

Greene County: Future in Focus

Thursday, March 24, 2016



A supplement to:
XENIA DAILY GAZETTE
BEAVERCREEK NEWS CURRENT
FAIRBORN DAILY HERALD

Sugarcreek Township continues to grow

By Scott Halasz

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CENTERVILLE — Costco was the first to open.

But since then, scores of stores have opened up in the Cornerstone of Centerville, with many more slated to open soon. Located in the former Dille property in Centerville-annexed land in Sugarcreek Township, the development is just beginning to fill in.

When it's completely built out, there will be oodles of retail, restaurants, offices and residences. Already open are Chick Fil-A and Bagger Dave's — a burger tavern. Chedders — a casual family type restaurant — is soon to follow. Kroger is planning a new store next to Costco — while keeping the other store along Wilmington Pike open — and Cabela's is set for an April grand opening.

Farther south on Wilmington Pike, Rapid Fire Pizza will be open soon while

Gloss Salon has already opened up in the Cub Foods Plaza. The former Cub's building is under new ownership but there is no user for it yet, Township Administrator Barry Tiffany said.

The residential market is also growing. Redwood Living will be opening 208 apartments behind the Wilmington Pike Wal-Mart, Tiffany said, and Miller-Valentine will be opening a 234-unit complex on Feedwire Road.

"It's very positive," Tiffany said of the economic development in the township. "We're seeing a lot of activity."

In 2015, three housing developments were approved that will bring as many as 400 homes to the township including a plethora along Upper Bellbrook Road near the high school.

The average price is around \$350,000 for the units.

"We're already seeing a lot of interest in those," Tiffany said.

Contact Scott Halasz at 937-502-4507.



Cabela's is schedule to open in April.



Costco was the first store to open in the Cornerstone of Centerville.

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Fairborn preparing for presidential debate

By Whitney Vickers

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FAIRBORN — The Commission on Presidential Debates announced in September last year that Wright State University would host the first of the presidential debates just before the election takes place, which set the stage for Fairborn city leaders to take on a handful of projects this year in an effort to present the community in its best light.

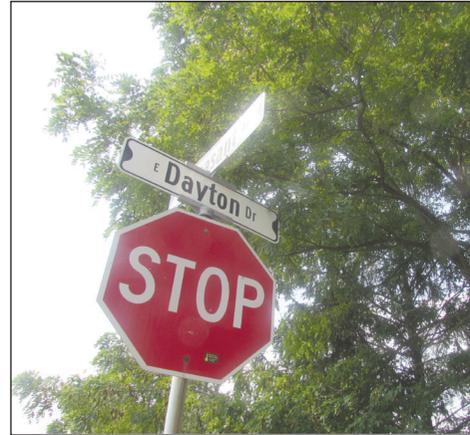
Although these projects are aimed to benefit Fairborn beyond the presidential debate.

Council approved funds during the fall months for detailed construction drawings for the Colonel Glenn Highway project, which will include improving the area's aesthetics, creating a more pedestrian-friendly scene and enhancing the corridor.

"We're going to build it in stages if we have to, if we don't get all the

money, so we can understand what we can build that will have the most impact and the most beautification efforts," City Manager Deborah McDonnell said in a previous interview.

City leaders aimed to prepare the area to be as shovel-ready as possible,



File photo

The Downtown Streetscape project is aimed to wrap up in the summer months.

leading them to create design drawings before bidding for the project started. It is aimed to wrap-up before the event takes place.

The City of Fairborn will host a neighborhood cleanup day in late spring, and city leaders are hope-

ful to conduct another as the debate approaches. As part of its new refuse contract, the city negotiated to have Waste Management develop an anti-litter campaign and have it participate

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Submitted photo

The debate will take place Monday, Sept. 26 at the Wright State University Nutter Center.

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Superstreet project planned for Route 35

By Nathan Pilling
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BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP — US Route 35 in Greene County could see some changes in coming years, as state and local officials consider a temporary solution to safety and congestion problems there.

Current-state Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) plans would see the elimination of left turns and straight-across driving at the Route 35 and Factory Road and Orchard Lane intersections, where accident numbers are high. The superstreet concept forces a driver who wants to make a left turn onto a main highway to instead make a right turn followed by a signal-controlled U-turn onto that main road. The traffic lights at the Factory and Orchard intersections would be timed to be green for drivers on Route 35 for longer amounts of time, with the goal of reducing congestion and accidents.

“We have a ways to go,” ODOT representative Keith Smith said in a previous interview with Greene County News. “We’re just looking into it right now to make sure everyone’s comfortable with

us doing this ... My gut feeling is it’s gonna be accepted by the community. It’s something they at least want to move forward with, at minimum in concept.”

