A special supplement to
The News Journal
2020 PROGRESS
Local Economic Back on Track

It takes many public organizations—including just a few whose logos are shown—and companies and organizations to put a local economy on the right track. We look forward to everyone spending 10 percent more of their existing dollars on local goods and services, rather than purchasing goods from non-local businesses, thereby substantially increasing the amount of money that circulates in our local economy.

In July of last year, we wrote that “We already had this problem.” But what if we’re not spending even 10 percent of our existing dollars on local goods and services? And what if we’re not spending even 10 percent of our spending on local goods and services? And what if we’re not spending even 10 percent of our spending on local goods and services? And what if we’re not spending even 10 percent of our spending on local goods and services?

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“ATSG’s continual growth keeps my job fresh and interesting. There is always an opportunity to learn something new.”

Kirsten Guardado, ATSG Staff Accountant
Mark Kratzer will extend his string of independent pharmacies to a total of seven when his newest, Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy in Lynchburg, is slated to open Aug. 3 when Kratzer’s Pharmacy in Wilmington, OH-70190840, marked its 20th year at its West Locust Street site.

Kratzer attributes the success of his hometown brand pharmacy to the support of the patients, and to the pharmacy staff trying to practice the golden rule — trying to treat a person the way they would want to be treated.

Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy closed its lobby to protect employees and patients, utilizing its drive-through. The employees sanitized their hands both before and after they waited on a patient at the drive-thru, he said.

Other services were maintained, as well. If a person needed a shoe, a glove or a face mask, Kratzer would go out to the car and administer it.

Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy does compliance packaging such as the bubble pack and strip packing. He has had an automated robot installed that does bubble packs. And he has a machine that does strip packing. Those forms of packaging can help patients who have trouble remembering to take their medications, said Kratzer.

Kratzer’s Pharmacy is working on a setup so that phone calls can be sent out, advising a patient that it’s time to take a medication.

Kratzer also has an agreement with Clinton Memorial Hospital that’s called Meds-to-Beds, which allows the community to not only fill the prescription(s) from a hospital pharmacy but to set up test-driving for COVID-19.

Those forms of packaging can help a person who has trouble remembering to take their medications, said Kratzer. He’s hoping to add a setup so that phone calls can be sent out, advising a patient that it’s time to take a medication.

Kratzer has an agreement with Clinton Memorial Hospital that’s called Meds-to-Beds, designed to reduce the frequency of patients being readmitted to the hospital within 30 days for the same medical problem. If a patient opts to do the Meds-to-Beds, the hospital sends Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy the patient’s information and the name of the medications that the doctor wants the patient to have filled as they leave the hospital.

Kratzer’s will fill the prescription(s) and send it to the hospital pharmacy department.

Then the pharmacist on an intern pharmacy in the latter part of pharmacy school will go to the patient’s hospital room and go over the new medications with them and answer questions they have.

So, instead of a patient leaving the hospital with a stack of papers and running to the pharmacy, with Meds-to-Beds the hospital can do a consultation of care and go over with the patient the importance of the medication and how to take it. Kratzer contrasts that with “just getting scripts filled at a big-box store and going home” and then trying to figure things out.

Or Kratzer’s Pharmacy will offer to send a technician to a patient who’s left a hospital or nursing home and go over their new and old medications with them and bring it back to the pharmacy, which allows the pharmacist to sort the medications out. That will make it less likely a patient will take two different forms of the same medication, said Kratzer.

Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy has obtained a CLIA waiver with Meds-to-Beds. The CLIA waiver also permits Kratzer’s to do cholesterol and strip tests.

Kratzer said, “When they do develop a vaccine [against COVID-19], yes, we will be administering that vaccine just like we do the flu shots.”

Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy can do vaccines for shingles, flu, and pneumonia. And Kratzer’s Hometown Pharmacy has diabetic shoes and compression hose that it is able to get to custom fit by a registered person.

Pharmacist Mark Kratzer next to an automated robot.

