

The Due Diligence

The Coshocton County Auditor's Newsletter
Christine Sycks, County Auditor



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From the Desk of....

**Chris Sycks, Coshocton
County Auditor:**

Turn the Page...

Here we are going into the last quarter of another year. I will soon be starting my 6th year as County Auditor and my 31st year as a public employee. The last tax year is completed, and we are starting on tax year 2017. The appraisers are picking up the last of the new construction and demolition, and the final touches on the 2017 real estate data are being completed. The abstract is due to the state at the end of October and, after the tax calculation, we start it all again.

As we enter into the Fall Season and start winding up a year I like to look back at what we have accomplished as an office. This year saw changes to how we were able to distribute monies to subdivisions (townships, schools, municipalities, etc.), electronically instead of by paper checks. This is a more secure method of payment that can help avoid loss or theft of public funds.

Both our real estate and financial software systems have been updated and are running well. The real estate data is now being stored on multiple cloud systems, offering more security. More and more outside departments are coming onboard with electronic submission of bills and payroll, as we are moving towards less redundancy and less paper.

Our 2016 county audit has been released and we have received an unmodified opinion (this is good) and our financial reports have been declared to be fairly presented. The full report, should you be so inclined to read it, can be viewed online at

<https://ohioauditor.gov/auditsearch/detail.aspx?ReportID=131507>

Finally, I am blessed with a group of people in my office who are a great asset to me and to the county. Nicole, Amy, Jackie, Jinni, Lindsay, Donna, Jetta, Sue, Danna, Kyle, Wes, and Jarrod – Thank you! Every day, you do your utmost to serve the citizens of Coshocton County with efficiency, friendliness, and fairness. After all, that is the main reason we are here!

I'm excited to head into yet another tax year and calendar year. Yes, I have more ideas to improve my office and the county. One is going to take place effective January 1st when all county paychecks will become direct deposit and paystubs will be delivered to our employees electronically (see article on page 2). Another idea is.... well....you'll just have to wait and see what I have rolling around in my head! ☺ I'm heading to the fair and must go for the night. See you at the fair!!!

~Chris

Payroll Page

PLEASE WELCOME COSHOCTON COUNTY'S NEW HIRES:

Hired by the County Coroner:

on 7/1/2017 Sharra D. Watson.

Hired by the Public Defender:

on 7/3/2017 Heather M. McMasters.

Hired by the Park District: Aquatic:

on 7/3/2017 Seth A. Thomas.

Hired by the County Engineer: Administration

on 7/3/2017 Samuel D. Maple.

Hired by Probate/Juvenile Court:

on 7/5/2017 Melissa D. Thomas.

on 8/1/2017 David M. Selders.

Hired by the County Sheriff:

on 7/11/2017 Jasmine A. Babcock.

Hired by the County Recorder:

on 8/7/2017 Justin M. Addy.

Hired by Coshocton County Coordinated Transportation:

on 8/21/2017 Nicholas A. Carey.

Hired by the Board of DD (Hopewell):

on 8/21/2017 Shelby M. Darr & Deeann R. Worthington.

Hired by Recycling & Litter Prevention:

on 8/28/2017 Tammy E. Rogers.

Hired by Emergency Medical Services:

on 9/15/2017 Melissa A. Bell.

on 9/18/2017 Rilley T. Sherburn.

on 9/19/2017 Asia R. Kling.

on 9/22/2017 Nicholas D. Light.

July - September County Anniversaries with more than 20 consecutive years

Jonathan P. Mosier	36 years
Susan A. Metz	33 years
Willa M. Hamersley	30 years
Scott D. Matchett	30 years
Gwendolyn S. Wells	29 years
Elizabeth A. Hartsock	28 years
Tina M. Parmiter	28 years
Jana Dotson	27 years
Joan Durben	27 years
Lori B. Everhart	27 years
Kelly Stroup	27 years
Beth D. Walsh	26 years
Marilyn K. Williamson	26 years
Christina A. Andrews	22 years
John N. Glasure	22 years
Ann E. Lauvray	22 years
Keith R. Wilt	21 years

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Keith Wilt, who retired August 31, 2017, from the Sheriff's Office after more than 21 years of service.

Robert Wilson, who retired September 15, 2017, from DJFS after more than 30 years of service.

Mindy Fehrman, who retired September 30, 2017, from DJFS after more than 17 years of service.

REMINDER:

As we near the end of the year, double-check the mailing address on your check or direct deposit stub. This should always be kept current for W-2 purposes. Please let Sue know if it needs updated.

COSHOCTON COUNTY PAYROLL GOING ALL DIRECT DEPOSIT

County Auditor, Chris Sycks, is pleased to announce that payroll is going 100% direct deposit and all paystubs will be emailed to the county employees in a password-protected file. Working to improve efficiency and reduce costs currently associated with payroll processing, Sycks has adopted a new policy making direct deposit mandatory for all county employees effective January 1, 2018. The policy, authorized by statute, also requires all new hires to be enrolled as direct deposit payment at the time of hire starting immediately. The county currently has about 40 employees (not including summer positions) that are still getting paper checks.

Not only will this move cut down greatly in staff expense for printing, folding, stuffing, and distributing both paper and direct deposit stubs, it will also save on supplies - toner, paper, forms, and envelopes - and 'runners' coming from each office to pick up the payroll every two weeks.

In addition to cost savings and improved efficiency, there are benefits to employees as well. It will eliminate the inconvenience for employees when a payday lands on a holiday, sick or vacation day, allowing them reliable access to their cash in a timely manner. It will also provide greater security by diminishing opportunities for loss, theft, or fraudulent cashing of checks. The change will fully take place on January 12, 2018, the first pay date of 2018.

Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

- Sep 29 -5 – Coshocton County Fair
- October 1-31 – Coshocton Scarecrow Contest & Walking Trail, Clary Gardens
- Oct 4 – WWI Posters-Rallying the Homefront, Exhibit begins, Johnson Humrick-house Museum (JHM)
- Oct 6 – **County pay date** (timesheets due 9/29)
- Oct 9 – COLUMBUS DAY – Offices Closed
- Oct 11 – **County bill run** (vouchers due 10/3)
- Oct 14 – Fall Harvest Dance, Lake Park Pavilion – Writer’s Workshop, Frontier Power
- Oct 20 – **County pay date** (due 10/13) – Coshocton SWCD Meeting & Banquet (Pavilion 6:30 p.m. Tickets at SWCD Office)
- Oct 20-22-Apple Butter Stirrin’ Festival, Roscoe
- Oct 21 – Parktoberfest, River View Park, Warsaw
- Oct 21-22-Fall Foliage and Farm Tour
- Oct 25 – **County bill run** (due 10/17)
- Oct 26 – BPW/Farm Bureau Meet the Candidates, Coshocton Career Cntr 6:30 p.m. (See article, Page 6)
- Oct 27 – **Auditor’s Sale**, (see article, pg 9)
- Oct 28 – ‘Open Highway Bluegrass Band’ at 3-Rivers Bluegrass, Village Inn & Suites 7 p.m. –Village Halloween Party, West Lafayette
- Nov 1 – **County CORSA Training** (1:30 p.m. at Frontier Power Community Rm)
- Nov 2 – WTNS: Celebrating 75 Yrs-Library 6:30 p.m. (reservations required) – KIWANIS Pancake Day, Elks
- Nov 3 – **County pay date** (due 10/27)
- Nov 5 – Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov 7 – ELECTION DAY – Exercise your Right & Privilege!
- Nov 8 – **County bill run** (due 10/31)
- Nov 10 – VETERAN’S DAY HOLIDAY (observed) – Offices Closed
- Nov 11 – VETERAN’S DAY
- Nov 15-17 - County Auditor’s Association Winter Conference, Columbus
- Nov 16 – The Walhonding Valley Frontier Lecture, Dr. Scott Butler, JMH
- Nov 17 – Holiday Open House, Coshocton Library 5 - 7 p.m. – Miracle on Main Christmas Parade 6:30 p.m. – **County pay date** (due 11/10)

Continued on Page 4

Spotlight on. . .

Coshocton County Emergency Medical Services

Submitted by Todd Shroyer, Director



Emergency Medical Services, or EMS, is a relative newcomer to the family of public safety services. While firefighting and law enforcement go back to the beginning of our country, EMS as we know it, has only been around for about 50 years. The era of modern EMS began in 1966 when the National Academy of Sciences published the paper “Accidental Death and Dis-

ability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society.” This report noted that pre-hospital emergency care in the United States was rather poor. In fact, soldiers injured in Vietnam had a higher survival rate than U.S. civilians injured on the highway. This report led to the development of EMS in the United States and created the EMS system that many people now take for granted.

Locally, the first Emergency Squad formed in the Village of Warsaw. The original group of 20 volunteers completed their EMT training in May 1972, and in August, 1972, the Village secured a \$40,805 Federal Grant to purchase 2 van-type ambulances with the radios and equipment to operate them. On February 3, 1973, the Warsaw Emergency Squad officially began service to the Community. The West Lafayette Emergency Squad began operations in 1974 with 19 members. They were initially located next door to the funeral home in West Lafayette and drove an old white Cadillac ambulance that was donated to them by the Given Funeral Home. The success of the Warsaw and West Lafayette Emergency Squads provided the example for the rest of the County, and in 1976, the Coshocton County Emergency Ambulance Service was formed with stations in Warsaw, Coshocton, West Lafayette, and Keene. The original members of the County Emergency Squads were all volunteers who donated their time to care for their Community.

Over the years, Coshocton Co. EMS has transitioned from volunteer to paid staffing, but our strength is still in our people. Nine of the EMTs who started as volunteers are still here with a combined total of nearly 300 years of service to the County. We are one of the larger County departments, with 41 full-time employees and usually 20 to 30 part-time employees. We also have a small group of people in our Auxiliary who volunteer to help the Community through EMS, and our Medical Director is Dr. Robert Gwinn, who has served in that capacity for many years.

We will respond to more than 6,000 calls this year, and we will transport more than 4,000 patients. We normally have a 2-person crew, and one of the two is usually a paramedic. Our busiest station is located on Chestnut Street in Coshocton and houses two crews and our offices. We are excited about moving this station to

Continued, Page 7

Upcoming Dates & Deadlines (continued)

- Nov 17-19 - Warsaw Lions Minstrel Show
(see ad pg 7)
- Nov 18 – Hopewell School Craft Show (see pg 9)
- Nov 22 – **County bill** run (due 11/14)
- Nov 23 – THANKSGIVING DAY – Offices
Closed
- Nov 24 – Holiday Bazaar, Lake Park Pavilion
- Nov 25 –3-Rivers Bluegrass, Village Inn & Suites 7
p.m.
- Dec 1 – Dog Tags for 2018 go on sale (see
article, pg 11)
– **County pay date** (due 11/24)
- Dec 2– Christmas Candle Lighting, Roscoe
– Holiday Open House, West Lafayette
Library 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
– Holiday Bazaar, Coshocton Senior Center
- Dec 3 – Coshocton Community Choir Christ-
mas Festival Concert, High School
McKinley Auditorium 3 p.m.
- Dec 8-10 – Live Nativity, Coshocton Christian
Tabernacle 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Dec 9 – Christmas Candle Lighting, Roscoe
- Dec 13 – **County bill** run (due 12/5)
- Dec 15 – **County pay date** (due 12/8)
- Dec 27 – **County bill** run (due 12/19)
- Dec 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY – Offices
Closed
- Dec 29 – **County pay date** (due 12/22)
- Dec 31 – JHM WWI 100th Anniversary Display
ends

Famous Quote:

"Pride slays thanksgiving, but a humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grow. A proud man is seldom a

grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves."

~Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)
Calvinist Minister & Abolitionist

To receive the Due Diligence in your inbox, request to receive them by emailing Chris at auditor@coshoctoncounty.net

C.A.U.V. CHANGES COMING

The State Budget Bill (HB 49) made some sweeping changes to the Current Agricultural Use Value (C.A.U.V.) program. Before, changes to the formula to calculate soil values were more or less taken care of by policy of the Department of Taxation. The changes made by HB 49, however, codified the formula – making it part of the Ohio Revised Code – and so made it somewhat more permanent. It will now take a change to the law to change the formula.