Once ODOT receives support from each of the local jurisdictions involved in the project, the project will move forward.

Early estimates indicate that project construction costs would be around \$12.5 million, but any right-of-way acquisition would almost certainly boost the project’s price tag.

According to ODOT information, compared to the roadway’s current state, a proposed superstreet would allow about 830 more vehicles per hour to travel eastbound on Route 35 through the Factory Road intersection and would yield about 20 percent more “green” time to those drivers. The new intersections would both reduce the number of “conflict points” from 32 to 14.

Both ODOT and local officials have said they see the superstreet project as an interim solution for 10 years or more, while plans and funding for a full raised highway project – stretching about nine miles from North Fairfield Road to the Xenia Bypass – are developed further



Nathan Pilling | Greene County News
Current-state Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) plans would see the elimination of left turns and straight-across driving at the Route 35 and Factory Road and Orchard Lane intersections.

(some estimates have put the project costs as high as \$140 million).

According to a recent ODOT presentation, over a three-year period, there was an average of 100 rear-end accidents per year in Factory/Orchard area.

Smith recently estimated construction could begin in 2019, and estimated the project would take between 12 and 18 months to complete. Smith also noted that construction would have to be coordinated with the city of Beavercreek’s



Nathan Pilling | Greene County News
Current-state Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) plans would see the elimination of left turns and straight-across driving at the Route 35 and Factory Road and Orchard Lane intersections.

plans to relocate Shakertown Road around the same time period.

Local officials had applied for about \$32 million of the raised highway project funding through ODOT’s Transportation Review Advisory Council last year, but were turned down in December.

Reach Nathan Pilling at 937-502-4498 or on Twitter @XDGNatePilling.

More housing available in Fairborn

By Whitney Vickers
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FAIRBORN — Some community members had the opportunity to welcome new neighbors within the last year and more citizens are expected to follow suit this year as the City of Fairborn is seeing construction take place in some areas that will result in new homes.

The Bluffs on Trebein was approved to enter phase two of construction during the Monday, Feb. 15 council meeting, which will include adding 29 dwelling units consisting of more than six acres in size. Phase two will addition-

ally entail the creation of a new street, altering a current street, maintaining a wooded open lot space and planting more trees around the retention pond. Construction is set to begin this month and is aimed to be completed within the next 24 months.

Council first approved The Bluffs concept plan in September 2013; council approved more plans, which set standards for home measurements, in March 2014.

“As our job market expands, so does our need for housing and growth in our community,” Fairborn Mayor Dan Kirkpatrick said during his state of the

city address. “We continually need to identify the housing demands for our community, and meet the needs for new residents and families.”

Kirkpatrick said during his state of the city address Monday, Feb. 15 that all of the current homes within The Bluffs have been sold for prices ranging from \$250,000 to \$300,000 and above.

“Sales of those lots have gone really well,” Community Development Director Mike Gebheart said. “They’re already talking to us about potentially bringing phase three through the late fall of 2016 so they can be ready by the spring of 2017 for even more houses out

there.”

Section five construction for Waterford Landing completed in 2015 and is facing the possibility of beginning section six this year. Meanwhile, Fairfield Oaks, a collection of 17 buildings and 102 upscale apartments, is under construction. Rent would range from \$1,100-\$1,500. It is located at the corner of Trebein and Commerce Center Boulevard.

“There’s definitely motion bringing people to this city,” Gebheart said.

Whitney Vickers can be reached by calling her directly at 937-502-4532 or on Twitter @wnvickers.

New city building in progress

By Scott Halasz

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XENIA — By the end of the year the City of Xenia's brand-new administration building will be operational.

Ground was broken on the multi-million project in June and it's expected to be ready for occupancy the week of Sept. 12, according to City Engineer Chris Berger.

The expected completion date is the week of Oct. 10, Berger added. Construction has moved according to schedule so far with the only major surprise being unexpected groundwater at some spots. That forced the contractor to make modifications to the foundation to abate water intrusion on a permanent basis, according to Berger.

The overall project has been several years in the works as the city tried to create more space for the police division, which occupies the basement, and improve the functionality of city hall. After looking at some locations and evaluating some buildings, city council decided building a new city administration building and remodeling city hall for the police was the best option.

The city issued no more than \$8

million in general obligation bonds to finance the work being done by Venture One Construction of Cincinnati.

The new city building will be at East Main and Whiteman streets. The new building will allow the city to consolidate most of its operation into one location and provide a better customer service experience when dealing with the city's finance department.

The new administration building will also be much more secure than the current city hall building.

