

Phelps to lead Dragons

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Similarly and coincidentally, the first head coach of the Green County Dragons, the late Coach Ivan Curnutte, was also a former Ashland Tomcat.

"This will be the 60th team for Green County. Ivan Curnutte was an Ashland guy. And he actually coached my wife's grandfather at Lawrence County."

"It was almost meant to be for me to be here," Phelps said. "All these signs were lining up like, 'This is where you belong.'"

Phelps hopes to build on Curnutte's legacy and on the toughness of the team overall.

"Since the first team that Mr. Curnutte started in 1962, there's been 59 teams, and this will be #60. I want to build on the past."

Coach Phelps says the word *TEAM* is an acronym that he uses often.

"T: Toughness and Tempo.

We are tough and we are going to use tempo."

E: Efficient and Effort. This team will be

efficient and show effort.

A: We will be Accountable and Adapt to situations.

M: We will stay Motivated and focus on Multiple style offense and defense."

"That's who we are and what we are going to do," he stated.

The new coach said this is an opportunity to offer growth.

"I would like to turn Green County into a hub for coaches to play and grow," he said. "I wouldn't be where I'm at today if it wasn't for the people around me giving me opportunities to grow."

"That's the great thing about this game... you can touch so many lives and affect so many different people."

As one might expect, football is easily one of the loves of his life.

"I love the game of football, probably more than anyone else, and I'll argue that til I'm blue in the face."

On that note, Phelps said he is slightly concerned about getting kicked out of the county; he said he doesn't

have hobbies. There is no hunting or fishing for the new guy...

"I coach football."

And he cannot wait to get started.

Coach Phelps looks forward to get going in the weight room with his new team and being with the kids as much as possible.

So when will practice start for the 2021 season?

"Yesterday would've been my hope!" he answered honestly. "But, as soon as we can get it worked out!"

Coach Phelps, along with his wife, Taylor, and their 10-month-old daughter, Blake, is hoping to locate to the area as soon as possible. They have been busy familiarizing themselves with the community in the meantime.

Phelps has high hopes and big goals for the Green County Dragons and his new team.

"I aspire to put a product on the field that will make the community proud, both *on* and *off* the field."



GC Schools photo

Superintendent of Green County Schools Will Hodges welcomes Coach Colt Phelps, along with his wife, Taylor, and daughter, Blake, to the district at the meet and greet event held Friday at GCHS.



Photo by Angelina Alcott

Green County Board of Education members and long-time Dragon supporters shake hands and welcome Colt Phelps.

Hart County industry to see growth

STAFF REPORTS

Gov. Andy Beshear recently highlighted T. Marzetti Co.'s growth plans, which will increase the company's expansion project announced a year ago from 140 to 220 full-time jobs and represents the company's largest-ever investment of \$133 million, up from \$93 million.

The Marzetti operation in Horse Cave manufactures salad dressings, sauces and other foods for retail and foodservice markets. It currently employs over 500 people.

"As we work to build back our economy and ensure a brighter future for Kentuckians, the same can be said of companies like T. Marzetti Co.," Gov. Beshear said. "This company already announced a substantial expansion this time last year, and its leaders have taken that project a step further to provide even more quality jobs for residents in and around Hart County. I'm glad Marzetti will represent an even greater part of Kentucky's future, and I thank the company's leadership for their commitment to the commonwealth."

Following the initial expansion announcement by Gov. Beshear and Marzetti executives in February 2020, company leaders pushed pause on the project due to the pandemic. The company is now moving ahead with the 184,500-square-foot expansion, which will create additional manufacturing space. The company plans to purchase new equipment to increase dressing and sauce production, add eight new processing kitchens and create several packaging lines to meet growing customer demand. Work on the project has begun and is expected to be completed by July 2022.

"This expansion

builds on the partnership that we have enjoyed with the people of Kentucky since our parent company built our first facility here in 2005. Without the good work and commitment to our company-wide goal of 'being better' from the more than 500 employees already on site, we would not have the faith to make this investment, the largest in Marzetti's 100-year history," said Dave Nagle, chief supply chain officer at Marzetti. "Marzetti is also partnered with Kentucky-based companies for this new construction, bringing nationally recognized expertise to lead the effort with Gray Construction of Lexington as design/build contractor, In-Line Engineers of Louisville for process engineering and AEI of Elizabethtown for civil engineering. We look forward to continuing our partnerships and increasing our contribution to the well-being of the people and communities of South Central Kentucky as these new facilities come online in the next few years."

Marzetti's roots as a food producer date back to the late 19th century. The company, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, was acquired by Lancaster Colony Corp. in 1969. Lancaster Colony is also the parent company of several other food companies, including Sister Schubert's Homemade Rolls Inc., which produces frozen dinner rolls at its facility adjacent to the Marzetti operation in Horse Cave.