New Formula for CAUV Soil Values

The new formula, which implemented several changes, will be phased in over the next six years. The first three years will see the calculation utilizing both the old and new formulas, fifty/fifty. The last will utilize only the new formula.

By law, the new values will not be able to be used in Coshocton County until its next triennial update, tax year 2018, pay 2019. The formula seems to have reduced the typical productive soil value in Coshocton County by 8% to 27% below the values used in the 2015 reappraisal (see chart, next page). However, a large portion of Coshocton, because of steep slope and rocky soils, had no change in value – remaining at \$350 per acre for crop and \$230 for woods. Also, keep in mind that taxes will likely not be reduced by the same percentage you see in the drop in value, since taxes are affected by any new levies that may be voted in as well as the effective rate adjustment that assures the taxing authorities they will continue to collect at the same revenue level as the prior tax year.

Conservation Acreage Reduction

Another significant piece of the legislation is the law that reduces all eligible conservation programs to be valued at the state's lowest soil value per acre (currently \$230/acre). This is not an automatic reduction, but the landowner will be required to include the information regarding the program and acreage on his or her initial or renewal application.

While there are well over 50 eligible programs, in addition to the 25% of previously eligible conservation practices generally found on most large farms, others include, but are not limited to:

- Under Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):
 - Wetlands Reserve Easements (WRE or old WRP)
 - Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)
 - Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP)
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Under Farm Service Agency (FSA):
 - Conservation Reserve Program (CRP or CREP)
- Various Grants Under Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
- Under Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA):
 - Farmland Preservation
 - Various Grants

New Initial and Renewal Application Forms

Because of the changes to the program implementing lower values for conservation acreages, expect to see changes to the CAUV Initial and Renewal Applications so as to allow landowners to report the conservation type and acreage. The Department of Equalization has not issued the updated forms as of the time of this article.

C.A.U.V. is a tax reduction program for commercially active farms. Farming activity with an eye toward profit must be in place for three consecutive years prior to application. Under 10 farmed acres must have proof of \$2500 annual gross income. More information about the CAUV, as well as the current soil values can be viewed at <http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/cauv/>

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. Below is information on current bills that are 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. *1st Hearing, House Finance Committee.*
- **HB 24 – Veterans Organization Tax Exemptions.** To exempt from taxes all property owned by these regardless of use. *Reported Out, 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. *Consideration of Governor's Vetoes.*
- **HB 52 – Deed Solicitation Regulation.** To require certain disclosures and limit charges on mailers selling various "property records" that are public record. *1st Hearing, 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.*
- **HB 295 – Disabled Veterans-Assistance Dogs.** Exempts certain disabled veterans from paying a dog registration fee if proof is included that the dog is an assistance dog. *1st Hearing, House Armed Services, Vet. Affairs & Homeland Sec.*
- **HB 298 – Public Employee Sick Days.** Changes the number of sick days provided to public employees. *In House State and Local Government Committee.*

(Continued, next page)

Local Effects of CAUV Formula Changes

Below is a simplified chart showing changes to CAUV land values per acre for CROP on the soil types that are representative of Coshocton County soil types. The twelve individual types listed constitute approximately 127,000 acres, or about 75% of the USDA Farm Census' reported 169,762 acres.

The tax year 2015 changes to the CAUV formula put into place by the Ohio

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Symbol	Soil Type	2009 Reval	2012 Tri	2015 Reval	2015 Reval CAUV Value % Of Average Market Value @ \$3760/acre	2016 (*values set, but not used yet)	2016 CAUV % Increase or Decrease Over Last Reappraisal	2017 (*values set, but not used yet)	2017 CAUV % Increase or Decrease Over Last Reappraisal
AAC2	Aaron	\$560	\$530	\$1,240	33.0%	\$1,310	5.6%	\$1,140	-8.1%
BgB	Bethesda	\$200	\$350	\$350	9.3%	\$350	0.0%	\$350	0.0%
BgD	Bethesda	\$170	\$350	\$350	9.3%	\$350	0.0%	\$350	0.0%
CoC2	Coshocton	\$560	\$480	\$1,150	30.6%	\$1,160	0.9%	\$870	-24.3%
CoD	Coshocton	\$170	\$350	\$350	9.3%	\$350	0.0%	\$350	0.0%
GnB	Glenford	\$860	\$1,190	\$2,430	64.6%	\$2,300	-5.3%	\$2,020	-16.9%
GnC	Glenford	\$770	\$970	\$1,960	52.1%	\$1,890	-3.6%	\$1,625	-17.1%
Or	Orville, of-ph	\$490	\$840	\$1,850	49.2%	\$1,890	-8.6%	\$1,480	-20.0%
Th	Tioga, rf-ph	\$520	\$970	\$1,990	52.9%	\$1,930	-3.0%	\$1,655	-16.8%
WaA	Watertown	\$200	\$350	\$480	12.8%	\$350	-27.1%	\$350	-27.1%
WaB	Watertown	\$190	\$350	\$350	9.3%	\$350	0.0%	\$350	0.0%
WhD	Westmoreland	\$240	\$350	\$350	9.3%	\$350	0.0%	\$350	0.0%

Because of wooded area and slopes, 70% of Coshocton County's soil types are valued at: 100 230 230 6.1% 230 0.0% 230 0.0%

Department of Taxation (ODT) created a slow-down of the rapid increases as indicated by the values in this table (2015-Column E vs. 2016-Column G). The soil values created by the new CAUV formula included in HB 49 (State Budget Bill) are shown in the 2017 column (I). This formula will stay in place until the Ohio Revised Code is changed. A complete chart of all County soil types and other information are available online at

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

Column F of the chart compares the CAUV values used on the current tax bills to a flat estimated fair market value of \$3760 per acre. Most recent arms-length sales of land in Coshocton County are higher than that value. This column is included only to give you a rough approximation of the advantage farm land owners are receiving under the CAUV program. The \$3,760 price is comparison purposes only and reflects the median fair market value in the County as of 1/1/2015 (the last reappraisal). The MARKET VALUE on the Auditor's books on CAUV land normally comes into play only in the case of a recoupment situation; statutes require our market values reflect true market conditions. These values were set at within 95% of the \$3,000 - \$10,000 per acre sales during the last reappraisal (2015 tax year), according to Department of Taxation guidelines.