After renovations to city hall, the police division can expand out of the basement and into the first floor, which is currently occupied by many city departments. The third floor of the current city building will be minimally affected by the renovation but could be utilized in the future.

Work is expected to begin at the current city hall in early July, Berger said, with an anticipated completion date by the end of first quarter 2017.

Including financing, the total cost is around \$12 million. Debt service the first 10 years averages about \$515,000 annually and then the next 15 years averages about \$450,000. The difference is after the first 10 years the information tech-



Scott Halasz | Greene County News

Work is ongoing on the new city administration building. It is set to open later in 2016.

nology and furnishings costs drop from the debt service as they are fully paid for at that point, according to Finance Director Mark Bazalak.

Enterprise funds dollars, such as water and sewer money, will some of the cost of debt service. There is a \$300,000 contribution from the law enforcement fund. The city has determined that the aver-

age utility user will see an increase of \$25-26 a year to offset the cost.

Seven bids were received, ranging from Venture One's base bid of \$6,032,943 to AKA General Contractor's bid of \$6,461,400.

Contact Scott Halasz at 937-502-4507.

Fairborn continues removing blighted structures

By Whitney Vickers

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FAIRBORN – The City of Fairborn is sowing seeds for businesses to grow and housing developments to surface in the future.

When city leaders prepared the annual budget for 2016, they set aside \$250,000 to take down blighted buildings, which had never been done before. The community previously leaned on grants to complete these projects, but city leaders have said that these funds are drying up.

While the City of Fairborn is hoping to make room for and attract new businesses, it is also hoping to improve areas

with roots already planted in the community.

“We’ve got to do everything we can to eliminate blighting influences on neighborhoods,” Community Development Director Mike Gebheart said. “... A blighted building removal, at its core, wants to stabilize the neighborhood and property values.”

A blighted structure is described as being unsound, such as houses not built on foundations or footers and have shifted. The exterior appearance may not be appealing, which could drive away new businesses and residents, and structural issues would make the environment uninhabitable.

“When we have new areas that are developing and building new houses, it’s equally as important to make sure our existing neighborhoods are stable and improving if possible,” Economic Development Director Rob Anderson said.

City leaders have eight removals planned for the first round of demolitions this year and are undergoing bidding this month for the project. Citizens will not only see blighted residential structures come down, but commercial buildings as well.

The city removed 37 buildings between 2013 and 2015; 10 were demolished in 2015, including the former Elder-Beerman building on

Kauffman Avenue.

Whitney Vickers can be reached by calling her directly at 937-502-4532 or on Twitter, @wnvickers.



Submitted photo

The City of Fairborn is seeking to remove eight blighted structures during the first round of demolitions this year.

New jobs emerge in Fairborn

By Whitney Vickers

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FAIRBORN — A number of new businesses have started to call Fairborn its home within the past year, which brought job opportunities to the city. But the growth won't stop in 2015 — this year, citizens should prepare to see some businesses expand while city leaders lay groundwork to welcome new companies to the north-east corner of the community.

- Teleperformance, a company specializing in customer service, added 100 new jobs last year and is in the process of adding more this year.

- Sumaria, which focuses on information technology, engineering, and professional and technical services, added 80 positions in 2015.

- Donatos Pizza moved to a new area within the community last year, creating 10 additional positions.

- WCR, a manufacturer of heat exchangers, relocated its international headquarters in 2015, which brought along 31 new job opportunities and potentially an additional shift in the future.

- US Lawns, a branch of a larger tree of businesses, relocated to Fairborn in 2015, offering the community year-round commercial grounds care.

“What’s really [gave Fairborn the motion we have now] has been a concerted effort by council, the city manager and staff, as well as our partners at the schools and chamber of commerce,” Community Development Director Mike Gebheart said. “... We’re doing things to keep us on the forefront for this region. I think a lot of it goes back to a proactive city council and city manager.”

Fairborn citizens will see the construction of the new Kroger Marketplace begin this year. The out-lot building is expected to be in front of the current Kroger and be 600,000 square feet in size. It will include a fueling center, but plans for such will not be announced until later this year.

“When we bring in the new Kroger Marketplace, I think some of that vacant land out there will then become built up



Whitney Vickers | Greene County News

Fairborn citizens will see Kroger Marketplace get constructed this year near the current Kroger.

because of that marketplace being the central focus,” Gebheart said. “I think there will be accessory businesses that will come along with it that want to be near a 130,000-plus square foot marketplace. I think you’ll see [Kroger] benefit that area.”

City leaders consider the Interstate 675 and Interstate 70 corridor an area that offers opportunity, which is why they are in the process of preparing for an industrial park to make a home out of the space.

