Dear Reader,

You’d be hard pressed to find someone in the greater Wapakoneta area who hasn’t heard what native son Neil Armstrong said when he took those historic first steps on the moon:

“That’s one small step for man; one giant leap for mankind.”

People in these parts have been taking steps — both giant and small — ever since Armstrong put Wapakoneta on the map almost 50 years ago. We’ve explored our own new frontiers by advancing with technologies in manufacturing and health care, created new and improved existing businesses to meet the changing needs of our community, and adapted to the constant changes in education and agriculture to ensure we’re always the best we can be.

These advances happen because people make them happen. We see a need and we fill it. We have a dream and we make it reality. We use our talents and our skills for the betterment of our greater community. We don’t really know any different.

This is our 2018 Progress Edition. We’ve taken a riff from Armstrong’s quote to look at giant steps people and organizations in our community have made, steps that have made a positive impact on the world around us.

Today our major focus is on business and arts & entertainment; Wednesday we take a look at government, health care and agriculture.

— Deb Zwez, Publisher
Lamberts take giant step in launching Moon City

By DEB ZWEZ
PUBLISHER

Lori Lambert admits there are days when she takes a look around the room and wonders, “What the hell did we do?”

The driving force behind Moon City Music and Event Center, tucked away on the back side of Lunar Drive, in the former Wapak Archery and MESA Products location, Lambert talks a mile a minute about what’s booked for the center, the potential she’s trying to develop, and the partners she’s collecting along the way to making the destination a success.

At 46, Lambert is a 1989 Wapakoneta High School graduate who had worked in management and human resources before she turned her talents to the hospitality industry. She’s been employed at the Best Western Hotel on Lunar Drive since it was the Holiday Inn Express, and during those years has paid attention to what Wapakoneta has — and doesn’t have — to offer when it comes to visitors.

She and her husband Brad are well known in Wapakoneta; the duo are professional musicians who play in a multi-state area. They

Lori and Brad Lambert have converted the building on Lunar Drive to Moon City Music and Event Center. There’s a large event room on the south side of the building that can house wedding receptions, concerts and more, while on the other side are smaller rooms that house consignment shops and music lessons.

See STEP, Page 4
had the music store downtown on Park Street where Brad gave music lessons, and Lambert said that location fit their needs for a long time. The two also kept active helping the Chamber of Commerce officials book entertainment for the annual outdoor festival in between their own performances locally and on the road.

Lambert knew there was more they could offer the community. Their friend and partner, Brett Cummings, encouraged the pair to find a place where they could perform and produce other shows. They started looking at different potential venue spaces and eventually settled on the building on Lunar Drive. While Lambert said she knew she could make something of the space, there was a lot of work to do before her vision could take hold.

She said she and Brad walked in the building, soon after signing a lease in July, and simply jumped in to get the work done. The couple power washed walls, scrubbed the ceiling, and started painting. They arranged for carpet to be laid in the big room, started looking for furniture and installed sound panels on the wall. They navigated their way through the permitting process and partnered with area vendors, so their wares are on sale when the location is open to the public. Brad still gives music lessons in the new location, and has a workshop devoted to repairing and improving stringed instruments.

Lambert is a force to be reckoned with; she’s on a mission to make Moon City Music and Event Center a destination. She’s working with tour bus operators to bring in groups of visitors to the city; and she’s well aware 2019 is the 50th anniversary of the moon landing and the attention that will bring to Wapakoneta. She’s got big plans to start small and grow from there.

“We can give them dinner and a show right here,” she said, “and we can get them shopping. Brad and I, we can play all moon-based music, we can bring in food.”

The years working in hospitality opened her eyes to the local need for smaller venue spaces. Wapakoneta is lacking in those casual spaces for 100 to 200 people, Lambert said, and the center is made for that. She’s also working on making the center viable during the week, with yoga and cardio drumming already on the schedule. Weekends are given to wedding receptions, craft shows, talent shows and concerts appropriate for the smaller venue.

Lambert is also a master of social media; she carpets Facebook with schedules of events, photos of upcoming performers and reminders of upcoming events. A whiteboard in a store-room timelines the center’s schedule; there’s more ink than whiteboard. Keeping organized is part of the plan. Keeping the building full is another.