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A Heritage of Caring

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A part of the community, a part of your life.
For forty-one years, Caesar Creek Flea Market has been a cornerstone of the Clinton County community. Surviving a fire, economic downturns, big-box competition, and now a pandemic… the market is stronger than ever. With a robust number of vendors operating out of the facility every weekend.

**New Way of Operating**

“We had a lot of questions about reopening,” stated the market’s President and CEO, Al Bell. “Will people come out and shop? Can we safely operate under the Governor’s guidelines? Will our staff come back to work? Will vendors feel safe in opening their booths?”

All of these questions were met with a resounding “Yes!” with the Saturday, May 16th reopening. The Market staff were met with a record number of shoppers coming through the gates, ready to shop with vendors who eagerly opened their booths for the first time since March.

“Of all of our employees are being given health assessments before each shift worked. They are required to wear masks, use gloves or wash hands regularly, adhering to the safety guidelines the market has put in place for staff,” remarked Liz Walker, Director of Food Services.

Customers Show Overwhelming Support for Local Vendors After the Governor Allows Retailers to Open Back up for Business

Any COVID symptoms. Face masks are encouraged, as well as proper social distancing, washing hands frequently and not congregating in common areas.

“This is our new normal for operating,” replied Al Bell. “Our goal is to do whatever is necessary to make sure the health and well-being of our shoppers, vendors and staff is being addressed appropriately.”

For six weekends, Caesar Creek has seen record attendance numbers from shoppers who were anxious to get out of the house. Many had not visited any stores for months and were pleasantly surprised with the changes that have taken place in recent months.

**New Shopping Opportunities**

In addition to the traditional vendor booths, market customers will also find four different consignment buildings of themed merchandise that appeals to shoppers of all ages. Discount Dock features deeply discounted new merchandise such as restaurant supplies, apparel and pet products. Vintage Alley toasts unique collectibles and retro items for the nostalgic buyer. Homestead Charm provides a nice selection of furniture and home decor suitable for every lifestyle. Friendshop is a collection of donated items that are sold to benefit local groups in the community.

**New Dining Options**

Creek has also expanded the options for dining at the Market. Visitors will enjoy the menu upgrades made in the Lakeside Cafe and Shoreline Scoops ice cream stand. In January, Campfire Grill & Grub was added to Building 5, featuring cheese steaks, pulled pork and anything that Rob Hans can smoke or grill. Upon reopening in May, Caesar Creek introduced its newest venture, the Dockside Deli. There, customers can purchase Walnut Creek meats and cheeses sliced to order, Amish chocolates, hand-churned butter, fresh breads, jams and bulk candies.

“Caesar Creek is more than shopping. It is an experience,” explains General Manager Jackie Bickel. “Families can come to the market and safely enjoy the day together. We have great food, live entertainment, lots of vendor booths for treasure hunters and a variety of events and attractions for all ages. We believe in supporting our community and our local businesses, encouraging our neighbors to do the same by coming to visit us.”

**Something Old. Something New.**

Other changes included moving the outdoor vendor lot back to the east side of the market by I-71, allowing vendors to set up shop on the weekend with the busy interstate as their backdrop.

“It’s amazing the amount of traffic we see because of the visibility of the outdoor market to travelers on I-71,” said Bell. “We can run all the radio ads we want, but seeing the hustle and bustle of the outside vendors during the summer seems to be what pulls in the traffic.”

The biggest change is the introduction of the Summer Concert Series. From June through September, the parking lot will be transformed into a “drive-in theater,” featuring several different streamed concerts. Garth Brooks kicks off the series to an almost sold out crowd, with the dates for the remainder of the concerts being announced soon. As a result of the Coronavirus limiting entertainment options, this is a great opportunity for families to experience a concert from the comfort of their car, drive-in style. The Summer Concert Series will also feature an outdoor evening market and a variety of local food trucks and concession vendors that will be open until the concert begins.