“We have the last two underdeveloped exits on the entire length of [Interstate]-675,” Gebheart said. “For those folks who want to be close to the crossroads at 75 and 70, but not caught in the traffic, and service logistically Cincinnati, Columbus and even Indianapolis markets — we’re positioned perfectly for that. Having those two undeveloped exit ramps will play out in the long run to our benefit.”

Economic Development Director Rob Anderson said the city is actively recruiting new businesses and working with existent-companies on projects.

“There’s activity happening under the



Whitney Vickers | Greene County News

Fairborn citizens will see Kroger Marketplace get constructed this year near the current Kroger.

surface,” Anderson said. “Hopefully we’ll have some announcements to make in the next few weeks.”

Whitney Vickers can be reached by calling her directly at 937-502-4532 or on Twitter @wnvickers.

Things developing well for Xenia in 2016

By Scott Halasz

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XENIA — More than three dozen businesses moved into Xenia during 2015 and 2016 is shaping up to be just as prosperous.

According to city records, there were several restaurants, retail stores and a few auto repair shops that opened, among other businesses. In all nearly 40 businesses moved to or relocated within Xenia. City officials think that momentum will continue this year as the city continues to focus on economic development.

"I believe 2016 is setting up to be a very good year for the City of Xenia," Development Director Steve Brodsky said. "There are a number of projects that we have been working on throughout the past year that should start paying dividends this year."

One of the biggest began to move forward at the Feb. 25 council meeting when city council authorized City Man-

ager Brent Merriman to start negotiating with Brandicorp for redevelopment of the former Kmart building. Brodsky said the city expects "a quality mixed-use, multi-tenant retail, restaurant and office development that will further the revitalization of our central business district."

Officials hope that will draw more interest in the Xenia Towne Center.

International auto parts manufacturer US Mahle recently applied for a zoning permit to occupy a portion of the SuperValu building on Bellbrook Road, Brodsky said, adding that more detail is forthcoming.

Even when businesses aren't targeting Xenia, city officials are being proactive in an attempt to spark development.

"Over the past year we have been working with Dayton Power and Light on a site certification program, taking several industrial sites in the city through this program," Brodsky said. "This certification will help us market our industrial sites, providing site selec-



Scott Halasz | Greene County News
Better Images moved its office to Xenia last year.

tors and corporate Realtors with the detailed information they need to make decisions and letting them know that an independent third party has certified that we have shovel-ready sites that can meet their needs."

With a cash flow shortage due to state funding cuts, getting more businesses to come to Xenia is vital.

"The long-term solution to lagging City revenues is economic growth," City Manager Brent Merriman said.



Scott Halasz | Greene County News
Servepro was one of dozens of businesses to open in Xenia during 2015.

"Changing tax rates can provide some immediate help, but we must be focused on growing the tax base to ensure stability over the long haul. We are committed to improving the local conditions that impede business growth. The goal is to position Xenia as a community of choice, to be a city that is inviting to new residents and new businesses alike.

Contact Scott Halasz at 937-502-4507.

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Entertainment center still in works

By Scott Halasz

shalasz@civitasmedia.com

XENIA — With local investors in the mix, the family entertainment center proposed for Xenia Towne Square could still be a reality.

Along with Craig Toops, Xenia resident Dede Larson formed D&D Investments, which is spearheading local fund-raising efforts for the entertainment center, originally proposed by David Beauregard of Creative Entertainment Concepts in Indiana.

The center would be located in the former Fulmer grocery store and would include bumper cars, 12-14 bowling lanes and arcade-type games similar to what one would find at a Dave & Busters or Scene 75 in Dayton. There will also be an eatery of some type, according to Larson, but a sports bar is no longer an option.

When first proposed, the timeline showed the center being open during the



File photo

The former Fulmer grocery store could become a family entertainment center.

summer of 2015. However due to lack of funding the project was in a holding pattern. While not wanting to totally commit to a date or time frame, Larson said late last year the hope is that the center would be completed by the end of the summer or early fall 2016.

But at a cost of nearly \$3 million, the three principals are still looking for other investors. She added that developers have applied for grants and are holding

community fund-raisers in addition to the creation of a Go Fund Me account.

While searching for the needed capital, Larson said she, Toops and Beauregard are ready for the next step, which would entail gutting the inside of the Fulmer building.

Before getting too far in the process, the City of Xenia would need to be involved.

Developers would need the proper zon-

ing permit and a certificate of occupancy from the Greene County Building Regulation department before it could open, Xenia City Planner Brian Forschner said.

He and City Manager Brent Merriman said they are waiting to hear from the developers.

