



Sentinel photo by BUFFIE BOYER

Garrett Clark, of Port Royal, stands next to one of the signs he created for Juniata High School through his business, 'GC Signs.'

16-year-old is a business owner

By **MONIQUE DREW**
Sentinel reporter

Callers to Garrett Clark Signs & Graphics may be surprised to hear that the voice on the other end of the receiver belongs to the company's 16-year-old owner.

Owner Garrett Clark says the takeover of his grandfather's sign-making business came after his grandfather added his name to a banner Clark helped him make.

"I helped him with a banner for my sister's cheerleading team and at the bottom corner of the banner, he put 'Garrett Clark Signs.'"

Garrett's grandfather, Ben Milliken, of Summerdale, had been making signs since the age of 12 and no longer wanted the hassle; he wanted to enjoy his retirement.

Milliken began making signs at such a young age, hand-painting cars at the Port Royal Speedway, a half mile race track in Port Royal.

"By hand he would design the cars," Garrett says. "He was always, like, really artistic."

After years of hand-painting, Milliken began racing,

but that ended after a really bad wreck. In 1974, he became employed at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture at the Farm Show in Harrisburg, where he owned a design shop making signs. Here Milliken transitioned from hand-painting signs to using a vinyl plotter to design signs. Milliken retired in March 2007. But he didn't really retire; he began working as a runner for Bobby Rahal Toyota in July 2008.

"He said I could take over the business for him," Garrett says.

Garrett Clark Signs & Graphics officially went into business June 6, 2011.

A 4-by-8-foot advertisement sign displaying "Vote for Randy Zimmerman for District Attorney," at Port Royal Speedway was Garrett's first sign.

He gained summer employment at the speedway, trimming weeds and mowing from 7 a.m. until noon, and on Saturdays he would sell programs. The speedway knew Garrett designed signs and when

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