ODT sets the CAUV values* every year, but the values are only updated for taxation purposes whenever Coshocton County has a reappraisal or triennial update. The next change to county-wide market values will be during our triennial update in tax year 2018, pay 2019, when the new CAUV formula will also be applied. The next reappraisal will be in tax year 2021, pay 2022. Off-year values are only shown in this chart to reflect CAUV value trends.

TY 2015 BOR Appeals Update

Two BTA decisions have been given, with one case still awaiting a decision. Following is an update of the appealed cases.

Owner/Parcel	Requested Value	BOR Value	Annual Tax Change
WODA/0350000020303	1,173,000	3,156,500	\$29,147
<i>(Two Cases) Held 3/21/2017 at BTA. No decision yet.</i>			
CHASE BANK/0430000089700 et al	1,312,720	1,690,260	\$ 8,130
<i>Scheduled 3/29/2017 at BTA; Chase's Atty. offered \$1,265,000 settlement – BOR declined, BTA ordered \$1,150,000, change in annual tax \$11,635.</i>			
ISACON etal/0430000383600 et al	454,334	833,880	\$ 6,662
<i>Combined into one case & rescheduled 5/17/2017 at BTA; Owner withdrew one of three parcels, BTA ordered \$558,000, change in annual tax \$2,874.</i>			

CAAO Legislative Committee Update (Continued from previous page)

- HB 312 – *Local Government Credit Cards.* Regarding use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions. **1st Hearing, House Government Accountability and Oversight.**
- HB 323 – *Garbage Collection Fees.* Authorizes municipalities to certify these fees to the Auditor as a special assessment. **1st Hearing, House State and Local Government.**
- HB 343 – *Property Value Contest Resolutions.* Requires formal resolutions and owner contact. **In House Ways and Means.**
- SB 17 – *Local Government Fund Allocation.* To increase allocations from State General Revenue from 1.66% to 3.68%. **In Senate Finance Committee**
- 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.**
- SB 181- *Unpaid Municipal Garbage Fees.* Authorize all municipalities that charge a garbage collection fee to certify unpaid amounts to the county auditor, who must enter the fees on the property tax list as a special assessment. **In Senate Ways and Means Committee.**

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Submitted by Emily McBurney

Coshocton Business & Professional Women and the Coshocton County Farm Bureau will once again hold a "Meet the Candidates Night" at the Coshocton County Career Center on Thursday, October 26th.

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.:

Community Mix & Mingle

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.:

Candidates Forum

WTNS Radio will broadcast the Candidates Forum. Ken Smailes from WTNS will be our Moderator. He will present questions based upon issues identified within the community.

For more information contact:
Emily McBurney at (740) 502-7903 or
misskobel@yahoo.com

or

Breanne Smith at (740) 202-0675 or
coshdemchair@gmail.com

Danny Brenneman New JFS Director

Submitted by Mindy Fehrman, Former Director



The County Commissioners have selected Danny Brenneman to be the new director of Job and Family Services beginning October 1. Danny was hired in 1995 as a caseworker for a juvenile offender program at CORC Job Training. From there, in 2000, Danny became the administrator of the Workforce Division at Job and Family Services, and subsequently became the Fiscal Officer for the agency in 2007 and Assistant Director in 2011. His rich experience in programmatic and financial areas of

the agency will be an impressive benefit to the future of the organization.

Danny is a graduate of Ridgewood High School and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Cumberland College in Williamsburg, VA, with a concentration in history, political science and math. He is President of the Coshocton County Chamber of Commerce, a member and former president of the Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland, CAC Board of Directors, a member of Dollars for Scholars Board of Directors, and past president of the West Lafayette Rotary Club. Danny resides in West Lafayette with his wife Tami and children Danika, Jarrett and Zander.



GVA Provides Safe Flexible Options

Submitted by Chuck Zobel, GVA Director

In today's world, people seek options to make life easier. Whether those options are for the best prices or for the most convenience, it is safe to say that people seek quick and flexible choices to best suit their needs. Education has proven to be no different. This is where Garaway Virtual Academy comes in.

Garaway Virtual Academy (GVA) is an extension of Garaway Local Schools, providing a free, online, public education for students both inside and outside of the school district. Using safe and innovative online formats, students are able to receive a public education in a flexible and relational way. Students are able to work at their pace and on their time while also having access to extra help when needed. They are also able to take part in extracurricular activities and graduate with a Garaway diploma. GVA coordinator, Chuck Zobel, states, "We recognize that students seek alternate options. As a school district, we want to be able to provide these options to assist students in their educational journey."

GVA is currently enrolling students. Interested families should contact Zobel at 330-852-4699 or visit www.garawayvirtual.org for more information. "We will work with our families to craft a situation that works for their needs. We have many attractive options, partnerships, and opportunities to offer our students. We are here to help."

Garaway Local School District is part of Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton Counties (the greater part of Crawford Township).

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



It's not a competition, but at 914 we are ranking 5th

in "Likes" behind some of the big-boys:

- Medina County - 1835**
- Ross County - 1753**
- Franklin County - 1237**
- Lorain County - 1019**
- Montgomery County - 1006**

OK, maybe it IS a competition ☺

Like us & invite your friends!

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

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

EMS (Continued from page 3)

our new building on Main Street next year. We also have a crew at stations on Main St. in West Lafayette, on Main St. in Warsaw, and on CR 621 across the street from the County Highway garage.

