

ISSUE 14 - SPRING 2015

SHELBY COUNTY Sizzles

Inside this Issue



CASA LUPITA OPENS

Providing an abundant selection of authentic Mexican cuisine...

PAGE 2



SNAP FITNESS BRINGS EXPERTISE

Offers a fast, convenient and affordable workout, close to home...

PAGE 3



FUJI SUSHI & STEAK HOUSE OPENS

Expertly prepared for flavor and artistry....

PAGE 4

Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership Hosts Familiarization Tour

Available sites and buildings continue to be a key driver in selling economic growth. As Shelby County continues to foster low business costs and offer excellent business incentives, it is important for area economic development leaders to remain familiar with available opportunities for prospective employers and those looking to expand.

Recently, the Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership, along with neighboring economic development groups, hosted two site selection consultants and economic development professionals at a "Familiarization Tour". The focus of the tour is to familiarize the site selection consultants with our West Central Ohio region. Day one of the tour began in Allen County then proceeded to Auglaize, Mercer, Darke, Miami, Champaign and Shelby Counties. Representatives from those counties described several existing businesses within the counties as well as available buildings and sites.

"Familiarization Tours provide area economic developers, site selectors and business leaders with the opportunity to get acquainted with a community," explained Mike Dodds, Executive Director of the Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership. "Shelby County and the West Central Ohio Region is growing forward. It is not only important for our team to showcase available sites and buildings but also to illustrate the great business potential offered here."

Day two of the Familiarization Tour consisted of a presentation from the site selection consultants. They analyzed and provided constructive suggestions on how the economic developers market their sites via websites, social media and printed marketing materials. Local business leaders and elected officials attended a luncheon where the consultants shared a summary of their observations and suggestions for future development efforts. Based on the success of this event, future Familiarization Tours are being planned with other site selection consultants.



SIDNEY-SHELBY
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP
technology. growth. progress.

Workforce Academy Expands Curriculum for 2015

The Workforce Academy will be expanding its curriculum at Sidney High School in the 2015-2016 school year. In addition to the current Career Academy and Skills Academy, the new SHS classes will include Workforce Career Academy II, and the Workforce RCI Academy. These classes will focus on the various careers available in Shelby County and the skills needed to enter into those vocations.

The Career Academy will give students a unique learning experience complete with a state-of-the-art classroom equipped with current technologies. Students will explore firsthand the career opportunities in Shelby County with guest speakers. Students will explore and begin to develop a career plan for their future success, whether that be through higher education or employment. In the Skills Academy, students will be introduced and exposed to hands-on activities that explicitly promote skills, character attributes and experiences associated with 21st century careers in Shelby County. In a contemporary classroom, students will learn and develop skills that may be transferred to academics, extra-curricular activities, community service, as well as employment.

The Career Academy II will give students a unique learning experience, complete with a high-tech classroom equipped with current technologies. Students will experience real-world, hands-on projects provided by business leaders in Shelby County, as well as visit their facilities and job shadowing leaders in their organizations.



Students will experience, implement and finalize a pathway plan for their futures, whether that be through higher education or employment.

Ross Castings and Innovations (RCI), a local company, has generously offered to fund a new class for 2015-16 called the RCI Academy. In this class, students will experience a new and challenging educational experience. Students will become prepared for employment or college by learning advanced skills needed to be successful in college or in the workplace.

Accelerated topics covered will include blueprint reading, safety, quality assurance, CAD, communication, teamwork, public speaking, facilitating a meeting and other related topics.

"It's exciting to see us being forward thinking," said Sharon Maurice, Workforce Academy teacher and Director of the Workforce Partnership of Shelby County. "It's wonderful that the businesses want to be involved in education. We are making sure our students are better prepared before going to college or directly into the work place."

Welcome to Casa Lupita Mexican Grille

An experienced restauranteur, Rudy Benitez recently expanded his family's operation of Casa Lupita in New Bremen with the opening of a second restaurant at 1306 Wapakoneta Avenue in Sidney. Named in honor of his mother, Guadalupe, Rudy has big plans for his family's new restaurant.

Casa Lupita Mexican Grille offers an abundant selection of authentic, family-influenced Mexican cuisine prepared fresh to order. Grilled selections are the specialty of the house with all meals prepared using the freshest cuts of meat, seafood, vegetables, marinades, and seasonings. Special dietary requests are cheerfully accommodated.

The dining room at Casa Lupita is festive and inviting. A staff of ten is dedicated to serving customers courteously and promptly. Full bar service is available offering a variety of Mexican and domestic beers, wine, and spirits. According to Rudy, patrons love their margaritas.



