery), Dr. Byron Stapleton (general surgery), Christy Jenkins, CNP (primary care)



Nursing leaders at the Clinton County Farmer's Market



Wilmington fans at the Elite Eight game with CMH rally towels



Ribbon cutting for Christy Jenkins, CNP, East Clinton Medical Services



Ribbon cutting for Dr. Achint Choksy, Pinnacle Primary Care



Ribbon cutting for Dr. Steven Walston, Radiation Oncologist



Ribbon cutting for Dr. Rachel Lovano, General Surgeon



Ribbon cutting for Dr. Byron Stapleton, General Surgeon



Ribbon cutting for Melissa Jones, PA, Blanchester Medical Services

CMH photos

R RETAIL

McBrayer Real Estate: Welcoming, unique, family

By Beverly Drapalik
For McBrayer Real Estate

Wilma McBrayer started McBrayer Real Estate Company on May 4, 1992. She worked for years as a buyer for Airborne Express.

Then she acquired her real estate license in 1980, and she worked for Darbyshire and Associates from 1980 until 1992. Her first office was a two-room condo on Rombach.

At that time she employed two agents; today six agents work for

McBrayer. She is unique in Wilmington — she is the only female broker.

When stepping into her building at 1107 Rombach Ave. in Wilmington, the welcoming office atmosphere is apparent. This locally owned company offers a personal touch as it specializes in property rentals and relocation.

Shelly Fast, McBrayer's assistant, is part of the friendly landscape of the office. She has been working at the company for 10 years.

She says, "I walked into the office knowing nothing about real estate, but I love learning. After one day of training, I knew that Wilma is wonderful to work for! This office is like my family."

The McBrayer Real Estate Co. website includes, "The Personal Touch in Real Estate" under the logo. Definitely true, especially proven by two local bank representatives showing up at the door with chocolate, just to say "Hello."



M MEDICAL

Laurels of Blanchester: A caring family

By Beverly Drapalik

When you need care, The Laurels of Blanchester provides "security, importance and belonging" for guests.

This 50-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation center has been operated by the same team of people for the last years, a testament to not only their satisfaction, but the contentment of guests.

One might find Tonya Brown, Director of Housekeeping, cleaning floors with a machine twice her size. She smiles as she works, and when asked, she says, "The best thing about working at The Laurels



The Laurels staff ensures a family atmosphere.

is that we are family."

The Laurels creates a family atmosphere by sponsoring two major events in the community each year.

Jana Wells, Director of Marketing, says, "The Firecracker July 4th Celebration starts at 8a.m. with a 5K race. All proceeds from the

day go to a Blanchester High School Senior who is going into a medical career."

In December, the Celebration of Lights allows citizens to purchase a tree in honor, memory or recognition of individuals or groups. Each tree costs \$50 and has a sign that indicates its impor-



Courtesy photos

The Laurels of Blanchester is a 50-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation center

tance. The proceeds go to the Glenn Thompson Memorial Fund — Glenn Thompson was the Chief of Police in Blanchester for years.

Along with these events and celebra-

tions, The Laurels of Blanchester provides prizes — even bicycles — each year at the Easter Egg Hunt for Putnam Elementary first grade, provides blood pressure screenings for Friendship

Acres, and calls Bingo at the Blanchester Senior Center.

The Laurels of Blanchester believes that "every individual can live an interesting, purpose-filled life at every age."

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S SERVICE

H&R Block: A helpful family

By Beverly Drapalik

One of the most congenial offices in Wilmington is at the corner of South Street and Locust Street. Employees are immediately friendly not only to visitors, but to each other.

The building has housed a bank, a soda shop, a drugstore, and a bookstore, but now it houses H & R Block.

Ronda Smith, Franchisee and Master Tax Advisor, is in her 34th year of preparing tax returns. She is flanked by four tax professionals and two client care specialists who "can't wait to help you prepare and file your taxes." In fact, their website also mentions that the tax professionals "love taxes."

Ronda's parents, Sue and Ron Jenkins, owned the office for years. Ronda remembers working in the family business as a young girl; now, Ronda owns the Wilmington office. Her husband, Joel, owns the Blanchester office. Her sister, Renee Hall, and her husband, Bob, own the Washington Court House office. People in this region are fortunate to have this helpful family!

Shirley Mitchell has been with H & R Block since Ronda's parents owned the business. Evidently, she would not think of working anywhere else: "This group of ladies is amazing. It is a well-oiled machine, and Ronda is one of the



From left are H&R Block's Tina Brown, Jackie Sewell, Jennifer Seabaugh, Ronda Smith, Shirley Mitchell, Carolyn Wheeler, Lindsey West and Joel Smith.

Beverly Drapalik photo

guys."

As she remembers years gone by, she clearly seems to adore the business. She remembers Feb. 4, 15 years ago. Her daughter, Dawn Shumaker, was at Clinton Memorial, in labor, but the baby wasn't arriving anytime soon. Shirley was working at the office, and someone said, "You mean they won't let you off in order

to go to the hospital?" Shirley replied, "No, no, you don't understand. I am just going to get a few items done and then go to the hospital just before her grandchild was born!"

That same loyalty is evident in the other professionals in the office. No one has less than 10 years of experience, and everyone commits to

working long hours during tax season. With the onslaught of tax work at the beginning of each year, Ronda and Joel don't have much time for hobbies.

Even though the offices are open all year, they do find time in growing season to do some gardening.

Ronda mentioned that she enjoys her "raised vegetable beds and gar-

dening." Cooking is also high on her list.

With ambitious open hours, this business is one of the most accommodating offices in Wilmington. They take "walk-ins," schedule appointments, and perform online help. They also have a drop-off service.

The website allows convenient on-line reservations, and the calendar

shows Sunday hours during the busiest weeks of tax season. The website, www.hrblock.com, also lists the tax professionals and their experience. No wonder they can "find every last tax deduction available."

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M MANUFACTURING

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News Journal

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Courtesy photo

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R RETAIL

McCarty Gardens offers loyalty, service

By Beverly Drapalik

Stephanie Seaman sits at her desk and thinks about her new business — actually the business isn't new, she is the new owner.

"When McCarty's was for sale I couldn't bear the thought of it going to someone else. We are like family here," she said. The region can be very glad that she went home one night and told her husband, Chad, that she wanted to buy McCarty Gardens. After all, they already owned Seaman Construction.

Now, Stephanie runs McCarty Gardens and Chad runs Seaman Construction. Seven-year-old Kimber is probably learning both businesses!

The employees at McCarty Gardens have longevity — everyone has 15 or more years of service to the company.

Consequently, it is a "well-oiled machine." Stephanie says, "About 75 percent of our business is landscaping." Doug Rinehart is the new head landscaper.

Beginning in March, applications for landscaping positions will be taken. If interested, please call Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Customers who buy "plant material at McCarty Gardens receive free design assistance." Delivery is also available.

The company will focus on quality customer service this year in all areas. One of those areas will be a continued emphasis on floral design.

Timothy Larrick, with the company for 19 years, can create whatever the customer wants! He has created a "fishing arrangement," complete with lures; a sympathy piece includ-

ing toy tractors and combines "running through a field"; and horse-themed arrangements for equine events.

Timothy says, "At McCarty's we take an artistic approach to every order. We use fresh flowers every day."

McCarty's works on special events such as decorating the lobby at Roberts Centre. At Christmas they created a forest of 21 lighted trees, snow, benches — everything for the perfect picture opportunity.

For weddings, they create whatever the bride wants. Timothy indicates that brides bring in pictures of their dreams.

"Traditional weddings have been thrown out the window," he says. Barn siding, wooden boxes of daisies, bales of hay, and ladders are not out of the ordinary.

The next time you need



Courtesy photos

The new owners of McCarty Gardens and their staff assure that they'll continue great customer service and plenty of smiles.

flowers or landscaping, stop at McCarty Gardens. You will find the gift shop has everything from stepping stones to gift items to silk flowers. Leave time for visiting the green-houses!

