

Piqua Daily Call

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50 cents

The Forecast



Thursday: Partly cloudy. High 87. Low of 67. **Details page 6.**



Featured forecast:
William Sparks,
a student at
Favorite Hill
School.

In Brief

HOME FRONT

☐ Volunteer clean-up downtown Saturday

There will be a volunteer, community clean-up downtown Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon or whenever the work is finished.

As one Piqua citizen said, "The downtown is the living room of the community. We need to clean house before company comes."

The "company" refers to the visitors Piqua will see for the Heritage Festival and the Great Outdoor Underwear Festival.

Volunteers should meet at the gazebo on the square and be ready to pull weeds from sidewalks and pick up trash.

Helpers should dress for the weather. For more informa-

Classic Products expands

By **KEN OWEN**
Call Staff Writer

Classic Products Inc. of Piqua is constructing a 48,000-square-foot addition that will eventually mean 13 more jobs.

The target date for the completion of the addition is mid-October, according to Todd E. Miller, president. It will be added to the company's current plant at 8810 Industry Park Drive.

"This expansion, when marketed over the next two years, will

make us the largest residential metal roofing manufacturer in the country and the additional volume will help us to compete with a wider range of products," he said. It is projected to double the company's sales volume.

Classic undertook the expansion because of the purchase of additional equipment and the need to diversify its product line, he said.

BEEM Construction Inc. of Botkins is the contractor for the project.

Classic manufactures metal

roofing systems which are sold across the country. Some five percent of its business is exported out of the country. About 85 percent is residential sales.

Miller said the metal roofing systems simulate wood shake, slate and tile roofs for more expensive homes.

"They're sold on the basis of durability, distinctive looks, energy efficiency, fire safety and low weight," he said.

Classic also sells roofing systems for commercial use. Pizza Hut, Dairy Queen and Dunkin'

Donuts are three chains which utilize its systems.

He said Classic's primary markets are in the southern and western states because conventional metal roofing doesn't perform well in hot, humid climates.

Miller said the expansion has already boosted employment by seven, bringing the total number of employees to 28.

The company was founded in 1980 by Donald E. Miller, who serves as chief executive officer.

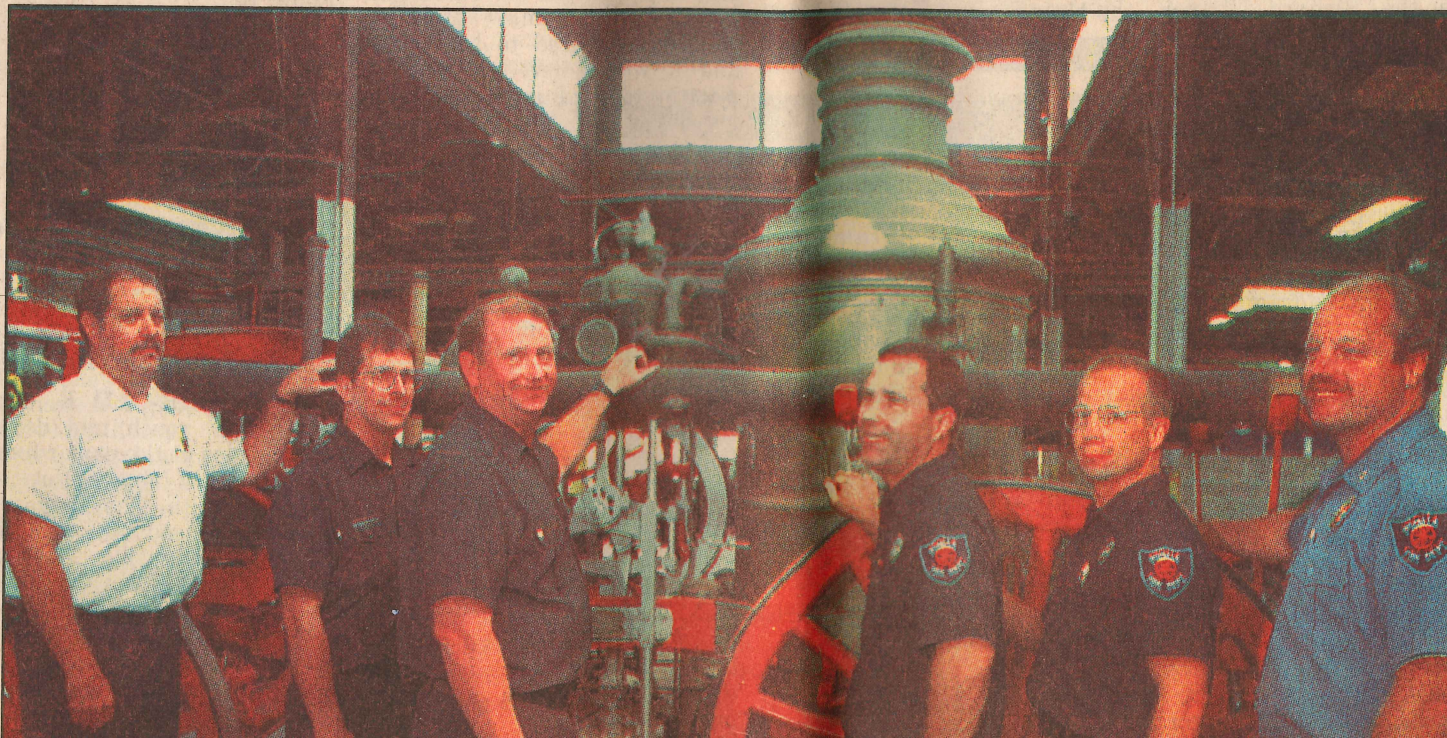
"We have kept a low profile because of the fact that we mar-

ket our products primarily in other areas," he said. "We do have a dealer out of Covington who sells our products. So, we are doing more and more out of this area."

Frank Manger, president of Beem Construction, Botkins, said the construction of the addition is going well. The footers and foundations are already in.

"The steel is being delivered as we speak," he said. "It's a nice addition. We're matching it up with the same type of building."

You've come a long way, baby



Downtown goes after block grant

By **KIERSTEN MEWBORN**
Call Staff Writer

You may have noticed the downtown area being spruced up a bit. There are some new, upper-level window decorations to behold, and businesses in the target area are getting set for building improvements.

Those businesses, located in the four blocks surrounded by Greene, Spring, High and Wayne streets, have already committed more than \$270,000 to improvements in their buildings' and signs' appearance.

Doug Pessefall, director of Mainstreet Piqua, Inc., said that the committed funds will be matched dollar-for-dollar from