“I guess it’s just what I learned in the hotels – heads in beds,” Lambert joked. “I want to keep our rates reasonable, so we can keep the center full. That’s what we need.”
Cedric Gagel wants to welcome you to Cadia. Cadia is a mythical, mystical world, based in part on the woods Gagel played in while growing up in Wapakoneta, and is the setting for a battle between good and evil, the climax of the movie of the same name. Gagel wrote the screenplay for Cadia, a film he is currently working to produce. It is a story of hope the Wapakoneta native believes is crucial in today’s world climate. Making the film is just another step toward Gagel’s ultimate goal.

The 2013 Wapakoneta High School graduate wants to make a living in the entertainment industry and has worked hard to make that dream a reality.

After four years and five different majors, Gagel graduated from Capital University in 2017 with a major in communications that focused on public relations and theater studies, as well as a minor in English literature. When he’s not fine tuning his own screen play or making connections in the hope of gaining funding for the movie or auditioning for community theater roles or trying to book film and television work, Gagel juggles a number of part time jobs. He does PR for a Columbus-based band; works as a property manager for Jacob’s Ladder, an Ohio State University ministry; helps in a bakery in Bexley; and works with Drama Kids, also in Wapakoneta native Cedric Gagel, in the foreground, wrote Cadia, a movie that explores the blurry line between good and evil. He plays a part in the trailer; however, the actor says his main focus is on directing this movie that is currently in pre-production. His financial director, Zach Throne, is the blurry figure in the background.
Columbus. In addition to all that, he's adding professional credits to his resume.

Gagel is currently in rehearsals for Beauty and the Beast, being produced at the Palace Theater (he plays the Beast), has appeared in three movies, a web-based show, a TV series and a commercial that aired during the Super Bowl in the Cincinnati market for St. Elizabeth Healthcare.

"I learned time management skills while I was in college," Gagel said, but admitted there are days when he's simply overwhelmed. Sometimes he gives himself a time out and hikes in a nearby metropark, other days he calls his mom for advice.

"I’ll be like, ‘Mom I just can’t cope, I don’t have any money, this isn’t working,’” Gagel said. "And she’ll be like real calm and say, ‘Have you thought about it this way?’ and she just gets it. It helps me refocus."

Hidden in Stone was a learning experience that helped lead Gagel to this place, where he's working to finance all that he needs to provide Cadia with the professional edge it needs to earn a distribution deal. With the movie written — a task that took two and a half years — and a majority of the 21 parts cast, Gagel is working with his financial director, Zach Throne, to raise the necessary funds for filming and post production.

The two have formed an LLC, Just A Skosh Productions, and are partnered with another organization to offer a 501(c)(3) umbrella so donors receive appropriate tax benefits.

Their fund raising includes a crowdfunding appeal in Indiegogo, where they're hoping to gain $10,000 of the estimated $42,000 Gagel believes will finance the entire film-making process. He's been meeting with potential backers and is hoping Cadia appeals to church-based groups thanks to the Christian message the film shares.

"When I look around the world I see a need for hope; I think this film has that," he said. Cadia, he said, is a mystical world where there is a need to define good and evil and through the adventures of the three 14-year-olds who find themselves in Cadia, the viewer is challenged to think about God and the devil — perhaps in ways they've never been thought of before.

"We want this movie to positively impact someone’s spirit," Gagel said. "That's why it's worth making."

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ALAN DAVIS
Making Cadia

By DEB ZWEZ
PUBLISHER

Cadia is an 88-page script, which Gagel believes will translate to a 90-minute movie. He thinks shooting can be completed over 10 days; 15 at the most. He’s planning to make the most of Columbus — shooting in the metroparks, using a house in Grove City for interior shots and maybe making the trip to Hocking Hills for different outdoor scenes.

There’s a permit process he’s working through that will allow him to use the public spaces and has been scouting and re-scouting those areas to help determine color schemes, times of day for shooting and finding alternatives if the weather doesn’t cooperate.

Donors who make use of the Indiegogo.com site get perks for their dollars, including being on set and getting the opportunity to call “action” for a scene.

He’s also offering the opportunity to be an extra in the battle scene. Gagel said he needs two armies so he’s hoping some Wapakoneta folks take him up on the offer to be in his movie. He plans to give everyone who appears in the film an IMDB credit, regardless of their part.

