

The Due Diligence

The Coshocton County Auditor's Newsletter

Christine Sycks, County Auditor



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GENERAL WEBSITE:

<http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/>

REAL ESTATE SEARCH WEBSITE:

www.coshcoauditor.org

FACEBOOK:

Please like us on Facebook to receive updates
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office at:

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From the Desk of....

**Chris Sycks, Coshocton
County Auditor:**

CAUV Formula Affects Many

Coshocton County, being a rural county, naturally has many parcels in the Current Agricultural Use

Value (CAUV) reduction program. To be exact, there were 2,237 new owner and renewal applications mailed out at the beginning of the year. In addition, there were 43 brand new applications filed. In all, nearly 5,000 parcels constituting more than 226,000 acres of Coshocton County's 361,024 acres are enrolled in the program and enjoying savings averaging 74% of regular taxes.

CAUV was enacted as part of the Ohio Constitution in the 1970s to ease the burden of increased taxes on farms near areas with lots of growth and development, causing skyrocketing land values and, thus, taxes. Instead of being valued at fair market values, this law allows commercially active farms to be valued at "Agricultural Use" values – a combination of soil types and the use of the soil (crop, pasture, woods, etc.). This was vital to the financial stability of active farms in our state, keeping them viable and, keeping the rest of us fed.

The new formulas included in the recently signed state budget bill were created to help ease the burden of increasing taxes on our state's farmers. Without going into all the complications of the formula, there were a few things changed that will lower the soil use value of each soil type across the state. Experts are projecting an average of 40 to 60% reduction of the values currently being used. Good news for farmers!

I want to throw out a couple facts, however, to avoid disappointment when the next tax bills come in without that full promised reduction. First, the new law phases in the new values, half at a time, between now and 2022 for Coshocton County. While the Ohio Department of Taxation will calculate the new soil values for 2017 taxes (paid 2018), just as they calculate new soil values state-wide every year, existing law only allows county auditors to apply the new values whenever their county is doing either a triennial update or a reappraisal. Because of these cycles, the new formulas will be applied to Coshocton County's records half in tax year 2018, paid in 2019, during the next triennial update, and fully during our reappraisal in tax year 2021, paid in 2022.

Second, the majority of Coshocton County's soil types, being rocky and hilly, are already priced at the low end of the valuations – at \$230 per acre. In fact, Coshocton County's Chief Appraiser, Wesley Tubbs, estimates that upwards to 75 to 80% of the soil in Coshocton County falls in this category. This will cause the reduction in our county to not reflect as significant a change as predicted state-wide, both for the soil calculations and for the additional conservation piece promising to reduce values to the lowest possible for certain practices (since they are likely already there).

Third, there will be some adjustment to the effective rates to keep the voted levy revenue whole. Law states that voted levies cannot collect less than the revenue collected the previous year, up to the voted millage. This calculation will shift the tax burden from the farmed land to other land and to building values, tempering the 40-60% reduction between values and actual tax bills.

(Continued, page 10)

Payroll Page

April - June County Anniversaries With More Than 20 Consecutive Years

David M. Selders	36 years
Robert E. Wilson	30 years
Mona E. Eick	29 years
Carol S. Olinger	28 years
Mary M. Beck	27 years
Timothy G. Bethel	27 years
Kathaleen H. ReVay	25 years
Robert D. Bordenkircher	23 years
Troy M. Bricker	23 years
Garrison I. Bryant	23 years
Jeffrey C. Wherley	23 years
Kathy M. Art	22 years
Tara L. Kehl	22 years
Steven W. Lonsinger	22 years
Chris F. Guthrie	21 years
Denise L. Stotts	21 years
Howard I. Reger	20 years
Christine R. Sycks	20 years
Robert E. Wagner	20 years

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Charles S. George, who retired April 28, 2017, from the Sheriff's Office after 20 years of service.

Marsha J. Arney, who retired May 19, 2017, from the Prosecutor's Office after more than 14 years of service.

David D. Wilson, who retired May 26, 2017, from Juvenile/Probate Court after nearly 40 years of service.

Kathaleen H. Revay, who retired May 31, 2017, from the Clerk of Courts Office after more than 25 years of service.

David M. Selders, who retired May 31, 2017, from the Sheriff's Office after more than 36 years of service.

Cheryl L. Smailes, who retired June 30, 2017, from the Auditor's Office after more than 20 years of service.

PLEASE WELCOME COSHOCTON COUNTY'S NEW HIRES:

Hired by Regional Airport:

on 3/27/2017 John M. Dobson.

Hired by the Park District: Maintenance:

on 3/27/2017 Larry E. Hammersley, and on 4/12/2017 Jay J. Lenhart.

