

ISSUE 18 - SPRING 2016

SHELBY COUNTY Sizzles

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Career Communications Class Manifesto Project



Senior students from Sidney High School's Career

Communications class recently spent a morning at Brew Nation, presenting personal manifestos and professional resumes to business leaders and Workforce Partners in informal interviews.

Taught by Sidney High School English teacher Sara Olding, in collaboration with Workforce Partnership Director Sharon Maurice, Career Communications functions primarily as a general English course for students who have opted not to take college prep English. Because the 12th grade English curriculum contains many of the same communications standards promoted by the Workforce Partnership, the collaboration between the class and the Workforce Partnership is self-evident. Career Communications provides students who are more likely to be career bound following high school to earn an English credit and gain real world experience to help propel them into the workforce.

The Manifesto Writing Project is one way students are working toward the goal of defining success and considering the qualities needed to achieve long-term personal success. At the mixer, students proudly displayed their decorative



manifestos and participated in informal interviews with local community leaders, discussing the manifestos, their interests and their plans following high school.

Maurice added, "When students can directly see and hear from our partners that they are genuinely interested in their success and are invested in their futures, it's a win-win for everyone. This event continues to solidify our partners' commitment to our students, schools and community. Bringing students and local leaders together reinforces that by working cooperatively we can keep our community strong and vibrant for many years to come."



American Architectural Glass Inc. moves to Shelby County



American Architectural Glass Inc. has moved into a 17,000 square foot facility at 62 Elm St. in

Fort Loramie, which is over double the size of its previous facility in Clayton, Ohio. The company fabricates and installs commercial aluminum storefronts, curtainwalls, and aluminum doors and frames for major construction projects, owner Jason Meyer said.

According to Meyer, "We were just fortunate to land some bigger projects that necessitated more space. Fort Loramie was our hometown, we didn't necessarily expect to end up here but we found the perfect building. We would like to expand our fabrication department with regards to newer automation that will allow us to operate more efficiently, and expand the overall volume of work".



Founded in Cincinnati over 50 years ago, American Architectural Glass Inc. works extensively in the Dayton, Cincinnati and Columbus markets. The company has worked on major construction projects at the Ohio State University, Wright State University, University of Dayton, University of Cincinnati, University of Kentucky, Miami Valley Hospital, Cincinnati Bengals, Cincinnati Zoo and Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

For more information on American Architectural Glass Inc., please visit their website at <http://aagincoh.com/>.



THE MAGAZINE OF
CORPORATE REAL ESTATE STRATEGY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sidney Ranked as One of the Top Ohio Micropolitans

Site Selection Magazine's Governor's Cup recognized Sidney as one of top micropolitans in the United States with the most new and expanded corporate facility investments. A micropolitan is a city with a population between 10,000 and 50,000 people. Sidney ranked number 13 of 100 cities that the magazine classified in the USA.

In Ohio, micropolitan markets offer exceptional business growth opportunities, according to Site Selection magazine's 2015 Governor's Cup annual rankings. Ohio surpassed competing states, earning special recognition for micropolitan development with 19 Ohio cities named

as Top 100 Micropolitan Areas. That's more than the next two states combined.

"The number and diversity of the micro-communities named to this list is proof that Ohio has the formula for success: access to exceptional resources, a competitive business climate, and dedicated economic development teams working collaboratively at every level," explained John Minor, JobsOhio President and Chief Investment Officer.

The magazine has awarded the Governor's Cup annually since 1988 to the U.S. state with the most new and expanded corporate facilities with significant economic impact. Qualifying project wins include headquarters, manufacturing plants, R&D operations, and logistics sites, meeting one of the three criteria: (a) minimum capital investment of \$1 million, (b) creation of at least 20 jobs, and (c) addition of at least 20,000 square feet in new floor space. To see the full list of honorees, visit SiteSelection.com.



POLYFILL To Expand Sidney Operations

Polyfill, LLC recently announced plans to expand its Sidney, Ohio facility and add 30 new jobs contingent upon approval of additional state and local support. Polyfill President Andrew Meshew said Sidney's central location, the region's dedicated skilled workforce, and Ohio's favorable business environment led the company to expand in Sidney.

