

ISSUE 22 — SPRING

SHELBY COUNTY Sizzles

Inside This Issue



**Casey's
General Store**
Opens in Fort
Loramie...

PAGE 2



**Jackson Center
Workforce Class**
Service Project...

PAGE 3



**Wayne Trail
Expanding**
their current
manufacturing
facility...

PAGE 2

Shelby County Joins Hometown Opportunity

Recently the Shelby County Commissioners, with funding from the Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership and the Workforce Partnership of Shelby County, joined the Hometown Opportunity (HTO) network. The goal of Hometown Opportunity is to ensure that everyone in our community is aware of the jobs and careers available in Shelby, Auglaize, Darke and Mercer counties. Our local companies are in need of local talent. Potential employees all too often do not realize the great opportunities right here in our own backyards.

Hometown Opportunity's mission is to connect seekers of all ages with local businesses. The program is designed to steer high school, college students and adults toward the appropriate education and/or training that can lead to a career that is available

locally. Students from our local schools as well as adult job seekers will be able to post their resumes on the HTO website. Employers from the four counties will post job opportunities and have the ability to review resumes posted on the website.

In addition, students who leave our communities for college or jobs outside the area will be able to view job opportunities available locally. Hopefully, these individuals will consider moving back to the area to fill job vacancies here. Hometown Opportunity also has a proactive marketing program that reaches out to regional college graduates who may be searching for job opportunities.

Please visit
HometownOpportunity.com
for more information.



Casey's General Store Opens in Fort Loramie

Describing their business as a quick service restaurant that also sells gasoline, Casey's General Stores operate nearly 2,000 convenience stores across 15 states in the Midwest and Southern regions. Adding to this already impressive lineup of locations is a new store scheduled to open April 20th in Fort Loramie.



www.caseys.com

Through the years, Casey's success has been attributed to their clean stores and restrooms, and friendly employees who take pride in their high level of customer service. Casey's customers have come to know that inside each store they will find dedicated, helpful, and well-trained

employees, exceptionally prepared food items, and a clean environment to shop. Casey's is the 5th largest chain of pizza kitchens in the U.S. and employs more than 30,000 people.

Their made-from-scratch pizza has been sold publicly for nearly 30 years with over 25 million pizzas sold in the past year. Pastries are also big sellers with more than 117 million sold last year. Founded in 1959, the vast majority of Casey's stores are situated in rural settings. More than half of their stores are located in towns with less than 5,000 residents. Casey's core values are rooted in a sense of belonging to these communities. The company firmly believes in giving back to these communities and other meaningful causes through contributions and financial support. In 2016, Casey's and its stores contributed more than \$4.5 million to many charitable organizations, schools, and events in the communities where they

Lincoln Electric Expands Its Manufacturing Capabilities

Investment Increases the Need for Advanced Manufacturing Jobs

Lincoln Electric is excited to announce the expansion of its Wayne Trail, Fort Loramie, Ohio automation facility, which specializes in automated manufacturing solutions for metal forming, fabricating and metal joining processes. The investment will increase the facilities square footage by 85% to support larger-scale projects, future growth, and improved operational effectiveness. In partnership with [JobsOhio](http://JobsOhio.com), Lincoln Electric anticipates creating 50 additional full-time, advanced manufacturing positions. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2017 with completion scheduled for fall 2017.

Lincoln Electric is the world leader in the design, development and manufacture of arc welding products, robotic arc welding systems, plasma and oxyfuel cutting equipment and has a leading global position in the brazing and soldering alloys market. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, Lincoln has 47



Wayne Trail
A Lincoln Electric Company

manufacturing locations, including operations and joint ventures in 19 countries and a worldwide network of distributors and sales offices covering more than 160 countries. For more information about Lincoln Electric and its products and services, visit the company's website at www.lincolnelectric.com.

Improvements to S.R. 29 and I-75 Ramps

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will be installing traffic signals at the State Route 29 northbound and southbound ramps to I-75.