**FLEA MARKET 2020 PROGRESS**

News Journal
Murphy Advertising Co. — "Are we on track?"

Murphy Advertising Co. — powered by HALO Branded Solutions, is based nationwide from home base in Wilmington. The business features promotional products, a decorated apparel and catalog company, and more. "Just ONE THING you can expect of us: a name, logo or message on an "army" of products. If it has been designed, if it is not a patent and a create!" the company believes. It is supported by HALO Branded Solutions and other independent promotional product companies, which give Murphy Advertising Co. support anywhere with worldwide resources.

"The promotional industry thrives on successes and challenges," says Murphy. "It is a mat- ter of diversity and taking any challenge to promote or get the right message out to improve and grow our business and services. With over 20 years of experience in the industry, the opportunities are more exciting than ever before! Branded products make our world a little bigger and more fun than ever."

This year has been a challenging year for enhanced Protective Equipment (PPE) products. The focus is making sure that healthcare workers are covered and United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulated. As the pandemic began, certifications when the COVID-19 started to be a part of our lives. Many have fulfilled three responsibilities. "Product safety and social compli- ance are a must or we do not offer that product," says Murphy. Murphy has a whole support team at HALO for charting those services with over 3,000 manufacturers around the world. All legalities and shipping guidelines to meet in-kind and band- led requirements.

The challenge may be the lack of Back-To-Work, Back-To-School, A Cancelled Event in a Box, Recogni- tion or just selecting the perfect gift. The business is a must or we do not offer that product," says Murphy. And Murphy Advertising Co. strives to do its best to provide opportunities for growth at all levels of the organization, including leadership team.

Last year, the company welcomed Ed Kohaik as chief operating officer in overall day-to-day airline, maintenance, and logistical operations. In January, John Chi- affitelli was promoted to President of Network Operations with subsidiary Air- borne Global Solutions. Chaffitelli has been with the company since 1984.

The company’s maintenance subsidiary, Airborne Maintenance & Engineering Services, acquired another airline, Omni Air International. During the same time, the business features growing opportunities for potential workers everywhere. "Quite simply, our employees are the reason for our success," said Debbie Loveless, vice president of human capital at ATSG. "We hire dedicated, hardworking, and committed people who want to make an impact in our company. Those interested in exploring careers with ATSG can visit www.atsg.com/careers. Let’s create that conver- sations, of course, and the soul of any organi- zation, of course, and the soul of any organi- zation, of course, and the soul of any organi- zation, of course, and the soul of any organi-
Ten years ago, on June 2, 2010, the Clinton County Port Authority and our community took an incredible leap of faith buttressed by incredible vision. No one knew what the future held for the Wilmington Air Park, but neither were those involved intimidated by it.

On that day, there were four companies remaining at the Air Park, employing approximately 750 people. Since that time, our community, tenants, our partners, elected and appointed community leaders, and our Board of Directors – past and present – have made a significant difference.

Employment at the Wilmington Air Park increased from 750 in 2010 to over 4,000 in 2020.

Employers at the Wilmington Air Park increased from 4 in 2010 to 14 in 2020.

Today, the Wilmington Air Park is home to:
- 14 distinct employers
- Roughly 4,000 employees, on-site – and growing!
- Diverse Tenant base, led by aviation/supply chain companies
- Multiple active prospects – aviation and non-aviation alike

Over $6 million in grant dollars have been leveraged with Port Authority funds, to improve the aviation infrastructure of the Wilmington Air Park. Millions of additional funds have been invested, by the Port Authority, in the Air Park’s facilities. We’re equally proud of the fact that we’ve spent more than $10 million with Clinton County companies over the past decade.