Hired by the Clerk of Courts:

on 4/1/2017 Lori L. Gress.

Hired by the County Auditor:

on 4/10/2017 Amy D. Finton.

Hired by Soil & Water:

on 4/10/2017 Samantha R. Priest, and on 5/17/2017 Kaden J. Conkle.

Hired by the Sheriff's Office:

on 4/10/2017 Christopher A. Belt, on 4/14/2017 Jasmine A. Babcock, on 4/19/2017 Cortney K. Sampsel, on 4/22/2017 Amber N. Walters, on 5/1/2017 Robert C. Hill, on 5/21/2017 Ryan K. Conkle, on 5/22/2017, David M. Wisecarver, on 5/28/2017 Russell K. Dreher, and on 5/30/2017 Eric J. Swingle.

Hired by Board of DD (Hopewell):

on 4/20/2017 Dana M. Israel, and on 5/3/2017 Hanna M. Milligan.

Hired by the Maintenance Department:

on 4/21/2017 Christi A. Bell.

Hired by the County Engineer: Roads:

on 5/1/2017 Phillip M. Shannon.

Hired by Emergency Medical Services (EMS):

on 5/8/2017 Jacob R. Castle & Drew M. Dixon, on 5/15/2017 Kayla R. Mackey, on 6/1/2017 Mark C. Arnold, and on 6/15/2017 Robert Rhett Butler.

Hired by Job and Family Services:

on 5/8/2017 Lauren R. Strebel, on 5/22/2017 Natalie R. Johnson, and on 6/12/2017 Chelsea A. Shingleton.

Hired by District Health:

on 5/8/2017 Shelby A. Smith.

Hired by the County Prosecutor:

on 5/12/2017 Tarez M. Elliott.

Hired by the Park District: Aquatic:

on 5/13/2017 Blane E. Alverson, Talon J. Babcock, Wesley J. Berry, Jeremy A. Bresciani, Matthew G. Brillhart, Cassidy L. Cantrell, Jordan D. Conner, Fawn M. Denbow, Michael E. Hardesty, Eliza K. Haynes, Austin M. Hill, Jorn A. Hctor, Emily L. Jeffries, Emily K. Kobel, Kierston S. Kohl, Lily A. Laaper, Gabriel J. Mitchell, Maisie L. Mitchell, Kyle S. Moses, Sawyer M. Neal, Hannah M. Nelson, Rachel D. Schlarb, Paige E. Shroyer, Peyton E. Shroyer, Lael Q. Smith, Olivia Jane Schlarb, & Spencer N. Wolfe, on 5/15/2017 Jacob Mitchell, on 5/17/2017 Barbara J. Daugherty, Katelyn S. Fauver, Jaelynn E. Meek, & Raven A. Shannon, on 5/27/2017 Brennan E. Alverson, Georgia L. Brown, Kaitlyn E. Clark, Alexis J. Griffith, Hannah M. Jacobs, Jordan T. Olinger, Bryce M. Philabaum, Lexie A. Phillips, & David M. Saylor, on 5/29/2017 Sophia M. Kobel, on 5/30/2017 Shelby L. Carnes, and on 6/10/2017 Reanna G. Ackley, Mickenzi R. Addy, Sara Beth Antequera, Mackenzie K. Hudson, & Kadie J. Roahrig.

Hired by the Park District: Administration:

on 5/26/2017 Kelsey L. Saylor.

Hired by Probate/Juvenile Court:

on 5/30/2017 Jeffrey S. Corder.

Hired by Job & Family Services: Workforce Development (WIA):

on 5/30/2017 Jessie A. Gibson.

Hired by Help Me Grow:

on 6/1/2017 Laura B. Parshall, and on 6/5/2017 Tisha K. King.

Hired by Water & Sewer Maintenance:

on 6/12/2017 David A. Kadri.

Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

- Jul 1-2 – Clary Gardens' Butterfly Enclosure
- Jul 3– 4th of July Celebration, Airport Amphitheater, 5-11 p.m., music at 5:30, fireworks at 9:45 p.m.
- Jul 4 – INDEPENDENCE DAY – **Offices Closed**
- Jul 6 & 7– Slippery, Slimy, Creepy, Crawly Children's Nature Study, Clary Gardens 9-11 a.m.
- Jul 7 – First Friday Celebration, Main St.
 - **Real Estate 2nd Half Taxes due**
 - Community Band, Courtsquare
 - Courthouse Lighting (see ad pg 5)
- Jul 8 – Beer & Food Pairings Dinner, Johnson-Humrickhouse Museum (JHM), 7 p.m.
- Jul 8-9–Antique Power Association Summer Show, Fairgrounds
- Jul 12– **County bill run** (vouchers due 7/3)
- Jul 13– Build a Better World Magic Show, Coshocton Library 6:30 p.m.
- Jul 14– **County pay date** (due 7/10)
 - Community Band, Courtsquare
- Jul 15– Car Show & Rough Truck TRFD Fundraiser, Fairgrounds
- Jul 20– **2016 budgets due to Co. Auditor**
- Jul 21 – Community Band, Courtsquare
- Jul 26– **County bill run** (due 7/18)
- Jul 27-29–West Lafayette Homecoming
- Jul 28– **County pay date** (due 7/24)
 - Community Band, Courtsquare
- Jul 29– 3 Rivers Bluegrass Music/Relay For Life, Joe Williams & Deepwater Band, Village Inn&Suites, 7 p.m.
- Aug 4– First [FARM] Friday Celebration, Main St.
- Aug 4-6–RV Community Park Chicken BBQ, Warsaw
- Aug 5– White Night ~ Dinner under the Stars JHM Fundraiser, 6:15 p.m.

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Spotlight on. . .

Coshocton County Emergency Management Agency



Submitted by Rob McMasters, Director

The Coshocton County Emergency Management Agency, currently consisting of a staff of two full time employees, has been a part of Coshocton County for several decades. The agency had humble beginnings during the cold war era. In those times, the activities that are now Emergency Management related were known as Civil Defense. From the days of Civil Defense came a name change to Disaster Services. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Disaster Services Agency was coordinated by Robert Martin. Martin remained with the agency

until 1984, when Jean Honabarger was named the coordinator. She remained in that position until 2004. During Honabarger's time as Director there was yet another name change, to the Emergency Management Agency (EMA), until the mid- to late- 1980s. In 1989, State legislation was passed (ORC Section 5502) requiring all municipalities in Ohio to have an Emergency Management program. When Honabarger retired as the EMA Director, Andy Arthurs was appointed to the Director position. Arthurs was the EMA Director for a short period of time, until James Van Horn was appointed as the EMA Director in January of 2005. Van Horn was the EMA Director up until October of 2012, when he stepped down to Deputy Director, and current Director Rob McMasters was appointed. The current Deputy Director, Troy Cole, was hired in October of 2013.

The role of EMA is at the core of the agency mission statement: *"To provide safety and comfort to Coshocton County residents from natural disasters, hazardous chemicals and acts of terrorism, by developing and exercising plans for Mitigation, Preparation, Response and Recovery phases of a disaster"*.

The EMA maintains the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for Coshocton County. The EOP is a guideline as to how Coshocton County responds to emergency and disaster situations, such as severe weather, chemical spills, flooding, terrorism, etc.



Rob McMasters, Director

While Coshocton County has been fortunate to not experience large scale disasters in modern time, it does not mean that it will never happen. The EMA takes every opportunity to teach disaster preparedness to the citizens of Coshocton County.

Emergency Management is not only about responding to disasters, but also is an integral part of ensuring that our citizens and first responders are prepared for any type of emergency situation. One tool that the EMA has to ensure safe communities is through the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). The LEPC is responsible



Troy Cole, Deputy Director for hazardous materials compliance and reporting. The LEPC in conjunction with the EMA conducts a yearly hazardous materials exercise with local responders to ensure compliance with Ohio RC Section 3750.

Should you wish to learn more about disaster and emergency preparedness, the EMA located in the lower level of the County Services Building at 724 South 7th Street in Coshocton and can be reached by phone at 740-622-1984. You can find the Coshocton County EMA online at <http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/ema/> Facebook, and Twitter.

Upcoming Dates & Deadlines (continued)

- Aug 7– **County Budget Commission Evening Meeting**, County Services Building, Room 145, 5:30 p.m.
- Aug 8– **County Budget Commission Meets**, Treasurer's Office, 8:30 a.m.
- Aug 9– **Board of Election filing deadline** for November ballot issues
– **County bill run** (due 8/1)
- Aug 11– **County pay date** (due 8/7)
- Aug 11-13– Canal Quilters Quilt Show, (Coshocton Career Center)
- Aug 13– United Way Taste of Coshocton, Lake Park, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- Aug 23– **County bill run** (due 8/15)
- Aug 25– **County pay date** (due 8/21)
- Aug 26– 3 Rivers Bluegrass Music/Relay For Life, Sugar Creek Bluegrass Band, Village Inn & Suites, 7 p.m.
- Sep 1– First Friday Celebration, Main St.
- Sep 1-2– Appalachian Bacon Nation Festival, Courtsquare (see ad pg 9)
- Sep 4– **LABOR DAY – Offices Closed**
- Sep 8– **County pay date** (due 9/1)
- Sep 13– **County bill run** (due 9/5)
- Sep 14-15– Roscoe Village Home School Days
- Sep 22– **County pay date** (due 9/18)
- Sep 23– 3 Rivers Bluegrass Music/Relay for Life, Kevin Prater Bluegrass Band, Village Inn & Suites, 7 p.m.
- Sep 24 –Breweriana display ends, JHM,
- Sep 29-Oct 5– Coshocton County Fair

