The Wayne County Schools Career Center is proud to honor Beaver Meats of Smithville as an Outstanding Business Partner. The business was nominated by head cook Pam Tarleton. Alan Flickinger is the Wayne County Schools Career Center sales representative.

"I have been ordering supplies from Beaver Meats for quite some time now," said Pam. "Any time I call, they are either here the next day for delivery or when I pick up, everything I need is there, ready when I get there. They are willing to work with us to minimize any issues we may have. They just go over and beyond the call of duty every day for not just the Wayne County Schools Career Center, but many other businesses in our area."

In a letter to Lynn Moomaw dated September 15, 2010, Pam wrote, "I think a big hats off to Beaver Meats is in order. We received a two-month government commodities order today. I was told a couple of weeks ago that the new freezer and cooler would not be ready by the time we were to receive this order. I called Greg Beaver and asked it if would be possible to have the items delivered to their building for storage until we are ready. His response, without hesitation, was, 'Yes of course, not a problem.'"

When the truck arrived they called Pam, but Beaver Meats employees were already unloading it when Pam went there to help. One employee helped Pam locate some items she needed immediately, stacked them on a cart and offered to put them in his truck and deliver them to the Career Center.

"It is nice to know that we have a small, local business just around the corner that is so generous and willing to help out during our construction. I know if there is anything I need, they are just a phone call away!"

Beaver Meats has one Career Center graduate, Pam Myers of Apple Creek, a customer service representative, She graduated from Triway High School and the Career Center's Cooperative Business Education program.

Paul Beaver started the business in 1940 as he began selling quality meat from his basement on Milton Street in Smithville and delivered it by car. In 1945, he purchased a panel truck for deliveries, and in 1953, built the first shop at 539 East Main Street.

Beaver Meats is now owned by Paul's son, Dick, and grandson, Greg. The plant is 50,000 square feet, with 70,000 cubic feet of cooler space and 177,600 cubic feet of freezer space. The business delivers quality meats as far north as Lorain and as far south as Coshocton.

Beaver Meats' key employees have a combined 121 years of experience in the company. Plant foreman Dan Morris has 33 years of service, office manager Cathy Buehler has 28 years, sales manager Brad Johnson has 22 years, and shipping and receiving manager Larry Geiser has 38 years.

We thank Beaver Meats for its contributions to the Career Center and ongoing support of career-technical education.