As we mark the 10th anniversary of our ownership of the Air Park, we want to recognize and thank our tenants who started this journey with us, those companies that have joined us along the way, our local and regional partners, and our entire community for the role each and all of you have played in this success, and the hope and opportunity you helped create.
Clinton County Port Authority

Coordinating, Enabling & Facilitating County-wide Economic Development

Nearly one year ago, five parties - the Clinton County Board of Commissioners, City of Wilmington, Wilmington Community Improvement Corporation, Clinton County Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the Clinton County Port Authority - committed to launching a comprehensive, collaborative, county-wide economic development program. The initiative, with funding from all five organizations, is facilitated and managed by the Clinton County Port Authority and creates a single point of contact for economic development activity, existing businesses, and those companies considering locating in Clinton County, Ohio.

The Staff of the Clinton County Port Authority is happy to be recognized, with 75 other Ohio businesses, as a "Best Workplace in Ohio." Ohio Business Magazine is in its sixth year of recognizing outstanding workplace environments, and has recognized the Port Authority for the first time.

The last year has seen additions to the Clinton County Port Authority staff, to enhance our focus on facilitating economic development opportunities county-wide. Executive Director Daniel G. Evers leads the organization and will celebrate five years with the CCPA in October. He has spent the last 20+ years advancing economic development in communities throughout Ohio. A long-time member of the Ohio Economic Development Association and a past President, he recently concluded his service on its Board of Directors. He earned his undergraduate degree from Miami University and his master’s degree in Public Administration from Xavier University.

Jennifer Eley, Economic Development Director for the Port Authority, also has spent her career active in Economic Development in Ohio, joining the Port Authority staff earlier this year after four years as Middletown’s Economic Development Director. Recognized as the 2019 Economic Development Professional of the Year by the Ohio Economic Development Association, Jennifer is a past president of the organization and a long-time member of its board. She is currently on the Board of Directors of the Mid America Economic Development Council.

With over 50 years of experience in Economic Development in Ohio, Jennifer and Dan have established relationships with regional and state organizations, and bring that experience and knowledge to Clinton County. Kimberly (Kim) Jones, a former employee of the Clinton County Port Authority, joined the CCPA staff earlier this year after 28 years as a regional offensive coordinator for ABX Air in 1989 and spent 20 years with that organization in Communications and Public & Community Relations. She joined the Port Authority as a contractor early in 2019 and worked with the team through the final negotiations to the donation. Beth earned her Ohio Economic Development Institute certification in 2019. She will celebrate 10 years as an employee in October of this year.

The newest member of the staff, Ruth Brindle, brings a myriad of experience to the Port Authority. Her background includes work with Main Street Wilmington, the Wilmington/Clinton County Chamber of Commerce, the Quaker Heritage Center and more. She joined the staff late in March of this year.

All staff members are active in the Community and support many organizations with volunteer hours and business contacts. Community organizations in which the Staff are involved include Clinton County Regional Planning, Wilmington City Records Commission, Wilmington Rotary, Ohio Economic Development Association, American Society for Public Administration, Cincinnati State’s President’s Advisory Board, the Clinton County Leadership Institute and more.

With the support of Brian Phillips, contracted for fiscal manager services, the staff coordinates county-wide economic development with partners at the Dayton Development Coalition, JobsOhio and other local and regional organizations, as well as oversees the management of the Wilmington Air Park, donated to the Clinton County Port Authority 10 years ago this month.

Beginning in July, the Port Authority is partnering with Small Business Development Center Program (SBDC) to bring Sangmi Kim, a business advisor dedicated to serving entrepreneurs and small business owners, to Clinton County. Kim will spend one day each week in our community, focusing on providing technical assistance to our small business community. Ohio’s SBDC program is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Ohio Development Services Agency, a Port Authority partner agency.

Locally, the Clinton County Port Authority is proud to partner with local organizations to support Economic Development in Clinton County, including the City of Wilmington, Clinton County, the Wilmington Community Improvement Corporation, the Wilmington-Clinton County Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Wilmington, Clinton County Regional Planning Commission, JobsOhio, the Dayton Development Coalition, the Blanchester Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Economic Development Association and more.

www.wilmingtonairpark.com                              Twitter@wilmingtonairpark                             devers@ccportauthority.com
What to expect from Phase 3 of reopening

Do YOU know?