Successful Auditor's Sale

The Auditor's Sale held on May 19th had 37 people in attendance. All but two manufactured homes and one vacant lot sold. These will be offered at the next sale, sometime in October. Below are the manufactured homes and real estate parcels, the sale price, and the winning bidders.

Manufactured Homes

018-00196 52939 TR 159, Lafayette Twp.	\$1100	William Maple, III
038-00042 16500 TR 287, Virginia Twp.	\$ 1	Robert Walker
002-00063 TR 249, Adams Twp.	\$ 1	Dean Hayes
016-00063 24856 SR 79, Jefferson Twp.	\$ 1	David Bickel

Real Estate

043-00003645-00 441 Main St., Coshocton	\$ 1	Carol Hammond
043-00004128-00 134 South 6th St., Coshocton	(Redeemed by owner prior to sale)	
043-00003553-00 418 South 7th St., Coshocton	\$3553	Cara Good
043-00000472-00 424 N 9th St., Coshocton	\$2500	Glenda Hughes
021-00000345-03 51470 TR 146, Linton Twp.	\$ 100	John Thompson

The next Auditor's Sale will be held on a Friday in October (TBA) at the Courthouse. The unsold items will be offered again, as well as any more that are forfeited. More information will be posted online as it becomes available. The Coshocton County Auditor, Chris Sycks, maintains an Auditor's Sale page that can be viewed at: www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/auditor-sale/

NEW EMPLOYEE AT AUDITOR'S OFFICE



Amy Finton has joined the group of excellent employees in the County Auditor's Office as the Service Section Deputy Auditor.

She was hired on April 10, 2017, and is one of the first smiling faces you see when you come into the office. Besides helping customers at the counter, her duties include (but are not limited to) deed work, homestead applications, licensing, pay-ins, manufactured home tax record processing, purchase orders, and credit backs. She had previously been employed by Leech, Scherbel, and Peddicord, LTD, in Coshocton.

Amy was born and raised in Williamstown, WV. She lives in Fresno with her husband, Michael Finton. Amy and Michael's children are Josh (who is married to Summer), Alison, Joey, and Ally. Amy's hobby is 'truly trying to keep up with our kids, their various sports and 4-H hogs'.

If you have not done so already, please introduce yourself to her the next time you visit our office and welcome her aboard!

PROMOTIONAL WINDOW

SPACE AVAILABLE!

DO YOU HAVE AN EVENT, OFFICE, ORGANIZATION OR SPECIAL THEMED WEEK OR MONTH TO PROMOTE?

Space is available for displays in the Annex window. Please call 740-622-1243 and ask for Jackie or Amy for details and availability. (Sorry, no businesses or for-profit organizations)

CAAO Legislative Committee Update

County Auditor Chris Sycks serves on the Legislative Committee of the County Auditors' Association of Ohio (CAAO), working to monitor bills that may negatively impact local taxpayers and county government, suggest legislative proposals, and encourage policies which positively impact them. With the 132nd Ohio General Assembly starting their work, we have several reintroduced and new bills. Below is information on bills of interest to the CAAO.

- HB 3 – *DataOhio Board Creation*. Creates board and online catalog of public data, governs online public records, addresses uniform chart of accounts. **In House Finance Committee.**
- HB 24 – *Veterans Organization Tax Exemptions*. To exempt from taxes all property owned by these regardless of use. **3rd Hearing, House Ways & Means Committee.**
- HB 34 – *Official Notice Delivery*. To allow certain notifications by other than certified mail. **2nd Hearing, Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee.**
- HB 49 – *Operating Budget*. SYF 2018-19 main budget, including a multitude of issues affecting local governments. **On Governor's desk for signature.**
- HB 52 – *Deed Solicitation Regulation*. To require certain disclosures and limit charges on mailers selling various "property records" that are public record. **Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee.**
- HB 70 – *Fuel Tax Transparency*. Requires our weights & measures inspectors to place stickers on all pumps itemizing taxes. **1st Hearing, House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee.**
- HB 102 – *School Funding Reform*. To replace local school levies with a statewide property tax, repeal school income taxes, require certain tax exemptions to reimburse the state for levy loss, require the Treasurer of State to issue bonds to refund school debt, among other items. **1st Hearing, House Finance Committee.**
- HB 104 – *Tax Refund on Bad Debts*. Allows vendors to receive sales tax refunds on credit accounts charged off as uncollectible. **Reported Out, House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development Committee.**
- SB 17 – *Local Government Fund Allocation*. To increase allocations from State General Revenue from 1.66% to 3.68%. **In Senate Finance Committee**
- SB 36 – *Agricultural Computation*. Changes CAUV formula in regards to capitalization rate and conservation values. **Senate Ways & Means.**

