



Team Taylor County

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OUR TEAM. YOUR VISION. UNCOMMON OPPORTUNITIES.

Volume 4, Issue 3

Quarterly Newsletter

September 2010

Murakami Manufacturing Celebrates 10 Year Anniversary



Murakami Manufacturing USA, Inc. (MMUS) recently celebrated their 10 year anniversary in Campbellsville, Kentucky. Their parent company, Murakami Corporation, was founded in 1882 in Shizuoka City, Japan. MMUS manufactures automotive rearview mirrors. Their major customers include Toyota, Nissan, Honda, Hyundai, KIA, Acura and Lexus. MMUS has assembly, mold injection and paint departments employing approximately 200 plus team members. Capital investment in the facility has exceeded \$28 million.

First Row, Eiji Murakami, Senior Advisor, Murakami Corporation, and his wife Mutsuko Murakami. Second Row, Campbellsville Mayor Brenda Allen, Tadayoshi Muto, Chairman, Murakami Corporation, Taylor County Judge-Executive Eddie Rogers, Larry Hayes, Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development Secretary, Michio Ikegaya, Director of Murakami Corporation, Kentucky State Representative John "Bam" Carney. Third Row, Masanori Kawamoto, Chairman & CEO, MMUS, Fumio Mochizuki, Murakami Corporation, Sam Polk, Plant Administration Manager, MMUS, Tom Waters, Vice President of Production, MMUS, and Ron McMahan, Team Taylor County Executive Director.

Taylor Regional Hospital Expansion Planned Groundbreaking Expected March 2011

By CKNJ Staff Writer Calen McKinney

Patients at Taylor Regional Hospital will have a bit more privacy after having surgery, thanks to a new three-story building in the works with new operating and patient rooms.

According to TRH CEO Jane Wheatley, the hospital has been planning the expansion for the past year and a half. Wheatley said the hospital's current operating rooms are in the center of the hospital, which means they are essentially landlocked.

A three-story free standing addition to the TRH building will set aside an entire floor for operating rooms, she said, as well as renovate air and heating systems and provide more patient privacy. Wheatley said hospital staff has discussed plans for the expansion for quite some time now to be sure it is built to suit. She said a renovation of the current building would have caused the hospital to shut down for six to eight weeks. But building a three-story structure that connects to the current site will cause no disruption in service, she said. "And that's the best part of it."

The addition will be built near the rear of the hospital, beside the emergency room, where a gazebo area is now. The first floor will be outpatient surgery rooms. Wheatley said patients will go to their rooms, be prepped there for surgery and then return to the same rooms for after care. The rooms will give doctors a private place to talk to their patients. "We think it will be great for the family," she said.

The second floor will be for endoscopy procedures, she said, and the third floor will have operating, recovery and supply rooms. The expansion will also call for renovation of some other parts of the hospital and allow some space for future growth.

Luke Williams, director of plant operations, says TRH has created a master facility plan to come up with the best use for the new space. The three-story building, he said, will immediately provide more services to patients while still allowing for future expansion. "It'll be a one-stop shop," he said, meaning patients will have everything they need for surgical procedures in one building. He said the expansion is currently in the schematic design phase, with TRH staff working with Luckett & Farley Architects in Louisville.

Williams says design and development is up next, then construction documents will be created and the project will be put out for bids. He says groundbreaking is set for March, with the project's completion date set for June 2012.

In the meantime, he said, TRH staff will continue to meet and be sure the space is used in the best way. "We've got a lot of good input," he said.

Wheatley said hospital officials have known an expansion would be needed for some time now and have saved money for it. Of the \$16.5 million estimated cost, the hospital has saved \$5 million. The rest will be borrowed from Community Trust Bank, Citizens

Bank and Taylor County Bank.

Hospital officials recently asked Taylor Fiscal Court for its approval of financing paperwork to begin the expansion process.

Wheatley said the County's approval, which was granted, will allow TRH to obtain better financing. She said the County has no liability in the project and is only required to approve the agreements to satisfy IRS rules.

The hospital's tax rate will not increase to pay for the building, Wheatley said, but simply having the tax in place allows officials to obtain a better financing rate. She said the hospital tax can only be used to build and purchase equipment, but the budget for new equipment is more than the tax generates.

"Taxes don't cover it," Wheatley said. "The taxes are not going to build this building." The \$11.5 million cost, she said, will be included in reserved funds in the hospital's annual budgets.

Williams says he is pleased with how the expansion plans are progressing. "I always like to slow down at this part of the stages so you get everything," he said. "The budget is going to be tight, but I'm pleased with the progress."





