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## R.B. Humphreys transport business expands

BY PHILIP A. VANNO pvanno@uticaod.com

WESTMORELAND - After more than 50 years in business, a Westmoreland-based temperature-controlled transportation company is experiencing record growth and has made a \$5 million upgrade to its trucking fleet.

During the past 18 months, R.B. Humphreys has increased its amount of administrative employees from 15 to 25, and more than doubled the number of the drivers in its fleet from 30

"Our company is where we the refrigerated foods in the

envisioned it being this point, last year," said President Mar-vin VanSlyke. "We've worked hard over the last two years to preserve the old-school work ethic this business was built on, while continually modernizing, infusing positive changes and a

talented, capable staff."
Founded in 1961 by a local farmer and later purchased by a Michigan-based investment firm specializing in transportation logistics, R.B. Humphreys has become a premiere freight carrier, with inbound and outbound destinations for much of

Northeast regional corridor.

The company partners with upward of 175 local food producers and distributors within a 400-mile radius of its State Route 233 headquarters. Some of those include Byrne Dairy, HP Hood, Hillshire Food, Lindt

Chocolate, and Crowley.
With independent outside field offices in Illinois, Iowa, Texas, Georgia, Alabama and Virginia, the company also is becoming a player in the South-east and just forged a new relationship in the Midwest with the country's largest egg producers.

VanSlyke, who joined the

company in 2010 and merged it with his own 20-year old truck-ing company, said since he began overseeing the company's trucking fleet last April he has made a concerted effort to improve customer service and bring in more high quality cus

in more light quarters that will in turn yield higher paying freight for drivers.
"It's been very successful so far, and we are riding the wave," he said. "Our expectation for 2014 is to get our fleet to the 100-truck mark."

Follow @OD\_Vanno on Twitter or call him at 792-5074.



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> Marvin VanSlyke R.B. Humphreys' president

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