

shelby County SIZZLES

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Russia Spec Building Nears Completion

As the 12,000 s.f. spec industrial building in the Russia Industrial Park nears completion, developer Ed Luthman announced that the building has been purchased by Western Ohio Technologies.

"The village has been great to work with and we are planning to break ground on another building this fall," said Luthman. With the first building sold and the second building already leased, we are considering a third building in 2023, added Luthman.

Western Ohio Technologies is a metal stamping and

assembly company with 5 employees that serves primarily the automotive and firefighter industries, according to company president, Steve Smith.

"It is great to see the Russia Industrial Park growing and these initial buildings should

indicate a bright future for the industrial park," said SSEP's Jim Hill. "On behalf of the SSEP, we welcome Western Ohio Technologies to Shelby County," added Hill.



The 12,000 s.f. Spec Building is located in the Russia Industrial Park

Botkins Welcomes First National Bank



First National Bank president Jerry Lehman and customer service manager Angie Fullenkamp cut the ribbon to ceremoniously open their new banking

center in Botkins located at 406 North Main Street. Mr. Lehman acknowledged and thanked a number of individuals and organizations instrumental to the success of this project. Shelby County Commissioner Tony Bornhorst and Botkins village administrator Randy Purdy also addressed those gathered to thank First National Bank for investing in Botkins and doing business in Shelby County. The ribbon cutting ceremony was organized by the Sidney-Shelby County Chamber of Commerce.

Torch is Passed at The Bridge

In announcing their retirement, Lynn and Kent Wolters were pleased to announce they sold The Bridge Restaurant to Doug Smith. Doug has been a long time valued employee and has the energy and knowledge to continue the operations while taking The Bridge Restaurant to prestigious status. The Bridge is known for its great food and atmosphere, making it one of the best restaurants in the northern Miami Valley over the past 11 years.

Doug will continue to make The Bridge a great dining place for small or large groups. Mr. Smith has big plans for the next chapter which started with revamping of the outdoor patio. Indoors, repainting and enhancing the furnishings of the back dining room and restrooms is underway. The stairwell to the upstairs banquet room has been upgraded with new flooring and ceiling panels, along with a stair-lift making the whole area handicap accessible.

In addition, Doug is very excited to announce that lunch will be back soon, featuring a new menu that will ensure busy persons can fit a Bridge lunch into their work day.

Doug says his motto is "Good, Better, Best.... And the Better is Best!" as instilled in him from his mother.

He will continue to strive for nothing less as he operates The Bridge.

Doug celebrated his new ownership with a grand re-opening on Sunday, September 11th.



Satellite Childcare Facility to Open

The Shelby County Commissioners were very excited recently to hear the YMCA Board approved moving forward in a partnership that will open a satellite Childcare facility in the lower level of the County Nursing Home, Fair Haven. Located at 2901 Fair Road, the new childcare will be called the Sidney-Shelby YMCA Child Development Center at Fair Haven. The space being converted was previously used for adult daycare and physical therapy, and will serve 58 infants and toddlers. Work is underway to convert the area with a target opening date of November 14th.

"This is just one step in our efforts to provide childcare to Shelby County residents," stated Commissioner Julie Ehemann. The Commissioners have dedicated federal American Recovery Act funds to expanding childcare in Shelby County as the lack of childcare has been seen as an impediment to broaden the local workforce. In addition, quality childcare is needed to improve our county's kindergarten readiness scores. I would encourage our local businesses to look at how they can help their employees in this realm and reach out for guidance."

The facility will be run by the YMCA and will be licensed under the Step Up To Quality Program. YMCA Director David O'Leary stated, "From birth to age 5, a child's brain develops more than at any other time in life. The YMCA's program works at each stage to help children learn and succeed in life."

P&THE Manufacturing Purchases Ross Assets



P&THE Manufacturing, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) holding company that provides high performing manufacturing solutions through business acquisitions and joint ventures, recently announced the purchase of USAC Ross, LLC. Since 1931, Ross has been supplying quality aluminum castings to a wide range of industries in the aerospace, performance racing, diesel engine, and power generation industries.

"We are happy to keep Ross Aluminum operational in Sidney under new ownership and management and excited to launch plans to grow the employee count over 300% with support from the state, county, and city," said Pancho Hall, CEO and Chairman of P&THE. Hall continued, "P&THE is excited to integrate many of Ross Aluminum's former employees into the P&THE family to help us become the pre-eminent provider of fully integrated manufacturing services by delivering consistent quality, value, and on-time delivery to our customers and business partners."

The acquisition fits into P&THE's strategy to acquire a collection of world class enterprises that serve global communities by providing customers with the highest quality manufacturing parts and services as their Global MBE of choice.

P&THE Manufacturing LLC, based in metro Detroit, is a MBE holding company comprising businesses that provide high performing manufacturing solutions. Looking to invest in the industrial sectors in the middle market in North America, P&THE Manufacturing LLC differentiates itself in the marketplace as true owner operators who have experience working in and managing businesses at the senior level ranging from the lower middle market to Fortune 100 companies.

Ross Aluminum is currently searching for an experienced machinist who can do programming and set ups. We are also recruiting for an engineering student or graduate (2 or 4 year) who will be trained as a Foundry Engineer by one of our tenured engineers.