Gagel’s goal is for the film to be complete before the end of the year, so he can enter it in film festivals for the 2018 production year. He’s also hoping to get theater distribution for the film, and/or deals with streaming providers such as Amazon, Hulu and Netflix to make the film available to their subscribers.

Once the film is complete, Gagel is also hoping to see it on the big screen in Wapakoneta. “That’s the dream,” he said.

Triplets Carly Sells (playing Renee), Keegan Sells (David) and Tanner Sells (Matthew) can be seen in the trailer for Cadia. The three play the main characters, 14-year-olds who are transported to the mystical world of Cadia in an adventure that culminates in a battle of good vs. evil.
Arts Center takes giant steps with partnerships

By A.J. HECHT
STAFF WRITER

Letting your creativity flow, coloring outside the lines, thinking outside the box.

That’s the approach President Deb Fisher is taking with the Riverside Art Center, a non-profit art gallery located in the heart of Wapakoneta.

And by thinking outside the box, Riverside is creating some meaningful new partnerships.

Take last weekend, for example, as the Lima Symphony Orchestra took over the space on Auglaize St. for an ‘instrument petting zoo.’

“Back in October, they had somebody on their board contact us, and they said, ‘we love what you’re doing in the community. I love the patio, I love the inside,’” Fisher said. “The symphony wants to be a part of Wapakoneta. Can I arrange a meeting so we can sit down and see if there’s anything we can do together?”

“We’re non-profit. We can’t afford to pay anybody, but we can tell you what we have on the calendar for the next six months and see if you could support us any way,” Fisher added. “In turn, we publicize together and we grow together. They liked it, so we opened up our calendar.”

Then they promptly filled it, penciling in two events in the spring— including the aforementioned instrument petting zoo—and a provisional event in the fall once the Orchestra regroups after the summer.

Following the successful Draven Dudgeon, St. Marys, plays the drums during the Instrument Petting Zoo at the Riverside Art Center in Wapakoneta. The downtown gallery teamed up with the Lima Symphony Orchestra for the event, and has several more joint events scheduled for later this year.

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Draven Dudgeon, St. Marys, plays the drums during the Instrument Petting Zoo at the Riverside Art Center in Wapakoneta. The downtown gallery teamed up with the Lima Symphony Orchestra for the event, and has several more joint events scheduled for later this year.

Staff photo/A.J. Hecht

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Elementary and Middle School Art Exhibit and instrument petting zoo, which let the budding artists take a crack at using Ohio Northern University music students’ instruments, the Art Center and the Orchestra are teeming up again for a new exhibit in May.

And they’ll have a third partner for that one.

“In May, for the Airstream event, they’re going to come back with a quartet, and they’re doing the entertainment for the reception for that,” Fisher said.

The Airstream Art Invitational, which will be at Riverside for nearly a month this summer, will see some of the top artists in the United States, all invited by the Jackson Center based trailer manufacturer, on display.

It may not be the most conventional partnership, but for Fisher and the rest of the board, it’s extremely valuable.

“Why not? We’re outreaching,” she said. “If the Symphony’s north, Airstream is south, what’s east and west that we could get to join us?”

They already have a few answers to that question.

“We have someone coming in who has visited Cuba, met with artists, went behind the scenes, and she’s going to come in on a First Friday. During a meeting last week, Tom (Lehman, gallery director) said, “Deb, I have a friend who’s been to Cuba, who’s done art work, and it is magnificent,” Fisher said. “One thing led to another and now she’s coming in August to do an exhibit here. Where does it stop? What else can we do?”

“Let the creativity flow. Get out there, do something different than you’ve ever done before,” she said. “Let’s just think way out.”

Having those new exhibits, exposing the members of the community to different types of art and culture, is something that Fisher believes is important to Riverside, as well as Wapakoneta as a whole.

“We want people to stay here, we want our kids to stay here when they grow up, we want them to raise their family here and not go far,” Fisher said. “If we have more to offer here, then they won’t have to drive to Columbus, or Cincinnati, or Dayton. They’ll stay in town, stay with their family.”

And what does Fisher think will keep them in town?

Let the creativity flow.