Time is critical in EMS. The survival rate in a cardiac arrest declines 10% each minute the blood is not circulating. The national standard for Fire & EMS response time, the time from when we receive the call until we arrive at the scene, is 8 minutes. Being the only 911 EMS provider in our County presents some challenges, because of the distances that we have to travel. We are very proud of the fact that our response time is less than 8 minutes on nearly 80% of our 911 responses, and our overall average 911 response time has been less than 6 minutes for the past three years. One way that we have improved response time is through back-filling stations and posting. If Warsaw or West Lafayette responds on a call, a Coshocton crew immediately begins moving to Warsaw or West Lafayette to fill the station. If we have multiple crews working and there are only two available crews, we post them half-way between Warsaw and Coshocton in the Bethlehem Grange/CR 27 area, and halfway between West Lafayette and Coshocton in the area known as Lyon's curve on CR 16. We get questioned why our ambulances are sitting along the roadway at Lyon's curve and the Bethlehem Grange...now you know why. It means we only have two crews available in the County. We also use our administrative personnel to staff additional ambulances during office hours.

CCEMS truly appreciates the support that we receive from our Community. Many of us didn't get into EMS for the money, and a "thank you" from a patient makes our day. Over the years, the funding that comes from billing for our services has declined significantly. If it wasn't for the Community continuing to support our tax levy, we would not have the funds to provide the services that we do. We are extremely thankful for the support the Community gives to us.

612 RAP ACCEPTING MEMBERS

Submitted by Suzie Tupper

612 RAP (Recovery and Parenting) is inviting new members to join. RAP is an ongoing group that meets regularly on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 612 Walnut Street, Coshocton. This group is co-sponsored by Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices and Coshocton Family and Children First Council's Nurturing Families Program at no charge to the people who attend. It is targeted for adults in substance use recovery who are also parents. This is for parents who may or may not the parents have a current relationship and/or custody of their children, parents with grown children and/or grandchildren, adults who have parenting plans in their future, and non-parents who are supportive of safe, healthy lives for children. Children are also invited and included in the opening group activity time and other discussions in which they are interested. There is no staffing currently for child-oriented programming for the whole class, but it has been offered in the past and may be a possibility again in the future. Each session counts as an AA/NA meeting for those who need meeting credits but is different from a typical meeting. 612 RAP includes the opening group activity time for sober fun (usually a craft or game), a light lunch, support group time, and an interactive lesson on a parenting/family life topic. The current topic is angry children.

New members may self-refer or be referred by an agency or other community resource. If you have questions or are interested in possibly attending, please call Suzie Tupper of Nurturing Families at 740-295-7322. Pre-registration is not required, but helpful for planning purposes.

The Nurturing Parenting Program is an agency of Coshocton County under the umbrella of Family and Children First Council. Its programs are a family-centered initiative designed to build nurturing parenting skills in the families of our community.

WARSAW LIONS CLUB
60th ANNUAL MINSTREL SHOW
ANYTHING GOES
River View High School
November 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m.
November 19 at 2:30 p.m.
 Ticket Prices:
 \$10 Donation
 River View Park Board will serve dinner Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17 & 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 19 from noon to 2 p.m.
 ALL SEATS RESERVED - FOR TICKETS
 CALL 740-622-5031 BEGINNING OCTOBER 25
 MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY 11 AM - 1 PM

ALWAYS THERE – FOR 50 YEARS!

*Submitted by Brittany Coon, Bd. of DD
Public Outreach Coordinator*

The Coshocton County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) is “Always There” and has been helping families and individuals with developmental disabilities for over 50 years. CCBDD assists all eligible individuals throughout their entire lifetime from birth to death. In 2008, CCBDD served around 222 individuals. Today, the enrollment has grown to over 435 individuals; a 90% increase in almost 10 years.

CCBDD has been developing partnerships with community agencies and leaders to help the people and families that are supported for the last 50 years. The services that CCBDD provides the individuals and families in our county include Early Intervention, Help Me Grow, Preschool classes, School-age classes, Family Resources, Therapy services (Occupational, Physical and Speech), Adaptive Equipment purchases, Special Olympics, Service Coordination, Job training and Community Employment Supports, Adult Day Services, Cost to live subsidies and Residential Supports for Adults.

CCBDD has done many things to stay fiscally responsible including sharing positions between the Knox County Board of DD and the local school districts. This allows more funding to serve individuals in the community and allows for better service provision. CCBDD will continue to provide information and support to the community to ensure there is a continuity of support for everyone.

View one of CCBDD’s client/employees at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I28D4YmkTHw>



CCCTA Has New Leadership

*Submitted by Tracy Haines, CCCTA
Scheduling Coordinator*



Nic Carey is the new Director and Mobility Manager for the Coshocton County Coordinated Transportation Agency (CCCTA). Nic spent the last ten years working for Time Warner Cable/Spectrum as an installation and service technician.

Nic was born and raised in Coshocton County, where he attended River View Local Schools, graduating in 2004. He has strong roots in Coshocton. His father was employed at the local General Electric for over 30 years, and his mother was an English teacher at River View High School for more than 30 years.

Nic is married to LeeAnne, his wife of eight years. He has two children, a 6 year old son and a 2 year old daughter. In his free time, Nic is a volunteer firefighter with Three Rivers Fire District. He also enjoys spending time with his family on Leanne’s family’s farm.

BE SMART

Operation: Street Smart

OCTOBER 3, 2017

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Coshocton County Career Center

**FREE TRAINING FOR AREA PROFESSIONALS,
PARENTS AND CONCERNED ADULTS**

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office created Operation Street Smart in July 2002 as a way to take community oriented policing to a new level. Street Smart is a collaborative effort between D.A.R.E. and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU), which is the Sheriff's Office undercover narcotics branch. To date, Operation: Street Smart has been presented over 1,500 times to over 150,000 people throughout Ohio and the United States.

The goal of Street Smart is to provide current and up-to-date narcotics information on trends, terminology, paraphernalia, concealment techniques, and physiological effects to those individuals who deal with today's youth on a daily basis. The target audience for Street Smart includes DARE and school resource officers, juvenile detectives, school administrators and school board members, teachers, and parents.