An insurance policy is not designed to simply reopen, people looking forward to traveling need to be aware of the risks involved.

Restaurant owners are responding to Phase 3 regulations. And consumers are responding to support these vital communities.

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Ohio Living Cape May, Clinton County’s only 5-Star Rated Nursing Facility, continues to remain COVID-19 virus-free in our health care center, assisted living, and our villas as businesses throughout the state begin to open.

The staff at Cape May continue to follow all rules and guidelines put in place over the past several months by the Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Living’s Corporate Office, as well as other agencies.

Cape May’s primary focus is to provide a sense of normalcy for all residents and employees while still working to ensure the health and safety of all. With COVID-19 concerns continuing, cautious and preventive measures remain in place for Cape May staff and residents alike.

While there has been some relaxation of the visitation policies over the last week, we’re still doing our best each and every day to keep things “business as usual” for everyone.

The quality care and services provided by our Activities Department, as well as Culinary, Housekeeping and Laundry, Maintenance, Long-Term Care and Rehab Services remain fully operational but now include the addition of even more practices to keep everyone safe. Even in the midst of all we’re doing, we are still seeking qualified candidates to fill open positions during this strange time. Both business and life continue!

Keeping resident’s active is critical for many reasons, especially to stave off boredom and depression. For example, LaTasha Ruddle, Director of Activities at Cape May, said that some changes have been made to exercise programs since individual instructors are no longer permitted to enter the facility.

“We’ve been providing online and video exercise classes as actual exercise classes,” said Ruddle. “We also continue to deliver social-distancing activities ranging from chair volleyball to bingo to art classes for all levels of care.”

Residents are growing green beans inside the facility and attending social-distanced church services. Ruddle shared, “We try to provide activities that meet everyone’s different interests – especially during this time of restrictions and guidelines.”

While we’ve been considering how to safely reopen our main dining room, meals are still being hand-delivered to each resident with a smile by our Culinary staff. In fact, we’ve started taking orders for dinners from our Independent Villa residents – it’s the Cape May version of “curb side pickup.”

While visitors are still not permitted to enter the building, in certain areas, families can chat with their loved ones through window visits, video calls, and by using our new Visitor’s Window unit.

Upon entering the building, all staff and visitors are still required to take their temperatures and complete an assessment questionnaire. Social distancing, frequent hand washing, wearing of masks, and the almost constant disinfecting of surfaces continue to be heavily enforced, but employees have taken these adjustments in stride.

Daily and weekly meetings, phone calls, and written updates from Executive Director Brad Reynolds continue to keep staff, residents, and family members current on any changes that may occur within the facility. Reynolds mentioned, “While these communications have helped, directives from the State of Ohio and others continue to change day to day so keeping folks informed is a constant challenge.”

He pointed out again that Ohio Living Cape May, like similar communities and other health care organizations, will be one of the last to completely reopen to visitors, that is, once the pandemic numbers get to an acceptable level, as determined by the State of Ohio Department of Health.

Cape May is currently accepting applications for residency and care as residents are cautiously being moved in and out of the facility. Please contact Tom Dreyer, Director of Business Development for more information at 937-382-2995.

In addition, employee hiring continues – come join our caring team! See ohioliving.org/careers for details or call us at the same number.

The good life continues (even with restrictions!) at Ohio Living Cape May
Come DRIVE with us!
Southern State TRUCK DRIVING ACADEMY

Southern State Truck Driving Academy Remains Open
Enroll NOW for Summer Training

Southern State’s North Campus in Wilmington will be closing, but the Truck Driving Academy will remain open to serve students interested in obtaining the skills required to drive a truck.

The classroom portion will take place at the Brown County Campus in Mt. Orab (351 Brooks-Malott Road) beginning on July 20. Students will continue to utilize the existing pad in Wilmington (on Davids Drive) when training moves from the classroom to behind-the-wheel.