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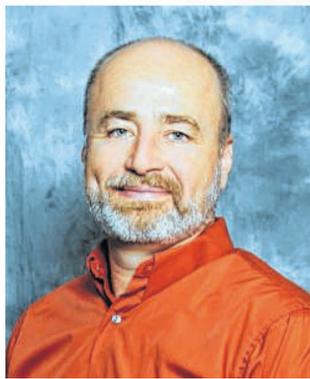
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R RETAIL



Courtesy photos

Naylor's features "Always Low Prices and FREE Delivery."

Naylor's brings family to furniture

News Journal

Naylor's Furniture has been going strong for 69 years. In 1948, with no prior furniture retail experience, Bradford and Grace Naylor purchased an established furniture business in Batavia. The previous owner trained the Naylor's for about three months before leaving. The furniture store was operated in a small, rented building on Main Street, the appliances were across the street about a half block down and the family resided in the living quarters above the appliance store. There was also an old barn to store old furniture and other merchandise that would often be take in trade. By 1950 the family of six had outgrown it all and they moved the family business to Lynchburg. As sales increased, they expanded to a large cannery building in Lynchburg. They expanded to Wilmington in 1960, and in 1964 everything was moved to the Wilmington store, which was on four acres of land on Route 22 & 3. On that land, they built a 25,000 square-foot store. Many customers share their memories of buying furniture at Naylor's. One popular early promotion was the "House Full of Furniture" for \$695 — including stove, refrigerator and dinette, a sofa and chair, coffee table, two end tables and two lamps, and a bed, dresser, chest of drawers, mattress and box springs. Some custom-

ers are still using that furniture! The family continued to expand the business, and in 1972 built a 20,000 square-foot addition. Through the years, Naylor's Furniture has not only been blessed to remain a family business; the business also feels like family with their long-time, experienced staff. Naylor's has a long history steeped in tradition and traditional values, but they also pride themselves in keeping up with current trends and offerings. The store, located at 2291 Route 22 & 3 in Wilmington, has "Over an Acre of Furniture Under One Roof!" with "Always Low Prices and FREE Delivery." Naylor's has everything you need in the latest styles in many categories including: Living Room; Reclining Furniture; Bedroom; Dining Room; Home Office; Home Decor; a Mattress Shop; and more! And they feature the best brands including, to name a few, Serta, Vaughan-Bassett, Catnapper, Jackson, Riverside, and Best Home Furnishings. Naylor's makes shopping easy with flexible financing options customized for you. They also offer the Naylor's Furniture Preferred Customer Club for savings, discounts and special sales just for club members. And they even pay the sales tax for veterans and senior citizens. For more information, call Naylor's Furniture at 937-382-3373 or visit www.naylorsfurniture.com.

M MANUFACTURING



Airborne Maintenance & Engineering builds the local workforce

News Journal

Airborne Maintenance and Engineering Services (AMES) is the aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul provider at the Wilmington Air Park with a 35-year legacy of excellence. They have assembled the highest quality team of maintenance professionals that approach each aircraft with the same attitude: Let's do what is best for the customer! AMES has an ongoing need for skilled aircraft technicians and frequently hires aspiring technicians who share a customer-focused attitude. In order to offer opportunity to more like-minded applicants, the Aviation Structures Training Apprenticeship Program was developed in part with a grant from JobsOhio. This program provides entry-level applicants with an interest in aviation the needed skills to become an Aviation Technician. The skills are attained through classroom work, on-the-job training with a mentor, and supervised experience training. This program provides a stepping stone for the trainees toward acquiring their A&P License, after completing 18 months of structured on-the-job training. The apprenticeship program provides an alternative to attending an FAA-approved Part 147 Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) Vocational Education program, such as the one available at Great Oaks Career Campuses. Students who complete an AMT program have the opportunity to graduate with an FAA Airframe (A) License and begin their career with a high paying job. With enrollment in the Aviation Maintenance Technician program offered at Southern State Community College, they can obtain an FAA Pow-

erplant (P) license in 9 months leading to even more opportunities. Plus, motivated individuals can continue their education at their own pace for additional degrees and wider career options including a management career path. AMES also is focused on providing opportunities for veterans returning to the workforce, through a Veteran Mentorship Program. Many individuals leaving the military for civilian employment are looking for ways to transfer the experience they have gained in serving our country to skilled positions in the civilian workforce, and Airborne Maintenance & Engineering Services is making that transition easier. With a large number of former military service members already employed, new hires are matched with workforce partners who share some of their experiences and help Veterans navigate the differences between military and civilian aviation environments. AMES offers:

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- Programs that honor Military Service experience.
- Experience toward their next job opportunity at AMES!

 This investment in each associate provides them the opportunity to build a career. If you're interested in Airborne Maintenance and Engineering Services, visit their job page today at www.airbornemx-jobs.com. AMES provides the growth and opportunity, all you need to do is apply!

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Wilmington College

R RETAIL



Courtesy photo

The First State Bank Loan Production Office is at 832 Rombach Ave., Wilmington.

First State Bank Loan Production Office: Exceptional customer care

News Journal

Located in the Donato's Retail Shopping Center, the First State Bank Loan Production Office opened in Wilmington in April 2016. The office is staffed by Tyler Schrock, Office Manager; Amy Hamilton, Commercial and Agricultural Loan Officer; and Scott Holmer and Doug Henry in Business Development.

The office is solely devoted to lending activities and includes space for loan processing as well as client meetings and closings. Lending options will include residential, government, agricultural, and commercial loans.

"As a locally owned community bank, we pride ourselves on exceptional customer care and quick decision-making, said Mike Pell, President and CEO of First State Bank. "We look forward to continuing to serve local



residents of Wilmington and Clinton County with our lending capabilities."

Dedicated to providing exceptional customer service and high value products while enhancing shareholder value, First State Bank has been a trusted and respected community institution since 1884. With a loan production office in Clinton County (non-depository office, not insured by the FDIC) and banking center locations in Adams, Brown, Highland, Fayette and Hamilton Counties, all banking center operations and management are locally controlled.

To learn more about First State Bank please visit www.fsb4me.com.

E EDUCATION

Future State of Ag forum to be held at Wilmington College

News Journal

Agriculture insurance leader Paul Hall & Associates in collaboration with Ohio Farm Bureau are partnering to present the Future State of Agriculture forum. This informative evening allows for those directly involved in the agriculture community to come together to learn about current issues in financial lending, insurance, and political advocacy facing agriculture.

The event will be held this year on Thursday, March 16 on Wilmington College's campus inside the Pyle Center at 1870 Quaker Way in Wilmington. The event will start at 6 p.m. and will conclude by 9 p.m.

For farmers and those directly involved in agriculture, having knowledge on current trends and issues in the industry is crucial for any farming operation or business. Having an understanding of current policies, regulations, and economic forecasts will be crucial for success as the industry enters a period of depressed incomes and low commodity prices.

The Future of State of Agriculture forum will allow farmers to engage industry experts on strategies to mitigate risk and understand the current political climate.

Across Ohio, farmers and the industries supporting them are looking ahead on how state and federal policies will impact agriculture. Federally, there is a new administration that is authoring a Farm Bill in 2018, promising to reduce regulatory burdens, and withdrawing from the Trans Pacific Partnership.

At the state level, landowners are seeing CAUV tax increases by 300% and a heightened awareness on water quality.



Speakers for the evening will feature Fred Yoder, committee member for President Trump's Ag Advisory team, State Senator Bob Peterson (R-17), Adam Sharp, Executive VP of Ohio Farm Bureau, Tara Durbin, Farm Credit Senior VP, Ken Davis of Nationwide Insurance, and John Mayer from Ohio State Medical Associates.

These experts will be on hand to give a perspective on their respective field, and how farmers can best utilize these resources for their benefit and security. Farming is a challenging and risky profession and this event is designed to help you navigate the associated tax, financial, and regulatory requirements with confidence.

This educational event is open to everyone in the ag community in Ohio and a complimentary dinner will be provided for you and your guests. However, reservations are required; please RSVP by March 9th by calling 937-382-4407 or emailing info@paulhallinsurance.com.