The project is scheduled to be awarded in May 2017 with construction to be completed by November 2017. ODOT Project Manager Mary Hoy shared, "In addition to installing the traffic signals at the ramp intersections, this project will also add dedicated right turn lanes on both the northbound and southbound exit ramps by revising the pavement markings. The traffic signals and turn lanes will reduce delay for vehicles on the exit ramps."

"This is a critical transportation improvement project that will already be in place when development of the 177 acre Amos Industrial Park, located just south of the ramps begins," stated Sidney City Manager Mark Cundiff. "This traffic improvement is another added bonus for future development of the DPL site-certified property. Additionally, these signals should improve the safety of these intersections."

Traffic signals are currently installed at both the northbound and southbound ramps of I-75 and State Route 47, as well as at the northbound ramp of I-75 and Fair Road in Sidney.

Personal Development Project is Successful at Jackson Center Schools

Workforce Partnership's mission focuses on preparing students to be strong employees and personal development is vital in this process. Recently, the Workforce English class at Jackson Center High School completed a service project that positively impacted their community. Melanie Yocum teaches this course and started the project off with a lesson on the topic of charity. Scott Barr, the Executive Director of Shelby County United Way, spoke to the students about their programs and took the class on a fieldtrip to a local food pantry, *The Fishpond*, to learn how they meet local needs.

In response to the lesson and fieldtrip, the students sponsored a week-long project focused on the *Backpack* program. This program supplies backpacks filled with food that are sent home with students in need to help ensure they are well fed during the weekend. The class

On packing day food items were delivered to the classroom where students organized into an assembly line and worked as a team to complete the task. Mrs. Yocum saw the lessons of teamwork and community service in action by her students.

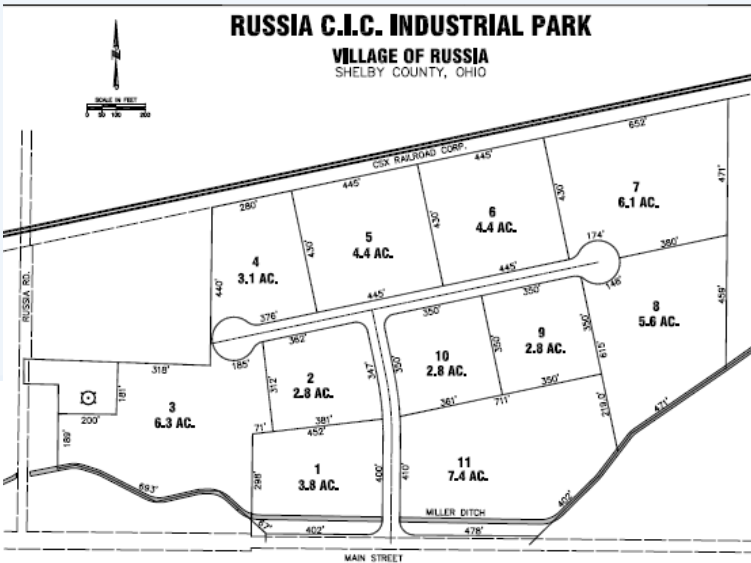


One student shared, "I had some mixed emotions when filling the bags. I thought about my own life and just how different it really could be. This also made me understand that not everything in life is sugar coated. I've grown up in a relatively small area where everybody knows everybody." He also added, "This activity has also made me realize how lucky I am to have food readily available when I want it."

Russia Plans Improvements to Industrial Park

Projects for 2017 in the Village of Russia include a new bridge to provide better access to the Village's industrial park. Recent industrial growth in Russia has necessitated the need to provide additional land for new development. The industrial park is owned by the Village and encompasses approximately 50 acres with appropriate zoning, utilities and highway access in place. The engineer's estimate to construct the bridge is \$390,450. The Village was able to secure \$350,000 in loans and grants for the construction. The project will be awarded in July with a completion date of late fall.

