

Wooster Brush buys 43 acres in Bogner Business Park

By **STEPHANIE KANDEL**
Staff Writer

WOOSTER — Wooster Brush Co. on Thursday announced intentions to purchase land in a business park that will develop at the end of Old Airport Road.

The company has a 90-day option on 43 acres in the Bogner Business Park.

When and if the transaction is finalized, the land will be used for expansion in a general, long-term plan yet to be developed, according to a release from the company.

"We're planning for the next 152 years," said Al Rodd, president and treasurer of Wooster Brush, as he stood at the land's entrance, looking over the site in the heat and humidity of Thursday morning. "In five, 10, 15, 20 years we might build something here."

Ted Bogner, president of Bogner Construction Co., said his company and Wooster Brush have been in discussions since November. This is the first land purchase in the 130-acre park, which is zoned M-1 (limited manufacturing) per a cooperative effort with the City of Wooster and neighbors in the area of Melrose Drive, Bogner said.

"We have talked to no one" during discussions of the Wooster Brush transaction, Bogner said. "We were unsure just exactly how much acreage and everything they wanted, and (in) what condition."

He said the intent is to attract quality businesses into the park, and the company is beyond pleased to begin with Wooster Brush.

In the release, Rodd said, "Bogner Construction Co. has done busi-

ness with us since 1909, when we built our first plant on Madison Avenue. They just completed our most recent expansion to our manufacturing offices this spring.

"We anticipate continuing our solid partnership with Bogner well into the future."

On June 13, Wooster Brush finalized the purchase of the former Crown North America Building on 12.5 acres along Old Mansfield Road, also with intent to expand into that building.

Rodd said the company will remain headquartered in town.

Utility improvements have begun on the land north from the cul-de-sac ending of Old Airport Road. The 43 acres is in the northern area of the business park.

"It's a tremendous piece of property," Bogner said.



Mike Schenk photo
Gary Leisure (left), Al Rodd, Ted Bogner and Bob Bogner look over plans for the 43 acres Wooster Brush Co. has an option on at Bogner Business Park along Old Airport Road.