Additionally, concluding the forum Wilmington College Collegiate Farm Bureau members will be on hand to give tours of the newly constructed Center for Science and Agriculture building on the campus grounds.

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E EDUCATION

New programs this fall at the Laurel Oaks Career Campus

News Journal

Heavy construction equipment will soon be seen at the Laurel Oaks Career Campus near Airborne Road. But it won't be for new buildings — the equipment is for high school students involved in the new Heavy Equipment Operations and Engineering program, starting this fall.

The program teaches students to operate earthmoving equipment, conduct land surveys and read site blueprints, identify and measure soil qualities, and do site preparation. When they graduate from high school, these students will be qualified to use heavy machinery on construction and road sites.

"Heavy Equipment Operations and Engineering has been a popular career major at the Live Oaks Career Campus for a number of years, and there are good jobs waiting for qualified operators in our area — so it makes sense to begin the program here in Wilmington," said Laurel Oaks Dean Mike Thomas.

Another innovative career program starting at Laurel Oaks in the fall is College Agriculture. Designed for high school seniors preparing for an agriculture career, College Agriculture is offered in conjunction with Southern State Community College. Classes will be taught by Southern State instructors, and students will earn dual high school and college credit.



Courtesy photo

Heavy Equipment Operations and Engineering program to debut at Laurel Oaks

But preparing students for life after high school is more than career knowledge and college readiness. "Whether our students begin working right away or go to college first, they need to have professional skills and the maturity to be successful," said Thomas. With that in mind,

Laurel Oaks is focused on teaching those skills.

To help students learn professional skills—and to help demonstrate to employers that Laurel Oaks students have these skills — school administrators have developed a Professional Skills Score.

Students are rated each quarter on such

standards as working collaboratively, accuracy and meeting deadlines as well as personal characteristics like attendance, timeliness, and behavior. A printed report is available for students to include with resumes or to take to job interviews.

Clean for My Career, another new initiative for

2016-2017, encourages students to be prepared for drug-free workplaces.

"Employers tell us that they sometimes have trouble finding good candidates who can also pass a drug test," said Thomas. "So, we help students learn the importance of being ready to work."

Through Clean for

My Career, students volunteer to be randomly drug-tested throughout the year. At the end of the year, they receive a certification that shows employers their commitment to being drug-free. To date, every one of the 77 initial volunteers are on track to earn that certification.




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S SERVICE

Smith and Son Funeral Homes: Comforting families for generations

By Smith and Son Funeral Homes

Smith and Son Funeral Homes is a local, family owned and operated business.

The Smith Family is part of a legacy of funeral service that began 68 years ago. L. Eugene Smith started the L. Eugene Smith and Son Funeral Home at 64 S. South St. in New Vienna in 1948. He was joined in the business by his son,

James E. "Jim" Smith in 1969.

In 1973, the business was expanded to the Reynolds-Smith Funeral Home at the 327 N. South St. location in Wilmington. Jim's daughter-in-law, Niki Smith was hired in 1992 as clerical staff. Her duties expanded in 1994 when she served her apprenticeship and became a licensed funeral director.

Jim's son, Shane C. Smith joined the firm in

1999 graduating from the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 2000. Since that time he has continued his family's heritage of caring for families in the community at the worst possible times in their lives. He is also currently training the next generation of the Smith family in the traditions and values of integrity and service.

Relating to the needs of families takes a special kind of understanding,



Reynolds-Smith Funeral Home
L. Eugene Smith & Son Funeral Home

A Heritage Of Caring



one that is nurtured over years of recognizing that people matter most. At Smith and Son Funeral Homes, this understanding comes from three generations of serving the community and responding to each family's needs as if it was our own. We guide families in the selection of services that meet their specific needs and best honor the memory of their loved one.

Our funeral services and arrangements are as unique as the individual being remembered. Smith and Son Funeral Homes offer a wide vari-

ety of services including: traditional services held in the funeral home or other location, visitation and viewing, graveside services, cremation, memorial services, direct burials, military services, personalization, and pet cremation.

Because it is difficult to make the necessary decisions while grieving the death of a loved one, Smith and Son Funeral Homes offers advanced funeral planning. This advanced planning allows a person to express particular wishes and personalize services, gaining peace of mind.

It also eliminates the decision making and, if desired, the financial burden, from family. Pre-planning also saves money by guaranteeing today's prices against the future cost of inflation.

Easing the burden placed on a family during a time of loss is a large part of our job at Smith and Son Funeral Homes. For over 65 years, we have kept our promise of integrity, caring guidance and excellent service. We hope to continue our legacy of providing families with comfort and affordable funeral services for years to come.

US factory CEOs to Trump: Jobs exist; skills don't

By Jeremy Hainsworth and Rob Gillies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump brought two dozen manufacturing CEOs to the White House on Thursday and declared their collective commitment to restoring factory jobs lost to foreign competition.

Yet some of the CEOs suggested that there were still plenty of openings for U.S. factory jobs but too few qualified people to fill them. They urged the White House to support vocational training for the high-tech skills that today's manufacturers increasingly require — a topic Trump has seldom addressed.

"The jobs are there, but the skills are not," one executive

said during meetings with White House officials that preceded a session with the president. (Reporters were permitted to attend the meetings on the condition of not quoting individual executives by name.)

The discussion of job training and worker skills is a relatively new one for Trump, who campaigned for the White House on promises to restore manufacturing jobs that he said had been lost to flawed trade deals and unfair competition from countries like Mexico and China.

Again and again, Trump brought up that theme in his meeting with the CEOs.

"Everything is going to be based on bringing our jobs back," Trump said. "The good jobs, the real jobs. They've left."

White House officials said Trump heard the CEOs'

concerns about a shortage of qualified workers and said he supports efforts to increase training for factory jobs. But they didn't provide details.

"We were challenged by the president to ... come up with a program to make sure the American worker is trained for the manufacturing jobs of tomorrow," Reed Cordish, a White House official, said after Thursday's meetings.

Trump officials said the meetings were intended to provide the White House with ideas in four areas: taxes and trade; regulatory reform; infrastructure; and the "workforce of the future," including advanced training. Proposed solutions may be included in future presidential executive orders or

legislative proposals, a White House official said.

The gathering occurred amid the same kind of jovially informal atmosphere that has prevailed in several meetings Trump has held with CEOs in the four weeks since his inauguration. Most of the executives thanked the president for reaching out to them, and several expressed gratitude for his interest in meeting them face to face.

"All the CEOs are very encouraged by the pro-business policies of President Trump," Andrew Liveris, CEO of Dow Chemical, said afterward outside the White House. "Some of us have said this is probably the most pro-business administration since the Founding Fathers."

Other executives at the meeting included Jeff Immelt,

CEO of General Electric; Doug Oberhelman, chairman and former CEO of Caterpillar; Inge Thulin, CEO of 3M; and Denise Morrison, CEO of Campbell Soup.

One executive said in discussions with White House officials that his company has 50 participants in a factory apprenticeship program, but could take 500 if enough were qualified. But he said that in his experience, most students coming out of high school lack the math and English skills to absorb technical manuals.

Some economists argue that businesses should offer higher pay and adopt more training if they can't find the workers they need. Higher pay would draw more young people into the field.

See JOBS | 23

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S SERVICE

Port Authority and Air Park: Strong now with eyes on future

News Journal

The Clinton County Port Authority and the Wilmington Air Park spent 2016 growing, and preparing for future growth opportunities.

Growing in capabilities. Growing in activity. Growing in tenants and employees. Growing in community outreach. Growing in collaboration.

"In 2016, the Wilmington Air Park regained the technical capabilities to accommodate Category III landings of aircraft," said Dan Evers, Executive Director of the Clinton County Port Authority. "This means that the Air Park can once again facilitate the landing of aircraft in poor weather conditions when visibility is compromised. This is a significant benefit to current and future aviation tenants and customers."

The investment in a new, FAA-compliant 20-Antenna array and the hard work and vision of dedicated airport employees made this possible. With proper care and regular checks from the FAA, this capability will continue to be available at the airport for years to come.

