Community Day Heralds $30 Million In Renovations At Southern Park Mall

An estimated 5,000 people attended annual Community Day celebration held this year in September at the Southern Park Mall, where official announcement of a $30 million renovation of the largest shopping center in Mahoning County was announced by Lou Conforti, CEO of the Washington Prime Group. First step in the renovations will be the demolition of the former Sears Department Store. Renovations will include the construction of a four-acre open space/green space called DeBartolo Commons, in honor of the mall's developer, Edward J. DeBartolo Sr. The project will also include construction of a bikeway from the mall property to Boardman Park, as well as two retention systems. On hand for the announcement, pictured, were Boardman Township elected officials, Fiscal Officer William Leicht, Trustees Brad Calhoun, Larry Moliterno and Thomas Costello; and Matthew J. Jurkowitz, vice president/development, of Washington Prime Group.

Grant Aids In Preservation Of Zoning Records

The Boardman Township Department of Planning and Zoning has received $2,516 from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board’s (OHRAAB) Ohio Archives Grant Program. This grant is a small start toward the long-term goal of the digitization of all zoning records that include over 70-years of plans, permits and architectural drawings. Digitizing those records will make it easier for the public to access and long-term preservation. The Digitization and Preservation of Zoning Department Records program is supported in part by an award from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, through funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration.