

What's New in West Chester!



INNOVATOR IN PLANT-BASED PROTEINS ON THE MENU IN WEST CHESTER

Planterra Foods, a start-up company specializing in plant-based foods, is setting up shop in a 26,629 square-foot facility at 113 Circle Freeway Drive in West Chester.

“We’re all about bringing new plant-based proteins to the table,” said Darcey Macken, CEO of Planterra Foods. “Something that works for everyone.”

Planterra Foods, marketed under the name OZO, is found in retail stores and restaurants, focuses on flavor with food high in protein and fewer calories and less saturated fat than many other meat substitutes.

Macken says the company is all about innovation with delicious food made from a pea-based recipe, rather than soy; and a shitake mushroom formula that provides a protein alternative that is healthier and better for the environment.

Planterra Foods started business in October 2019 in Lafayette, Colorado and quickly became a subsidiary of meat giant JBS. The company has grown quickly by appealing not just to vegetarians, but to flexitarians looking for healthy options.

The pandemic kept everyone home cooking more and Ms. Macken said Planterra Foods products were well suited to the home chef appealing to all tastes and creating a wonderful aroma while cooking. Planterra Foods plans to be operational at the new West Chester facility quickly with 150 employees and producing several million pounds of food each year.

“We’ll be expanding manufacturing of the OZO line at the West Chester plant and will be looking for a team of great employees in the coming weeks,” Ms. Macken said. “When the opportunity for the space became available we were really happy with the proximity to Kroger. It all just came together for us and we’re ready to get started.”

West Chester’s location, ease of access and diverse local economy make it an appealing location for businesses of all sorts. Companies like Planterra Foods have symbiotic relationships with other

companies like Kroger; and West Chester provides the infrastructure to bring them all together, said West Chester Community Development Director Aaron Wiegand.

“West Chester welcomes innovators and Planterra Foods will be a great addition to our corporate community,” Mr. Wiegand said.



WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD: THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MOVES TO OLDE WEST CHESTER

Someone new moved into the Olde West Chester neighborhood, but The Community Foundation of West Chester & Liberty is an old friend everyone already knows.

The Community Foundation purchased the restored home-turned commercial space at 8897 Cincinnati-Dayton Road at the corner of West Chester Lesourdesville. The move was made possible by the generosity of Park National Bank and Harvest Financial, according to Erin Clemons, President & CEO of the Foundation.

“Purchasing property demonstrates that we are 100 percent invested in the community and sustainable for the long term,” said Ms. Clemons. “Choosing a place in one of the community’s oldest commercial neighborhoods builds sense of permanency.”

The Community Foundation occupied donated office space at Park National Bank for six years, allowing the Foundation to reach this milestone. Harvest Financial, previous owner of the new location, made the purchase of the historic property possible for the Foundation without taking on the burden of debt.

The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty began in 1999 around a kitchen table with a group of dedicated community members focused on the needs of the growing region. Since then the Foundation has lived its mission of “transforming generosity to impact by encouraging, supporting and facilitating philanthropy to create a more vibrant community.”

The annual Shamrock Shuffle serves as the Foundation’s largest annual fund-raising event and brings the community together for a united purpose.



RETAIL SUPPLIER FOR CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES CHOSEN WEST CHESTER FOR EXPANSION

[Walkenhorst's](#), a supplier of mail order and online retail products to inmates at state prisons across the country and headquartered in Sparks, NV, announced plans to establish a logistics and distribution operation in West Chester Township. Walkenhorst's will create 60 new jobs and create \$2.2 million in new payroll at the new facility—the company's first location east of the Mississippi River, REDI Cincinnati announced in December.

"We are excited about opening a new distribution center closer to many of our high-growth areas," said Josh Walkenhorst, president of Walkenhorst's. "Ultimately, getting our products closer to our customers will allow us to offer faster ship times and provide better customer service."

[Walkenhorst's](#) has experienced steady growth during the last few years and identified the need for a location closer to its clients in the Midwest and east coast to cut shipping times. Walkenhorst's considered several other locations for the new logistics and distribution facility, including Pittsburgh; however, the Cincinnati region emerged as the clear choice because of its proximity to customers and competitive costs. With many in-person visits at prisons being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Walkenhorst's is doing its best to help the incarcerated population by making delivery more convenient and efficient. With its new operation in West Chester, Walkenhorst's will be able to serve more customers with faster service and alleviate the strain on capacity at its Nevada facility.