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Tom Fabian

Submitted by Cathy Williamson, Monroe Township Fiscal Officer



Monroe Township is mourning the passing of our long time Trustee Tom Fabian in May. Tom has been a trustee since 1994 after retiring from with 30 years of service from General Electric. Tom attended many of the county meetings representing Monroe Township. He was also part of the committee that restored the Helmick covered bridge in Clark Township. He was a member of Clark Township Baptist Church and also attended and supported the Blissfield United Methodist Church. Tom enjoyed hunting, fishing, mushroom hunting and puttering around the farm on his restored John Deere tractors.

He is survived by his wife of 60 year Barbara, his three children, Tim, Mark, and Trina, twelve grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. Tom will be greatly missed by family, his neighbors, and his tractor club family along with his fellow township family.

Submitted by Barb Karr

*Our Town Coshocton
respectfully requests your presence
at a lighting presentation for our
beautiful, historic Courthouse
July 7th, 2017*

Approx. 9:00 p.m. following our
First Friday Celebration

Crosslight Inc, a top company in the lighting industry, will demonstrate the latest in lighting technology to enhance the architectural features of the county's historic Courthouse for holidays and special events throughout the year. In addition, we'll learn how the technology upgrades in this particular lighting project will save the county in energy and financial costs.

Please plan to join us on the Court Square at dark to see our lighting options!

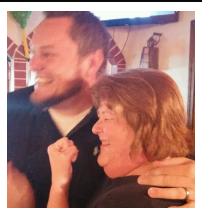
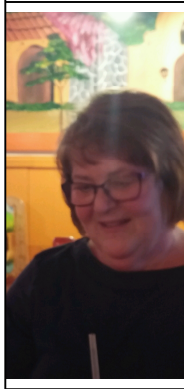


CAAO Legislative Committee Update (Continued from previous page)

- SB 75 – *Water Service Property Liens*. Regarding property special assessments for unpaid water service charges. **In Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee.**
- SB 123- *Property Tax Complaint Process*. Limits right to file most complaints to owner and county recorder. **2nd Hearing, Senate Ways and Means.**

Auditor's Staff Sends Cheryl Off, Yucatan Style

At Cheryl's request, no public announcement or open house was given at her retirement. Instead, she requested a private dinner with her coworkers and families.



County Auditor Employee Retires



After more than 20 years of public service, Cheryl Smailes has retired from the Auditor's office. As one of the Real Estate Deputy Auditors, she was able to answer just about any question or problem that had to do with the real property records. She helped maintain the real estate data and files as well as assisting the public with real estate-related questions and tax matters. She was the person who most often answered the telephone in our office and helped back up at the counter.

Cheryl has been with the office since January, 1997, after working as a temporary employee with the contracted appraisal team. She was hired by County Auditor Richard Tompkins and subsequently worked for the two following auditors – Sandra Corder and Chris Sycks. Chris and she worked together in the real estate department from 1998 through 2006. There was a wealth of institutional knowledge walk out the door with her, but we could not talk her into having real estate questions forwarded to her home phone.

At Cheryl's request, there was no open house or party. We kept the celebration within our office instead. Her co-workers honored her with some special treatment (which involved a wall, pictures and a tiara) at her desk, and on the way out the door (which involved *Winter Wonderland* and shouted farewells) on the 30th. We also treated Cheryl and her husband, Denny, to a celebration and dinner out at the Yucatan. She will be missed, but she has trained Lindsay well to step into her position.

Cheryl plans on permanently turning off her alarm clock, reading, traveling, and spending lots of time with grandbabies. Best wishes, Cheryl!

Victoria Weidger is Summer Employee at Auditor's Office



Victoria Weidger started working in the County Auditor's Office in June and will continue to mid-August. She is a River View High School student and enjoys art (drawing, writing, makeup/SFX and being creative 24/7).

