



BUSINESS BULLETIN

Local PPG operations changing hands

The more than 250 employees at the Southern Avenue distribution center of PPG soon will have new owners. Platinum Equity of Beverly Hills, CA is buying the automotive glass business from PPG for \$500 million.

The local employees are among the 4,400 in the U.S. and Canada affected by the sale. PPG management said the original unit of the company was sold to allow it to concentrate on more lucrative parts of its business, such as coatings, aerospace, optical products and expansion in Asia.

PPG's plant in Circleville is not part of the sale.

Petland celebrates 40-year anniversary

Starting with a tiny store on South Paint Street that opened Oct. 21, 1967, Petland, founded by former chamber Entrepreneur of the Year Ed Kunzelman, now has 202 locations in the United States, Canada, Chile, Japan and South Africa.

Plans are to open a store in China soon.

Petland's world headquarters are on Riverside Street in Chillicothe.

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Ground is broken for the new PACCAR Medical Education Center on the campus of the Adena Health System in front of the present regional medical center and doctors office building.

Med center to serve area

Medical training facility to be one of the most modern in the nation

Nurses with bachelor's degrees in a few years will graduate from the PACCAR Medical Education Center, which becomes part of the Adena Health System campus when it opens in 2008.

The \$15 million center will feature state-of-the-art mannequins that will give students feedback on reactions to drugs and other procedures. In addition to nurses, the center will provide continuing education training for doctors, paramedics and other health professionals.

The training is being provided by a partnership that includes Adena, Wright State University and Ohio University-Chillicothe.

Adena is providing \$10 million toward the center with \$5 million coming from the Adena Health Foundation. The foun-

dation received big boosts recently from two local businesses.

The PACCAR Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the parent company of the Kenworth Truck Company, contributed \$1 million toward the center, which will also have a 300-seat Kenworth Auditorium.

Horizon Chillicothe Telephone contributed \$200,000 in August.

"This is all about the region," said Adena CEO Mark Shuter. "We really want this to be a community and regional resource."

Adena wants to increase the number of nurses with bachelor's degrees because statistics show that a 10 percent increase in BSN-prepared nurses leads to a 5 percent increase in patient outcomes.

In addition to the training facility, Adena's expansion plans call for an investment of \$180 million in the next five years. This includes a new women's and children's hospital, oncology center and improved cardiology facilities.

Group working downtown plan

The Downtown Chillicothe Partnership is working to put into place the recommendations from a strategic plan developed by national experts.

HyettPalma delivered its plan to the community in early June following five months of research, much of it conducted by the partnership. The plan includes strategies to make improvements in several areas, such as renovating a local landmark building, improving parking, updating guidelines for façade and sign work and bringing more businesses downtown.

The 23-member partnership has divided the assignments and is working to enact the strategies. The plan was paid by contributions from local businesses, industry, government and individuals.

"Re-invigorating our historic downtown district has become a broad-based community-wide effort," said Marvin Jones, president and CEO of the Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce which is serving as the facilitator for the partnership.



www.downtownchillicothe.com

Retail sector continues its rapid growth cycle

Representatives from firms in Columbus, Dayton and elsewhere continue to seek information for their clients considering locating in Chillicothe and Ross County.

The developers who are not familiar with Chillicothe quickly learn it's a destination for the region for shopping, dining, employment, entertainment and health care.

When considering this area for a new store or expansion, developers need to know that people in all

counties contiguous to Ross factor into the local economy.

Establishments such as Hobby Lobby, Tumbleweed and Red Lobster learned this sooner than others to take advantage of the market.

Now, others are planning to make their mark here. A few examples:

- Menard's is planning to build one of its home improvement stores on North Bridge Street in 2009.
- Olive Garden opened its restaurant on Bridge Street on Dec. 17
- Aldi's grocery, also on North Bridge Street, opened in December.
- Ollie's Bargain Outlet opened recently in Shawnee Square.
- KFC opened in September its new replacement restaurant at Western Ave-



The new Olive Garden Restaurant on North Bridge Street opened on December 17.

nue and Plyley's Lane on the western edge of the city.

- Walgreen's plans a new store in 2008, opposite the new KFC.

These are in addition to the Sam's Club that opened a year ago, a major expansion at Wal-Mart and the new Herrnstein Hyundai dealership on Ohio 207.



Block is laid for a multi-tenant building in front of Sam's Club on North Bridge Street.