The airport grew its fleet of vehicles. Some were replaced, while other vehicles were added to augment the equipment on site, accommodating growing activity. Through thoughtful planning and use of resources, and by connecting with other airports, the Wilmington Air Park has additional snow removal equipment, security vehicles and additional equipment essential to enhance operations at the airport and maintain an excellent safety record, as well as ensuring the "OPEN" sign can continue to shine.

Activity grew at the Wilmington Air Park in the last year. There were more flights, more freight, more UAS operations, and more tenants joined the community in and around the Air Park.

According to statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the airport at the Wilmington Air Park moved more freight than any other airport in Ohio for a twelve-month period from September 2016-2017. The same report shows that at one point, the airport was the 38th busiest cargo airport in the country.

"We are extremely

proud of this achievement. Not simply the ranking; rather, it speaks to the Air Park's capability," said Evers. "We know, and these statistics validate, that working together with our tenants and the community, we can draw the employee base, and provide the level of service necessary to facilitate a large-scale operation at the airport. That's a message we are taking to other prospective users, as we continue to seek partners in our growth."

The Port Authority partnered with the Clinton County Regional Planning Commission to grow development capacity county-wide, as well. This is being done through a US EPA Brownfields Assessment grant, secured by the Port Authority and the RPC. The Port Authority and RPC have engaged in outreach and information sharing at public meetings; currently, three sites have been or are being considered for assessment. A county-wide opportunity, the Port Authority is administering the grant as well as facilitating all the record-keeping and reporting.

Collaborating locally with the County and the City, and regionally with the Dayton Development Coalition and JobsOhio, the Port Authority has increased the visibility and interest in the Wilmington Air Park and the areas around it. By working to stay active with and connected to these groups, the airport and our community remain in the forefront of discussions regarding possible



projects and new business opportunities.

The Wilmington Air Park is more capable, more active and more ready to accommodate our next set of opportunities than it was a year ago.

"There is still work to do – and work we are going to do," said Evers. "We continued to respond to requests for information as well as continued our diverse marketing efforts throughout 2016. We have recently secured longer-term leases with

three companies for location at the Wilmington Air Park. Our mission to facilitate the creation of job opportunities for our community residents is at the forefront of everything we do."

We have achieved, in collaboration with our tenants and community partners, significant things in 2016. The Air Park demonstrated, once again, that it is an extremely attractive

location for air cargo and aviation-related development. Other, non-aviation users have taken space or expanded occupancy. This demonstrates that the Air Park – and the Clinton County community – is an attractive location for a variety of businesses.

We will continue, and extend, our collaboration with ATSG and its family of companies, Clinton County, and the

City of Wilmington, to build on our successes and leverage the information we have gained and investments we have made this past year, to secure more opportunities for the Air Park and our community.

The Clinton County Port Authority and the Wilmington Air Park are ready for what is next, as well as capable of creating an environment for success.



The Clinton County Port Authority is a special purpose government under Ohio Law. It was established in 2004 by the Clinton County Commissioners and was authorized to conduct activities that enhance, foster, aid, provide and promote transportation, economic development, housing, recreation, education, governmental operations, culture and research. Over 50 Port Authorities exist in Ohio today for similar purposes. Clinton County Port Authority Board members: Chair, Walt Rowsey; Vice Chair, Beth Ellis; Secretary/Fiscal Officer, Larry Laake; Renee LaPine, Brent Probasco, Brian Smith, and Richard Thompson.

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R RETAIL

Books, music & more: For A Song & A Story

News Journal

Originally conceived as a part-time business, the idea behind For A Song & A Story was to provide a joint endeavor between Cindy Shivers and her mother, Eleanor Huffman, as an antique and book booth in the Shoppes at the Old Mill. Little did anyone know in 1999 it would turn into the venture that it is today.

Initially named "For A Song" the idea was that you could buy desirable vintage items for a reasonable price. Some of those original items and ideas drive the business as it stands in 2017.

Used books and used musical instruments are two examples of merchandise available throughout the last 15 years. The owners' love of shopping and perusing antique stores, flea markets, auctions and yard sales is telling when customers first enter the store.

The eclectic atmosphere brings shoppers back time after time to look through and purchase various treasures of past nostalgia.

The upstairs, which we call the "Second Story" holds thousands of used books accompanied by an excellent environment of places to relax and read. Many people comment on the relaxing areas that are provided in the book area. Combined with the complimentary coffee, a person can get a good idea of what life may have been like in a bygone era.

Also, in the upstairs area are small antique and vintage pieces with



Courtesy photo
The music studios are always busy with lessons at For A Song & A Story.

accompanying ephemera. We recommend this experience to anyone who feels a need to relax from the everyday world.

On the main level of the store a different feeling comes about for our more musically inclined individuals. Here, music becomes the topic of conversation as folks get the feel of a presence of artistry and enjoyment in the retail area and the music studios.

On any given weekday, the music studios are busy with lessons. All ages and levels of students participate. Some with experience, some who are beginners, and even some who may be professional looking to brush up on the fine art of performance.

Here is where we shine brightest, providing top-notch instruction for anyone who wants to venture into the world of music. Over 200 students come in each week and take instruction from about 20 different instructors. The list of opportunities is nearly

endless and includes piano, voice and drums as well as nearly any instrument you can imagine.

In connection with this service is the retail music instrument area. Here you may look at many used instruments for sale. The selection is comprehensive and price range reasonable. Guitars, violins and band instruments are available and on display.

Another important aspect of the music offerings is our exclusive rent-to-own plan which is offered through our parent company Music and Arts. Here a student may rent or purchase an instrument for personal use or a school band or orchestra program. This handy program is the most economic way to obtain an instrument.

For A Song & A Story is also involved in many community activities including sponsoring Clinton County Tubas-Christmas the first Saturday after Thanksgiving.

R RETAIL



Town Drug of Sabina as well as East Clinton Medical Services celebrated a joint open house in September 2016. Area residents are welcome to stop by Town Drug, located at 12459 East Routes 22 and 3, Sabina, and see pharmacist Steve McFadden.

Town Drug, Kratzer's Hometown Pharmacy enjoy affiliation

Kratzer's Hometown Pharmacy, located in Wilmington, is affiliated with Town Drug in Sabina.

Area residents are welcome to stop by Town Drug and see pharmacist Steve McFadden.

Town Drug is kicking off free delivery service in Sabina and the Sabina area.

A grand re-opening of Town Drug was held in September 2016. It's located at 12459 East Routes 22 and 3, Sabina.

The hours at Town Drug are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

To contact Town Drug, please call 937-584-2424 or fax 937-584-5348.

Please visit www.towndrugofsabina.com for more information about Town Drug.

Mark Kratzer of Kratzer's Hometown Pharmacy would like to thank the people of Clinton County for their business.

"They are much more than customers," said



Courtesy photos
Kratzer's Hometown Pharmacy is at 179 W. Locust St. in Wilmington

Kratzer. He said the pharmacy places the customer first, treating each person as a friend.

Kratzer is quick to say, "Good customer service is not free gifts or self-serving banter with customers. Good service is caring about those we serve."

Furthermore, he believes in treating customers as friends or relatives — never just as "a number."

A lifelong resident of Wilmington, Kratzer strives to give the community "the highest level of service" from the largest locally owned pharmacy in Wilmington.

Wilmington residents

within the city limits enjoy free delivery from Kratzer's.

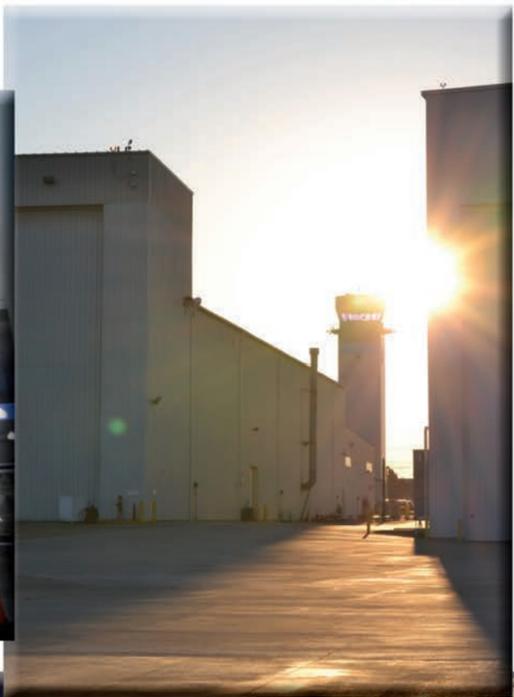
The hours at Kratzer's Hometown Pharmacy are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

It is located at 179 W. Locust St. in Wilmington, where there are plenty of parking spaces. The phone number is 937-328-0081 and the fax number is 937-655-8774.