"With 60% of the U.S. population within a one-day drive from the Cincinnati region, Walkenhorst's decision to grow in West Chester means it will be able to serve its growing market presence with ease," said Brandon Simmons, REDI Cincinnati vice president of project management. "We appreciate the partnership with JobsOhio and the Ohio Development Services Agency to support Walkenhorst's growth."

A JobsOhio Economic Development Grant and Job Creation Tax Credit from the State of Ohio will support Walkenhorst's growth in [West Chester](#).

[About Walkenhorst's](#)

Walkenhorst's is a private family-owned business and has been in operation serving correctional facilities for over 35 years. Walkenhorst's partners with many Departments of Correction throughout the country, including Alaska, Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia. Walkenhorst's offers a comprehensive selection of consumer goods, including name brands, in the corrections care package market. They provide practical solutions allowing inmates to order or family and friends to send packages to their loved ones, through customized programs that fit the needs of the facilities they partner with.

[About JobsOhio](#)

JobsOhio is a private nonprofit economic development corporation designed to drive job creation and new capital investment in Ohio through business attraction, retention, and expansion. The organization also works to seed talent production in its targeted industries and to attract talent to Ohio through [Find](#)

Your Ohio. JobsOhio works with six regional partners across Ohio: [Dayton Development Coalition](#), [Ohio Southeast Economic Development](#), [One Columbus](#), [REDI Cincinnati](#), [Regional Growth Partnership](#), and [Team NEO](#). Learn more at www.jobsohio.com. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#).

About REDI Cincinnati

The Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Cincinnati is the first point-of-contact for companies locating or growing in the 16-county region at the heart of southwest Ohio, northern Kentucky, and southeast Indiana. REDI Cincinnati is supported by top business leaders and community partners and staffed by a team of economic development experts who are uniting the Cincinnati region to compete globally.



WEST CHESTER CARES: Small Business Grant Program Supports Businesses Impacted By The Pandemic

The West Chester Board of Trustees approved the grant program in November and accepted applications through mid-December. Funding for the grant program came from legislation enacted by the federal government that was then distributed to the state for this purpose. The State of Ohio distributed the money to the counties and Butler County distributed funds to each community based on population.

West Chester was able to award grants to 19 eligible applicants totaling \$183,071. The average grant awarded was \$10,000. The West Chester Cares Small Business Grant Program provided West Chester Township small businesses with some monetary relief from economic hardships caused by COVID-19 business interruption. West Chester utilized \$286,000 in CARES Act disbursement from Butler County to fund the program.

West Chester: Built With You in Mind

West Chester is a proven destination for corporate investment displayed by the expansive growth over the past two decades, yet development opportunities still exist throughout the township with commercial sites of 1 to 60 acres still available. Office, manufacturing, research and properties with accessible infrastructure, frontage on I-75 or within two miles of an interstate interchanges are available. Contact Cathy Walton, Business Attraction and Expansion Manager for personalized assistance at 513-759-7325 or cwalton@westchesteroh.org.



OFFICE/TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS



E Technologies Group

E Technologies Group, one of the largest engineering firms in the United States, announced it will relocate its existing West Chester corporate headquarters to a 14,000 square-foot facility at 8614 Jacquemin Drive in Union Centre OfficePlex. E Technologies Group provides automation, control and information solutions to the Life Sciences, Mission Critical, Metals, Parcel, Consumer Products, and Food & Beverage industries. The new facility, with 52 workstations, 20 private offices, two conference rooms, a training room, café, and wellness room, will be more conducive to offering its local

associates a flexible workforce structure while also being a gathering space for out-of-town associates and clients. E Technologies Group has 14 locations and more than 300 associates working throughout the United States.



Clark Schaefer Hackett

Clark Schaefer Hackett, a results-driven advisory and accounting firm, opened an 8,400 square-foot facility at 5474 Spellmire Drive. Situated between Dayton and Cincinnati, Clark Schaefer Hackett's West Chester office is home to many of its technology and operations experts. Clark Schaefer Hackett team members are innovators and problem solvers, optimizing business results in the areas of financial, technology and workforce development.



Edward Jones

Edward Jones, providing financial and investment services to individual investors throughout the U.S. and Canada, will expand and relocate its existing West Chester branch office to a 1,160 square-foot office at 4934 Wunnenberg Way. The primary areas of focus at Edward Jones include estate and legacy planning, retirement income, college savings, charitable giving, and working with entrepreneurs and business owners.