Casa Lupita offers both dine in and carry out options and is a fun and unique alternative for graduation parties, family gatherings, and catered in office meetings. The restaurant is open Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Those interested can find them on Facebook at Casa Lupita #2.

Timber Trail Subdivision Underway in Anna

Ground has recently been broken as Middendorf Builders move forward in developing a new subdivision named Timber Trail. The new housing development is located on the south end of Anna off of Pike Street, just minutes from Honda, I-75 and Sidney. The area is situated in the Anna school district. Plans include 32 building lots of which 10 are wooded. The large lots are at least 1/2 acre in size with some having 120 feet of frontage. The street layout consists of a cul-de-sac.

Middendorf Builders has been serving Shelby, Auglaize, Mercer, Miami, Darke & Logan counties for over 18 years and pride themselves on paying attention to detail and

working to deliver the highest quality work possible. Middendorf Builders will be overseeing every facet of the development from site evaluation to project development to total construction coordination and logistics.

They are pleased that the Timber Trail area has been recently annexed to the village and will have all services including central sewer, water, gas and electric, along with a property tax abatement once the homes are completed. For more information please go to www.middendorfbuilders.com

Anna welcomes Middendorf Builders as they develop this great addition to the community.

Snap Fitness 24/7 Opens New Gym in Sidney



In January 2015, Marion Shoffner opened Snap Fitness 24/7 with the goal of bringing a high level of fitness expertise and service to Shelby County. "We are a results based, scientifically tested system of fitness offering guaranteed results," says Shoffner. "We completely renovated our facility at 1524 Michigan Street and feature the most modern fitness equipment available."

Snap Fitness 24/7 offers a fast, convenient and affordable workout. Members choose Snap Fitness as a clean, comfortable, and close-to-home gym with everything they need to get results. Snap Fitness is a well-rounded gym alternative offering free weights, cardio, and strength training equipment, exercise classes, and nutrition assistance. Personal training services from nationally certified trainers are also available to help members achieve better results.



Single, two-adult, and family membership plans are available as is access to convenient 24 hour gym locations worldwide. Membership also includes access to mysnapfitness.com where members create their own personal mysnapfitness page to track progress, create custom meal and nutrition plans, participate in motivating challenges, and connect with other Snap Fitness members.



Inside This Issue

- SSEP Hosts Familiarization Tour
- Workforce Academy Expands Curriculum
- Casa Luptia Mexican Grille opens in Sidney
- Timber Trail Subdivision Underway in Anna
- Snap Fitness 24/7 Opens
- Fuji Sushi and Steak House Opens

Thank You to our contributors:

SSEP; Kari Egbert, City of Sidney; Julie Ehemann, The County of Shelby; and Jeff Raible, Sidney-Shelby County Chamber.

The publishers invite your comments, suggestions, story ideas, and sponsorship of future issues. If you have questions or concerns, please contact **Mike Dodds** - mdodds@choosesidneyshelby.com

*For a free digital copy of Shelby Sizzles, please visit www.choosesidneyshelby.com

Printed versions of Shelby Sizzles are courtesy of **Baumfolder Corporation** in Sidney.

Fuji Sushi and Steak House Opens Doors in Sidney

Eric Chen dreamed of owning a restaurant like his brother's in Muncie, Indiana. For the past three years he has planned for what has now become a reality in Sidney. Opening February 23rd at 1548 Michigan Street, Eric owns and operates Fuji Sushi & Steak House. "In my travels I have always been impressed with Sidney", says Eric. "The city is busy, has a high level of employment, and has always been friendly to me."

Eric has 13 years of experience in the restaurant business. Much of his time has been spent in the kitchen perfecting his culinary and restaurant management skills. Eric's skills as a Sushi Chef have been refined and improved over time. He takes great pride in his craft and appreciates not only the taste of expertly-prepared sushi and sashimi, but its artistry as well.

Fuji lunch and dinner selections include soups, salads, both raw and cooked appetizers, Teriyaki, Hibachi, Tempura, Katsu, Japanese Noodle selections, a wide variety of combination meals, and desserts. Soups, salad dressings, and sauces at Fuji are all prepared fresh, in house. A variety of soft drink selections are offered to include traditional Japanese hot tea and Japanese soda.



The restaurant itself has been tastefully renovated in an Asian theme. Diners will enjoy the comfortable atmosphere seated at booths and tables or at the sushi bar where they can watch sushi chefs skillfully apply their craft with fresh vegetables and seafood.