

LOCAL BUSINESS FEATURE

The Garage offers work, entertainment space

The new office concept is open for tenants and members

By Emily Chesnic

SPRINGFIELD — Ready to pull out of that tight home office and into a revved-up workspace equipped with everything needed for efficiency and increased productivity? In need of a unique atmosphere for hosting out-of-town clients or just a relaxing place to unwind at the end of a long week?

Consider parking in The Garage — a designation-office centered around a car theme for successful professionals seeking a new place to work and play.

The Garage is not your average office building. The state-of-the-art facility features executive office suites, individual offices and conference rooms ready to rent and The Club Zone — a built-in club with leather couches and barstool seating, as well as other perks to help members and guests recharge.

A vision of Northeast Ohio entrepreneur and businessman Rick Briggs, The Garage is now open at 2623 S. Arlington Road, north of the Interstate 77 and South Arlington Road interchange.

Briggs, who has worn many hats during his professional experience, said he was in Thailand washing an elephant when he decided to venture down a new road. When he heard a vacant building was for sale in Akron, the news began immediately fueling ideas to create a less-than-typical office experience for area executives. He sat in a restaurant in Thailand while drawing up the floor plan for The Garage in just 10 minutes.

"I came back and bought the building," said Briggs, who is the developer, owner and operator of The Garage. "There are semi-retired people who need an office and don't want to work at home. I decided to provide an upscale place for that office with cool amenities."

After sitting empty for two years, the building needed to be gutted and completely redone, which Briggs successfully accomplished in 2020, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. He sought to create an establishment that offered an intersection where business and pleasure collide, and he said he is pleased with the result.

Briggs, an automobile and aviation enthusiast who owns numerous classic cars, thought placing them in The Garage would add to the ambiance. The garage doors can be opened, providing for an indoor car show at any time.

What else makes The Garage exceptional? A Rockola Bubbler 100 CD jukebox, large flat-screen TV sets, a wet bar, liquor lockers, a wine refrigerator, kitchenette with microwave, card table, shuffleboard table, bidet toilet seats, a shower room, lockers, reverse osmosis water system, working disco ball and the "Cone of Silence." Briggs, a fan of the TV series "Get Smart," said the device really allows for confidential conversations to take place amid the 11,000-square-foot club area.



Comfortable leather couches and large TVs, pictured above, provide a relaxing atmosphere in The Club Zone, which can be used to entertain clients or watch a sports game after a long day in the office. Photos: Emily Chesnic



The Garage, "where business meets pleasure," is located at 2623 S. Arlington Road.



Photos of famous vehicles line a hallway leading to individual offices in The Garage.



Shown above is an area of The Club Zone, a perk for members of the facility, offering an area to talk business or have fun in an automobile-themed space.



The Garage developer, owner and operator Rick Briggs (shown above), is an automobile enthusiast and showcases some of his classic car collection at the facility. The garage doors (shown below) can be opened to provide an indoor car show at any time.



20-person Bentley Conference Room, six-person Carrera Meeting Room and the 10-person high top in The Club Zone area. Completely furnished offices also can be rented to use for as long as needed.

For more information on becoming a gold member, to schedule a tour or reserve a conference room or office for a day or more, visit www.thegaragesuites.com or email info@thegaragesuites.com.



The modern conference rooms inside The Garage offer everything needed for a productive meeting. Shown at left is the 20-person Bentley Conference Room.

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Business Suites
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