Campbellsville University Ranked 25th in *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Colleges"

By Joan C. McKinney, news and publications coordinator

Campbellsville University has been ranked as one of the best "up-and-coming" schools in the south according to the new U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" in the 2011 Regional Colleges in the South category as well as remaining in the top 25 of Regional Colleges in the South.

CU is ranked third in the new category in the south; CU was ranked fourth last year.

"Up-and-coming" schools are colleges and universities that were singled out as "schools that have recently made the most promising and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus or facilities," according to U.S. News & World Report.

The "up-and-coming" schools were ranked against other schools within their categories in the U.S. News rankings. A total of 68 colleges and universities across the nation were singled out for this honor.

CU was also ranked 25th in the best Regional Colleges in the South category. This is the fourth year in a row that CU has been ranked in the top 25 in the south. CU has been ranked in U.S. News' "America's Best Colleges" 18 consecutive years.

"It is a great accomplishment to be ranked in the top 25 of Best Regional

Colleges in the South," according to an announcement from Campbellsville University President Michael V. Carter, "but it is especially satisfying to see us ranked as an 'up-and-coming' institution with CU having moved up in the list this year.

"We know we have innovative programs that prepare our students to be strong Christian servant leaders, and it is gratifying to see that our peers recognize our pioneering academic programs as well as our spiritual, athletic and extracurricular endeavors." This year's ranking recognizes the "colleges that are helping students be successful and stay in school," Carter said.

"It is an honor to be recognized for providing students with an excellent educational experience," Carter said.

Carter said Campbellsville University students will see many new changes as they return to campus Monday, Aug. 23. New synthetic turf and lights have been placed on the football field, and new lights are on the university's baseball field. Two new men's residence villages are open to house 90 students.

New computers and classroom enhancements have been added across campus, and new academic programs have been added including the university's 16th master's degree - master of arts in organizational leadership.

"Needless to say, we are pleased with this ranking among the South's best regional universities and as an 'up-and-

coming' institution," Carter said.

Academic institutions are categorized by their mission and region with the gathering of data from each of 12 indicators of academic excellence. The schools are ranked against their peers, according to scores given by U.S. News & World Report.

The indicators used to capture academic quality fall into a number of categories: assessment by administrators at peer institutions, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and (for National Universities and National Liberal Arts Colleges) high school counselor ratings of colleges and "graduation rate performance." The indicators include input measures that reflect a school's student body, its faculty, and its financial resources, along with outcome measures that signal how well the institution does its job of educating students.

"Campbellsville University has a theme of 'find your calling' that exemplifies what Campbellsville University means to our students. We feel it is the epitome of what a Christian education at Campbellsville University can provide for our students as we prepare the next generation of Christian servant leaders," Carter said.

Campbellsville University is a widely acclaimed Kentucky-based Christian university with over 3,000 students offering 45 undergraduate programs, 16 master's degrees and five post-graduate areas. The website for complete information is campbellsville.edu.

Cox Shavings at World Equestrian Games



Team Taylor County, through its eight county partnership in Bluegrass South Regional Economic Development Coalition, helped Cox Shavings secure booth space for two days in the Trade Show Pavilion at the recent World Equestrian Games in Lexington, KY. Jim Noe, General Manager, discusses their shavings used for horse, cattle, turkey and poultry bedding with a potential Canadian customer.

Taylor, Adair and Green Form Training Consortium

An organizational meeting for the TAG (Taylor, Adair, Green Co) Training Consortium was held in Campbellsville in August.

TAG is a tri-county training consortium in a cooperative effort with Taylor, Adair and Green Counties. The primary purpose of a training consortium is to develop and implement customized training utilizing grant resources whenever possible for members of the consortium. The Consortium enables employers to upgrade skills of current employees while assisting in all possible ways to help business and industry grow and expand. A consortium also can provide continuity of educational development for students who may be

considered for employment after graduation.

TAG is a non-profit organization working between Taylor, Adair and Green County business, industry, government, training providers and Workforce Development. TAG works together for the purpose of providing training in a cost effective manner. The organization will meet quarterly (or as determined by membership) to assess training needs and to establish curricula. Bylaws will be established and an election of officers of the TAG Consortium will be held.

An annual membership fee will apply. The membership fee will be payable after the organization is established and

will be determined by the membership.

HOW WILL A BUSINESS BENEFIT?

- *Help upgrade employee skills
- *Provide cost-effective training
- *Provide access to training resources
- *Offer local training
- *Provide training for entry-level employees
- *Offer workforce needs assessment
- *Develop curriculum
- *Allow members to set class schedules
- *Provides invaluable networking opportunities
- *Makes community, state and federal resources available

Ron McMahan, Executive Director

107 West Broadway

Campbellsville, Kentucky

270.465.9636

ron@teamtaylorcounty.com

www.teamtaylorcounty.com