Students enrolled in the program can expect to spend their first week or two at the Brown County Campus for classroom instruction. The transition should be seamless. The TDA offices will also relocate to the Brown County Campus. The academy is following all CDC guidelines during this pandemic to keep students and instructors safe.

You have the potential to earn $45,000 to $55,000 in your first year!

For more information, please visit https://www.sscc.edu/academics/programs/truck-driving.shtml.
CONNECT to your Future!
at Southern State Community College

Fall Semester begins August 24 | REGISTER NOW!

Why Choose Southern State?

Our technical degrees and certificates emphasize real-world skills, while our transfer degrees provide a solid academic foundation—connecting you to your goal of a fulfilling career or an advanced degree. Transfer your credits and SAVE precious dollars.

How much will it cost me?

A college education does not have to break the bank. That is why our tuition is among the lowest in Ohio. We can connect you with the financial resources to help fund your education. Apply at www.sssc.edu/admissions/index.shtml TODAY!

Does Southern State offer the classes I need for my major?

Search through our list of academic programs at www.sssc.edu/academics/programs/index.shtml. If we don’t offer the specific degree you are looking for, take prerequisite courses that your specific major requires and transfer those credits.

How do I get started?

Enroll NOW! Submit the FREE admission application online at sssc.edu/admissions/apply.shtml. Once accepted, you will receive a Welcome Letter that includes a handy checklist telling you everything you will need to do prior to the next semester start date.
Ohio Living Cape May is proud to announce that our health care center has been rated five stars by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services!

This prestigious achievement is awarded to only a few select communities in the state of Ohio, and is based on quality care, best nursing practices, superior outcomes, overall satisfaction and state survey results.

We’d love to show you our 5-star care and services. Call 937.382.2995 to learn more!
Southern State’s North Campus in Wilmington will be closing, but the college’s Aviation Program will continue its presence at the Laurel Oaks Career Campus in Wilmington with fall semester resuming on August 24.

Being an aircraft mechanic is hard work, and the job can include long hours and a lot of travel – but Scot Pembleton, who coordinates the aviation program partnership between Southern State Community College and Laurel Oaks Career Campus, said he guarantees a job to anyone who finishes the program.

“I guarantee every student a job in the industry,” Pembleton said. “For every graduate, I have about 10 jobs waiting for them, and they all start at about $50,000 per year. Some have walked out at $100,000 per year.”

Pembleton said this demand is due to a nationwide shortage of qualified aircraft mechanics in a field where cutting corners can leave hundreds of lives being uncertain.

Shawn Tomlin, an aviation instructor who wrote the curriculum for the program, said the two schools’ relationships with several large airlines affords students many opportunities.

Amy McClellan, who oversees the program, said the program is Delta-preferred, which gives students a direct line to one of the nation’s largest airlines. “Delta looks at our students more because of that preferred status,” she said.

Many students go on to work at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, while others stay close to home working at Airborne Maintenance and Engineering Services. “If they’re willing to move, they can get a job anywhere,” McClellan said.

McClellan said two years is all it takes to prepare students for licensure in airplane and power plant certification. Six additional classes make a full associate’s degree, McClellan said.

Coursework includes hands-on classes in fuel systems, fluid lines, basic electricity, turbine engines, reciprocating engines, welding, and many other areas of study, McClellan said. This program’s faculty also gives it an edge, McClellan said. “We have tons of experience in our instructors,” she said. “They do a lot of things that are aside from the educational piece.”

According to McClellan, financing is the greatest challenge for students entering the program.

“We go in the summer, and there’s often not a lot of funding for that. But there are things to do with financial aid that can minimize out-of-pocket cost.”

For more information about Southern State’s Aviation Program, please email Amy McClellan at amcclellan@sscc.edu, or call 800.628.7722, Ext. 3510.
Clinton County is blessed with lots of farms specializing in raising alpacas and cultivating lavender, pumpkins, a variety of fruits, all designed to cater to regional tourists seeking an afternoon of fun and relaxation.

