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INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER

In Sports

Warriors earn first victory

»Lebanon High School football team goes for its second victory on Friday. **D1**

Things to do

»**Best couples event:** Nine hole couple golf scramble at Shaker Run Golf Course. 5:15 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17. Music and food to follow. (513) 727-0007, ext. 1.

»**Tommy Cash live:** 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 at Keepin' It Country, 5511 Township Line Road, Waynesville. Tommy is Johnny Cash's brother.

»**Movies in the Park:** Featured movie, "Happy Feet", starts between 8 and 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17, at Fleckenstein Park, 3834 Mason Montgomery Road, Deerfield Twp. (513) 701-6958.

»**Chambers of Horror:** Haunted house open 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 17-18, 1601 S. University Blvd., Middletown.

Western-Star.com/events

Online extras

»Pick the high school fall sports Player of the Week. See the candidates and cast your vote for the player you think is most deserving.

Western-Star.com/go/potw

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High-tech Lebanon company captures 'lightning in bottle'



Paul Minbiolo, president of E-Beam Services, stands next to the new electron machine that will be used at the company, which will soon expand and add 22 jobs during the next three years. Staff photo by Apryl Pilolli

E-Beam is expanding facility, adding jobs in sour economy

By Justin McClelland
Staff Writer

LEBANON — Paul Minbiolo laughed at the small, clear Plexiglas square in his hand. Inside, tiny glittering crystals branched outward, the result of running the plastic square under a multi-million dollar electron gun.

"I'm literally holding lightning in my hand," Minbiolo said with a smile before apologetically adding, "even geeks are allowed to have fun."

If Minbiolo has managed to capture lightning in his fist, than his company, E-Beam has caught the proverbial lightning in a bottle, bucking economic trends and the dour news of layoffs and business closings that fill today's conversation.

The high-tech contract electron beam processing company recently announced plans to expand its Lebanon facility by an additional 25,000 square feet and to add 22 jobs over

the next three years. Not only is the company's growth impressive, but the service it provides is enough to attract other companies to the area just to have easy access to it.

"E-Beam is one of our strongest corporate partners," said Maria Collins, Lebanon's economic development director. "Not only do they add to the city's economic base, but they are also very involved in the Lebanon community."

E-Beam's star "employee" is a \$10 million piece of electron equipment that towers more than two stories tall. A variety of products are turned under the machine's sights and flooded with electron beams to produce a variety of results.

Medical equipment can be run through the device's conveyor belt to be sterilized without being removed from its packaging. Flexible pipe tubing can be run through and will become strength-

ened against severe temperatures that would otherwise cause the piping material to melt. The device is operated 24 hours a day because demand is so high, Minbiolo said.

E-Beam was founded in New York, where it still maintains its headquarters. The Lebanon plant opened in 2000 and employs 21.

E-Beam's expansion will add a second electron machine to the plant. The company will control 70 percent of the electronic beam capacity in the country.

Collins said E-Beam can attract other companies to the area who want easy access to its services. For example, piping manufacturer Nibco Inc. chose to expand its Lebanon facility because of the close proximity, Collins said. Officials from Nibco declined to comment, citing company policy.

"No doubt, it's an important resource for southwest Ohio," Minbiolo said.

Caesar Creek marina would bring in \$1 million

By Richard Wilson
Staff Writer

MASSIE TWP., Warren County — The state plans to build a multi-million-dollar, privately operated marina at Caesar Creek Lake.

The project, which has been on the shelf since the lake was built in the late 1970s, got the green light after "unallocated monies" were identified in the Waterways Safety Fund, said Heidi Hetzel-Evans, spokeswoman for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

"This is a huge undertaking for the department," Evans said. "It is a very large construction project."

The first phase of the project, estimated at a cost of \$4 million, involves hiring a design consultant, getting input during public meetings and building half of the proposed 300 boat slips by 2014, Evans said.

Initial construction, expected to begin in 2012, will be paid for using money collected through boater registrations, title fees, fuel taxes and a U.S. Coast Guard grant, Evans said.

The marina will be built on the 2,830-acre lake between the beach area and the youth fishing pond, located north of Ohio 73, according to Warren County Commissioner Pat South.

The facility, to be operated by



Sheri and J.P. Wilson go boating with 4-month-old daughter, Reagan, at Caesar Creek Park. The state plans to build a marina at Caesar Creek Lake that will include 300 boat slips. Staff file photo by Apryl Pilolli

a winning bidder from the private sector, will fill a void for services like fuel, restrooms, an additional launch site, food, bait and other amenities that are in high demand at the popular northern Warren County destination, South said.

"It's nice that it's actually going to happen," said South, who has been involved in the planning process. "Tourism is our largest indus-

try, and this helps strengthen tourism and the economic impact in the northwest part of the county."

An economic analysis provided by the state indicates that, with 300 docking sites for boats of various sizes, boaters will spend about \$1,430 annually on upkeep and maintenance, not including fuel, with a total annual impact of about \$1 million to the region.

Trash collection rate hike approved

Residents will see increase in monthly fees for the next five years, starting in January.

By Justin McClelland
Staff Writer

LEBANON — Residents will see an increase in their trash pick-up rates in the coming months.

City council approved Tuesday, Sept. 14, a five-year rate increase for trash and recyclable collection in the city. The monthly charge for trash removal will rise from \$15.80 to \$16.60 per single-family residential home, starting Jan. 1.

The rates will rise each year for the next five to \$16.80 per month in 2012; \$17.10 per month in 2013; \$17.60 per month in 2014; and \$18 per month in 2015.

The city also added a \$15.10 monthly fee per apartment to cover the costs of collecting trash at apartment complexes and other multi-family dwellings. This monthly rate will also rise 30 to 50 cents each year between 2011 and 2015.

The rate increase was spurred by a new contract approved last month between the city and Rumpke to handle trash collection within the city.

Mayor Amy Brewer said the need to raise rates was unfortunate, but that the contract had been competitively bid and the Rumpke deal was the best offer the city had.

"We have a responsibility for the upkeep of our city," Brewer said. "This was put out as a competitive bid and this was the lowest bid the city received."

Councilman Jim Norris said finding the best rates and contracts for the city was an ongoing process. Norris felt the city's staff was always vigilant in making the best contracts possible for Lebanon.

Based on the new contract provisions, each home will receive a 95-gallon wheeled trash can for trash collection, although residents can use other varieties of trash cans. Each home will also receive a 65-gallon recycling cart free of charge. Previously, the city had charged a \$1 per month fee for the recycling container.

Only councilman Matt Rodriguez voted against the rate increase, citing the tumultuous economy as a reason to not raise rates on residents.

In addition to garbage and recycling collection services, the sanitation fees support the yard waste pick-up program, street-sweeping operations and administrative costs of the sanitation department, said Lebanon deputy city manager Scott Brunka.

Contact this reporter at (513) 696-4544 or jmcclelland@coxohio.com.

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