Three current/former undercover detectives, who possess over fifty years of combined narcotics experience, conduct the Street Smart presentation. This program includes actual examples of current designer street drugs such as XTC, Bath Salts, Huffing, LSD, GHB, K2/Spice, and Khat. Current drug paraphernalia examples are available to depict the ease in camouflaging drug use from adults. A strong emphasis is placed on the physiological effects of the drugs and indicators to look for. So-called "traditional" drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, crack, heroin, and methamphetamine are also covered extensively as teenagers still heavily abuse these drugs.

PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN ARE NOT PERMITTED TO ATTEND

Hosted by Coshocton Job and Family Services
To register, contact Jed McCoy at jed.mccoy@jfs.ohio.gov

New Recorder's Office Employee
 Submitted by Susan Turner, County Recorder



Justin Addy was hired by County Recorder Susan Turner and joined her office as a part-time employee in August. He may already be a familiar face to many of you. He has worked for Linnet's Flowers on the Square for ten years as well as the Serenity Tea House, and is a life-time resident of Coshocton County.

Justin is a member of Keene United Methodist Church where he plays the keyboard on Sundays and for the choir. His mother, Debbie Addy, worked for the County Treasurer's and Title Offices, and his father, Harvey, works for Organic Technologies.

He will be helping with the general duties of the office in the recording of legal documents. If you have not already done so, please take time to introduce yourself and welcome him the next time you visit!

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)

REAL ESTATE OFFERED FOR BEST BID Auditor's Sale Scheduled for October 27th

"Every tract of land foreclosed upon for delinquent taxes or a tax lien that has been properly offered for sale on two separate occasions, not less than two weeks apart and not sold shall be forfeited to the state and the County Auditor will offer it for sale to the highest bidder." Ohio R.C. Section 5723

Christine Sycks, Coshocton County Auditor, has scheduled her Auditor's Sale to be held at the Courthouse on Friday, October 27th at 10:30 a.m. At the time of this article, five real estate parcels and three manufactured homes have been fully processed and ready for sale; these are all listed below.

During the May sale, we sold four real estate parcels for bids ranging between \$1 (Yes, One Dollar) and \$2,500 and four manufactured homes between \$1 and \$1,100. Due at the sale is a non-refundable down payment of 10% of total due or \$50, whichever is greater. In addition to the bid, the buyers of real estate parcels are responsible for \$82.50 in deed, transfer, and recording fees for a three page document. If a manufactured home is purchased, the buyer will be responsible for \$25.50 in title, relocation, and transfer fees in addition to the bid. If the deed ends up being less than three pages, the remaining recording fees are refunded.

No person delinquent on real property taxes in the State of Ohio may purchase a property at an Auditor's Sale. Also, the owner of record or a member of his or her immediate family prior to the judgment of foreclosure or forfeiture may not purchase the property for less than the total amount of taxes, assessments, penalties, interest and costs.

Any taxes, charges or costs not covered by the sale will be remitted, and all liens are eliminated except for the real estate taxes covered by the sale. If there is a Federal lien, the Federal Government has "Right of Redemption" and may re-take the property for 1 year after the original foreclosure was filed. The buyer will receive only the amount he or she paid at the Auditor's sale and no more regardless of improvements done after the purchase.

At the time of this article, the following parcels have been forfeited to the State of Ohio, fully processed and will be offered at the sale:

Parcel number	Previous Owner	Address
008-00026	Jeffery Grove	32780 SR 93 (Manufactured Home)
008-00047	Jeffery Grove	32780 SR 93 (Manufactured Home)
043-00001107-00	David/Crystal Farrell	901 E. Main St., Coshocton Corp.
043-00001795-00	Brett/Mandy Ramsey	Cemetery St., Coshocton Corp.
016-00108	Kara Willey	318 Jackson Dr. (Manufactured Hm)
010-00000233-00	Irving Weaver	17869 TR 347, Franklin Twp.
043-00000529-00	Evelyn Krasky	328 N. 15 th St., Coshocton Corp.
043-00004041-00	Sharon Grossman	1139 Chestnut St., Coshocton Corp.

Any additional parcels that have all processing completed by the public notice deadline will be added and included in the public notice and online. Notice of the parcels for sale will be published on October 13th and 20th.

The entire Auditor Sales procedure, and the most current information about the parcels that will be offered for sale on October 27th can be found at <http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/auditor-sale/>. The Auditor's Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/Coshocton-County-Auditors-Office-684678204895125/> and will have daily posts of photos, GIS, and property record cards in the weeks coming up to the sale. For location and overhead views, visit GIS <http://gis.coshoctoncounty.net/index.aspx>. Property records for the real estate can be viewed at www.coshcoauditor.org and are searchable by entering the parcel number (with no zeroes) in the Parcel ID option of the Property Search tab.

Any parcels missing the publication deadline or offered and not sold will be offered at the next Auditor's Sale in May 2018. At any time up to the date of the sale, an owner may remove the parcel by 'redeeming' it and paying all taxes, costs, penalties, and assessments. These redeemed parcels will not be offered.

Skimmer Scam Hits Coshocton

Two credit card skimmers were reported to the Sheriff's Office by owners at the end of August at Coshocton gas pumps on Brown's Lane and have been removed. Please be aware of this risk. Since then, the owners have taken steps to further secure the pumps, such as changing the locks with safer keys. These devices (shown below, right) are installed in minutes inside the card-reader section of the gas pump and allow the thieves to steal credit and debit card information remotely via blue-tooth technology. A cell phone's blue-tooth app may alert you to a 'hot spot' when you are near a pump, but the crooks are sometimes even getting around that with new technology.

As he tests and seals gas pumps, Jarrod Tipton, the County Auditor's Weights and Measures Inspector and Sealer, checks all Coshocton County's pumps for tampering or installation of a skimming device. Ohio Law only requires all pumps to be inspected once per year, however, and they could have devices installed after he has left. He had been at this location three weeks prior to the find. The Sheriff has also asked that some of his deputies be allowed to shadow Jarrod during some of his inspections. He has taken this opportunity to explain how the devices work and what to look for on and in a gas pump if there is a skimmer installed.