"I very much hope that they're moving forward with it," Forschner previously said. "It would be a great amenity to have in this community."

That's why Larson became involved.

A mother of six, she was looking into bringing a miniature golf course and bumper cars to Xenia. When her desired location was no longer available she got in touch with Beauregard and became involved with his company's project.

"I totally think this will help bring the community together," she said. "It's been voiced for some time that we need something to do in this town. The location is ideal."

Contact Scott Halasz at 937-502-4507.

Parks offer largest number of summer programs

FAIRBORN — The Fairborn Parks & Recreation Division is pleased to announce open registration for all spring and summer recreation programs. This summer has the largest offering of opportunities. Inserted in every Fairborn April utility notice will also include the first ever spring-summer brochure. Call the parks office 937-754-3090, or check

on-line, www.ci.fairborn.oh.us for more information.

The following programs will be offered:

- Hike and Explore! – Nature Series
- Return of the Kingbird – Saturday, April 9
- The Tough in Trees – Wednesday, May 4 OR Saturday, May 7

- Monthly Art Programs
- 3D Bouquet – Thursday, April 14
- Mother's Day Art – Thursday, May 5
- DIY Programs
- Luscious Lawns – Thursday, April 21
- Rain Barrels and Home Rain Gardens – Thursday, May 12
- Youth Adventure and Arts Summer

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- Themes for 2016 - Aloha Summer, Art Adventures, Outdoor Skills, Park Adventures, Mammal Mania, Holiday Craze, Field of Flowers, and H2O Adventures

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Nidiffer joins Peterson & Peterson

XENIA — Justin C. Nidiffer joined Peterson & Peterson, L.L.C. in February of 2016. He is a native of Greene County and a graduate of Xenia High School. Justin completed his undergraduate studies at Wright State University where he majored in accounting, and later earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Dayton School of Law.

Before joining the firm, Justin worked in various areas of law—most recently as a staff attorney for the Greene County Common Pleas Court. Justin resides in Beavercreek with his fiancée, Jessica Pendry.

Story courtesy of Peterson & Peterson.



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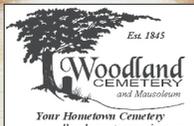
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Southtown serves area for 27 years

DAYTON — Southtown Heating, Cooling, Plumbing & Electrical has been serving the Miami Valley area for more than 27 years.

In 1989 when the woman-owned business originated, as they provided highly skilled service in heating, air conditioning and duct cleaning. Now after 27 years of growth, they offer not only heating and cooling services and installations, but plumbing, electrical, attic insulation, commercial refrigeration, chiller repair/installation and so

much more.

Southtown serves not only the area's residential market, but commercial and industrial customers as well.

Southtown officials said their company prospered because of their "wonderful customers, the positive work environment they provide and the constant striving to be the best that they can be."

The business has more than 30 employees and seen a 70 percent growth during their operation.

"We value having the opportunity for the past many years, of providing the continual increase of jobs for the Miami Valley area. The quality of technicians that perform the services offered is by far some of the best in the area," said Southtown owners.

The company participates in a drug-free workplace and prides itself in have good driving records and the continual compliments from clients on the level of their work and attitudes.

To partner with or to work with

consider Southtown Heating, Cooling, Plumbing & Electrical at 937-298-4200. Southtown offers complimentary installation quotes that can save clients a money on utility costs. Call today and find out how to benefit from the energy tax credits, utility rebates and Bryant promotion rebates.

"Your comfort is truly our concern and top priority," said officials.

Story courtesy of Southtown Heating, Cooling, Plumbing & Electrical.



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National Youth Advocate Program strengthens families

DAYTON — National Youth Advocate Program is seeking people to help strengthen families by becoming foster parents.

There are adolescents and teens in each community that need help. Strong communities are built one person, one action at a time - and it starts with families right here.

Right now there are thousands of adolescents and teens in Ohio who need someone to provide them with a safe and

loving home until they can be reunited with their family or relatives.

NYAP is a not-for-profit 501(3)c organization that has provided cost effective, community based services to support to children, youth and families since 1978.

The organization's mission says, "We are committed to supporting and protecting youth and families and to strengthening the communities we are proud to serve. We provide opportunities and resources to youth and families

through our innovative programs and services. We strongly support and offer guidance to our dedicated foster parents. We work hard to build community support. We advocate with public agencies and officials on behalf of youth and families. We are united by our humanity and enriched by our diversity. We are NYAP."

Discover the benefits and rewards of foster parenting. Foster parents must be 21 years of age, complete 12 pre-service classes along with first aid and

CPR, participate in the home study interview, all household members must obtain a complete physical exam, complete BCI and FBI records check, be free of any disqualifying convictions and provide proof of income and utilities.