“I even look at the table with crayons and think, ‘why don’t we have a table with crayons everyday?’ That opened our mind to a table with crayons. That’s art,” Fisher said. “Now it’s the canvas painting. Now it’s, ‘I’m going to sit out on the patio with my mom because I came to the art center with my art in the show.’ So, I just think, what’s next? You have to have an
Theatre Guild celebrates 50 years of stepping on stage

BY A.J. HECHT

Staff writer

The Wapakoneta Theatre Guild is celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year, and are taking the opportunity to not only look back on a half century of live theatre in Wapakoneta, but look forward to a promising future.

The Guild’s 2017-2018 season has been a callback to years past, as the group reprised two shows from 18 years earlier. “Butterflies Are Free,” the upcoming spring show, and last fall’s show, “Saving Grace,” were both performed nearly 20 years ago in the 1999-2000 Theatre Guild Season.

Joe Schlater, director of the 2000 show and treasurer of the Board, is also back on board, this time with a producer credit.

And as it happens, a few of the names connected with those shows are still involved today.

Christopher Butturff, the director of this spring’s production of “Butterflies Are Free” and president of the Theatre Guild Board, played Don Baker, the lead, back in the Guild’s original production in 2000.

Jessie Lisowski, the assistant director and Board secretary, helped out with props in the original, while her mother appeared opposite Butturff.

It’s that type of continued presence that this year’s production crew really values about the Wapakoneta Theatre Guild.

“I’ve been involved with the Theatre Guild since I was a baby, basically,” Lisowski said. “It’s kind of like a family. I think that’s a big part of why the 50th Anniversary is a big deal. Reprising and memories and honoring it.”

And by bringing back “Butterflies Are Free,” they’re also hoping to find a few new things to celebrate.

For Butturff, it’s building on those memories of 18 years ago.

“Every show I’ve directed I had never acted in yet. This is bittersweet to be on this side of the stage, watching someone else play Don,” he said, “but at the same time, it’s very exciting to see someone’s take on it and getting their input to help the actors along the way.”

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Christopher Butturff, left, and Jessie Lisowski, right, watch as actors run through lines during rehearsals for the Wapakoneta Theatre Guild’s spring show, “Butterflies Are Free” in their practice space above the Wapakoneta Chamber of Commerce office. The Guild is celebrating their 50th Anniversary by reviving “Butterflies Are Free,” which the company produced in 2000.

Staff photo/A.J.Hecht

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WAPAKONETA DAILY NEWS • ONE GIANT STEP • TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018
Sollmann Electric sees another successful year

SIDNEY — Sollmann Electric Company, located at 310 E. Russell Road, had another successful year in 2017.

“Our sales have continued to increase and we had a good balance of project types in 2017”, said Jeramie Sollmann, President.

“Although industrial projects made up a large portion of our sales, we also completed many commercial and public projects.”

2017 projects include:

• Advanced Composites building addition, Sidney;

• Grob Systems engineering office building renovation, Bluffton;

• Honda Transmission Manufacturing 4WD assembly room renovation, Russells Point;

• Wilson Health New I.T. room, Sidney;

• Huntsville United Methodist Church new building addition and renovation;

• Shelby County Recycling Center solar array installation, Sidney.

“I was particularly proud to be a part of the Shelby County Recycling Center solar array project,” Sollmann said. “We partnered with OGW Energy Resources and installed a solar photovoltaic (PV) power system at the recycling center. This system conserves electric energy use which is beneficial to the environment as well as a cost savings to Shelby County.”

Sollmann Electric

See YEAR, Page 12

One of the most rewarding projects for Sollmann Electric Company in 2017 was the installation of a solar array on the roof of the Shelby County Recycling Center, according to company president Jeramie Sollmann.
installed solar arrays on the roof of the recycling center and installed the connection to the electrical panels. The solar arrays capture the sun’s energy then transfer the energy to distribute power to the electrical panels. This was the largest solar array project at a recycling plant in the state of Ohio. OGW Energy Resources estimates a 25 year energy savings of $350,000. The solar arrays will offset approximately 50 percent of the facility’s usage.

Jeramie Sollmann was the project manager on this project and Ryan Lacy was the project foreman.

“Our continued success comes from our highly-skilled electricians and professional staff,” Sollmann said. “We are very fortunate to have a high retention rate of employees both in the field and in the office. Our electricians make up 190 years of combined employment with Sollmann Electric and our office staff makes up over 120 years of combined employment. Our electricians have been with us an average of nine years and our office staff an average of 20 years.”