As part of the TANF Summer Youth program, Vicky signed up to learn about the job application process, develop a work ethic, and learn skills while being mentored by seasoned employees. As time allows, some of the tasks prepared for her involve filing, spreadsheets, records archiving, copying and scanning documents, data confirmation, phone work and more. She is not on county payroll, but the program is administered through DJFS and she is paid with grant monies.

Vicky says, "I love this job! Not only do I thank everyone I work with, but I thank my entire family for encouraging me!"

If you come into the office, be sure to tell Victoria "Hi!" Welcome to the team, Vicky!

Auditor Chris Sycks Explains Homestead at Senior Center



County Auditor Chris Sycks presented a short explanation of the Homestead Tax Reduction to the group at the Senior Center's lunch on April 26th. She and the staff who accompanied her, Donna Burkart, Amy Finton and Jackie Jackson, all stuck around afterwards to answer questions and take applications. Thank you to Christy Neighbor for the invitation!

For information about the reduction, call our office at (740) 622-1243 or go online at <http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/homestead/>. Also, if you would like Chris to speak to your group or organization about anything pertaining to the Auditor's Office, please contact her to make arrangements.



COURT SUMMER INTERN EARNS HONORS

Submitted by Kelly Bratton, Summer Intern Probate/Juvenile Court



Anna M. Havranek, a Junior Biology Major at Shawnee State University, became a three-time All American by finishing second in the 10K run with a time of 36:42.88 at the NAIA Outdoor Track & Field Championships at Gulf Shores, Alabama held May 25-27.

Anna will be supervising a records project for Probate & Juvenile Court this summer through the Coshocton County JFS Summer Youth Employment Program. She is the daughter of Katrina Havranek, Juvenile Deputy Clerk at Coshocton Juvenile Court.

Tax Year 2016 BOR

The Board of Revision (BOR) had 52 complaints filed. Results follow:

- 4 dismissed – wrong tax year
- 1 withdrawn by owner
- 18 preliminary offers accepted
- 4 no changes
- 24 decrease in value
- 1 increase in value

So far, two cases have been appealed to the Board of Revision and three to the Common Pleas Court. Details will be shared in a future issue and online at

<http://www.coshocounty.net/auditor/board-of-revision/>

LEGAL NOTICE

The annual financial report for Coshocounty County for the year ended December 31, 2016, is complete and on file in the office of the Coshocounty County Auditor. The report is available for public review and inspection online at

http://www.coshocounty.net/auditor/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2017/05/Coshocounty_BFS_16.pdf or at the Auditor's office, 349 Main Street, Coshocounty. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except legal holidays.

TY 2015 BOR Appeals Update

Two CPC decisions have been given, with one being withdrawn. Three cases are still awaiting a decision from the BTA. Following is an update of the appealed cases.

Owner/Parcel	Requested Value	BOR Value	Change in Annual Tax
WODA/0350000020303 (Two Cases) Scheduled 3/21/2017 at BTA	1,173,000	3,156,500	\$29,147
CHASE BANK/0430000089700 et al Scheduled 3/29/2017 at BTA; Chase's Atty. offered \$1,265,000 settlement – BOR declined,	1,312,720	1,690,260	\$ 8,130
ISACON/0430000383600 et al	143,500	361,830	\$ 3,832
UNGUREAN/0430000652800 et al	310,834	472,050	\$ 2,830
Combined into one case & rescheduled 5/17/2017 at BTA; Owner withdrew one of three parcels.			
DARR/0420000006700 CPC ordered reinstatement of CAUV. Decrease in annual tax as above, plus removal of recoupment charges.	reinstate CAUV	Dismissed	\$ 1,527
POTTER/0370000036900 Owner requested dismissal. No change in value or taxes.	23,370	43,080	\$ 428
NULEAF/0430000640800 CPC ordered value of \$300,000. Decrease in taxes annual tax as above.	300,000	320,000	\$ 430

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS

Submitted by Mindy Fehrman, Director, DJFS



On Friday, June 16th, 2017, the Coshocounty Senior Center and Job & Family Services/Adult Protective Services partnered for a day of Elder Abuse Awareness. The event was held at the Senior Center and began at 11:00am with The Ohio Attorney General's Office providing a presentation on "Senior Scams" with help from

Lt. Dean Hettinger from the Coshocounty County Sheriff's Office (pictured, above). Seniors (age 60 and up) are particularly vulnerable to fraud and scams, and many incidents likely go unreported. Those present learned about the latest scams targeting our senior population, and how to protect themselves and their loved ones. Representatives from People's Bank answered questions about financial exploitation.

Those in attendance were encouraged to wear purple, which symbolizes the growing problem of elder abuse around the world and a gift card was awarded to the person who was the most creative with their purple attire.



