

Center Township's ninth hotel breaks ground, expected to open next spring

By [Jared Stonesifer](#)

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CENTER TWP. — Construction is underway on the township's ninth hotel, and the developer of the property is already well versed in the Beaver County market.

That's because Millcraft Investments has already constructed and opened the 107-room Home2Suites hotel near the Columbia Gas training and operations facility in Center Township, near the Beaver Valley Mall on Wagner Road Extension. That hotel opened in October.

Millcraft is currently building a 140-room Hilton Garden Inn "literally right behind" the Home2Suites on the same plot of land, according to Marcus Piatt, the president of Millcraft's hotel division.

The Hilton Garden, which is expected to open in May 2019, will include plenty of amenities. Piatt said it will include a full-service restaurant that will cater to hotel guests, but he's hoping it will attract plenty of non-guests too.

"We plan on being the best restaurant in Beaver County and attracting outside guests," he said.

The hotel will also include a 3,000-square-foot conference and events room that can accommodate 200 people for weddings, baby showers or business meetings, Piatt said.

"There will be a lot of amenity space you wouldn't find in a typical hotel," he said.

For Piatt, the decision to build a second hotel in Beaver County wasn't a hard one. The Home2Suites was going to be built here regardless of Shell Chemicals' decision to build a cracker plant in nearby Potter Township.

But once Shell committed to Beaver County in 2016, Piatt said pulling the trigger on the Hilton Garden hotel was a no-brainer.

“There are a lot of good developments going on in Beaver, lots of great things happening, and we’re excited to be a part of it,” he said. “Shell was a big player obviously, but there is also a pretty strong demand in the market already.”

Frank Vescio, the planning coordinator for Center Township, said the Hilton Garden will be the “icing on the cake” in terms of all the development that’s been ongoing near the mall.

Specifically, Vescio said he’s excited that the hotel will include a full-service restaurant that can accommodate members of the community and not just hotel guests.

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