Visit www.nyap.org or call 877-NYAPCAN to learn more. Make a difference in your community today.

Story courtesy of National Youth Advocate Program.

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North Fairfield center of Beaver Creek development

By Nathan Pilling

npilling@civitasmedia.com

BEAVERCREEK — North Fairfield Road continues to be the center of several development projects throughout Beaver Creek.

In the last year several businesses have opened new locations along the city's main thoroughfare, including the Primrose School of Beaver Creek, Grismer Tire & Auto, IHOP, Hobby Lobby, BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, Chuy's Tex-Mex, BRAVO! Cucina Italiana and Speedway, in addition to expansions at the Mall at Fairfield Commons and the new floor at Soin Medical Center.

"It's been a busy year for sure," Beaver Creek Planning Director Jeff McGrath said. "We think this year will just as busy."

Planned additions along North Fairfield in coming months include a AAA travel, insurance and service location, a Primanti Bros. Location, an Advanced Auto Parts store and a new Springhill Suites hotel.

McGrath also said his department has

been working with Synergy and Mills Development to bring a new "small retail, restaurant community" to the southwest corner of Dayton Xenia Road and North Fairfield Road.

According to McGrath, a new development will soon be coming in adjacent to Hobby Lobby, which is expected to include an ALDI location and "a couple other" stores yet to be named.

McGrath said no plans have been nailed down for the old Friendly's location at the Dayton Xenia-North Fairfield intersection.

"There's been a lot of interest," he said. "We haven't heard anything specific. We've had a lot of concepts for that one shown to us, but nothing is concrete at this point."

With other large lots open near the bustling mall area of North Fairfield Road, it's likely safe to assume that area will only get busier in the coming months and years.

Reach Nathan Pilling at 937-502-4498 or on Twitter @XDGnatePilling.



Nathan Pilling | Greene County News

North Fairfield Road has been the to be the center of several development projects throughout Beaver Creek in the last year and promises to be the same in the future.

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Projects planned at Greene County Airport

By Nathan Pilling
npilling@civitasmedia.com

XENIA — Those who stop at the Greene County Airport in the next few months might be given a shovel and pressed into service to help with several projects planned there. Well, maybe not quite, but soon the airport will be a hive of activity as those projects get underway in the summer, according to airport manager Dave Kushner.

“The whole goal is to bring in more commerce to the area,” he said.

That chain of projects is slated to begin in May, when the airport will close for 30 days while the airport’s 337,500-square-foot runway is resurfaced. According to a recent estimate, the Federal Aviation Administration will pay the lion’s share (about \$1.2 million) of the \$1.6 million project while local funds make up the remainder of the price tag.

The resurfacing project comes as the runway has begun to show signs of its age through cracks along its surface. The runway was last paved about 10 years ago.

Current-state plans also call for the airport to add a new approximately 2,000-square-foot “run-up” area near the runway, where pilots can “pull in and do their checks before they depart,” Kushner said. He estimated the project would cost about \$300,000



File photo

The resurfacing project comes as the runway has begun to show signs of its age through cracks along its surface. The runway was last paved about 10 years ago.

and would be constructed around the same time as the paving project.

Next on the list is the addition of a 75,000-square-foot aircraft parking ramp that would cost “in the neighborhood of around \$1.3 million,” according to Kushner.

That ramp would also serve as access to a new 7,500-square-foot hangar which airport officials hope will attract corporate or educational partners. Kushner added that hangar construction would have to wait until the ramp was completed, but hoped work would start on the project – estimated in the \$400,000-\$500,000 range – in 2016.

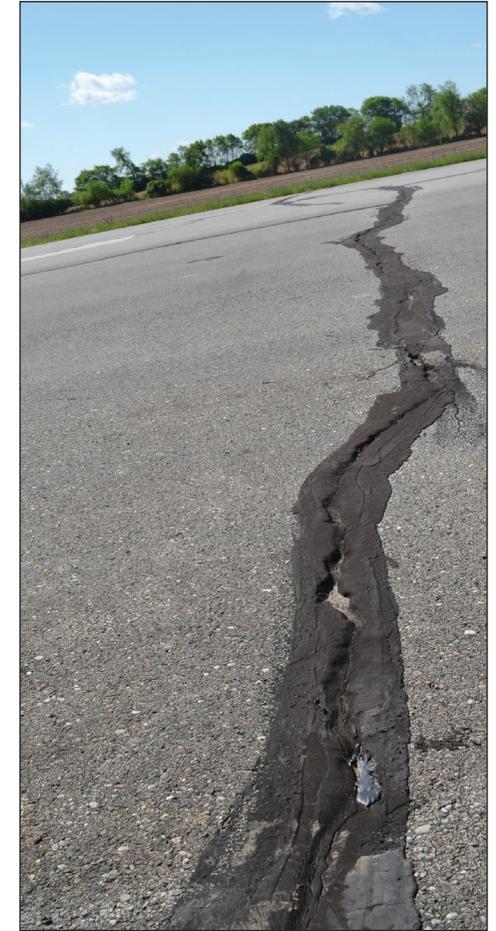
Two additional similar hangars are also

planned in coming years.

