

Ledger-Enquirer

SPECIAL EDITION

BioTouch to invest \$12.5M, creating 480 new Columbus jobs

BY JORDYN PAUL-SLATER
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A major employer is expanding its Columbus locations. Gov. Brian Kemp announced

Thursday that BioTouch, a health care logistics company based in West Haven, Connecticut, will invest \$12.5 million to expand its two facilities in Columbus. According to the news release, this investment will

create an additional 480 new jobs over the next four years. BioTouch's facilities in Columbus are at Corporate Ridge Business Park and Columbus East Industrial Park. Across both facilities, BioTouch has

approximately 390 employees, the news release says.

"BioTouch has been proud to call Columbus home since 2005, and our commitment to this community remains strong," Rob Coyle, CEO of BioTouch, said in the news release. "Expanding in Columbus has been a pivotal chapter in our growth story. The city's skilled workforce, business-friendly environment, and strategic logistics network have enabled us to scale faster and serve our customers more efficiently. Columbus isn't just where we operate — it's where we fulfill our purpose: To touch lives and improve outcomes." Construction and hiring for

the expansion are already underway. Interested applicants can learn more and apply at biotouchglobaljobs.com.

BioTouch is a health care kitting and logistics company, as stated on their website. Health care kitting is the process of assembling medical devices, supplies, and components into ready-to-use kits. Some examples of health care kits are first aid, surgical procedure and at-home testing kits.

ABOUT THE JOBS OFFERED AT BIOTOUCH

According to BioTouch's job database, the company is hiring

SEE BIOTOUCH, 3A



Nash Earwood works out Nov. 7, 2025, at 4.0 Fitness, 4701 Buena Vista Road in Columbus. Nash set three state records for 12-year-olds Sept. 13 at the USA Powerlifting event in Ringgold, Georgia.

Columbus 12-year-old sets 3 GA state records in powerlifting

BY MARK RICE
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Nash Earwood already is 5-foot-10 and 264 pounds as a 12-year-old, so being stronger than most preteens isn't surprising. But here is what impresses his strength coach,

Terrence Flowers, about this Columbus kid nicknamed Big Nash:

Not only did Nash set state records for his age group at the USA Powerlifting event Sept. 13 in Ringgold, Georgia, it was his first powerlifting competition — and he set those records after failing to lift with proper form

on some of his attempts.

"He's a very, very confident individual," Flowers told the Ledger-Enquirer. "He also has a calm demeanor. So he's confident but not cocky."

Nash set three records:

- Squat 385 pounds (previous record was 374 pounds)

- Deadlift 396 pounds (previous record 390.5 pounds)
- Total weight for all three lifts (including bench press) 1,012 pounds (previous record was 1,001 pounds).

SEE POWERLIFTING, 3A

Westville Village reopens: How to be a TV extra in new series

BY MARK RICE
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A popular Columbus tourist attraction that closed two years ago has reopened — and people

are invited to the venue to be background actors for the filming of a promotional reel to help sell a TV series to a major network.

It all adds up to a busy and exciting time for Historic West-

ville Village, the living history museum at 3557 South Lumpkin Road, where interpreters and artisans in period wardrobe explain and demonstrate 19th-century culture and crafts.

"It's fantastic," Westville

executive director April Kirk told the Ledger-Enquirer. "A lot of people have really put in a lot of time behind the scenes, and now to see people on site enjoying what we're doing, it's just a fantastic feeling."

Westville closed in 2023 due to financial problems stemming from the decreased ticket sales amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the \$9.5 million cost of

SEE WESTVILLE, 4A

What are the true costs of crypto mining in Georgia?

BY KALA HUNTER
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With great attention paid to Georgia data centers and their impacts on the environment and local communities, another type of major industrial facility is racking up lots of energy consumption — enough to put Georgia second in the country, according to one report.

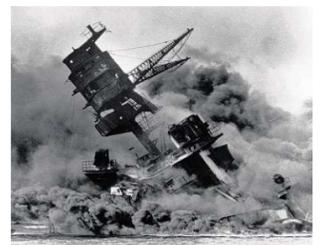
Georgia is now home to more than a dozen crypto mining facilities, and while data centers have become a major focus for Georgia residents and politicians, crypto mines have used up significant amounts of energy with less scrutiny.

Some of the increased demand in Georgia is due to an international pushback on these crypto facilities, bringing more of them to the U.S.

In 2021, China banned cryptocurrency data centers, a few years after calling them "undesirable." Many other countries, including Norway, Russia and Algeria have restrictions on crypto mining because they can destabilize the electric grid and high energy consumption, according to Purdue Law.

Amid these international bans, U.S. operations have risen dramatically. Though the exact

SEE CRYPTO, 6A



AP file

IN REMEMBRANCE

PEARL HARBOR DAY

On this day in 1941, Japanese forces attacked the U.S. Naval base in Pearl Harbor, an act that led America to enter the second World War.



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