Please visit www.kratzerspharmacy.com for more information about Kratzer's Hometown Pharmacy. Last year, the pharmacy staff and the community celebrated the pharmacy's 15-year anniversary.



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S SERVICE

Royalton Inn & Suites home away from home

By Beverly Drapalik

What do you get when you put a turkey, four aviation technicians, and a devoted inn-keeper together? This is not a joke — it actually was a happy Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings!

Kumar Patel, owner of Royalton Inn & Suites, discovered that four of his guests were stranded in the United States for Thanksgiving. They were working at the Air Park that week, and couldn't go home because they live in Venezuela. Naturally, he served Thanksgiving dinner at the Inn and invited the guests. He even served tamales!

Patel bought the Inn two years ago, and has enjoyed

many loyal guests who work in Wilmington. They work for companies such as Ahres-ty and Alkermes; many repeat guests are in town for shows at Roberts Arena. He and his front desk manager, Cindee Woods, treat all guests "like family." Cindee says she feels a "calmness" when she walks through the front door, and her job is most "relaxing."

The experienced Patel enjoys meeting guests. He says, "Starting in 1988, I lived in New Jersey and commuted to work at a hotel in Niagara Falls. In 2012 I came to Ohio and worked in Washington Court House at Country Hearth Inn."

Since January of 2015 he has created a restful spot for guests, and he treats them

"like family." While he talks about his family of guests, he also talks about his own family: "My son Akash works in computer science for the National Security Administration. My son Ronak is soon to be a doctor of neurology, and he will be a doctor in the U.S. Army."

The Inn is part of Magnuson Hotels, "America's Fastest Growing Hotel Brand." Each hotel is owned independently, and Patel works to make guests feel comfortable.

Rooms at the Inn are equipped with high-speed internet, microwave, mini-fridge, coffee maker, hair dryer, cable TV, free local calls, and iron with ironing board. Guests "start each day with a free breakfast." They



Courtesy photo

Start each day with a free breakfast and enjoy a workout in the fitness center and relax at the pool.

also may work out in the fitness center and relax at the pool.

Kumar Patel and Cindee Woods hope to see you soon.

www.magnusonhotels.com
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R RETAIL

Jeff Murphy's aim is to promote and build up

News Journal

WILMINGTON — One of the newer developments in the promotional products business involves calendars — yes, the paper-product type with spiral binding.

But these particular calendars utilize Pixaction technology that works with most smartphones. Using a free app a person takes a snapshot of an image on the calendar, and can watch the calendar photo come to life with video and audio on their phone.

Jeff Murphy of JAM Murphy Advertising Co. of Wilmington focuses on calendars, along with promotional items of all kinds and decorated

apparel.

So, a company or organization can contact the people who have the calendar and tell them they now can activate, say, the photograph accompanying the month of March. If a person follows up, then on their smartphone pops up a tour of the factory, or a new product or service, for example.

Or, as another illustration, the video could start out with the city building and continue with the mayor speaking about downtown Wilmington, thereby serving as a marketing piece, and for good measure the video could go into a nearby downtown restaurant.

Suffice it to say, the

promotional products sector has changed a lot since Murphy's mother Jo Ann Murphy started JAM about 30 years ago. Jeff took over the reins about 19 years ago.

A certified advertising specialist, Murphy succinctly describes what he does this way: "Anything you could ever think of to put a name or logo on."

He's an account executive with Halo Branded Solutions, providing localized service with the nationwide company.

"Promotional products have a great residual. That pizza cutter that's in the drawer tends to be there for many, many years. And the magnetic notepad

on the refrigerator — if it gets on the refrigerator, it will be there until it's used up," remarked Murphy.

If a promotional item is useful, that helps keep up the connection between the recipient and the business or organization identified on the item.

Murphy has just put together a website for all Alkermes employees who the company is giving \$50 each as part of an initiative to show employee appreciation and at the same time promote the pharmaceutical firm that has a manufacturing facility in Wilmington.

The Alkermes employees can go online and buy a wide variety of things, branded with

the company logo, be it a sweater vest, a cooler or a travel folding chair. Notice how those items can be a traveling billboard.

At the First Christian Church (FCC) in Wilmington, polo shirts with the church's logo embroidered on them have been very popular, said Murphy, with members of the congregation often having more than one in different colors.

When the shirts are worn outside the church, they generate visual exposure for that faith community.

"When you see FCC, you know which church it is. And if not, you're going to wrack your brain, 'What's that stand for?', and it works," he said.

Promotional products, said Murphy, can be used to raise funds for nonprofits. An example would be selling Christmas tree ornaments with a logo on one side and a local landmark on the other.

For effective promoting and marketing, Murphy said he thinks the bottom line for a business or organization is to answer the questions "What is your message?" and "Who are you trying to convey that to?"

Murphy said, "Contact me and I'll brainstorm ideas that could fit within your budget."

To contact Murphy, call 937-382-1010 or email jeff@JAM-Solutions.com or visit the website at www.jam-solutions.com.

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R RETAIL

Experience? Quality? Gotta Have It has it

By Beverly Drapalik

When customers walk into Gotta Have It Flooring and Home Center, they receive the benefit of 52 years of flooring knowledge and experience.

Debbie Willoughby and Amanda Bisher are owner-operators of the business that began March 9, 2016. They are pleased to serve the Wilmington area with quality materials, great customer service, and low costs.

"Satisfying the custom-

er is first on our priority list," says Debbie. "People have told us that they are glad we are here."

People are most interested in hard surface floors, and the company deals in organic and exotic hardwoods. Gotta Have It has top-of-the-line items as well as builder-grade materials. The store offers "carpeting, hardwood, laminate, vinyl, ceramic tile flooring, rugs, and installation" as well as carpet repairs.

Debbie enthusiastically says, "Why mess with

the rest when you can have the best with Debbie and Amanda at Gotta Have It Flooring and Home Center."

She and Amanda would like to thank customers for the first year of support, and they look forward to many years of serving the area.

Customer Appreciation Day is March 9. The day will involve food and special sales. Plan a visit that day and see the newly completed Home Center which includes "cabinets, vanities, counter tops and much more."



Gotta Have It Flooring and Home Center LLC
934 S. South St.
Wilmington, OH 45177
(937) 382-3567
Store Hours: MWF 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
TTH 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.



Courtesy photo
Debbie Willoughby and Amanda Bisher are owner-operators of Gotta Have It Flooring and Home Center.

R RETAIL

Look closely to find Hidden Carry Out

By Beverly Drapalik

Dan Patel wasn't always interested in selling beer and wine. He spent many years in New York City working with computers. One day his brother-in-law, who lived in Wilmington, told him the owner of Hidden Carry Out wanted to retire. So began Patel's career selling beer.

The store's name is true — people sometimes drive by the store a couple of times before they find it. The store is known for carrying unique beer. Patel carries New Holland's Dragon Milk, Dogfish Head's Flesh

& Blood IPA, and Dayton Brewery's Warped Wing.

One customer had no problem spending \$80 on beer. He doesn't have a favorite kind of beer — he enjoys "trying all of the craft beer, and buys a different kind" each time he visits. He also likes the fact that he can try all sorts of beer without driving all over Cincinnati or beyond!

Dan even makes a special trip to Yellow Springs Brewery for his customers.

Another customer says the "coldest beer in town" is found at Hidden Carry Out. Patel says, "Everyone

is welcome to try the beer and be the judge of how cold it is!"

