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# Fairfield OH BUSINESS BOOSTER

## Winter 2015 Support Local Business

This holiday season, as people are doing their holiday shopping, the City of Fairfield and the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce are once again encouraging people to "Support Local Business." Look for banners and advertisements around town to remind people of this simple, but important, message.



Numerous studies have shown the benefits of supporting local businesses. They recycle a much larger share of their dollars in the local economy; they provide uniqueness and distinctive character to communities; they foster local job creation; and they help build and sustain healthy communities.

## Happy Birthday to Jungle Jim's



Jungle Jim's International Market celebrated its 40th birthday in August with a week of special events. Pictured are "Jungle" Jim Bonaminio and wife Joani cutting a special birthday cake in the store bakery.

## Fairfield Businesses Celebrate Landmark Anniversaries

Three longtime Fairfield businesses recently celebrated landmark anniversaries.

### Richards Pizza

Richards Pizza, a famous Butler County tradition, recently celebrated the 60th



anniversary of the opening of its original restaurant in Hamilton. Richards opened its Fairfield location at 495 Nilles Road in 2006, and now has five locations throughout Butler County.

Founder Richard Underwood started the business in 1955. In the late 1980s, daughters Karen and Gayl came on board as the second generation ownership. The Fairfield location is the largest of the five locations, complete with three private banquet rooms that can accommodate meetings or parties.

### Pediatric Associates of Fairfield

Pediatric Associates of Fairfield celebrates 50



years in business this year. It started in 1965

with one pediatrician, Dr. Stanley Goodman. It is now up to 11 pediatricians and a medical staff of 60. The practice sees nearly 15,000 patients per year. Many are second or even third generation patients.

Last year the Fairfield office moved to a storefront in the Jungle Jim's complex. It also has locations in Hamilton, West Chester and Harrison.

### Hicks Manor Barbershop

Hicks Manor Barbershop is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2015. It was opened



in 1965 by founder Clarence Strunk, with assistance from brother and fellow barber Elvin Strunk. In 1968, it moved to its present location at 1133 Magie Avenue.

Elvin remembers the early days. "When we started, we charged \$2 per haircut. We had customers who used to ride horses in from their farms and tie them off in front of the barbershop."

The traditional men's barbershop continues to have a down-home, relaxing "Mayberry" type of feel to it. As Clarence said, "I have loved cutting hair all these years. I like meeting all the people. Every day I meet someone new. For our regular customers, its like they are a member of the family."



## Fairfield Schools Groundbreaking

On October 15, students helped Fairfield City School District officials break ground on its \$80 million construction project. The project involves three new buildings, including a new Freshman School and Central Elementary and an additional elementary school.

## Port Union Commerce Park

Construction is complete on two new speculative industrial buildings at the Port Union Commerce Park. The industrial park, which spans the border between the City of Fairfield and West Chester Township, already contains two large, fully leased, multi-tenant buildings. The two new buildings add more than 800,000 square feet of new leasable space.

Even though no tenants have been signed for the new buildings, the owners expect the buildings to fill quickly. "The local market is extremely tight for spaces for modern industrial distribution, so we're already seeing encouraging activity," said Douglas Swain, vice president and general manager for the project developer Opus Development Company.

Vacancies for bulk distribution and warehouse space are the lowest the Cincinnati market has ever seen, said Mike Lowe of commercial real estate firm CBRE. "The supply is so tight right now. There's a lack of available Class A buildings."



Building 1, located at 4250 Port Union Road in Fairfield, will contain 260,000 square feet. Building 3, located at 4350 Port Union Road in West Chester, will contain 547,000 square feet.

## Antique Mall Expanding

After eight years of success, the Ohio Valley Antique Mall on Route 4 in Fairfield recently completed an expansion, making it the largest antique mall in the Cincinnati region. More than 20,000 square feet of new space was added to the original 65,000 square feet. The new space will accommodate 150 new booths, bringing the total number of dealer booths to more than 500.

The antique mall attracts dealers from all over the region, and even as far as

North Carolina and Michigan. Booth space has been in demand, and the expansion will allow for even more dealers. Having more dealers with more products will lead to even more customers. Staff likes to tell the story about a customer who traveled all the way from Japan, whose purchases had to be shipped back via customs.

Owner Paula Faxon is excited about the expansion. "We have become a shopping destination. Customers are planning their road trips around their visit



to Ohio Valley Antique Mall." It is open 7 days a week, from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm for customer convenience.

For more information, visit [www.OhioValleyAntiques.com](http://www.OhioValleyAntiques.com) or call (513) 874-7855.

## Ben's Alterations Planning Move

Ben's Alterations & Tailoring, which has spent its 16 year existence at 6108 Winton Road in Fairfield, is planning to move in early January to a building at 822 Nilles Road, across from the Fairfield YMCA. Ben's is a full-service alteration shop, specializing in dresses, suits, wedding gowns, and non-clothing items like drapes.

Owners Thanh and Loan Luong are excited about the upcoming move. The

couple recently purchased the building and are making some renovations. When complete, it will provide a larger space for their business plus another space available for lease.

Ben's is a true family-owned business. Loan primarily runs the business on a day-to-day basis. "All our customers love my wife," says Thanh proudly. The business is named after their oldest son Ben, who was only 1 year old



when they opened the doors.

For more information, visit [www.BensAlterations.com](http://www.BensAlterations.com) or call (513) 829-5666.