"The Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership, Dayton Development Coalition, JobsOhio, and the Ohio Development Services Agency team provided us with tremendous support throughout this entire process," Meshew said. "We're excited to expand in Sidney and

remain in a region well suited for our industry."

The announcement comes after the Ohio Tax Credit Authority approved a 1.18 percent, six-year Job Creation Tax Credit for Polyfill. "Polyfill has been an excellent corporate partner for our community and we're thrilled they plan to continue to grow and provide new opportunities for the people here," said Mike Dodds, Executive Director of the Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership. "We are grateful to the City of Sidney, the DDC and JobsOhio for their collaboration on this project."

Polyfill supplies ethylene-based acoustical barrier materials to the automotive, commercial and industrial

markets. The Sidney plant employs more than 50 people, and will add employees as the new line becomes operational. The expansion will include an additional extrusion line and is expected to double existing capacity in new resin product. An existing recycling line will be relocated to Polyfill's Sidney regrind plant.

"Our region has a strong manufacturing history, and

Polyfill's investment in its Sidney operations speaks to why that sector continues to grow," said Julie Sullivan, the Dayton Development Coalition's Vice President for Business Development. "We believe they have a great future in Shelby County."

For more information about Polyfill, please visit their website at <http://polyfillproducts.com/>



WCODC Presents "Winning the Workforce War"

The West Central Ohio Development Coalition (WCODC) sponsored a regional workforce summit titled "Winning the Workforce War" on March 17th at Fort Piqua Plaza. Approximately 150 participants heard from regional communities, economic development organizations and major employers on successful programs currently being utilized to help win the regional and national competition for talent. Internships, co-ops and apprenticeship programs were also shared with the participants.

The morning discussions focused on how to get students, in grades middle school and beyond, interested in their future career path and how they need to start learning about

that career as soon as possible. HometownOpportunity.com, Internships, County Initiatives and Career Connections were all presentations that allowed the guests to learn and benchmark successful programs from the region. Our own Shelby County initiative, Workforce Partnership, was included in the County Initiatives portion. Sharon Maurice discussed the importance of aligning the workforce and education systems to respond to the skills needed by business and industry in Shelby County.

The luncheon period included speakers from major employers who discussed the programs and systems they are using to fill their workforce with the best candidates possible, in a very competitive



market. Crown Equipment, Emerson Climate Technologies, Honda of America Mfg., and ORBIS participated in this segment of the event. The Ohio Department of Education and associated organizations finished out the day by sharing the value and benefits of Apprenticeships. Electrical students from Upper Valley Career Center shared their own personal experiences as an apprentice.

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

Mutual Federal Nears Opening of Newest Banking Center

Approximately one year ago Mutual Federal Savings Bank was diligently working to identify and develop new business opportunities for customized banking services in order to implement innovative strategies and provide a framework for enhanced customer solutions in the markets they serve. It was at that time the bank decided to embark on an exciting new journey and initiated construction of a 3,564 square foot state-of-the-art facility on the west side of Sidney at 2601 Michigan Street.

Powerful technological and demographic forces are reshaping the banking and financial services industry. Customer expectations and preferences, technological capabilities, regulatory requirements, demographic changes and fundamental economics are all together creating an imperative for change. Mutual Federal has committed to proactively meet these challenges and to reshape their “tool belt” to more effectively compete in this rapidly changing environment. Their new facility will incorporate a newly developed “pod” concept for delivering personalized customer service banking which translates into a direct one-on-one experience with a customer service representative,

as opposed to the traditional bank teller line separation between customer and staff. The office will feature a full service array of banking and financial services products including investment services, lending services (both retail and commercial), cash management tool, and a variety of state-of-the-art deposit-based services.

Mutual Federal is planning for the new branch to open in late spring to early summer and be fully prepared to serve their loyal customer base, as well as expand their personalized banking services throughout the Shelby County community.