Patel's son, Nayan, is temporarily helping at the store. Patel is proud of both his son and daughter: Nayan just graduated with a degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology. His daughter, Dimple, has a Masters in Education Policy and now lives in Washington, D.C. where she works for the Native Indian Organization. Dan's wife, Karen Patel, works for a foreign bank.

If you can't find a beer within the 500 brands at Hidden Carry Out, you may find a

unique wine. The store carries eight kinds of Bogle and 17 kinds of Valley Vineyards — an extensive stock for any store!

The Wilmington area is fortunate that Patel also owns Caesar's Supply in Harveysburg, which carries fishing and hunting supplies, and The Circle Drive Thru in Wilmington.

Hidden Carry Out
975 W. Main St.
Wilmington, OH 45177
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-11 p.m.
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m.



Courtesy photo
Hidden Carry Out is worth looking for — they offer a huge variety of beer, wine and more.

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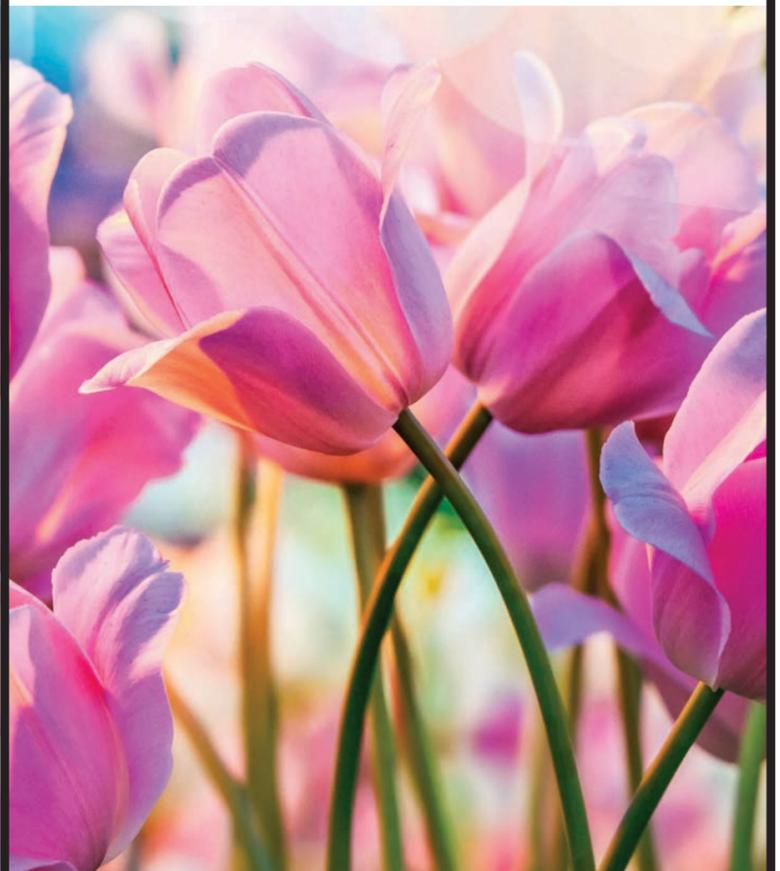
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E EDUCATION



Courtesy photo

Looking for high-quality, low-tuition, close-to-home educational opportunities? Look to Southern State Community College.

Transfer or workforce, SSCC is first step

News Journal

Throughout the years, Southern State Community College has gone through many changes, but one thing will never change — our commitment to our students. Keep your eye on us, as we continually strive to offer you an accessible, affordable, high quality education.

Learn more about your community college at www.sccc.edu, and check out a quick summary of our technical degrees:

Welcome! Looking for high quality, low tuition, close-to-home educational opportunities? We serve a five-county region in southern Ohio (and beyond). Look to Southern ...

Agriculture

“Biotechnology is a brand new program at Southern and many wonder exactly what biotechnology is. Biotechnology is a growing industry that uses living organisms to develop new products,” says Dr. David Garippa, SSCC Assistant Professor in Biology. “By using principles of biology, technology, and DNA science in the lab to solve scientific problems, we can make advances in the agriculture, food production, forensics, pharmaceutical, and medical fields.”

For more information on Agriculture/Biotechnology programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/agriculture.shtml. Agriculture/Biotechnology majors include:

- Agriculture Production (A.A.S. Degree)
- Biotechnology & Laboratory Science (A.A.S. Degree)
- Horticulture (Certificate)

Business

“The business programs offered at Southern State can create a career pathway for the future,” says Jeff Tumbleson, SSCC Assistant Professor. “A business degree can help you get a better job, advance you at your current job, or serve as the foundation for a bachelor’s degree. We help students prepare for the opportunities that are available today.”

For more information on Business programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/business.shtml. Business majors include:

- Accounting (A.A.S. Degree)
- Business Management (A.A.S. Degree)
- Entrepreneurship (A.A.S. Degree)
- Logistics Management (A.A.S. Degree)
- Real Estate (A.A.S. Degree) – also offered as a short-term accelerated three-class path that qualifies students to sit for the licensure exam

Computer Science

“We are here to provide the impact and insight to our students for their future opportunities and occupations,” says Julia Basham, SSCC Associate

Professor in Computer Science. “Our hope is to pass our passion for computer science on to each and every student.”

For more information on Computer Science programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/computer-science.shtml. Computer Science majors include:

- Computer Support Specialist (A.A.S. Degree)
- Computer Information Technology (A.A.S. Degree)
- Cyber Security & Forensics (A.A.S. Degree)
- Interactive Media & Simulation (A.A.S. Degree)
- Office Information & Technology (A.A.S. Degree)
- Office Services (Certificate)

Criminal Justice

“It takes a special person to consider a lifetime role of protecting his or her community,” says Robin Roche, SSCC Assistant Professor in Criminal Justice. “The criminal justice program at Southern State will fully prepare that student to enter a challenging yet rewarding career. Criminal justice personnel offer valuable contributions to making our communities safer places to live. But education doesn’t end with a degree or certificate from Southern State; it’s an ongoing journey. We encourage our graduates to enter their careers with enthusiasm, and always seek new education and training opportunities.”

For more information on Criminal Justice programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/criminal-justice.shtml. Criminal Justice majors include:

- Criminal Justice (A.A.S.)
- Law Enforcement (A.A.S.)

Education

“Many of our students enrolled in the education degree programs here at Southern State also choose to teach in our local schools and child learning centers after graduation,” says Becky Storer, SSCC Associate Professor in Education. “It is so rewarding to see former students in action when I visit various classrooms. Our students are well prepared to either transfer with an A.A. degree or to immediately enter the field of education with an A.A.S. degree. Regardless of whether students want to eventually work as teachers, paraprofessionals, or administrators, Southern State is a great place to start.”

For more information on Education programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/education.shtml. Education majors include:

- Early Childhood Education (A.A.S. Degree)
- Paraprofessional Education (A.A.S. Degree)

Engineering

“Engineering can take you as far as your imagination will allow,” says Jim Barnett, SSCC Assistant Professor in Engi-



neering. “We cover electrical, electronics, mechanical, computer-assisted design (CAD), and our program is versatile to the industry demands and the changing profession. Southern State is a great place to begin your engineering career. Classes are convenient, close to home, and you have the option to transfer to a four-year degree from Miami University while attending their virtual classes on SSCC’s Central Campus in Hillsboro.”

For more information on Engineering programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/engineering.shtml. Engineering majors include:

- Computer Assisted Design (A.A.S. Degree)
- Electrical/Electronics Engineering (A.A.S. Degree)
- Electro-mechanical Engineering (A.A.S. Degree)
- Electronic Information Systems (A.A.S. Degree)
- Engineering: Aviation Maintenance (A.A.S. Degree)

Health Sciences

“We work diligently with our community partners to prepare nurses to serve our community by teaching them how to provide care that meets the needs of the body, mind, and spirit,” says Dr. Julianne Krebs, SSCC Director of Nursing.

“Our goal is to provide our program graduates with the education and skills needed to prepare them to be competent, caring members of our health care teams in the fast growing medical industry,” says Rhonda Davis, SSCC Medical Assisting Program Director.

