



New Housing and Commercial Development in Shelby County

Housing development has been a strategic priority for Shelby County since 2018. In response, communities are implementing strategies and we are seeing progress throughout the County.

Anna's Timber Trail Subdivision Phase I is almost complete with thirteen homes finished in 2020 and 2021. Annexation of property for Phase II is being completed and it will have approximately thirty available sites.

Botkins has multiple phases of its Woodland Subdivision in process with five homes built last year and only four lots left to finish in Phase II. Phases III and IV are both moving with twenty lots available.

There are three housing subdivisions with activity in Jackson Center including Hudson Lake, Westwood, and Eastwood. These three developments have several homes under construction and have approximately thirty available lots.

Russia has two areas under housing development including the Schafer subdivision with seven lots, and Paulus Excavating having twenty-one home sites.

The growth in new homes is a welcome sight and will help to satisfy the desires of our communities.



Example of Homes in the New Burr Oak Subdivi-

Burr Oak Breaks Ground in Sidney

Community and business leaders gathered on Russell Rd. in Sidney on Sept. 10th to break ground on the new 238 lot Burr Oak subdivision. This new subdivision by MSGA Development includes 222 single family residential lots (all with 2-car garages), two multi-family lots and six commercial lots. The commercial development will take place near St. Marys Avenue.



"The City of Sidney and MSGA Development worked together to establish a TIFF in order to reduce the development cost, said Jim Hill of SSEP. Our organization has been working to encourage this type of cooperation in order to increase the available housing supply," added Hill.

Choice One Engineering of Sidney handled all the subdivision planning and engineering, and Ryan Homes will be spearheading the marketing and home construction.

Ryan Homes plans to erect new signage to guide interested prospects to their website where one can join their VIP list and receive updates on the Burr Oak Development.

Our Creative Marketplace Opens in Downtown Anna



What began with a dream to have her own bead store when she was young is now a new venture for Kim Leopold, owner of Our Creative Marketplace. Since the age of seven, Kim has loved creating, teaching, and selling her handcrafted items. She describes herself as an engineer by trade, but entrepreneur by heart!

In 2008, she started her first business, Dream Lily Designs, creating and selling beautiful pieces of jewelry, hair accesso-

ries and baby gifts predominantly at area craft shows. As the business grew, her desire to expand into home décor and other items has grown with it. Today, Our Creative Marketplace is a local vendor market where makers and entrepreneurs like Kim can showcase and sell their products, and where she can help them grow their brand and their businesses.

Our Creative Marketplace is a unique shop selling unique items from many local makers and small businesses. Items offered include home décor, jewelry, clothing, children's hair accessories, hats, tumblers, children's toys, and so much more.

The new store also has a classroom space available for rent where instructors can teach creative skills. This space doubles as a rentable room for meetings, events, parties, baby showers, etc. It can accommodate 35-40 people and is furnished with tables, chairs, and a whiteboard.

Kim believes Our Creative Marketplace continues to add life to downtown Anna with a shop local vibe. Her new store is located in the former Anna Hardware location at 310 West Main Street. Hours of operation are Wednesday thru Friday from 10—6 and Saturday 9—2. You can find Our Creative Marketplace online at www.ourcreativemarketplace.com or Facebook at www.facebook.com/OurCreativeMarketplace.

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Wagner Site Redevelopment

After securing \$2 million in brownfield redevelopment funds from the State of Ohio, community leaders are beginning to focus on the redevelopment potential of the former Wagner Manufacturing site on Fair Road in Sidney.

"The Land Bank has initiated the legal documents necessary to expedite foreclosure on the property," said Doug Ahlers, Land Bank Director. "We hope to complete the process and hold title to the property by the end of 2021," added Ahlers.

"It is not too early to begin thinking about redevelopment," said SSEP Executive Director Jim Hill. Once the site is demolished and environmental remediation is completed, the 5.4 acre site should have great redevelopment potential. We have begun the process of collecting infrastructure data on the site in order to begin marketing it on the SSEP website," added Hill.

"Cleaning up the Wagner Site is a top priority for the City of Sidney," said City Manager Mark Cundiff. Without collaboration with the State, County, Land Bank and SSEP, this project would not be moving forward, so we really appreciate all the support," added Cundiff.



Are We Experiencing a Sansdemic?

THE DEMOGRAPHIC DROUGHT

How the Approaching Sansdemic Will
Transform the Labor Market for the Rest
of Our Lives

EMSI, a leading provider of labor market data, recently used the term "Sansdemic" in a report titled "The Demographic Drought". This 40-page report looked at the changing labor market in the U.S, specifically discussing how we respond to 70% of US businesses reporting a talent shortage, according to a recent Manpower survey.

So what is a Sansdemic? It refers to "without people" or in the case of the labor market situation "without enough people". The report contends that we are living in a time when business leaders need to rethink their entire growth strategy because there are not enough people in the labor force with the skills needed. EMSI contends that COVID only accelerated the sansdemic, because many of the root issues have been bubbling for some time.

"I think the report does a very good job at outlining the numerous factors that have brought us to this difficult situation, including a declining birth rate that hit a 35-year low in 2019, said Jim Hill of SSEP. In my opinion, this report is a "must-read" for anyone in business today," added Hill.

Office Space Available

101 S. Ohio Avenue, 2nd Floor

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Thank you to our contributors:

SSEP; Kari Egbert, City of Sidney; Julie Ehemann, Shelby County; 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 **Jim Hill** at jhill@choosesidneyshelby.com

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



2021 Career Exploration Academy



Shelby County United Way

Approximately 1,000 Shelby County students from grades 8-12 participated in the 2021 Career Exploration Academy at Shelby County Fairgrounds. The annual event, sponsored by Workforce Partnership of Shelby County and Shelby County United Way, featured 29 career stations where students could explore career options. "This event presents an excellent opportunity to expose Shelby County students to local companies at a young age and make them aware of career opportunities after graduation from high school or college," said Deb McDermott, Workforce Partnership of Shelby County Executive Director. Thanks to all the companies and representatives who participated! The effort and enthusiasm displayed is phenomenal and is what makes this day both fun and educational for the students.

