

ISSUE 28 — FALL 2018

SHELBY COUNTY Sizzles

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Manufacturing Day Activities in Shelby County

On Friday, October 5th, local manufacturing facilities opened their doors to showcase their operation with city and county officials as well as with local students and the general public. Manufacturing Day is used to promote modern manufacturing and is meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers.



Pictured on the left are Jim Hill, Executive Director of Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership; Mark Cundiff, Sidney City Manager; Marc Gilardi, President of A & B Machine & Design (who hosted the tour); and Jeff Raible, President of Sidney-Shelby Chamber of Commerce.



Above, Jamie Ellis, President of Laserfab Technologies, demonstrates a new laser cutter.



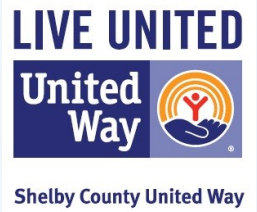
Above, Marty Pettus, Director of Engineering at Ross Castings & Innovation, edu-

Pictured on the right are Wes Sanders and Doug Borchers at their Superior Aluminum Products facility in Russia, demonstrating to students how to run a bending machine. One student from the group then volunteered to run the machine, building a 90-degree bend.



Career Exploration Academy 2018

Shelby County is a great place to work and live! The Career Exploration Academy event is all about sharing this message and opening doors for local students to learn more about local employment opportunities. This activity is a joint venture, with the Shelby County United Way co-sponsoring this event, to encourage a stronger community through a stronger workforce.



Workforce Partnership's (WP) mission is to help build a stronger workforce for Shelby County. Our programming focuses on soft skills education that prepares students to be "employable" and exploration of the vast career opportunities available right here in their own backyard. More than 40 local

businesses (Partners) power this initiative through funding and resources. Every Partner is invited to use this event to expose their company and careers to potential future employees.

This year marked the fourth year for the annual event that was held September 27th -28th at the Shelby County Fairgrounds. Almost 1,100 Shelby County students in grades 8 to 12 attended, representing every public and private school in the county. The students spent a half day exploring five different careers in a hands-on atmosphere and tried their hand at skills from the construction, manufacturing, healthcare, logistics, communications,



banking, public service, and culinary industries. They also heard from local business speakers about the importance of being employable, learning soft skills, and developing career pathways.



This year 20 Partners participated in the event and demonstrated more than 30 careers. The time and effort these Partners invest in making this a great experience for the students is absolutely incredible! The companies are looking ahead and recognize that these students are their future employees and their investment now can ensure Shelby County remains an economic leader in Ohio.

Inspire! Career Concert 2018 Held at Eldora Speedway

The inaugural debut of the *Inspire Career Concert* event took place on October 3rd at Eldora Speedway. This event brought Shelby, Auglaize, Darke, and Mercer counties together with the intent to motivate high school seniors to finish their final year strong and to make personal connections with local employers before they graduate. The event featured a career fair with more than 100 businesses from the four-



county area, and included employers from every industry. The companies were excited to meet with 12th graders who are making final career decisions. Approximately 1,000 students from the four counties attended.

Two keynote speakers and a band filled the day with energy and inspiration. Jeremy Bout, President of Edge Factor, shared inspiring, innovative career stories and encouraged them to think "outside of the box" and

grasp the career opportunities surrounding them. Michelle Poler, Founder of Hello Fears, challenged the students to "fear less, do more," to step outside of their comfort zone and tap into their full potential by living with courage, finding their authenticity and embracing their growth paths. The students were treated to lunch and performances by the band "Kaitlyn Schmidt and The Move" during intermissions.



The City of Sidney, Shelby County Commissioners Office, Shelby County Ohio Means Jobs, Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership, and Workforce Partnership of Shelby County all came together to sponsor this event for our local employers and students.



Revitalization District Encourages New Dining

The City of Sidney and Sidney Alive have teamed together to focus on ways to encourage development in downtown Sidney. On September 10, City Council enacted legislation to establish a revitalization district in the downtown.