“Our graduates are competent respiratory therapists working in small, rural community hospitals, as well as regional and large healthcare systems, including trauma centers and pediatric hospitals,” says Chyane Collins, SSCC Respiratory Care Program Director.

For more information on Health Sciences programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/health-sciences.shtml. Health Sciences majors include:



- Billing & Coding Specialist (Certificate)
- Medical Assisting (A.A.S. Degree)
- Medical Transcription (Certificate)
- Nursing (A.A.S. Degree)
- Pharmacy Tech (Certificate)
- Phlebotomy (Certificate)
- Practical Nursing (Certificate)
- Respiratory Care (A.A.S. Degree)

Human & Social Services

“Students will find this degree path to be very practical,” says Charlie Gorman, SSCC Associate Professor in Human & Social Services. “It is all about helping students to develop the people-helping skills necessary to work in the human services field. This field continues to expand and many opportunities await our graduate. There are not many programs that lead to state certifications. Our graduates are eligible to become Social Work Assistants (SWA) and/or Chemical Dependency

Counselor Assistants (CDCA).

The Ohio Counselor Social Work and Marriage Family Therapist Board and Ohio Chemical Dependency Board oversee the granting of these licenses, respectively. Students will find the faculty to be highly qualified and very involved in their education. Our small classes create a great learning environment and strong cohorts. Our students leave SSCC with enduring personal friendships and professional credentials.”

For more information on Human & Social Services programs at Southern State, visit www.sccc.edu/academics/departments/human-social-services.shtml. Human & Social Services majors include:

- Human & Social Services (A.A.S. Degree)
- Human & Social Services: Chemical Dependency (A.A.S. Degree)

Southern State
Community College
www.sccc.edu

Montana landowners say government botched arsenic cleanup

By Matt Volz

Associated Press

OPPORTUNITY, Mont. (AP) — George Niland wonders whether he should wear a respirator when he mows his lawn. Serge Myers laments not being able to garden in his backyard. Rob Phillips puzzles over why his 22 acres have been marked as an unblemished island surrounded by a sea of contamination.

The three men all live in the shadow of a 585-foot-tall smokestack that has been preserved as a state park that nobody can visit because of pollution at the site. Visitors are guided to a viewing area about a mile away to see the stack, which is taller than the Washington Monument.

Residents rallied to keep the stack as part of the legacy of southwestern Montana's mining days, when copper was king and the ore processed in the nearby town of Anaconda was used to electrify the United States.

The flip side of that legacy is the arsenic and other toxic metals that spewed from the smoke-

stack for nearly a century and settled in the ground for miles around the old copper smelter.

Three years after BP-owned Atlantic Richfield Co. shut down the Anaconda smelter in 1980, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designated 300 square miles surrounding it as a Superfund site because of the risk to human health and the environment. The major concern was high concentrations of arsenic in the soil and water, a contaminant that can cause cancer and a range of other diseases.

Niland, Myers and Phillips are among dozens of residents in this small company town next to Anaconda who say federal officials have botched the environmental cleanup, which is in its 34th year, and they want a shot at cleaning their own yards. They claim the EPA and Atlantic Richfield have given their community short shrift, partially cleaning only two dozen yards, and now have no plans to return.

"We've watched it over the years, and they've cleaned completely

around us," said Niland, a former worker for the railroad that hauled ore and slurry between Butte and Anaconda.

"We didn't even know we were contaminated until we got our dirt sampled and then found out that, geez, we shouldn't even let the kids play out there."

Ninety-eight Opportunity residents are suing Atlantic Richfield, also known as Arco, to force the company to pay for the cleanup they want: the removal and replacement of all their soil to a depth of 2 feet, and permeable barriers installed underground to keep arsenic in the shallow groundwater from flowing onto their property.

Their aim is to cut the level of arsenic in the soil to about 15 parts per million, which they say is the natural level of arsenic in the soil. However, the EPA's remediation plan won't clean a residential yard unless it contains more than 250 parts per million arsenic — a level that Opportunity residents call arbitrary and worry is still unsafe.

"We'd like it cleaned up to what it would have been had the smelter not existed," Phillips said.

Arsenic levels in the Opportunity residents' yards vary. Myers said an initial test found his yard measured 167 parts per million, which is below the EPA's cleanup threshold. However, a later test found parts of his yard contained 300 parts per million, and Myers was scheduled for a cleanup in 2014 that never happened.

The company — backed by the EPA — argues the plaintiffs' plan interferes with the Superfund cleanup, which Arco has spent \$400 million implementing.

EPA spokesman Robert Moler said the work in the Opportunity residents' yard has been completed, and the 250 parts per million cleanup threshold is within the federal agency's "acceptable cancer risk range."

"The goal of the cleanup plan is to protect human health, not to restore soil levels to original conditions,"

Moler said.

BP spokesman Brett Clanton declined to comment, citing the pending litigation. In a filing to the Montana Supreme Court, Arco attorney John Davis wrote, "Only EPA has the authority to select the environmental remedy at a Superfund site and to compel a responsible party to perform or pay for that remedy."

Myers, who worked at the smelter for 17 years, said not all Opportunity residents agree with the plaintiffs' decision to go after Arco. One man who drew a pension from Arco asked why he would want to bite the hand that feeds him, he said.

Myers said he, too, feels that ambivalence. He is proud of his work and what Anaconda's industry did for the nation, but he just wants to clean his yard, and he bristles at being told he can't do it.

"There is stuff that you cannot do because they stop you," Myers said. "If we had the money, my yard would be cleaned. I really would clean it. I'd hire

the best they had to clean the darn thing."

An expert for the plaintiffs previously testified the cleanup they are seeking would cost between \$50 million and \$57 million, according to court filings, which averages to between \$650,000 and \$740,259 per yard.

After nearly eight years of litigation and a string of victories by the plaintiffs, the case was about to go to trial last year when Arco asked the Montana Supreme Court to intervene. The high court will decide whether the federal law that guides environmental cleanups on Superfund sites prevents the residents of Opportunity from seeking restoration damages from Arco in state court. The high court has scheduled arguments to be heard April 7.

The EPA supports Arco's position. The residents' plan would impose more stringent cleanup levels than those that Arco and the federal agency negotiated, Justice Department attorney Matthew Oakes wrote to the court.

Trump tower opens in Vancouver but not welcome

By Jeremy Hainsworth and Rob Gillies

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — The furies unleashed by Donald Trump's rise to the U.S. presidency are shaking Vancouver, where a gleaming new Trump International Hotel and Tower is about to open.

The mayor wants its name changed. A city councilman calls it "over the top, glitz and glamor" that clashes with Canadian values. And the property developer who built it sounds traumatized by the whole affair.

The 69-story building designed by one of Canada's most renowned architects has drawn praise for its sleek, twisting design. Prices for the condominiums have set records.

But Trump's politics, especially his criticism of immigrants, has caused such outrage that the mayor won't attend the grand opening next week. Even the Malaysian developer has had second thoughts about the partnership.

Joo Kim Tiah, who like the U.S. president is the son of a prominent businessman who got into global real estate, said he found it "extremely stressful" when Trump's statements about Muslims, Mexicans and women, among other things, made him extremely

unpopular in Vancouver, one of the world's most diverse and progressive cities. Unfortunately, it was well after he signed the licensing deal to use the Trump brand.

"I was terrified," Joo Kim of Holborn Development told The Associated Press. "The people who ran the city were not happy with me. I was scared, but I think they understand. They understand that I'm trapped into — not trapped, locked into — an agreement."

The developer said he would have had no legal grounds to back out of the licensing deal, the terms of which have not been publicly released. "There would be severe legal implications," he said.

The hotel and residence will have its grand opening on Tuesday, with Trump sons Donald Jr. and Eric in attendance.

Located along an upscale six-lane downtown thoroughfare, the tower is the second-tallest in Vancouver and offers majestic mountain and ocean views. A one-bedroom apartment, at 699 square feet, starts around \$1 million and the average 1,153-square-foot two-bedroom condo went for \$1.7 million but has since gone up. Hotel rooms in the slow season start at around \$228 (\$300 Canadian).