Alliance launches its new website

Economic Development Alliance of SOUTHERN OHIO

Chillicothe and Ross County
Where the heart lands

Home Available sites Demographics Workforce Incentives Transportation Utilities Other Resources

Chillicothe a "best hometown"
Citing its history, culture and business opportunities, Ohio Magazine named Chillicothe one of "Ohio's Best Hometowns."
[More >>](#)

Center to serve the region
This new \$15 million center will provide continuing education training for nurses, doctors, paramedics and other health professionals.
[More >>](#)

Newspaper: Chillicothe in mainstream
"One of Ohio's top political bellwethers" is how the Columbus Dispatch describes Chillicothe.
[More >>](#)

Help available to train employees
No matter if you are a new or established industry or business, there are several options available if you're looking to provide training for your employees.
[More >>](#)

Alliance CEO visits YSK officials in Japan

Local incentives available

Larger Spec Building Going Up

Local PPG operations changing hands

State working on strategic plan

Site selectors, developers and others searching for information about Chillicothe, Ross County and southern Ohio now can turn to the new website of the Alliance: www.edaso.org.

Launched in November, the website features information on demographics, the workforce, utilities and a comprehensive listing of available properties for sale or lease. It also features the latest news on business and industry in the area.

Designed by the Opulent Source firm, the website uses the content management system form to keep items fresh and to allow for easy updating.

City has new schools

School and community officials cut the ribbon on the completion of a three-year project that transformed the former Chillicothe High School into a facility for both the high and middle schools.

New classrooms were built for the high school on the northern end and opened in 2006 while the old high school was renovated for the middle school and opened just in time for the school year.

In addition to new classrooms, the schools have a new cafeteria, an additional gymnasium and state-of-the-art technology and laboratories.



\$14 million grant creates Southern Ohio Health Care Network

The Federal Communications Commission has awarded a \$14 million grant for the building of a fiber optic network to connect healthcare providers in a 15-county region of Southern Ohio. Adena Health System and O'Leary Health System will oversee the project as part of a consortium of organizations.

"We are really excited that the FCC has chosen to fund this important project," said Mark Shuter, President and CEO of

Adena Health System. "The Southern Ohio Health Care Network will have a significant impact on the health and well-being of everyone in this region."

The project will create a broadband network encompassing a service area of 15 rural counties and will serve 19 health clinics, eight critical access hospitals, and 11 rural health clinics.

The project will be open to all providers in the service area, and will expand telemedicine capacity.

Telemedicine is a rapidly developing application of clinical medicine where medical information is transferred via the Internet or other networks for the purpose of consulting and remote medical procedures or examinations.

In creating the network, the partners plan to construct or purchase fiber optic rings to create a backbone connecting the largest concentrations of healthcare facilities.

NewPage acquires mills

The NewPage Corporation is expected to have about 36 percent of the North American coated-paper market once it completes early next year the acquisition of Stora Enso.

NewPage, which has 180 employees at its converting facility on Chamber Drive north of Chillicothe, picks up eight paper mills in Wisconsin and Minnesota and should see its annual revenue, production capacity and workforce double when the deal is done.

USEC lands big contract

Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power plans to buy \$400 million worth of fuel from USEC in the next six years, according to a new contract signed by the two.

The company has 20 nuclear power plants that supply more than 40 percent of Korea's electricity. The contract shows support for USEC's American Centrifuge Plant in Piketon, said John Donelson, USEC's vice president of marketing and sales.

The plant is expected to be operational by late 2009 and have 11,500 centrifuge machines deployed by 2012.

Litter hits 75th year

Litter Industries took over the Ross County Fairgrounds recently with a family-oriented celebration for its 75th anniversary. Local organizations manned the various activities available to the kids, benefiting from the proceeds.

The Old Canal Smokehouse provided the food from its new kitchen-on-wheels and several area bands provided the entertainment along with the Four Lads.

New tool makes things clear

Ross County now has the capability of providing developers and others with crystal-clear aerial photographs of every square inch.

Property lines, utility lines, streets, land contours and other features can be overlaid on the photos provided by Pictometry.

Unlike normal aerial photos, though, Pictometry uses oblique angles that provide a 360-degree look at all properties. The photos can be viewed much like a website with print-outs available as well as the potential to save photos to a computer disk or flash drive.



Glatfelter plant captured by Pictometry

Ross County expecting twins

Two 50,000 square foot industrial buildings are currently under construction in Ross County. One will house expanded operations for Riffle Machine Works, a supplier to the Kenworth Truck Co. Watch for it taking shape on Ohio 159 north of Delano Road. Twenty-five new jobs will follow.

The Ross County Community Improvement Corporation is constructing a shell building in Gateway Interchange Industrial Park. The "spec" building will be available for sale or lease, and will be under roof in January. Contact Dona Smith at the CIC, 740.702.2720 or the Alliance at 740.772.5100.



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