To report Elder Abuse, contact Job and Family Services at (740) 622-1020.



**FREE legal assistance for
Coshocounty County seniors**

July 12, 2017 11:00 a.m.

Managing Your Debt

Prioritizing your debt, what debtors can do to collect from you and options if you fall behind on your debt.

Session will be held at the Coshocounty Senior Center. A group presentation will start the session with optional one-on-one assistance following.

This service is brought to you by Southeastern Ohio Legal Services and Coshocounty Job and Family Services

Happy Retirement!

Submitted by Kelly Bratton, Juvenile/Probate
Summer Intern



Pictured, left to right, Dave Wilson and Judge Van Blanchard.

Please join us in wishing Dave Wilson, a security officer with the Probate Court for over nine years, a happy retirement! He will be missed, but we wish him nothing but happiness in his retirement!

September 1-2



At the Festival...

- Bacon inspired dishes
- Live Music
- Craft Vendors
- Bacon King & Queen Contest
- 5K Run... "Bacon and Legs"
- Jr. Bacon Fun Land for the Kids
- Bacon eating contest
- And so much more!

THANK YOU!

Submitted by Sheila Reger, Consolidated Mobility Manager
Coshocton County Coordinated Transportation



Pictured, left to right: Trey Stoffer, Cale Roberts, Koleten Smith, Connor Kunze and Kaden Smith.

All the people at the Coshocton County Coordinated Transportation Office would like to send out a great big Thank You to these Ridgewood boys for helping with their outreach effort at the First Friday event on June 2nd. It got a little busy and they greeted folks and passed out flyers and free popcorn. Thanks, also, to Auer Hardware for lending us their popcorn maker.

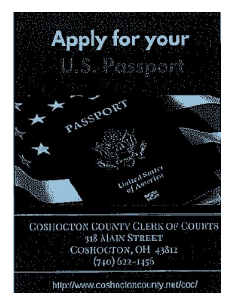
PASSPORTS AVAILABLE AT CLERK OF COURTS OFFICE

Submitted by Camila J. Graham, Clerk of Courts



Hi everyone! The Clerk of Courts Office just wants to remind you that we do passport applications in our office. If you need a new passport, we have the applications. You can also download an application at <http://travel.state.gov> and bring the completed form into our office with your original birth certificate (with the raised seal) and a passport photo from any local business

that does them. You will also need your driver's license. The cost for a passport book is \$110, payable by check made out to the U.S. Department of State, to be sent in with the application. There is also an execution fee of \$25, which can be paid by cash or check made out to the Clerk of Courts. We also have renewal applications. If your passport has already expired, you can renew it as long as it was issued less than 15 years ago. Those applications can be done and mailed in yourself, saving yourself the \$25 execution fee. We are happy to answer any questions that you may have, whether renewing or applying for the first time. We are located in the courthouse, open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri., (740) 622-1456.



Employee's 94th Birthday

*Submitted by Wendy Wilson,
Fiscal Officer, District Health*



We celebrated the birthday of Erma Downer, who was 94 years young on May 7th. She still works six hours each week for us and is an invaluable asset to our department!

FROM THE DESK OF...

(Continued from page 1)

Non-qualifying parcels will see an increase in effective tax rates to protect this revenue.

CAUV parcels that have poorer soil and steeper, more hilly landscape may see a little reduction in tax dollars, but probably not much. Those farmers who have the best soil types, with more level ground, and who saw a greater jump in taxes in bills mailed last year, will most likely see reductions, but not the full percentage predicted. Their vacant properties will receive more of the reduction, while parcels with buildings will receive less. Of course, any changes in voted tax levies between now and the application of the new soil values will also change tax amounts billed.

If you own commercially farmed real estate, the application period is between the first Monday of January and the first Monday of March each year. Parcels of land that are being farmed with a profit in mind may qualify for CAUV savings. Call our office for more information about the program and application process or visit our page online at <http://www.coshocountoncounty.net/audit/or/cauv/>

Until next time. ~Chris

Clerk of Courts Legal Department Chief Deputy Retires after 25 Years

Submitted by Camila J. Graham, Clerk of Courts



The Clerk of Courts office held a Retirement celebration in honor of Kathy Revay on May 31st in the Common Pleas Courtroom. Kathy began her career in the Clerk of Courts Department on May 18, 1992.

I would like to say "Thank you" to Kathy for the 25 years of being a professional, dedicated, conscientious, hard-working employee. Kathy was always willing to go that extra mile to serve the public and her fellow co-workers in whatever capacity she was needed. She served as the Chief Deputy for the past three years and was a tremendous asset.

