



## In This Issue

[Bridge to Include Decorative Railings and Lights](#)

[Moody's Reaffirms Gahanna's Aa1 Bond Rating](#)

[Gahanna Considers Deal with Columbus on Sidewalks](#)

[Creekside's Wine Guy Taking Mezzo Space](#)

[Meadowbrooke Subdivision Heads to Council](#)

[Gahanna CIC Considers New Tax Status for More Revenue](#)

[Franklin County, Fastest Growing County in 2012](#)

[Columbus 2020 Update](#)

[Columbus Business First News](#)

[U.S. Small Business Administration News](#)

[Tech-Tip of the Month](#)

[Upcoming Events!](#)

[Resources & Information](#)

## Local Development News



## [Bridge to Include Decorative Railings and](#)



### [Volunteers Sought for 'Gahanna Cleans Green'](#)

Volunteers are needed to help Gahanna Clean Green on Saturday, April 20. Event coordinator Sharon Montgomery said volunteers are needed to work between 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to help set up, direct traffic, collect food donations, transport shredded items from cars to truck loaders, and move electronics from cars to collection bins.

Full story [here!](#)

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The City of Gahanna welcomes franchisee William Francis as the doors to Supercuts opened at the Commons at Clark Hall. Located at 105 North Hamilton Road.

William can be reached at (614) 472-3333 or [billfrancis914@gmail.com](mailto:billfrancis914@gmail.com).

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## Lights

Visitors should know when they're entering Gahanna with a new bridge entry feature at Hamilton Road on the Interstate 270 bridge in 2015.

City engineer Karl Wetherholt said during a March Council Committee meeting that the department of development has been wanting entry features so visitors know when they are in Gahanna.

A concept plan for Hamilton at I-270 shows Gahanna's name spelled out, as well as decorative railing and lights on the bridge.

Full story [here!](#)



CITY OF GAHANNA

## Moody's Reaffirms Gahanna's Aa1 Bond Rating

Security rating agency Moody's Investor Services Inc. has reaffirmed the city of Gahanna's Aa1 bond rating, the second-highest credit rating issued by Moody's. During the April 1 Gahanna City Council meeting, council president Stephen Renner commended finance director Jennifer Teal and Assistant City Administrator Brandi Braun for their efforts in the process.

Full story [here!](#)

## Gahanna Considers Deal with Columbus on Sidewalks

Gahanna City Council is considering a cooperative agreement with Columbus to connect sidewalks along Stygler Road.

City engineer Karl Wetherholt told Gahanna City Council the section of Stygler Road immediately north of the Gahanna corporate boundary is in need of extensive repair.

"Columbus has been working on plans to rebuild this section with walls to stabilize the hillside," he said. "A portion of the project will extend into the Gahanna territory to accommodate the revised grading."

Full story [here!](#)



**HearUSA**  
America's Most Trusted Name in Hearing Care.



The City of Gahanna welcomes new franchise owner Kimberly Cleary as the newest HearUSA held its ribbon cutting ceremony this month. HearUSA is located at 153 W. Johnstown Road.

Kimberly can be reached at (614) 492-0200 or [kcleary@hearusa.com](mailto:kcleary@hearusa.com).

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The City of Gahanna welcomes LWG to our business community. Located at 845 Claycraft Road, LWG delivers certainty to clients when they need it most: When structures, equipment, systems or data have been threatened by catastrophe or litigation.

For more information, visit [www.lwgconsulting.com](http://www.lwgconsulting.com) or contact Christopher Powell at (614) 372-1642 [christopherpowell@lwgconsulting.com](mailto:christopherpowell@lwgconsulting.com).



## Tips for Writing a Basic Marketing Plan

As a business owner, it's likely that you not only own the task of coming up with a strategic marketing plan, but also the act of executing it. If this is you, then a plan can help you direct your day-to-day activities, guide your approach, and ensure you are making the most of the available resources. The good news is that a marketing plan need not be encyclopedic or overly time consuming to prepare. In fact, the simpler the plan, the more effective it can be. A simple plan also gives you the flexibility to quickly adjust your tactics if needed.

Full story [here!](#)

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## Healthy Choice for Small

## Creekside's Wine Guy Taking Mezzo Space, Opening Ciao Vino Italian Kitchen

Creekside's newest tenant is one of its oldest. Craig and Laura Decker, owners of the growing Wine Guy chain, are the mysterious tenant that has taken over the Mezzo restaurant space at the Gahanna development.

"We'd had an Italian concept in the hopper for about six or eight months," Decker said. "We were just looking for a location." They plan to open Ciao Vino Italian Kitchen in May.

Full story [here!](#)

## Meadowbrooke Subdivision Heads to Council

Gahanna's Planning Commission approved a zoning application for the proposed Meadowbrooke subdivision with 15 residential lots at 5593 Havens Corners Road.

The proposed development by Doug Maddy's Brookewood Construction Company, Inc. proceeds to Gahanna City Council for consideration. The Commission gave several stipulations upon approval including the applicant pay the cost of building sidewalks from Grand Ridge Court to Farm Creek Drive.

Full story [here!](#)

## Gahanna CIC Considers New Tax Status for More Revenue

Gahanna's Community Improvement Corp. might seek certification as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, with the goal to seek more revenue streams.

The CIC is a nonprofit organization formed under city legislation to promote the industrial, economic, commercial and civic development of a community or area. During an annual report to Gahanna City Council, CIC president Tom Kneeland said the 18-member organization could receive more revenue by being approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt charitable organization.

Full story [here!](#)

## Businesses

Small businesses are the backbone of our communities, and in an economy where they create two-thirds of the jobs, business owners and employees deserve a health insurance market with fair prices, better choices, and greater certainty. The implementation of the Affordable Care Act is a sign that this market is on its way.

