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Results of Job Vacancy Survey Reported

Everything you want to know about current job statistics in the Greater Montgomery County Labor Market is now available, thanks to a comprehensive study sponsored by the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services and the Clark County Department of Job and Family Services. The purpose of the Job Vacancy Survey, which was funded by a BRAC grant through the Department of Labor, was to provide up-to-date information on the needs of employers and the demand for workers. It was prompted, in part, by anticipated large-scale workforce restructuring throughout the region.

The survey covered 10 counties, including Butler, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren. It was conducted by the Center for Urban and Public Affairs at Wright State University and the Business Research Group at the University of Dayton.

Lucious Plant of the Department of Job and Family Services and Jane Dockery of Wright State University were on hand at the January I-70/75 membership meeting to discuss survey results. A summary -- as well as the complete report -- may be downloaded from [The Job Center](#) website.

According to the presenters, uses for the data include

- Educational institutions, counselors and instructors may use this information to develop workforce development priorities and aid students and job seekers to identify occupations that are in demand.
- Policy makers and economic development professionals are better informed

about the location and the magnitude of the job vacancies as well as the quality and quantity of current job vacancies.

- Education and training service providers may use the information to plan employment services.
- Hiring managers and human resource professionals may use the data to assess hiring competition.
- Persons in our community who will need to make career decisions are better informed on the workforce needs of area employers.

Ohio Launches New Brand

'Build Your Business. Love Your Life.'



Financial incentives aren't enough. Research shows that executives value lifestyle benefits when considering where to expand a business and locate new jobs, according to Edward Burghard, executive director of the Ohio Business Development Coalition, a non-profit agency that is marketing the state for capital investment. Burghard was the featured speaker at the February I-70/75 membership meeting.

These findings are the foundation for the new Ohio brand summed up in the tagline, "Build Your Business. Love Your Life." It communicates that in Ohio, business success and a fulfilling lifestyle go hand in hand.

The announcement of the new brand last fall was marked by the launch of an advertising campaign that was kicked off in the *Wall Street Journal*. Building on the notion that a business executive will listen to advice from another business executive, each advertisement features an Ohio business person whose experience illustrates how one can find both a successful business and personal life in Ohio. The ads have continued to appear in the *Wall Street Journal* as well as in *BusinessWeek*, *Industry Week* and *Fortune*. For more information, visit Ohio Business Development Coalition.

New Life for Kettering Retail Center

Former Van Buren Center Redeveloped



One of the area's high-profile redevelopment projects, the transformation of the former Van Buren Shopping Center to The Shoppes at Kettering Pointe, is nearly complete. The project has been spearheaded by Unified Developers, and leasing has been

handled by Richard Flagel Realty Inc. While Subway restaurant remained open throughout the redevelopment, new tenants have been added, including Cardinal Fitness, Hot Heads Burritos, Sun Terrific Tanning and Creative Nails. As of this writing, all but 1,350 square feet of the project's 20,000 square feet available have been leased. The development also includes the addition of 36 new single-family homes, which are being built by Inverness.

Alex Bell Square Nears Completion

Alex Bell Square, located on Alex Bell Rd. in Moraine, is nearing completion. This 4,800-square-foot project by Ashford Construction will house the relocation of Cassano's Pizza King and Wine America, a new drive-thru concept. Projected openings for these businesses are early spring according to Kelly Gray of Richard Flagel Realty Inc.

Butler Township Company Expands with ED/GE Grant



Butler Township officials recently learned that their proposal for a Montgomery County economic development grant to support the expansion of ZED Industries on Lightner Road was successful. This will provide to the company, a high-tech producer of automated

packaging and related equipment, \$56,650 from the County's ED/GE Program to support the first of several projected expansions.

Located north of the Dayton airport, ZED Industries is part of a growing area targeted for economic development jointly by Butler Township and the city of Dayton. The expansion will provide ZED the room to house larger manufacturing equipment and take on bigger projects. The company employs 63 people and no fewer than 10 jobs will result from the expansion.

