

# M&S Industrial Fabricators celebrates equipment, jobs

By ILENE HALUSKA

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HUNTINGTON — The city and Huntington County Economic Development Corporation celebrated Industrial Metal Fabricators, Inc. in Huntington for its recent manufacturing improvements with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

"The company invested over \$2 million for new CNC equipment and a new powder coating paint system," said Mark Wickersham of the Huntington County Economic Development Corporation. "The investment retains 15 existing employees and will lead to the creation of 4 new positions."

M&S currently employs 104 people, he said.

In Huntington's Commercial Road Industrial Park, M&S produces parts and equipment enclosures made of metal alloys based on prints, prototypes or an idea to suit a variety of applications, according to its website.

The city supported the project with a performance-based local income tax grant. Huntington Mayor Richard Strick explained that the project helps retain and make jobs, supports the long-time business in Huntington County and the family that started it, achieving the American Dream.

The company explored



After viewing the new equipment at M&S Industrial Metal Fabricators Wednesday, many took part in the ribbon cutting ceremony. From left: Front — Huntington County Council Member Terry Miller, CEO and President Jason Mickley, Accounting Department's Michelle Stoffel, Engineering Manager Lucas Juillerat, Manufacturing Director Greg Kaminski, Duke Energy Outreach Jennifer Jordan, Accounting Director David Garrett, and Huntington County Economic Development Corporation Board Member Lee Pasko; back — Huntington Council President Charlie Chapman, Jax Mickley, Vice President and Director of Engineering Travis Mickley, Mayor Richard Strick, Maintenance Manager Roger Newsome and HCEDC Exec. Director Mark Wickersham.

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getting new equipment a year ago. It spent seven months to prepare the space and it took 29 days to install the equipment.

Jennifer Jordan, government and community relations manager for Duke Energy, was also invited to the celebration.

"Duke Energy provided equipment upgrades to help meet the expanded power needs of M&S Industrial

Metal Fabricators," she said after the meeting in an email.

M&S began when then-CEO/President Gary L. Mickley purchased a welder and began working from his garage in 1966. Two years later he partnered with John Stoffel, and they located at 433 N. Broadway to manufacturer and weld cylinder carts.

By 1969 the team added

another partner with William L. Shaffer and incorporated the business. In 1970 brothers Paul and Tom Partee purchased company stock and it began making gasoline pumps for the Partee company, with Stoffel selling out and then started his own manufacturing business. By 1973 the company purchased three acres in Huntington's Industrial park as its current location

on Commercial Road. By 1985 after a sell out, Mickley became the sole owner of the business entering its second generation with sons Jason and Travis.

"M & S is one of several 'metal-fabrication industries' founded and still operating in Huntington," said Wickersham. "It was an honor to help facilitate this opportunity and to celebrate the commitment of

the Mickley team to continue their growth and long-term prospects for success in Huntington. Huntington has a wonderful legacy and very bright future in the metal fabrication industry cluster," Wickersham concluded.

Others in the area are Midwest Industrial Metal Fab, Borchers Sheet Metal and Samson Metal Products.