“We just need the space,” Kushner said of the new hangar. “We have zero space inside. If we had a corporate jet come in here right now and they needed to stay overnight, we’d have nowhere for them.”

The projects come after Greene County Commissioners pledged about \$1.3 million of support to the airport at the end of 2015, with the goal of developing the airport as a commerce hub.

“The commissioners have a vision that the airport is a gateway into the county,” Kushner said. “We share in that vision. ... We hope to attract cor-



porate and educational clients in and eventually form some partnerships.”

Reach Nathan Pilling at 937-502-4498 or on Twitter @XDGnatePilling.

Debate

From page 3

in those upcoming cleanup events.

“[Fairborn is] unique in that we have a true downtown. For folks who want that traditional feel, we have that. We have a university, so for folks who want a university district or feel, we have that in another part of the city. Of course the military component is huge,” Community Development Director Mike Gebheart said.

Phase three of the Downtown

Streetscape project is set to begin this month and is aimed to wrap up by the summer season. Phase three will compliment projects completed during phases one and two, giving the downtown area a fresh, new look and creating a more user-friendly environment.

Main Street from Pleasant Avenue to Dayton Drive will be resurfaced and the roadway at Dayton Drive will be realigned. Drainage is expected to be improved upon the completion of this project.

Whitney Vickers can be reached by calling her directly at 937-502-4532 or on Twitter @wnvickers.

Parks

From page 8

- Jump Start Sport Spring Programs and Summer Camps
- Fairborn T-Birds T-Ball Spring: Monday Evenings, April 11 - May 16
- Fairborn Hummingbirds Soccer Spring: Thursday Evenings, April 21 – May 26
- Junior All Stars: Tuesday Evenings, June 14 – July 19
- Flag Football Camp: Monday – Friday, June 6 – June 10, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Hoop-It-Up Basketball Camp: Monday – Friday, July 11 – July 15, 9 a.m.

– 12 p.m.

- Youth Tennis Lessons – start in June at Community Park Tennis Courts
- Adult Sports
- Summer Softball Leagues – start in May
- Tennis Leagues – start in June
- Summer Events
- Fairborn 5K Race – Saturday, July 16
- July 3rd Block Party – Sunday, July 3
- July 4th Parade – Monday, July 4
- July 4th Fireworks – Monday, July 4
- Jazz Festival – Saturday, Aug. 6

Story courtesy of the Fairborn Parks & Recreation Division.

Career center focuses on expanding career options

XENIA — Expanding career options for high school students through excellent instruction, industry-standard equipment and strong partnerships with industry continue to be the major focus at Greene County Career Center. Recent expansions in the health science and digital media career-technical programs are just two examples.

Health science operates in an academy model with two registered nurses — Faith Sorice and Lyna McKinley — as instructors. Thanks to donations from Soin Medical Center, the 80-student academy now occupies a new lab setting in the school's auxiliary adult education building. Soin Medical Center contributed new hospital beds and other equipment to create a space comparable to any hospital or medical center including reception and pharmacy areas.

Health science students are able

to receive their State-Tested Nurse Assistant and pharmacy technical certifications during their senior year. Rigorous classroom and clinical experience prepares graduates for immediate placement into a variety of health care-related career areas as well and post-secondary options at two- and four-year colleges.

Digital Media hired a second career-technical instructor and added a new 4G video production studio complete with a news broadcast set, cameras, lighting, tele-promoters and editing suite. Long-time teacher Jeff Covey welcomed video and broadcast veteran Joe Bargdill to the program staff.

Enrollment at the Greene County Career Center showed a marked increase over the 2014-15 school year. Current students cite a hands-on learning environment with excellent career and college opportunities as important

reasons for applying. The school works diligently to form career-technical advisory committees that drive curriculum and equipment planning for each program. These industry partners key student success by keeping instruction ahead of the curve as students prepare for careers of the future.

Research continues as the district explores adding new programming. Aerospace careers with a sharp focus on engineering, aviation maintenance, information technology and management, and manufacturing are areas of concentration. A feasibility study is being completed that explores expansion in these areas with crucial input from industry experts and data analysis provided through a number of job market tools. Research continues as Greene County Career Center looks to serve high school and adults in these in-demand areas.