Including this updated announcement, Marzetti and Sister Schubert's have combined to announce approximately \$313 million in investment with the creation of more than 780 jobs in Hart County in less than two decades.

Marzetti is among

the more than 350 food and beverage manufacturing, service and technology facilities located in Kentucky currently employing over 52,000 people. In 2020 alone, the industry announced 53 new location or expansion projects expected to create more than 1,500 full-time jobs with \$974 million in announced investments.

Hart County Judge/Executive Joe Choate referred to the expansion as a blessing for the region.

"Hart County has been a longtime partner with T. Marzetti Co.," Judge/Executive Choate said. "The magistrates and I are ecstatic about another wonderful planned expansion that will further the blessings on Hart County and all surrounding areas."

Horse Cave Mayor Randall Curry said he welcomes the company's growth in the community.

"I am very proud of the T. Marzetti expansion coming to the Horse Cave plant," Mayor Curry said. "They have been an important part of the growth and good paying jobs for our community. I am very proud of their investment and the job growth that this expansion will bring."

John Bunnell, chairman of the Hart County Industrial Authority, noted the impact of the company's growth will extend far beyond its record investment.

"We are excited about T. Marzetti Co.'s expansion in Hart County and how it will continue to benefit not only Hart County, but our entire region," Bunnell said. "Every dollar invested here will have a positive ripple effect across our local economy as it recirculates through other local businesses and also helps fund our schools, police, fire and other community services."

To encourage the

investment and job growth in the community, the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA) in February 2020 preliminarily approved a 10-year incentive agreement with the company under the Kentucky Business Investment program. The performance-based agreement can provide up to \$2.75 million in tax incentives based on the company's originally announced investment of \$92.8 million and annual targets of: Creation and maintenance of 140 Kentucky-resident, full-time jobs across 10 years; and

Paying an average hourly wage of \$25.72 including benefits across those jobs.

By meeting its annual targets over the agreement term, the company can be eligible to keep a portion of the new tax revenue it generates. The company may claim eligible incentives against its income tax liability and/or wage assessments.

Additionally, KEDFA approved Marzetti for up to \$250,000 in tax incentives through the Kentucky Enterprise Initiative Act (KEIA). KEIA allows approved companies to recoup Kentucky sales and use tax on construction costs, building fixtures, equipment used in research and development and electronic processing.

In addition, Marzetti can receive resources from the Kentucky Skills Network. Through the Kentucky Skills Network, companies can receive no-cost recruitment and job placement services, reduced-cost customized training and job training incentives.

For more information on T. Marzetti Co., visit TMarzettiCompany.com.

How to be more efficient with your time

METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

A time crunch is no stranger to many adults. Busy professionals balancing work and their personal lives often wish there was more time in the day. Though it might be impossible to create more minutes in the day, adults can take steps to be more efficient with their time. The more efficient people can be with their time, the more that time should begin to feel like their own.

• **Audit yourself.** It's hard to be more efficient with your time if you're not certain about where you're being inefficient. Audit how you're spending time each day, jotting down everything you do during the day and how much time you spend on each individual task. Audits can be made easier by utilizing time tracking apps on a smartphone, some of which are free. The app need not provide a bunch of bells and whistles (such apps are generally designed to help businesses track employees' production). A simple app that lets you track each activity and the time it takes to perform it is all you need to conduct a successful audit.

• **Categorize tasks.** Tasks can be categorized so those that are absolutely necessary are never given a lower priority than nonessential tasks. In addition, tasks can be categorized according to how much time each one figures to take. Once tasks have been catego-

rized, choose distraction-free times of day to perform high-priority, time-consuming tasks. The ability to focus on such tasks free from distraction should cut down on the time it takes to complete them, potentially freeing up more time in your day.

• **Don't hesitate to delegate.** When categorizing tasks, create a category for tasks that can be delegated. Parents may want to delegate meal prep to children who are old enough to hold their own in the kitchen, while adult partners can divide up household chores so no one person is doing the bulk of the work around the house.

• **Turn devices off.** Devices are distracting, and various surveys and studies have proven that. Research from RescueTime, an iOS- and Android-supported app created to monitor phone use, found that people spend an average of three hours and 15 minutes per day on their phones. Adults who are pressed for time may benefit by turning their devices off during the work day and/or when trying to tackle tasks at home. In fact, turning a smartphone or other device off when you don't need it to perform a given task may be the simplest and most effective way to make more efficient use of your time.

Finding a 25th hour in the day may not be possible, but people can try various strategies to make more efficient use of the 24 hours they do have each day.