If you see any suspicious persons messing with a gas pump, or if you see a gas pump that looks as though tampering was involved, please let the gas station manager, local law enforcement, or Jarrod know. Report anything that looks suspicious at the gas pump to the station manager, to the Sheriff's Office, or to me or my inspector, Jarrod Tipton.

Minimize your risk by using cash whenever possible, by using pumps nearest to where the employees can see them, by NOT using debit or entering a pin, and by NOT using a pump that looks suspicious. Monitor your credit and debit card statements regularly, and report any charges that are not yours to your bank immediately.

Don't be a victim!

2017 BOARD OF REVISION COMPLETES HEARINGS

Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.02 establishes the Board of Revision (BOR) for the taxpayer to have process to challenge the value set on his or her property for tax purposes. The Board consists of the county treasurer, the auditor, and one commissioner. This year's BOR had 52 complaints filed in a timely manner to address. Taxpayers are able to appeal the BOR's decision at the Common Pleas Court (CPC) or Ohio Board of Tax Appeals (BTA). There were 17 complaints that had a value change offered prior to any hearings, with a total decrease in market value of \$347,750, plus 5 CAUV reinstatements. These were all done based on evidence included with the appeal and appraiser on-site review. The BOR dismissed 4 due to jurisdictional issues (3 are under CPC appeal). Owners withdrew 1. Following are the results of this year's hearings.

OWNER/PARCEL	WAS	REQUESTED (DECREASED)	BOR	APPEAL
TAYLOR/0130000034102	80,180	50,000	71,000	-
DEPALMO/0430000143700	144,850	50,000	99,000	-
AVERY/0130000146803	89,220	70,000	88,020	-
COCHRAN/0431512800800	35,930	17,000	26,210	-
HATHAWAY/0431511125800etal	414,000	70,000	70,000	-
MILLER/0060000002901etal	211,110	190,000	122,260	-
HUGHES/0420000009400	152,830	115,000	140,970	-
SPEAKS/0130000016800etal	12,080	7,708	7,780	-
MT VERN FIN/0431510704000	412,260	35,000	78,000	-
JIRA INVEST/0430000004100etal	368,920	100,000	100,000	-
HELMICK/0140000004600etal	16,210	900	4,050	-
CALLAHAN CO/0430000006400	38,790	15,000	17,850	-
SCHULER/0430000308500	45,100	12,000	18,500	-
SMITH/0200000076400	56,230	N/A	53,970	-
MARHOFFER/0310000021500	106,300	39,900	77,610	-
MARHOFFER/0170000074400	15,580	2,800	11,340	-
RANTZ/0420000042500	144,150	95,000	126,420	-
RV/KRAFT/0440000072700etal	7,080,630	25,580,080	8,212,360	BTA
LILLIBRIDGE/0430000175400etal	75,530	40,000	49,400	-
LILLIBRIDGE/0370000006900	34,640	4,000	13,600	-
WHITNEY/0250000007900	4,000	1,348	270	-
(CAUV REINSTATED)				
MILLER/0090000016902etal	986,340	762,790	762,790	-
TROYER/0230000001000	291,440	121,840	121,840	-
LONSINGER/0030000020502etal	339,120	46,290	46,290	-
(NO CHANGE)				
WIDDER/0130000051008	464,280	380,000	464,280	-
OHIO AMCO/0100000001500	1,216,300	500,000	1,216,300	-
CHASE/0200000013100etal	291,640	26,100	26,100	BTA
GREER/0430000161800	6,110	500	6,110	-



One of the blue-tooth active credit/debit card skimmers found on Brown's Lane, Coshocton, in August.

Dog Tag Sales & Poster Contest

One of the responsibilities of the Auditor is to license all dogs in the county. We licensed nearly 9,000 dogs for 2017. Purchasing a tag for your dog is required by the State of Ohio. The tag has a number on it that identifies you as the owner should the dog get lost or separated from you.

As per Ohio Revised Code, 2018 Dog Tags will go on sale beginning on December 1, 2017, and will be sold with no penalty through January 31, 2018. Any person who has a dog on his or her property needs to register it with the Auditor's Office or one of her agents and purchase a tag. The cost is \$12 for a 1-year, \$36 for a 3-year, and \$120 for a lifetime tag. Non-high-volume Kennel Licenses are \$60 and are available at the Auditor's Office. If your dog was previously tagged in Coshocton County and your address is the same, you should receive a reminder postcard near the beginning of the registration period. Tags are required regardless of whether you receive a reminder card, whether the dog is an indoor or outdoor dog, or whether you are 'just keeping' a dog for somebody else.

This year, Chris Sycks, Coshocton County Auditor, is sponsoring a poster contest for children in 1st through 6th grades. The Dog Tag Poster Contest was created by Chris to help promote community awareness of dog licensing.

Entries can be dropped off or mailed to the Auditor's Office at 349 Main Street, Coshocton, Ohio 43812 by Friday, November 10th.

There will be two categories – 1st through 3rd grade and 4th through 6th grade. Entrants will draw and color a picture that includes a dog on an entry form. One winner will be selected from each category.

The two winners will have copies of their artwork displayed around the community and on the Auditor's website and social media advertising dog tag sales. The winners will also each receive a dog bowl, treats, and toy for their (or somebody's) dog, and a \$10 Walmart gift card.

ALL entries will be displayed in the County Auditor's Office window at 349 Main Street during January. If more space is needed, entries may be displayed in windows facing 4th Street as well.

Entry forms and complete rules will be available in the auditor's office, online at <http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/dog-kennel/> and on our Facebook page

COMMON PLEAS COURT UPDATE: Heather Spinks and TCAP

As I approach the conclusion of my seventh year on the bench, there are a few things happening at the Court that may be of interest.

First, the Court hired Heather Spinks (pictured, right) to replace Brooke Bookless as the Court's Presentence Investigation Director in July 2016. Brooke moved to Columbus, Georgia where she works as a Parental Accountability Court Coordinator. She married Sgt. Derek Jimenez, 75th Ranger Regiment, on June 10, 2017.

As you may remember from our previous article in *Due Diligence*, the job of PSI Director was designed for the simple purpose of writing presentence investigations. However, the job soon transformed into probation officer duties and managing a special drug court docket that we named Recovery Court. Since Heather assumed control over the Court's intensive supervision and special docket program in July, 2016, more responsibility has been added to her many job duties.