People First Staffing

People First Staffing, providing short- and long-term staffing solutions, opened a 1,833 square-foot facility at 6070 West Chester Road in West Chester Centre. People First Staffing works with employers and employees to fill administrative, industrial and manufacturing positions of all types throughout the community. People First Staffing's goal is to find the right candidate for every client.

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS



Amazon

Amazon, engaging in the retail sale of consumer products and subscriptions in North America and internationally, announced it will open a new 142,776 square-foot distribution facility at 9309 Cincinnati Dayton Road. The new commercial building will be constructed on a 42-acre property near Allen Road. Amazon's West Chester distribution facility will focus on last-mile delivery to customers. The new location will enable Amazon to continue providing its fast, every day local deliveries.



Honeywell Intelligrated

Honeywell Intelligrated, a leading North American-based, single-source provider of automated material handling solutions and intelligent software, announced a 45,000 square-foot expansion to its existing West Chester facility at 4436 Muhlhauser Road. Honeywell Intelligrated designs, manufactures, integrates and installs complete material handling automation solutions that drive fulfillment productivity for retailers, manufacturers and logistics providers around the world including conveyor



systems, sortation systems, palletizers, robotics and order picking technologies.

InnoMark Communications

InnoMark Communications, delivering visual marketing solutions that attract attention, engage shoppers and convert sales, announced a 297,502 square-foot facility at 8531 Trade Center Drive in the West Chester Trade Center. The mission at InnoMark Communications is to create retail experiences that connect brands and consumers through effective visual communication. In-house design, engineering, printing, manufacturing, and fulfillment guarantee excellence from concept to completion.

Vasantha North America

Vasantha North America, a design and manufacturer of custom molds, opened a 15,675 square-foot technical center at 9810 Windisch Road. Vasantha North America provides innovative solutions in silicone and plastic micro-injection molding for various medical applications. Headquartered in India and a significant presence globally, Vasantha's proven expertise in technology and innovation has enabled it to successfully decipher the changing requirements of the industry and turn out technologically superior products since 1989.



Clarity Retail Services

Clarity Retail Services, a design development agency specializing in signage, displays, fixtures, and branded elements, relocated its North American headquarters to a 77,557 square-foot facility at 5115 Excello Court. Clarity Retail Services support world-class companies in the retail, hospitality and restaurant marketplaces. Clarity Retail Services was formed to create items that navigate, educate, and motivate shoppers in retail stores. Clarity Retail Services delivers solutions that drive business and generate sales for its customers by executing all of the steps in the process from idea to in-store.



Evoqua Water Technologies

Evoqua Water Technologies, a leading provider of water and wastewater treatment solutions, opened a 17,665 square-foot facility at 7700 Service Center Drive off Cox Road. Evoqua Water Technologies offers a broad portfolio of products, services and expertise to support medical, industrial, municipal and recreational customers. Evoqua provides solutions for customers with critical water needs for energy generation, food and beverage safety and production, healthcare, manufacturing and more.

FlexPac

FlexPAC, a creative packaging and facilities solutions provider, announced a 40,712 square-foot facility at 8556 Trade Center Drive in West Chester Trade Center. FlexPAC takes the customer-first approach in creating turnkey solutions in the areas of package design, facility solutions & products, training, and safety equipment. FlexPAC streamlines the procurement process, optimizes its customers supply chain costs and more.





KEM Services

KEM Services, providing electrical and mechanical solutions, announced a 7,400 square-foot expansion to its existing West Chester facility at 461 Commercial Drive. Founded in 1998, KEM Services has quickly grown to become a leader in the field of industrial electrical and mechanical services. KEM proudly services some of the best known companies in Southwest Ohio and surrounding areas which count on them daily to keep their businesses running smoothly.



Stanley Convergent Security Solutions

Stanley Convergent Security Solutions, specializing in a comprehensive line of products, services and technologies, relocated its existing West Chester field operations branch office to a 4,260 square-foot facility at 4862 Business Center Way in Tri County Business Center. Stanley Convergent Security Solutions is the security provider of choice for schools, hospitals, governments, retailers, financial service institutions, airports and more.



Sohan and Sons Waterproofing

Sohan and Sons Waterproofing, specializing in basement waterproofing services, opened a nearly 1,000 square-foot facility at 8700 Cincinnati Dayton Road. With more than 30 years' experience serving the Cincinnati, Dayton and Northern Kentucky areas, Sohan and Sons Waterproofing also installs sump pumps, repairs foundations, prepares basements for remodeling and fixes basement leaks.