The chief White

House ethics lawyers under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama have criticized Trump's turning over control of his business to his sons, saying it does not eliminate potential conflicts of interest. Legal experts also say Trump's overseas businesses could violate the "emoluments clause" of the U.S. constitution, which bars public officials from accepting payments or gifts from foreign governments or companies they control without the consent of Congress. A liberal-funded watchdog group has filed a lawsuit against Trump citing the clause.

The Vancouver tower is the second Trump-branded property to officially open since he took office, coming shortly after a golf course in Dubai. The Canadian project has generated much more debate, however, because of its location in a place that prides itself on multiculturalism. Forty-eight percent of Vancouver's residents are foreign born.

Mayor Gregor Robertson, among others, has urged the developer to drop the Trump name. "Trump's name and brand have no more place on Vancouver's skyline than his ignorant ideas have in the modern world," he said in a letter.

City councilman

Kerry Jang said the tower, which he calls a "beacon of racism ... intolerance, sexism and bullying," is out of place not just because of the views of the person whose name adorns it but for a style that he said clashes with low-key Canada. "It represents a brand that's over the top, glitz and glamor," Jang said. "It's not our thing."

British Columbia Premier Christy Clark also said the Trump name doesn't represent the values of a city that is known for its support of environmental causes and open drug policies.

Donald Trump Jr. brushed off his father's Vancouver detractors in an interview with CTV television last year, calling them "ridiculous" and "disgusting." On Thursday, White House aide Hope Hicks directed all questions about the tower to the Trump Organization, which did not respond to requests for comment from the AP.

Joo Kim said he was saddened by the criticism, noting that people of 30 different ethnicities work at the hotel. Silver and gold ingots of chocolate stamped "TRUMP" are displayed in hotel room minibars, part of the sumptuous decor in the \$275-million (\$360-million Canadian) tower.

Building general manager Philipp Posch said Trump and his

controversies have little to do with the company. "President Trump, what he does is separate," said Posch, who also opened Trump's Chicago hotel. "I focus on getting the beds ready and putting a chocolate on your pillow for turn-down."

Ten percent of the condo owners are foreigners, more than double the average in Vancouver. Joo Kim said a few owners called during the campaign concerned that Trump's remarks would hurt their property values, but no one has sold. Still, he understands why people are upset. "I did a lot of soul searching because people were attacking me for it," he said.

Joo Kim's father, Tony Tiah Thee Kian, is one of Malaysia's richest men, and built his fortune trading stocks in the 1990s before expanding into property. He was charged in 1999 with abetting a businessman to defraud another brokerage, Omega Securities. In 2002, he was convicted on a reduced charge of providing a false report to the Kuala Lumpur stock exchange and resigned as head of his financial firm, TA Enterprise.

The father, who plans to attend the Vancouver tower opening, made a comeback in 2009 with the listing of his property arm, TA Global.

Tiah groomed his eldest son as his successor, and 37-year-old Joo Kim was appointed CEO of TA Global last year. He also heads the family-owned Holborn Group, which says it earned \$10.4 million from the Vancouver Trump project in 2015, representing 57 percent of its profit.

Joo Kim says he chose the Trump brand in part because he felt a bond with Donald Jr. "We're both the oldest son and our fathers were really dominant and difficult at times," he said. "We may be OK financially but we didn't get the attention of our parents because our parents were always busy working. But at the same time there's a big expectation to be perfect."

Joo Kim has a picture on Instagram of himself at Trump's Jan. 20 inauguration, along with a picture of his ticket for the Liberty Ball, one of three balls the president attended.

A protest is planned for the Vancouver hotel's opening on Tuesday, but the city police department says there haven't been any special requests for security.

The neighborhood where the tower is located seems split on its presence. Businesses on the block don't see a threat from the presence of the Trump name or possible protests.

Jobs

From page 16

In the meantime, some data supports the CEOs' concerns about the shortage of qualified applicants. Government figures show there are 324,000 open factory jobs nationwide — triple the number in 2009.

during the depths of the recession.

Separately, the administration sent mixed signals Thursday about a contentious proposed tax on imports, known as a "border adjustment." The proposal has the support of House Republican leaders, including Speaker Paul Ryan.

In an interview with Reuters, Trump expressed general support for a "form of tax on the border," saying it "could lead to a lot more jobs in the United States." But he stopped short of endorsing the House proposal specifically.

Earlier Thursday, Treasury Secretary

Steven Mnuchin gave a more lukewarm assessment of the proposal in an interview with the business network CNBC.

"We think there are some very interesting aspects of it," Mnuchin said but added: "We think there are some concerns about it."

Several of the manu-

facturing CEOs pushed for the tax during their meeting with Trump, a White House official said. But others, particularly those who rely on imported goods, were opposed, the official said.

The border-adjusted tax is opposed by large retailers such as Wal-Mart and Target, who

argue that they could end up paying more in taxes than they earn in profits under the proposal. The official wasn't authorized to discuss a closed-door meeting and spoke on condition of anonymity.

AP Economics Writer Martin Cruttsinger contributed to this report.

CMH REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM 2016: A YEAR IN REVIEW

LOOKING BACK ON OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT IN 2016



Welcoming Dr. Rachel Lovano, general surgeon

We added **THIRTY-ONE NEW PROVIDERS** to our medical staff, including ten full-time providers in general surgery, hospitalist medicine, radiation oncology, and primary care.

We contributed over **\$760,000** in property taxes.

We provided over **\$9,200,000** in uncompensated care.

We delivered over **500 BABIES**, including **EIGHT** sets of twins, and we were named a **BLUE DISTINCTION CENTER** in maternity care **BY BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD**.

We treated over **32,000 PATIENTS** in our Emergency Room, and the average wait-time was **26.5 MINUTES**.

THREE emergency room wait-time billboards and a **WAIT-TIME APP** went live **TO BETTER INFORM** community members of the current average wait-time.

In 2016, we touched **OVER 32,000 LIVES**, serving patients across **106,000** visits.



Our patient, David, after life-saving surgery with members of his care team as they prepare him to go home



A few of our student volunteers at the ninth annual Brake for Breakfast

WE SERVED UP BREAKFAST and information about mammogram screenings to over **1,000 WOMEN** at this year's Brake for Breakfast.

We had over **70,000 VISITS** to our outpatient clinics.

We performed over **3,500 SURGERIES**.

Our home health agency was named among **HOME CARE ELITE FOR THE 11TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**, one of only eight agencies in Ohio, and one of only 104 agencies nationwide to achieve the same (**WITH OVER 9,000 AGENCIES REPORTING**).

Our personnel impact topped **\$36,000,000**.

WE BROUGHT TOGETHER medical staff specialists and community members for **EDUCATION EVENTS** highlighting everything from coronary artery disease to chronic back pain to dementia.



Dr. Andrea Manhart speaking on dementia for caregivers during our community education series



Family members of two CMH employees receiving college scholarships

We awarded **TWO COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS** to family members of CMH employees pursuing post-secondary education.



WE BUY LOCAL—last year we paid over **\$2,900,000** to **CLINTON COUNTY VENDORS**.

WE BROUGHT SANTA CLAUS to four of our elementary schools.



CMH rally towels at the Elite Eight game

WE CHEERED on our Wilmington High School boys at state games and made sure more than **2000 FANS** had **RALLY TOWELS**.



Having fun, giving back



Our Chief Medical Officer, **DR. JOHN HOLLON**, raised **OVER \$24,000** for The Murphy Theatre and became Clinton County's **"STAR."**



Dr. Hollon practicing with Heather Totten, RN at the hospital before the big show



WE SERVED dinners at Your Father's Kitchen, **BUILT** an Outreach for the Corn Olympics, **ENCOURAGED** people to quit smoking on the Great American Smokeout, **GAVE** cancer the boot at Relay for Life, **SET UP SHOP** at the Farmer's Market, **CELEBRATED** our EMS heroes, and so much more.

SERVING THIS COMMUNITY IS OUR PRIVILEGE.
We're looking to the future after a year of continued **GROWTH AND OUTREACH.**