Kathy plans to spend more time with her family and to do some traveling during her retirement. We



all will miss her greatly, but she will never be forgotten. We wish Kathy the very best!



Famous Quote:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

~Thomas Jefferson,
American Founding Father (1743-1826)



From SWCD's Website:

Who We Are

The Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio. Coshocton SWCD is administered by five supervisors elected by residents of the county to oversee district activities and set priorities in natural resource conservation. Operating funds are allocated through the Coshocton County Commissioners Soil and Water Fund, and these funds are matched by state dollars through the Ohio General Assembly.

Our Mission

Provide leadership to educate and assist landowners in the wise management of our natural resources.

Our Vision

To be recognized as a community leader committed to a cooperative approach for managing and improving natural resources

We Provide Services to:

- Homeowners • Agricultural Producers • Educators •
- Developers • Government Officials •

For more information about and the process to secure their assistance or services, please visit them online at:

<http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/swcd/>

Commissioners Present SWCD 75th Anniversary Proclamation

*Submitted by Deb Bigelow, Program Administrator,
Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District*



The Coshocton County Commissioners honored the Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District with a special proclamation to commemorate their 75th Anniversary at their regular meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2017. District Supervisors Greg Waters, David Lapp, Adrian Garber, and Beth Mullen accepted the proclamation.

Past Supervisors John Powell, Fred Zimmerman, Vernon Mizer, Knox Porteus, Wendell Waters, and Gerald Finlay attended the ceremony along with SWCD & NRCS staff Ryan Medley, Zach Wallace, Samantha Priest, Gina Schworm, and Deb Bigelow, and former employee Mary Thomas.

The Coshocton SWCD is a legally organized subdivision of State Government, assigned under law the task of protecting and improving our soil and water resources. A 95% referendum vote of Coshocton County citizens created the Coshocton SWCD on May 25, 1942. This was the beginning of the one-on-one technical assistance of the local SWCD program that continues to this day.

The Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District is directed by a board of supervisors made up of five local residents that are elected to serve a three year term. Coshocton SWCD Board members are public officials who serve without pay to direct the local program. During the past 75 years, forty-eight individuals have served their community as Coshocton SWCD Supervisors. These dedicated community members give generously of their time and talents, establishing work priorities to be accomplished in conservation education and technical assistance.

Board members hire capable employees to carry out the work of the SWCD. The first SWCD employee was Erma Hahn, hired in 1960 as clerk. Vernon Dreher was the first district technician hired in 1966. During our 75 year history, fourteen others have been or are employed full time by the SWCD.

Something that stays constant throughout our history is the cooperation of Coshocton County landowners and the dedication of those who have served as supervisor or worked for the district. The objective of the SWCD program has always been to make the community a better place to live by working with landowners to wisely use our soil and water resources.

GARAWAY RECEIVES AOS AWARD

*Submitted by Sheryl Hardesty,
Treasurer/CFO, Garaway LSD*

Garaway is part of Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton Counties (the greater part of Crawford Township) as well as having Garaway Virtual Academy that provides high-quality, relational online education instructions to students in Coshocton County.

A recent financial audit of Garaway Local School District for the year ending June 30, 2016 (FY16) by the Auditor of State (AOS) Dave Yost's Office has returned a clean audit report. Garaway's excellent record keeping has earned it the Auditor of State Award.

Sheryl Hardesty said, "We are extremely pleased and proud to receive this award from the State Auditor's Office. The Treasurer's Office and Administration work very hard to follow state law and best practices to stay in financial reporting compliance. We understand the importance of good stewardship when working with public money."

The Auditor of State Award is presented to local governments and school districts upon completion of a 'clean' financial audit. Entities that receive the award must meet the following criteria:

- Timely report filing in accordance with GAAP
- No findings for recovery, material citation or weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Single Audit findings, or questioned costs
- No comments in the management letter related to:
 - Ethic referrals
 - Questioned costs less than \$10,000
 - Lack of timely reports
 - Reconciliation
 - Failure to obtain a timely Single Audit
 - Findings for recovery less than \$100
 - Public meetings or records.

Dog Tag Statistics

All dogs in Ohio need to be registered and licensed in the county of residence by January 31st each year to avoid penalties or fines. If you get a dog after the due date, there is no penalty. Also, if you have a puppy three months of age after the first day of July, the cost of the tag is half, or \$6.00.

Below are some interesting statistics from Coshocton County's registered dog records.



Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook!

SEARCH FOR "COSHOCTON COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE" or go straight to site by clicking:

https://www.facebook.com/Coshocton-County-Auditors-Office-684678204895125/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel