



326 N. Main St.
Piqua, OH 45356

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www.GrowPiquaNow.org

2016 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Over 50 Existing Business Visits
- Over 40 Site Selector Meetings
- Over 30 business attraction visits

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MISSION

- Progressively promote and encourage economic development and civic welfare in the Piqua, Ohio area, through a private-public partnership, for the purpose of expanding the wage base and prosperity of the Piqua community and advancing the quality of life of Piqua's citizens.
- Lead and coordinate all economic development efforts within the Piqua community.
- Market to, recruit, attract and locate new businesses.
- Work diligently to retain and expand existing businesses
- Secure from all stakeholders, the financial, in-kind, volunteer, and political support necessary for strong economic development.



A LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS

Dear Grow Piqua Now Members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Grow Piqua Now public/private economic development partnership! 2016 has been an exciting and productive year for the growth of Piqua.

With your support, GPN has updated its website and added social media presence. Please take a moment to “like” us on Facebook, “follow” us on Twitter and “connect” to us on LinkedIn. We have also updated our printed materials to focus on our targeted industries and competitive advantages.

Projects continue to move forward in our community. Manufactures including Crayex and Harmony Systems recently completed expansions, and several more are in the works. We’ve also added new restaurants, retail and service business to the mix.

Upper Valley Career Center has added a FabLab, to expose students and the public to new technologies, like 3D printing. Edison State Community College has restructured its focus on customized training specific to employer needs. And, of course, the completion of new buildings for Piqua City Schools has added to our community assets.

New programs, such as the Piqua Promise at the Piqua Education Foundation, and the PASS partnership between Edison State and Wright State, will work to keep our local talent near the Piqua community.

In 2017, we will continue to market the assets of Piqua to grow our community. We are targeting growth industries, such as food processing and plastics, to locate in Piqua, and will continue to work with existing businesses to strengthen their presence here.

Thank you again for your support!
Sincerely, Wayde Davis, Chairman and Justin Sommer, Executive Director

WORKFORCE French Oil Mill Machinery pilots workforce attraction video

Led by Tayte French-Lutz, French Oil Mill Machinery and Grow Piqua Now partnered with WOTVC-TV 5 to produce a marketing video highlighting career paths and the quality of life available in Piqua.

In the video, Engineers Dan Brubaker and Alex Lee share the opportunities to impact customers worldwide from French Oil Mill Machinery Co.'s Piqua, Ohio headquarters. Dan and Alex describe their personal and professional growth in Western Ohio.

The video is being used by both entities to attract new talent to the region. To have your company featured, please contact Justin Sommer at 937.778.8198



CITY OF PIQUA RELEASES LABOR SHED STUDY

Growth Services Group (GSG), a national workforce intelligence and consulting firm, recently completed a Labor Commuting Certification for the City of Piqua. The Labor Commuting Certification provides a quick overview of the Commuting Worker Flows and the sources, destinations and characteristics of workers and residents.

Key findings in the report include:

- Piqua is a labor magnet with slightly more workers working in Piqua than residents commuting outside of the city
- Total employment of workers working in Piqua increased 2.8 percent from 2004 to 2014
- In 2014, the 30-mile radius of Piqua had a net inflow of 8,291 workers
- Nearly 27 percent of Piqua's employed workers work in Manufacturing
- Of Piqua's total employed workforce 74.2 percent live outside of Piqua

According to Justin Sommer, Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Director of the City of Piqua, the publication helps the community identify strengths and opportunities for workforce development.

"Working with Growth Services Group allows the City of Piqua to accurately reflect our labor shed. We know our citizens and employers operate within a regional economy. The Labor Commuting Certification study provides the comparative data to help shape our economic development strategy."



EXPANSION SPOTLIGHT CRAYEX CORPORATION



Piqua-based Crayex Corp. is experiencing growth at both its Ohio and Georgia locations. Mimi Crawford, President and CEO, stated, "Sales are growing at a good clip, and we're trying to stay ahead of it all." The Piqua expansion adds over 6,000 square feet to the Commerce Drive facility, and comes on the heels of another expansion completed in 2013.

Crayex is a packaging plastics manufacturer that makes plastic films for shrink film, industrial and postal packaging, films and bags. The company was founded in Piqua in 1972 by Cliff Alexander.

The recent expansions allow Crayex to better serve existing customers with added capacity and upgraded equipment, as well as enter into new markets, such as food packaging.

"We've been blessed; business has been good," Crawford said.

FACTS AND FIGURES

ATTRACTION:



PROJECTS:



LOCATION ADVANTAGES