Criminal justice remains a cornerstone of the adult education division. The Peace Officer Basic Training program produces two classes of cadets per year. The completion rate and Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy certification rate is among Ohio's highest. Additionally, the academy provides training for corrections officers, refresher courses for current law enforcement professionals, and serves as a regional hub for professional development meetings for public safety officials.

Through a partnership with Clark State Community College, welding and HVAC classes are offered on the main campus. These provide adults excellent training as they seek to make a career change or enter the workforce with high-tech skills.

Story courtesy of the Greene County Career Center.

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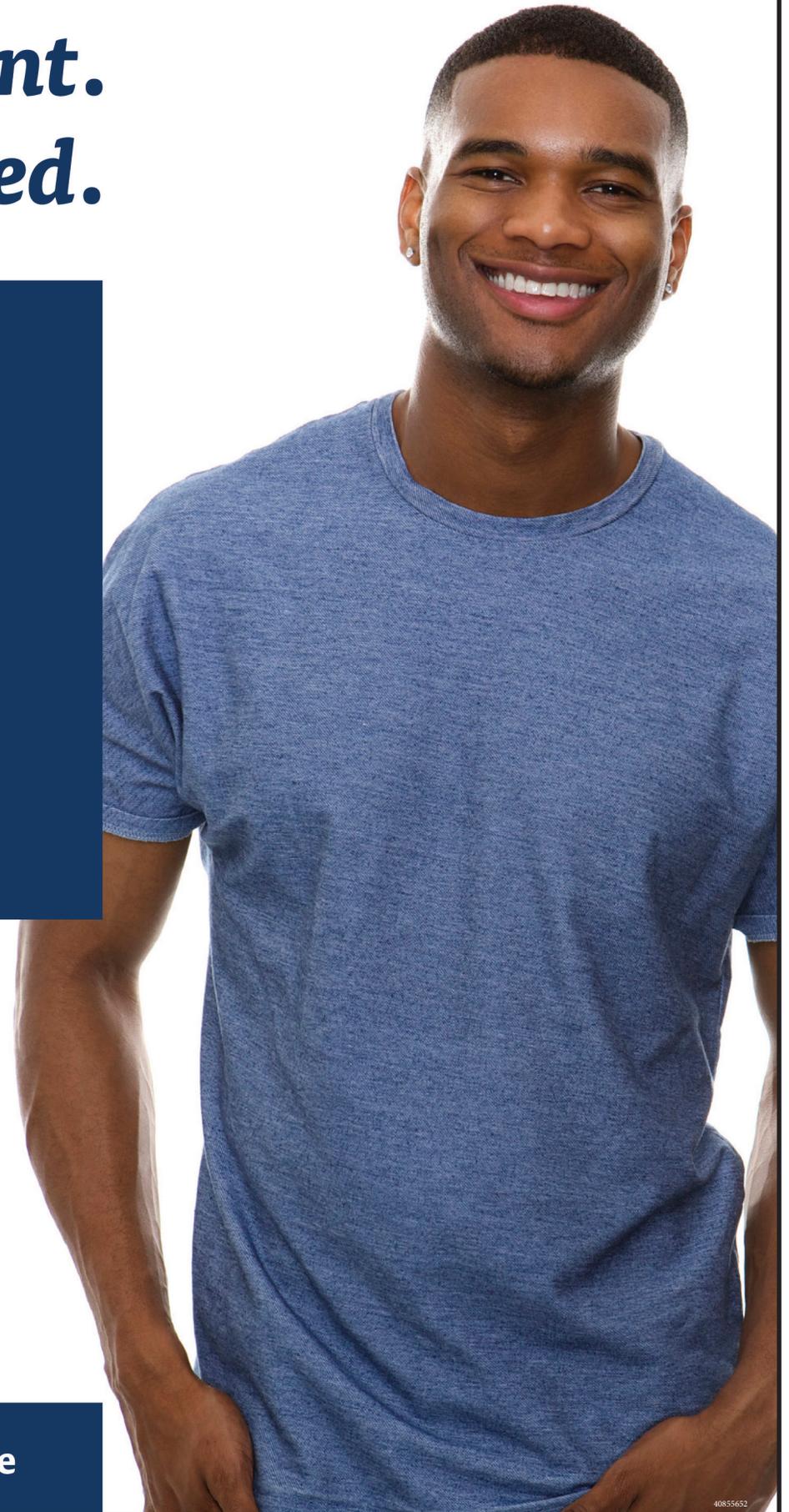
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