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Shelby County Develops a BroadbandOhio Strategy

Shelby County residents understand the growing need for reliable internet access. Whether remote learning, virtual doctor visits, or work-from-home opportunities, every home should have reliable internet accessibility that can handle the demands of multiple devices. Due to previous surveys and resident input, it is evident that not every Shelby County resident has reliable broadband internet accessibility.

Local broadband internet expansion efforts are underway, funded through

the Shelby County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). However, additional funding opportunities are becoming available for broadband infrastructure. To be eligible for these grants, and to appropriately satisfy the need, a broadband strategy must be developed.

In an effort to develop this broadband strategy to benefit the entire county, Shelby County applied to participate in an instructional planning and capacity-building program for community-driven broadband expansion.

New Ownership at Monarch Lathes

Monarch Lathes was formed in 1997 when a group of investors purchased a portion of the assets from the Monarch Machine Tool Company. Today, the company is celebrating 25 years in business and they continue to operate in the 47,000 square feet in the north end of the original Monarch building on Oak Street. Monarch Lathes LP now remanufactures EE tool room lathes and well as building new EEs and the larger 614 machines for customers like Boeing, the US Navy, Batelle and Collins Aerospace and is currently sitting on a multi-million dollar backlog.

Matt Albrecht, a precision tool maker from Minnesota recently purchased the company. "We were so impressed with the accuracy and precision of the Monarch EE. The sustainability of the machine's performance is a solid testimonial to its quality, and that is why in June of this year our family purchased the assets of the company," Albrecht said. "Proudly we are continuing the American legacy of manufacturing the highest quality manual machine tools in the world right here in Sidney, Ohio."

Harry Camp has stayed on as president and in an effort to grow the company, and is looking to hire a number of people who can be a part of the team. "We would welcome both experienced and non-experienced individuals who are eager to

learn and help us assemble the machines we are remanufacturing.

"The company is not slowing down with more orders coming in every week," Albrecht added speaking on behalf of the family, "so by expanding our employee base we can assure our customers that we can, and will meet their needs and their schedules."

For more information on employment with Monarch Lathes LP, contact Harry Camp at 937-492-4111, or email a resume to president@monarchlathe.com



The Monarch EE Precision Tool Room Lathe continues as the world standard of fine, repeatable precision.

The new owner of Monarch Lathes LP in Sidney, OH Matt Albrecht (right) looks over a remanufactured Monarch lathe with Harry Camp, company president

Broadband, cont. from pg. 2

Shelby County is one of 4 Ohio teams chosen to participate in the **BroadbandOhio Community Accelerator Cohort**, a state sponsored program.

The Shelby County Broadband Internet Expansion team is comprised of 15 entities (non-profit organizations, local government offices, healthcare, library, schools, technology entities and community organizations).

Part of the strategy entailed asking Shelby County residents to participate in a survey of their broadband internet experience. Over nine hundred surveys were returned. This data will be compiled with government

data and other resources. The input is being used to confirm where quality coverage already exists, where the coverage drops off, and identify other obstacles we face.

As encouragement, survey participants were entered into a drawing for a \$100 Sidney/Shelby Chamber of Commerce gift certificate. Nine winners were drawn representing the various zip codes in Shelby County.

Moving forward, the team will be meeting with various providers to share goals and identify areas where implementation of fiber or wireless installations can occur.

Crum Joins Miami Valley SBDC



Lisa Crum recently joined the Miami Valley SBDC, moving back to Ohio from Wisconsin.

She focuses on small businesses in Miami, Shelby and Darke counties as well as food entrepreneurs throughout our region. Lisa has a lot of business experience, having run her own bakery for 20 years and advising other businesses after she sold her own business. Lisa focuses on ensuring that entrepreneurs have the fundamentals in place to ensure success.

If you are looking to start, grow, or sustain your business, Miami Valley SBDC's local counseling location is at Edison State Community College in Piqua. There is no cost for their one-on-one confidential business counseling.

SBDC's have resources to help small businesses with items such as:

- Business Planning
- Financial Projections
- Cash Flow & Profitability
- Market Strategy Development
- Export Readiness
- Employee management
- And much more

In addition, Miami Valley SBDC offers a variety of workshops. One can register for these workshops, view small business tips, and find a variety of resources by visiting their website at <https://sbdcec.com/>.



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Workforce Partnership Hires New Program Coordinator

Shelly Barhorst has joined the Workforce Partnership team as the new Programming Coordinator.

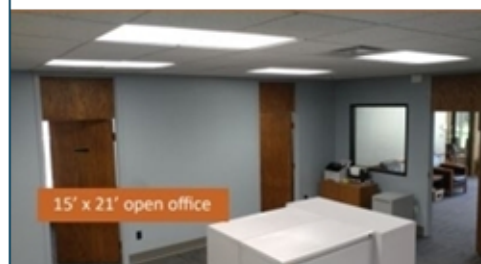
Shelly has taught the workforce development program at Fort Loramie Middle School, Career Connections, for the past seven years. She brings experience and enthusiasm to her role that will help to grow and strengthen our programming throughout the county.

As more districts add workforce to their course schedules, Shelly will support the teachers in the implementation of the new curricula, as well as coordinate the classroom exploration activities.

Shelly began her duties August 1st and has already completed several classroom visits and is actively working on organizing classroom speakers and the Ninja activity.



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Contact:

Jim Hill at 937-498-9554