Full story [here!](#)

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## Need Financing to Buy or Grow a Franchise?

The franchise industry, like all businesses, was not immune to the economic crisis of 2008 and the ensuing credit crunch. But the vital signs of a recovery are there if you're interested in starting or growing a franchise. With new programs, finding help may be easier than you think.

Full story [here!](#)

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## Tips for Attracting Customers to Your New Location

Businesses move for all sorts of reasons—from rent reasons to the need for a bigger space. But how can you ensure your existing customers move with you and how can you go about attracting new customers to your new location?

Full story [here!](#)

## Tech-Tip of the Month

### Cyber-Security for Your Small Business

Is cyber-security part of your small business Internet plan? Whether you're thinking of adopting cloud computing or just using email and maintaining a website, cyber-security is an essential consideration. Check out the FCC website devoted to cyber-security for small businesses, including top 10 tips to keep your business safe.

Full story [here!](#)

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### Make Your Company Blog Work for You

Does your company or organization have a blog, but you are not using it because you think it is just one more thing you have to do? What you might not know is that your blog has the capacity to do several tasks for you, and eliminate a few items from your list instead of adding to it.

## Regional Development News

### Franklin County, Fastest Growing County in 2012

According to new census estimate data that was recently released, Franklin County led the state of Ohio in population growth in 2012.

Additionally, the growth of Franklin County surpassed that of Delaware County, which was previously leading the state.

Full story [here!](#)



### Columbus 2020 Update

Does Your Business Export Internationally?

Columbus 2020, a Columbus-area regional economic development organization, is working with the Brookings Institution and numerous regional partners to develop an "Export Plan" for the Columbus Region.

If your business is serving international markets, or considering doing so, then please assist us by taking the [Columbus Region Export Survey](#).

Full story [here!](#)



### Columbus 2nd for Job Creation in 2012

Columbus ranked second for its level of job creation among major markets in 2012. Columbus' job creation score is based on a survey of local workers being asked whether their employer was growing or reducing employment between January and December of last year. In Columbus, 43 percent indicated growth and only 13 percent indicated reduction.

Full story [here!](#)

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### Google's Free Tools for Training Your Web Site

Google provides a free tool, Google Analytics, to help you find the answers to your questions. Google offers a lot of free tools, actually. And you can use these tools to track who is coming to your site, place display and search ads (although the tool is free, the ads aren't), allow pay-per-click ads on your site, and review how your website is performing in Google search queries.

Full story [here!](#)

## Upcoming Events!



### OGCP Monthly Meeting

**When:** Wednesday, May 8, 8:15am to 9:00am

**Where:** Olde Gahanna Sanctuary  
82 N. High Street, Gahanna

For more details go to <http://oldegahanna.com>

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### Empowering Women Breakfast

*"Everyday Guide to Women's Health"*

**When:** Thursday, April 25, 7:30am to 9:00am

**Where:** Mount Carmel Siegel Center  
6001 E. Broad Street, Columbus

For more details [click here!](#)

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### Ribbon Cutting & Open House



**When:** Thursday, May 2, 5:00pm to 6:00pm

**Where:** 979 E Johnstown Road

For more details [click here!](#)

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Full story [here!](#)

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## [\\$10.10 Minimum Wage Won't Cost Jobs](#)

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown was in Bowling Green to stump for a federal minimum wage increase. Brown says the Fair Minimum Wage Act, which would bump minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 per hour, is necessary to help low-income people who are struggling to make do with their current level of pay. Under the act, wages would be increased in three 95-cent increments by 2015 and then keep pace with the cost of living after 2016.

Full story [here!](#)

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## [Ohio Unemployment Rate Stays at 7%](#)

Ohio's jobless rate held constant at 7 percent in February, with an insignificant change in the number of people working or entering the labor force.

Full story [here!](#)

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## [Ohio Grows Return on Investment in Tourism Spending](#)

TourismOhio's "Too Much Fun for Just One Day" campaign touting things to do in Ohio resulted in a 15 to 1 return on investment last year. That's up from previous years, when the agency returned \$14 for every one dollar spent on tourism marketing in 2011, and \$13 the prior two years.

Full story [here!](#)

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## [IBM Wins \\$267M Cloud-Computing Contract with Ohio](#)

IBM Corp. has won a 10-year, \$267 million cloud-computing contract with Ohio that is expected to save the state \$150 million over the next five years.

IBM will work to reduce the number of machines, power consumption and overall expense of running the state's secure data center powering the IT of public agencies.

Full story [here!](#)

## [Gahanna Business Networking Expo](#)



**When:** Thursday, May 9, 3:30pm to 6:30pm

**Where:** Jefferson Country Club  
7271 Jefferson Meadows Drive

For more details [click here!](#)

## [Resources & Information](#)



[www.gahanna.gov](http://www.gahanna.gov)

Looking for available properties in the City? Access our searchable database for buildings and land for sale or lease.

[www.gahannaareachamber.com](http://www.gahannaareachamber.com)

Are you a member of the Gahanna Area Chamber of Commerce? If not, check out all the benefits of belonging.

[www.business.ohio.gov](http://www.business.ohio.gov)

The Ohio Business Gateway can help you find the information and services you need to keep your business thriving.



[www.grownow.ohio.gov](http://www.grownow.ohio.gov)

growNOW, brought to you by the Ohio State Treasurer's office, enables small business owners to receive a 3% interest rate reduction on new or existing small business loans.

<https://aepretailenergy.com/>

AEP can assist businesses looking for a retail electricity provider. Save money on electricity now!

[WWW.SBA.GOV](http://WWW.SBA.GOV)

Eligible for Government Financing? Use SBA's Search Tool

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)