AT&T Honored for Product of the Year

AT&T recently announced that AT&T Homezone service has been selected as the 2007 North American Consumer Communication Services Product of the Year by Frost & Sullivan, a global growth consulting company. The new service integrates AT&T Yahoo! High Speed Internet, AT&T | DISH Network satellite television and AT&T Home Networking services. It features digital videorecording, movies on demand, photo and music sharing, storage for both, and remote, Web-based access to the system.

The award recognizes companies that have demonstrated excellence in new products and technologies within its industry. In selecting AT&T for this award, Frost & Sullivan noted that the company "has incorporated a coherent product strategy to retain its competitive position in the consumer services space and to provide customers with an integrated home-entertainment experience."

Successful Realtor Recognized



The Dayton Area Board of Realtors recently honored Kelly Gray of Richard Flagel Realty Inc. with an Award of Distinction. This recognition, which highlights outstanding service to the local real estate industry, is presented to a select few realtors who have made a significant impact in real estate sales in the past year.

"I'm extremely pleased to be a part of this elite club," stated Kelly. "Knowing the commercial market and providing quick response to both clients and prospective clients has really been the key to my success."

Awards (and More Awards) for Ferguson Construction

The Ohio Valley Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors Inc. has presented several awards to Ferguson Construction for various projects throughout the state:

- An award of excellence was presented for the city of Sidney's police facility. The 42,000-square-foot steel, block and brick building was constructed adjacent to Sidney's municipal building complex. The new, two-story structure features a 35-foot high open atrium lobby and an overall art deco design that complements other city buildings.
- An award of merit was presented for the Ohio State University Buckeye Village Community Center, a 28,000-square-foot structure that houses the OSU childcare center as well as various services and administrative functions. The housing area caters to students who have families residing with them during their time at the university.
- An award of commendation was given for the Advanced Foot & Ankle Care Center in Huber Heights. Located at 6215 Old Troy Pike, the care center is a 5,400-square-foot contemporary wood-framed and concrete block building with a brick wainscot. Ferguson was involved from design through final construction and worked closely with the owners to achieve their objectives.

With offices in Columbus, Dayton and Sidney, OH, and Columbus, IN, Ferguson Construction specializes in commercial, industrial and institutional construction. The company employs more than 300 people.

Invest Your Time and Talent in the Future

Group Seeks Mentors

The Area Coalition for Education-Excellence (ACE- E) needs your help to secure the area's future. The group is working to create a partnership of volunteers from local employers as well as community and federal/military leaders who will work toward the vision of developing a world-class education system in Dayton-Springfield area public schools. ACE-E's primary focus is on the mentoring of underserved youth from local school systems. They hope to inspire public school youths to complete their education and also increase their opportunities to experience self- esteem. For more information, please call (937) 531- 6644.

Consumers Invited to Speak Up

Have an opinion on a national or local business? Now you can share it with other consumers, thanks to YELLOWPAGES.COM, a subsidiary of AT&T Inc. The company has rolled out User Reviews to its national site, enabling consumers to provide opinions on their experiences with all types of businesses.

"Our new User Reviews service adds richness and depth to the comprehensive database of local business information already available at YELLOWPAGES.COM, and gives our users another element to consider when choosing the businesses that best meet their needs," said Charles Stubbs, president and CEO of YELLOWPAGES.COM.

The service allows consumers who register with the site to rate businesses from one to five stars, with five stars representing an "exceptional" rating. Site visitors can also write original text recapping their experience with businesses.

About the Association



The I-70/75 Development Association brings together more than 100 businesses and organizations and some 250 individuals in southwestern Ohio. With a 19-year history, the association strives to improve the region's development opportunities through professional development, networking and information sharing. The association sponsors monthly programs in addition to an annual Economic Development Summit. For more information, [click here](#) or call Christy Herman at 937- 339-7639.

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