The park is adjacent to the CSX railroad which enhances the site's value to a company that needs rail for its production and shipping. This site is one of few in Shelby County and the region that has rail access – a feature that many companies are currently requiring in their search for new building sites.



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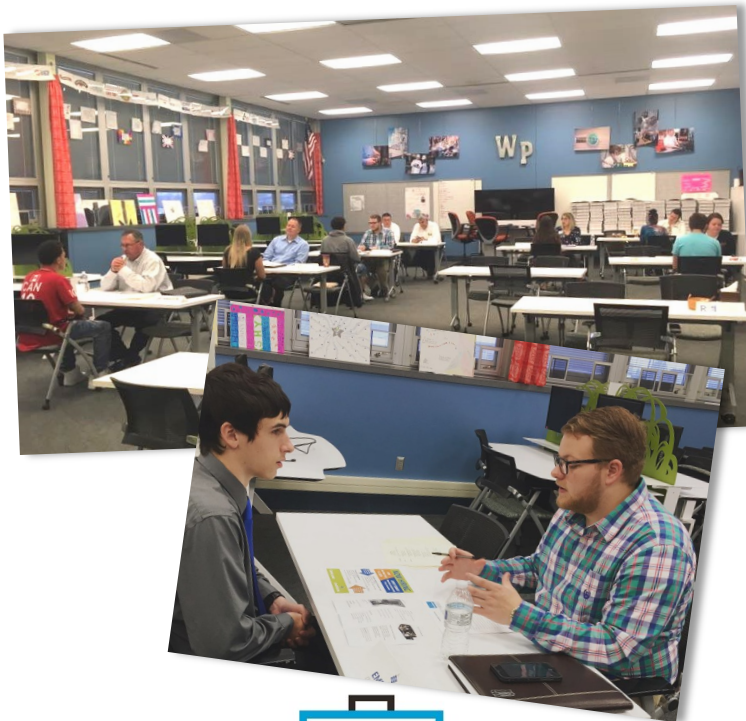
- Shelby County Joins Hometown Opportunity
- Casey's General Store Opens in Fort Loramie
- Lincoln Electric Expands Its Manufacturing Capabilities
- Improvements to S.R. 29 and I-75 Ramps
- Personal Development Project is Successful at Jackson Center Schools
- Russia Plans Improvements to Industrial Park
- Workforce Partnership Hiring Expo

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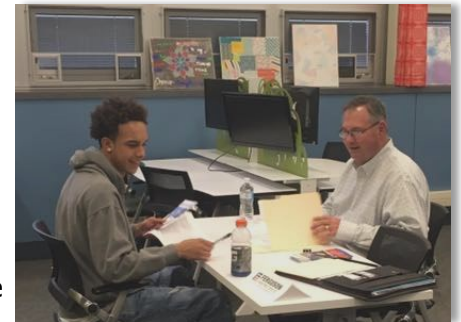
SSEP; Kari Egbert, City of Sidney; Julie Ehemann, The County of Shelby; and Jeff Raible, Sidney-Shelby County Chamber. The publishers invite your comments, suggestions, story ideas, and sponsorship of future issues. If you have questions or concerns, please contact **Mike Dodds**—mdodds@choosesidneyshelby.com

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

Hiring Expo



The Workforce Partnership and Sidney High School/Workforce Academy sponsored a first annual Hiring Expo event. This opportunity was provided to the Partners who support the Workforce Partnership organization.



The event was held on April 11, 2017, at the Sidney High School Workforce Academy classroom. There were ten Partners who participated, with a total of 15 positions being interviewed for. Full-time and summer employment opportunities were available and included a wide-range of careers, such as Electrician, Skilled Trades, Construction, Manufacturing/Assembly, CNC Operator, Machinist, and Clerical. This was a tremendous opportunity for the students to connect with Shelby County employers and to gain real-life interview experience.

Our Partners continue to search for strong employees and as this event grows we anticipate it will become an annual resource for them to meet with students from around the