With traditional entertainment and festivals shuttered across Ohio in response to COVID-19, during a year marked by illness, social distancing, face masks and lengthy closures, Clinton County’s local farms specializing in agritourism are finding significant new interest from urban neighbors seeking opportunities to spend time with family and friends without the anxiety of huge crowds.

Peaceful Acres Lavender Farm in Martinsville illustrates the growing trend. With its fields coming into bloom in June, its scaled-down Summer Solstice Lavender Festival offers visitors a safe opportunity to “stroll our fields and find your peace” picking bundles and buckets of the flowering perennial. The farm also produces a variety of soaps, essential oils, skin care products and candles which it sells year-round online and at various venues.

One-derings Lavender Farm in Clarksville is open for field tours, lunch or tea, sachet-making, wreath-making and other activities this summer. The farm also produces a line of soaps, lotions, sprays and essential oils available online.

At Stokes Berry Farm near Wilmington, a local institution that can fairly claim to have invented agritourism decades ago, strawberries and black raspberries remain on offer in June and July. Adapting to COVID restrictions this year, Stokes has remained open in 2020, experiencing a significant rise in visitors wanting to safely break free of shelter-at-home restrictions.

Nearby KB Alpaca Farm on Gurneyville Road teamed up with Stokes Berry Farm to open simultaneously in June, offering regional visitors more opportunities to experience farm life, the type of coordination that might be a model for strengthening agritourism in Clinton County. KB’s variety of fleece products include rugs and shawls available year-round on its online store.

Cherrybend Pheasant Farm, located on more than 600 acres between Wilmington and Sabina, is a private membership hunting preserve considered one of the finest in Ohio and dating back more than 65 years, drawing visitors from all over the Midwest. Its schedule of events occurs primarily in the fall and winter.

At KalJen Farm and Schapacher Farms, both near Wilmington, cultivation of pumpkin patches is underway in anticipation and preparation of visitors safely enjoying autumn’s harvest season.

At Pot-Luck Greenhouse in Chester Township work is also underway to prepare for autumn weekends of pumpkin-picking and corn mazes.

New Horizon Farm & Dairy in New Vienna produces a variety of milk products, pasture raised beef, free-range chicken and baked goods. This working farm is open most days to visitors.

At Horsefeathers Farm in Clarksville, visitors enjoy interacting with WALLABYS, part of the kangaroo family, with space available for family gatherings, company functions, youth and sports outings.

Now more than 10 years old, the Barn Quilt Trail with its numerous murals located on barns across the county remains a favorite for many visitors. Preliminary work is now underway to create new maps and marketing materials with assistance from the Clinton County Convention & Visitors Bureau.
2020 PROGRESS

Bane-Welker Equipment might be best known for its big red iron, but this employee-owned company also offers big construction equipment and several consumer products including the popular Kubota brand.

After nearly 50 years of putting its precisely engineered orange machines into the hands of American’s farmers, builders and workers, Kubota Tractor Corporation knows something about success. You might say Kubota has built an awful lot of tractors. But the company has also built even more success stories for its customers across the country and around the world. Today, Kubota is a global company with over 5,000 people in North America who help bring to market a complete line of tractors of up to 210 Gross horsepower, performance-matched implements, compact and utility-class construction equipment, consumer lawn and garden equipment, hay tools and spreaders, commercial turf products, and utility vehicles.

Within that global company, Kubota Tractor Corporation, based in Grapevine, Texas, building machines in Georgia, designing engines in Illinois, creating mowers in Kansas and financing dreams across the US.

Every morning as the sun wakes up one time zone after another, more than a thousand Kubota dealers in local communities coast-to-coast unlock their doors and get to work helping others get to work. Kubota’s company employs more than 5,000 people in North America who help bring to market a complete line of tractors of up to 210 Gross horsepower, performance-matched implements, compact and utility-class construction equipment, consumer lawn and garden equipment, hay tools and spreaders, commercial turf products and utility vehicles.