While her duties are officially Presentence Investigation Director, Probation Officer and Recovery Court Administrator, Heather is also called upon to provide impromptu life counseling. For this mother of three, straight talk is not a problem. "I can relate to their struggles when it comes to getting by. There were times in my life when the kids wanted something, but I needed gas in the car to get to work, and there wasn't enough money for both. The gas tank got filled. So I tell my people bluntly that I "get it," and then I tell them that there is a way for them to solve the problems they are facing, but it's going to involve making sacrifices to get it done." Heather's experience as a former Wal-Mart asset protection manager, with specialized training in interview and interrogation, has also helped her develop a reputation among the felony offenders she supervises. Heather explains, "Usually at some point during their time here, I catch them lying about something and have to ask if they really think I'm that stupid. Once they know that I can get to the truth, things go a lot easier."

Second, Heather's responsibilities are increasing significantly due to a new grant program from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction known as TCAP. "Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison" is Ohio's most recent effort to reduce dangerous levels of prison overcrowding. As part of TCAP, the Common Pleas Court will receive a grant totaling \$169,480.00 over two years. The purpose of the grant is to keep offenders convicted of a 5th degree felony, which is the lowest level of felony offense, from entering the prison system. The conditions of the grant do not apply to a fifth degree felony that is an offense of violence, a sex offense, a drug trafficking offense, or if an offender has previous convictions for felony offenses of violence or felony sex offenses.

How will the grant impact sentencing in the Common Pleas Court? The number of prison sentences handed down by the Court is rising, with 47 prison commitments entered through the first six months of 2017. Compare that number with the Court's total prison commitment numbers for prior years:

2011 = 51	2012 = 50	2013 = 62
2014 = 69	2015 = 68	2016 = 82

From this basic analysis, it is easy to see that our local trend is consistent with increasing state-wide incarceration rates. Also, 17 of the 82 prison sentences in 2016 were for 5th degree felony offenses. Therefore, TCAP will probably result in less felony offenders from Coshocton County entering the prison system in 2018.

This is where Heather steps in. She will work closely with our local Adult Parole Authority officers and several agencies such as Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices and All-Well to provide an intensive felony supervision environment for low level offenders. The grant funds received from TCAP will be spent on items such as medication assisted treatment, GPS monitors, drug testing, and employment placement services. Our experience from Recovery Court shows that if you get them clean and get them started in the right direction, offenders want to work. Once they get into the workforce, low level felons are not likely to reoffend. In the end, we believe that TCAP grant money and a lot of hard work will ultimately make our community a safer place. If we don't see results, then we will not reapply for the grant. The only thing I can guarantee is that we will give it our best effort.

Robert J. Batchelor, Judge



County Auditor FAQ

Q. Why do you have to put my name in the paper when I forget to pay my real estate taxes?

A. Like many things I do, it is because state law, or the Ohio Revised Code, requires me to do it. The list recently published is a list of taxpayers who did not pay all of the 2016 taxes that were due this year. The purpose of this is not to embarrass people but only to remind people who may have mislaid their tax bill or forgotten to pay due to some circumstance that there are taxes due. This allows payment and avoids any foreclosure process being started. The full list can also be viewed online at

<http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/auditor/delinquent-taxes/>

Do you have a question you'd like the County Auditor to answer? Email it to auditor@coshoctoncounty.net

Look at Those Faces!



These kittens were rescued by the Auditor's Office employees from the middle of a downtown street and are almost ready for adoption. After the Auditor assured them office cats were NOT going to be a thing, the good folks at the Animal Shelter took over and are nursing them back to health. The County Auditor thinks they should be named Checks and Balances. ☺ If you're looking for a pet, please check the Shelter.

Please spay and neuter your animals to avoid unwanted litters. Of you do have kittens or puppies, PLEASE don't abandon them to a slow death on their own, but take them to the Shelter where they'll have care and a chance of adoption!

Director Mindy Fehrman Retires From JFS

Submitted by Danny Brenneman, Incoming Director JFS



In this issue of Due Diligence, I'd like to honor the career of service and leadership of Mindy Fehrman. She retired September 30th from Job & Family Services after 31 + years. Simply stated, our community is a better place because of Mindy choosing Coshocton. Sure, she's been an excellent leader for staff and customers within the walls of Job & Family Services, but her accomplishments hardly stop there.

If you look around the community, it's frankly difficult to find many efforts, initiatives or successes that don't in some fashion contain Mindy's handiwork. The Coshocton Campus; a reality in part because Mindy had an idea and a passion. The

Coshocton CARES (college access) initiative, actively helps graduating high schoolers. The Coshocton County Community Center, operating out of the Senior Center, has seen over 13,000 visits in its first eleven months serving Coshocton County residents from ages zero to eighty-two. This becoming a reality even after a failed grant effort. With Mindy's insistence of finding a way. The United Way, Coshocton City School Board, Kiwanis Club of Coshocton...the list goes on! I dare say that Mindy's volunteer time and efforts to the community nearly match her accomplishments as a leader at Job & Family Services.

In my twenty-two years with the County, I am fortunate that Mindy's been my direct or indirect supervisor the whole time. We've definitely seen changes! She, along with now retired director Terry Miller, successfully combined four separate entities to form what is now Job & Family Services. Looking back, without her positivity and wherewithal, I'm not sure JFS would be where it is today after having had to overcome a menagerie of barriers and growing pains associated with such a merger. Mindy's leadership style is insistent on remaining positive and always reminds us that we are here to serve *all* customers including clients, agency staff, community and state partners and local elected officials.

For sure, Mindy's gone "above and beyond" in her service to Coshocton. Many of us are wondering exactly what retirement will look like for Mindy. We KNOW she will continue to serve the community albeit in a different capacity, however, I also hope she finds herself with her husband Russ sipping semi-dry white wine as she visits all the wineries Ohio has to offer!

THANK YOU Mindy, for your excellent service and leadership to Job & Family Services and Coshocton County.