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While the building will serve as a manufacturing hub for the company, Thaler said production wasn’t the only thing he was bringing home.

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Bruce Thaler, Kate’s Real Food owner
**Pediatric center opens in Bedford**

Located in the Bedford County Business Park, the pediatric center provides residents a close-to-home option for their children’s healthcare needs. The 10-room facility is UPMC’s second clinic in Bedford County and their 57th pediatric center in Western Pennsylvania. It is slated to not only address the immediate medical needs of children, but also provide mental health services and adolescent medicine. The facility is part of the UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, which was ranked in the national top 10 for children’s hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.

Lead physician Dr. Amy Mullen earned her doctorate at the Pennsylvania College of Medicine and has worked with UPMC pediatric centers for more than five years. The facility is part of UPMC's Pediatric Network, which provides access to a comprehensive range of services and adolescent medicine. The facility is part of the UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, which was ranked in the national top 10 for children's hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.

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All told, nearly 300 students from six schools attended the event.

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**Rounding Out the Team**

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Drawn by the region’s rolling vistas, proximity to major metropolitan areas and strong communities, Barbarito and her husband relocated to the area in 2015. She worked at Downtown Bedford, Inc., before hiring on with BCDA in early 2019.

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**Manufacturing Day introduces hundreds to manufacturing**

High school students tour the Defiance Metal Products, a Mayville Engineering Company, facility during Manufacturing Day 2019. Nearly 300 students from six schools around Bedford County attended the event, which helps today’s youth connect with tomorrow’s jobs.

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“Bedford County has a lot of plusses that can be leveraged by stakeholders,” Juniper Solutions President Dennis Burnside said. “There are challenges, but there’s a realization they exist.”

Submitted in April, the study identifies the county’s boons as recreational opportunities, highway accessibility, regional planning and proximity to major metropolitan areas such as Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

While a flat population growth was listed in the study as a potential threat to the economy, Burnside said the problem was not unique to the area.

“The fact is, no matter where you go, you will face this problem,” he explained. “Fortunately Bedford County is already addressing the situation.”

Additionally the study identified a low inventory of industrial spec buildings.

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Estimated to cost about $2 million, the spec building project already received approval of a $500,000 grant from the Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program, with applications currently pending for a federal grant. Once built, the spec building could provide a launchpad for strategies to recruit key industries.

An economic needs assessment commissioned by the BCDA highlighted the need for industrial/commercial space, such as the spec building pictured in the concept drawing, to recruit new employers to the region.

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Dalesmen Distillery & Brewery’s co-founders are partnering with local food savants Nick and Sarah Letzo, of 10/09 Kitchen and Nick’s Sandwich Company, to create Dalesmen Ventures, LLC, a new distillery, tap room and dining experience for Bedford residents and visitors alike.

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In 2019, the Bedford County Development Association Board of Directors welcomed new and returning members.

“Our focus will be to attract job-producing businesses into our area while continuing to assist existing businesses with various networking and financial endeavors,” Board Chair Mark Bollman said. “I hope to build on the great accomplishments that have occurred over the past several years.”

Dr. Sherry Cain, a therapist from Everett with 30 years experience in a private practice, joined the BCDA board with an eye toward representing the people of Bedford County.

“I hope I am able to share my area of expertise and my experience working with the individuals in the county who make up the workforce,” Cain said. “I believe I have insight into their issues and concerns.”

Re-upping on a longstanding tradition of service to the BCDA, B.C. Stone owner Travis Collins returned to the board with hopes of cementing its current business relationships.

“They are already part of the culture we wish to preserve,” Collins said. “It is a proven fact that the vision and risks taken by the BCDA created numerous economic success stories, and I’m proud to be a part of that history.”

Representing Bedford County’s agricultural industry, Golden Rule Farm owner CA Detwiler joined the board to foster economic growth and bolster relationships between ag producers and the BCDA.

“There are many good things about doing business in Bedford County,” Detwiler said. “But the best thing is the people. Bedford County has talented people who are willing to step up and do the work that needs to be done.”

An ambitious entrepreneur with three businesses under his belt — Weaver Sanitation, Breezewood Transfer, LLC, and Breezewood Truck Wash, LLC — Robbie Weaver believes in Bedford County’s future.

“I believe we can do many great things here,” the new board member said. “Creating job opportunities will do much to enhance the quality of life we have to love in Bedford County.”

“Keeping local money in local pockets is one of Mission Critical Solutions President and CEO Bob McGowan’s goals as a new board member, but he said that doesn’t mean secluding the community from the outside world.

“The most pressing issue is identifying what Bedford County offers and getting this to national firms,” McGowan said. “With our access to topnotch manufacturing facilities, skilled workforce and the interstate system, we can grow by leaps and bounds.”

Featuring business leaders from around the community, the BC Broadcast is the BCDA’s latest initiative highlighting the people and businesses that make Bedford County great. Hosted by News/Talk Radio 1310 WBFD, the monthly program focuses on providing relevant discussions about local businesses, their triumphs and resources available to help them grow and succeed.

In a recent broadcast, Bette Slayton (center) talked with Omni Bedford Springs Resort’s General Manager Bill Lidholm; and Director of Sales and Marketing Dave Notstands. Last year, the resort hosted 100,000 guests, spent $2 million in direct marketing, paid out nearly $300,000 in bed tax and $15 million in payroll.
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Brewery partners with local chef to create new fine dining experience in Bedford

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“We’re moving all our fulfillment here, too,” he said. “As well our customer service center.”

With construction already underway, the $4.1 million facility is expected to be complete in 2020 and could bring as many as 36 new jobs to the area.

“Having this young, high-growth company come to Bedford County is just the sort of opportunity we love to facilitate,” BCDA Chair Bollman said. “Our region is famous for our outdoor lifestyle, and we’re really looking forward to working with Bruce and his team. This partnership is a tremendous fit and offers so much to our workforce and community.”