“Even with our high retention rate, we still need more project managers, estimators, and electricians,” Sollmann said. “I encourage young people to learn about the programs offered by the Upper Valley Career Center (UVCC) in Piqua and the Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) in Clayton.”

“The School-to-Apprenticeship program offered by these career centers allow high school seniors to work while attending school.

Anyone interested in a position with Sollmann Electric Company may apply in person Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or call the office at 937-492-0346 to schedule a time to come in and apply.

No experience is required; Sollmann Electric Company will provide on-the-job training.

For more information about a career as an electrician, visit www.SollmannElectric.com and click on “Employment”.

“As for 2018, some of the projects we will be finishing up are Hematite new production facility, Englewood; The new high school in Urbana; Mary Rutan Hospital new urgent care and medical office building, Bellefontaine; and Midwest Express new building in East Liberty. We have also just recently started Topre America new building addition and equipment hookups, in Springfield; and The Dannon Company new building for Logoplaste in Minster.”

To learn more about Sollmann Electric Company, visit their website at www.SollmannElectric.com or contact Jeramie Sollmann at 937-492-0346.
way. It’s very exciting.”

But it’s not just new memories they’re looking for.

It’s new people.

“I want to continue this. I want it to keep it going,” Lisowski said. “A lot of people don’t even know we’re here. And that’s the big thing for me. A lot of people don’t know we’re here even though they’ve lived here for years. So I’m trying to get it out there more and get more young kids involved.

We’re trying to make a connection with the Wapakoneta Theatre, the Drama Club. We’re trying to get them more involved.”

“We’ve got a lot bigger social media face than we’ve ever had before,” Butturff added. “We’re reaching out on Twitter and all that stuff, too.”

With that larger scope, and hopefully more involvement, Butturff and his colleagues hope they can continue to provide a unique service and opportunity to Wapakoneta.

Maybe even for 50 more years.

“It’s absolutely, 100 percent rewarding to see something on a page and imagine how you want it to look up there, to see it come to life is even better than you imagine it because of the creative input of assistant directors and actors, and everyone working together as a team on a final project,” Butturff said. “Just keep live theatre alive in Wapakoneta and provide that creative outlet for people that desire to do it. And also for people that enjoy going to see theatre and being able to provide that for creative people. Just keep the dream alive.”

To purchase tickets for “Butterflies Are Free,” mail ticket requests and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Wapakoneta Theatre Guild, P.O. Box 298, Wapakoneta, OH. 45895, or call (419) 738-2248.

Tickets, which includes dinner, show, tax, tip, and coffee are $25, while tickets for the show only are $12.

The show will run for two weekends next month, with 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday shows on Mar. 16-17, and Mar. 23-24, and 1:45 matinees on Mar. 18 and 25.

Daniel Hehmyer, Celina, gets questioned during dress rehearsal for the Wapakoneta Theatre Guild’s fall show, “Saving Grace.”

Staff photo/WDN Files
Museum takes giant step toward expansion

By A.J. HECHT
STAFF WRITER

The Armstrong Air and Space Museum is one of the premier attractions in Auglaize County. It’s a historical center. It’s an economic center. It’s a cultural center. But above all, it’s an educational center.

One of its primary functions is teaching, whether its for field trips, special events, or just a weekend day-trip.

“The classroom is basically the core of the museum,” executive director Chris Burton said. “This classroom has been used for the last 20 years. It’s done a lot of good work, but classrooms changed a lot in the last 20 years.”

As time has worn on, the room currently used for educational purposes—which was not a part of the original design of the museum—has lost a bit of its functionality.

“There are three outlets, there’s no water supply, we’ve got a big concrete wall which is very inflexible. We’ve made some improvements in terms of tables and chairs, but in terms of size, it’s very small,” Burton said. “We need a better classroom.”

And with 2019 and the 50th anniversary of Neil Armstrong’s first step looming on the horizon, Burton and his staff are taking the opportunity to make those much

Bristol Galvin draws a picture during Home School Day in the Armstrong Air and Space Museum in November. A new, updated classroom is the first priority for the museum in their upcoming expansion project.

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Museum From Page 14

needed improvements.

Their ongoing capital funding campaign is to hopefully raise enough money to make those changes—likely around $4 million—and have a new, modern classroom by the time the anniversary comes around next July.

There are several areas in which Burton and his staff wish to address with the new classroom. One of the priorities is size.

“Engineering takes up a lot of space. There are projects that are ongoing projects, tinkering and robotics,” Burton said. “You need large table spaces for communal work. And this falls short on all of those things.”

The proposed room will be roughly 1,300 sq. ft., tripling the size of the current classroom and making room for up to 75 students at a time. There would also be a collapsible wall dividing the middle of the room, which would give the museum some much needed flexibility.

“One side could be middle school, high school friendly. Larger chairs, chem sinks, bunson burners, to do that kind of stuff, high end robotics programming could all be over there,” Burton said. “The other side could be less technological, more engaging for a younger audience, but then also just to have the whole thing available for your big groups.”

The theatre in the museum can already hold 80 people, but that doesn’t always help.

“Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn’t,” Burton said. “If you want people to get up and walk around, the theatre is not the place to do that.”

Location is another big issue with the current classroom space.

“This is the absolutely farthest place you can be from the front door and from the restroom in the museum. It’s a big circle and we are at opposite ends of the circle. There’s no shortcut,” Burton said. “We’re also looking to locate that classroom on the west side of the museum so it can be a part of the lesson plans. A lot of times we’ll be inside doing something that has to go outside. Whether it’s the egg drop, or a model rocket, we’ll have easy access to get outside and then back into the classroom. We lose five minutes each time going in and out.”

But education in the museum isn’t limited to the classroom and those activities.

With funds raised in the capital project, the museum also plans to expand the Modern Space Gallery.

“The museum is constantly changing. Our subject matter is changing. We always talk about the moon landing, but so many things have happened since the moon landing. We need to incorporate many of those things,” Burton said. “We know that we can’t talk about everything. No space museum could ever. There’s so many things happening all of the time. But we need to do a better job of talking about what has happened.”

“Maybe it’s the new Chinese space station, maybe it’s Space X,” he added. “Whatever that is, that’s what we need to be talking about.”

Size is also an issue in the gallery, as the museum continues to outgrow it’s space.

“It’s just not large enough to do those things,” he said. “We just really need to do a better job of talking about the moon landing, but so many things have happened since the moon landing. We need to incorporate many of those things,” Burton said. “We know that we can’t talk about everything. No space museum could ever. There’s so many things happening all of the time. But we need to do a better job of talking about what has happened.”

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um, it comes back to education.

The museum regularly hosts groups for overnight stays, which includes tours, activities, and sleeping amongst the exhibits. “We have 18 overnights scheduled this year. That’s where those kids sleep,” Burton said about the Modern Space Gallery. “If that area is larger, we can accommodate more kids. And with the classroom we could even have two scout troops here at the same time. They’d each have their own sleeping space, but they could do all of the activities together.”

If all goes according to plan, the Modern Space Gallery would double in size. But they aren’t stopping there. While planned as a planetarium, the domed theatre never actually fulfilled the intent of the original designers. Burton plans to change that. “From the outside, everything would look the same,” he said, “but on the inside, it would be a high tech experience. New seating, new everything, and things would really just come to life.”

It’s not just for space, either. “We’ve learned that planetariums are really popular for art. If you’re studying the Sistine Chapel or any other kind of basilica art, you can just project it onto the ceiling,” Burton said. “Or you can have biology lessons where you’re traveling through the blood vessels and the heart. And it’s all inside the planetarium.”

Burton also hopes that will draw in some repeat visitors, helping with an issue, he says, that historically the museum has had trouble with. “We think that’ll be a big reason for the local audience to come again and again, to be able to see a new planetarium show,” Burton said. “Every six months you’ll want to come out to see what the new offering is.”

It’s a connection that Burton and the rest of the museum wants to reestablish. “That’s been our biggest issue. The museum was built with local funds. Over $500,000 came from the local community, but since then there has not been a lot of connection,” he said. “Those donor relationships weren’t maintained.”

Now in the closing stages of their targeted fundraising efforts, and under a time crunch to get everything completed before the 50th Anniversary celebration, the bigger picture is starting to come into view. And it’s not just a physical expansion.

“The biggest thing is making sure it’s not from Auglaize and the surrounding counties exclusively, that there are other people that are engaged, that there are other people that have a stake in what’s going on in the museum,” Burton said. “The bigger picture is to redefine what the community is.”