The company continues to strengthen its compact tractor offerings for small agriculture and the residential market. At the same time, the company has entered commercial agriculture with midrange and high horsepower equipment for the commercial livestock, hay and row crop production markets.

• Tractor Lineup: With machines ranging from 18 to 210 gross horsepower, Kubota continues to strengthen its compact tractor offerings for small agriculture and the residential market. At the same time, the company has entered commercial agriculture with midrange and high horsepower equipment for the commercial livestock, hay and row crop production markets.

• Turf Lineup: From the compact but powerful T Series to the wide range of residential and commercial Z Series zero turn mowers, and everything in between, Kubota offers a cut above the rest with more options, technology, precision and comfort than ever before. Today’s residential and commercial turf lines are designed and built from the ground up with Kubota proven durability for years of reliable service.

• Utility Vehicle Lineup: Kubota utility vehicles are ready-for-anything work machines with the styling, operator comfort, and durability their hard-working users expect. From Kubota’s gas-powered RTVX Series, Kubota utility vehicles offer the perfect combination of beauty and brawn. And, Kubota’s award-winning, gas-powered StakJack RTVX250i is part workhorse and part racehorse with 40 mph of speed and acceleration that blurs the line between work and fun. For product literature or more information, contact your nearest Bane-Welker or visit KubotaUSA.com.

Additional consumer brands sold by Bane-Welker include Stihl, Thunder Creek and Woods. Bane-Welker Equipment was founded in 1967 by Kenneth and Patricia Bane, and has since grown to operate 10 stores in Indiana including Crawfordsville, La Crosse, Lebanon, Terre Haute, Pendleton, Plymouth, Winamac, and Wenth, and three stores in Ohio, including Eaton, Wilmington and Georgetown.

The company’s mission is to make a positive impact on customers, communities and themselves. The progressive company is always looking ahead and adapting to the needs of customers and the world around them and in true the spirit of innovation, became 100% employee owned in 2018.

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Smith Funeral Homes, serving local families for generations

Smith Funeral Homes, in Wilmington and in New Vienna, is a family owned and operated business now gearing up for its fourth generation to serve Clinton County.

Shane Smith, owner and funeral director, has incorporated all the safety measures necessary to make sure loved ones are comfortable and able to properly mourn their loss surrounded by their normal support system of family and friends.

“The loss of a loved one is hard enough without compounding grief with fear for personal health and safety,” Smith said. Shane and his wife, Niki, also an owner and funeral director, have been utilizing safety practices and proper care to ensure all type of services continue.

“It is important for families to be able to mourn the way they see fit,” said Niki. “We want the public to know all types of services are available to our families.”

With traveling to attend funeral services being unusually difficult, the Smith have “beached” some things on the technological aspect of the funeral service.

With live streaming, mourners from all over the country can see and hear the funeral services live or re-watch it later on their website smithandsonfuneralhomes.com.

This new streamlined website is much more user-friendly. Clientele can send condolences, order flowers, contribute photos for a tribute video, view and even order copies of the completed tribute video that was shown at the funeral.

“It’s a way for families to participate and contribute to a loved one’s memorialization when they themselves cannot be present. Some of those options were already available; the current situation has just pushed their importance to the forefront,” said Shane. I think (the pandemic) has raised people’s awareness of what’s available and what all can be done,” said Niki.

Now as things start to reopen and society returns to some of normalcy, the Smiths continue to comply with safety recommendations, whether its safety guidelines from state and local officials or requests from the next of kin.

“It’s really all about what the family wants,” said Niki. Of course, the best way to ensure your funeral is exactly how you want it is to pre-plan it. Smith Funeral Homes offers a wide variety pre-arrangement plans which can be customized to suit each individual. A quick appointment is all that is necessary.

“We’re here to serve the community,” said Niki.
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