One advantage of a revitalization district is that it allows additional liquor permits to be issued within the district. "As I bring potential developers on tours of the community and in particular, our beautiful downtown, those who would like to establish restaurants note the lack of available liquor licenses as being a major barrier to opening a new restaurant in Sidney," stated Mayor Mike Barhorst.

Sidney's proposed revitalization district will provide one license per every five acres within the

district boundary, with a maximum of 15 licenses. These special liquor licenses stay within the district boundaries and are limited to restaurants that have 75% of their total gross receipts from food sales. In addition, the licenses will only be available to those properties in the district that are zoned to allow the sale of alcohol. The licenses will be issued by the Division of Liquor Control in a manner similar to its current process for other liquor licenses.

"We are excited to see this revitalization district become a reality. The district, along with other initiatives available, make it an exciting time to be located in or to be thinking about locating in downtown Sidney," declared Sidney Alive Executive Director Amy Breinich.

Jackson Center Upgrades Utility Infrastructure

Growth in Jackson Center has created the need for significant utility and infrastructure upgrades, according to Village Administrator, Bruce Metz. With the 750,000 sq. ft. expansion underway at Airstream, the village is currently undergoing nearly \$4.5 million in infrastructure improvements. The following projects are currently being implemented:

- A new electrical substation and one mile of transmission line
- A new 1/2 mile electric distribution line to feed the new Airstream facility
- A 1/2 mile extension of 12" water main and hydrants to serve the new Airstream facility
- 1/4 mile extension of 30" storm sewer to serve the Airstream facility
- 250' of sanitary line extension for the Airstream facility
- A new traffic signal and roadwork for the Airstream facility

After these projects are completed, Jackson Center will explore some additional improvements that will improve reliability, said Metz. Those include looping the water main and the addition of another electrical distribution feeder line. These improvements will provide the infrastructure necessary for Jackson Center to serve the needs of an expanding industrial base.

Economic Development Visioning

SSEP board members recently joined Shelby County and Sidney leaders to participate in an Economic Development Visioning Process, facilitated



by Janet Jackson of Organization Solutions. The half-day session was held on September 6th at the Amos Public Library. Participants reviewed economic data and used compression planning techniques to identify a shared vision for the economic future of Shelby County.

Business and Community leaders have assembled teams to further understand and identify solutions to improve available housing and improve cooperation and partnerships throughout the county. Look for additional updates in our next Shelby Sizzles edition.

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* For a free digital copy of Shelby Sizzles, please visit www.choosesidneyshelby.com

Fair Road Bridge Rehabilitation Plans

The Shelby County Commissioners and County Engineer recently requested bids for the rehabilitation of the Fair Road Bridge that is located over the CSX railroad at the Sidney Middle School and Shelby County Fairgrounds. The structure originally was constructed in 1973 and has served the community well. Annual inspections have found that due to its age the structure is showing some deterioration of the concrete deck, abutments and wing walls.

Planning and design of this project to replace and repair all the deterioration began in 1998. It has taken 10 years to be able to secure funding and get all the necessary permits and agreements with the railroad, but plans are now in place to move forward and complete the project.

A part width construction technique will be used and traffic over the structure will be maintained at all times during the project. The area in the construction zone will be reduced to two lanes. Some congestion is expected during the project so please use caution when driving in this area and allow yourself some extra time.

The construction will begin approximately February 1, 2019, and will continue thru November. The estimated cost of the project is \$2,948,000 with funding coming from ODOT, Shelby County Bridge credits and local sales tax monies.

NK Parts 30th Anniversary Celebration Event



NK Parts associates, customers and management joined together on September 25, 2018, to celebrate their 30th Anniversary. Opening remarks were made by Master of Ceremonies, Bruce Hetzler, V.P. NK America Groups, and Mr. Masakatsu Kuroiwa, the President of Nikkon Holdings. Mr. Kenji Okamoto presented the history of NKP.

Mayor Mike Barhorst expressed his gratitude for the presence of a great company like NK Parts in Sidney and Shelby County. Mr. Dan Pierron, Senior Manager Finance, concluded the ceremony. Recognition of Customers and Associates' years of service were a highlight of the celebration.