COMMERCIAL PROJECTS



Queen City Harley Davidson

Queen City Harley Davidson, an authorized Harley Davidson dealership specializing in sales, service, parts, and accessories, announced plans it will expand and relocate to a 46,975 square-foot new commercial building it will construct on nearly 11 acres off Princeton Glendale Road just south of Union Centre Boulevard. Queen City Harley Davidson announced the \$6.1 million project after receiving a tax incentive from West Chester and Butler County. Queen City Harley Davidson brings 49 jobs to West Chester.



KONA Ice Cincinnati

KONA Ice, featuring unique mobile vehicles offering gourmet shaved ice, completed a 4,950 square-foot expansion to its existing West Chester vehicle storage, prep and supply facility at 8649 Cincinnati Columbus Road/SR 42 in West Chester Office Park. Serving tropical shaved ice from fun entertainment vehicles, KONA Ice brings the party to you. KONA Ice is available for all types of fundraisers, sporting and corporate events, daycares and more. Since 2010, KONA Ice has given back more than \$650,000 to non-profit schools and other organizations from their fundraising activities—checks are given by KONA Ice the same day as the event.



Granite Empire of Cincinnati

Granite Empire of Cincinnati, specializing in the fabrication and installation of kitchen and bathroom countertops, opened a 15,588 square-foot facility at 9474 Princeton Glendale Road/SR 747. For more than 12 years, Granite Empire of Cincinnati has produced elegant granite, marble and quartz countertops for all types of projects. The design professionals at Granite Empire of Cincinnati guide customers through the process of creating custom exquisite natural stone masterpieces.



Paris Bahn Mi

Paris Bahn Mi, a new-to-Ohio Vietnamese eatery specializing in sandwiches made with French baguette bread, announced it will open a 2,590 square-foot restaurant at 7659 Tylersville Road just east of I-75. The menu at Paris Bahn Mi includes eight different Banh Mi sandwiches, as well as four croissant sandwiches and four bun sandwiches.



Cloud 9 Cabinetry

Cloud 9 Cabinetry, providing professional design services from experienced kitchen designers who guide you from idea to installation, announced it will open a 1,008 square-foot Cincinnati showroom at 6212 Muhlhauser Road in the Huff Centre building near Centre Pointe Drive. Cloud 9 Cabinetry offers an elevated approach to the typical cabinet buying experience. Cloud 9 Cabinetry provides the best look and layout to fit any budget while still offering quality cabinetry that fits any lifestyle.



Fantastic Brows

Fantastic Brows, specializing in semi-permanent eyebrow styling, opened a 1,200 square-foot salon at 9536 Cincinnati Columbus Road/SR 42. Fantastic Brows provides an organically developed Ombre[®] powder shading brows service. Ombre[®] brows, also known as Powdered Brows, is a semi-permanent eyebrow styling technique that creates a soft shaded brow pencil look.



Crown Smoke and Vape Shop

Crown Smoke and Vape Shop, specializing in the retail sales of tobacco and tobacco related products, opened a 2,000 square-foot shop at 8212 Princeton Glendale Road/SR 747 in Beckett Commons. Crown Smoke and Vape Shop also sells tobacco accessories and peripherals, e-cigarette devices, liquids, coils and associated components.



Elon Salon

Elon Salon, offering exceptional hair services in a beautiful and relaxing atmosphere, opened a 1,248 square-foot salon at 8779 Cincinnati Dayton Road in Olde West Chester. Elon Salon's highly trained stylists are well-versed in the most up-to-date haircut designs as well as experienced in all areas of hair color techniques.

COMING SOON



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[Home2 Suites by Hilton](#)



[Krispy Kreme](#)



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[Avid Hotels](#)



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NOW OPEN



[Planet Fitness](#)



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[El Trompo Mexican Grill](#)

OUR SUPPORTERS



The West Chester Development Council is a non-profit corporation, representing a public/private partnership between West Chester Township and the private business sector established to promote economic development initiatives. The following organizations have chosen to support the economic development and marketing efforts of West Chester Township and the West Chester Development Council. [West Chester Development](#)

[Bass Pro Outdoor World](#)
[ChappCo](#)
[GE Aviation](#)
[Griffin Capital](#)
[KEMBA Credit Union](#)
[Main Event Entertainment](#)
[NorthPoint Development](#)
[Park National Bank](#)
[Planes Companies](#)
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West Chester Development Council | 513-755-1999 | 9577 Beckett Road, West Chester, OH, 45069
www.WestChesterDevelopment.com

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