

# The Due Diligence

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



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[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Coshocton-County-Auditors-Office/684678204895125?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Coshocton-County-Auditors-Office/684678204895125?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

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## From the Desk of....

**Chris Sycks, Coshocton County Auditor:**  
*Thank You Team!*



I am going to brag a little on my team. As I write this, we have received valuation certifications and tax rates from the state for real estate tax year 2018, and are in the process of tax adjustments before bill print. Manufactured home taxes are on deck for the next calculation. CAUV renewal applications are printed and being stuffed into envelopes to be mailed out within the week. This application period will open the first Monday of January for both renewal and initial applications, and the dog tag registration period is half done. Fiscal year 2018 financial records have been reviewed for deficit balances and problems, and departments have been notified with end-of-year procedure reminders. With the excellent staff members in my office, all these things will get done (even if some days seem overwhelming). I joke with my real estate department that in their jobs it's stop (in October) and don't change ANYTHING, wait, wait...Now (in December) EVERYTHING NEEDS DONE! Here are a few of our team's extra-ordinary accomplishments in 2018:

- Jinni Bowman and Nicole Medley almost single-handedly navigated the end of year processing on the financial and budgetary side of our office. This frees up my time for other things, including (but not limited to) legislative monitoring, budget commission obligations, public relations, the timely publication of the Due Diligence, and attention to policy and progress details of our office.
- Donna Burkart continues to update real estate records and manage all the associated programs and processes. This year, she created a spreadsheet to merge notification letters to new CAUV property owners.
- Danna Callahan is diligent about assuring the bills we are paying are for proper public purpose (and thus keeping me from being liable for inappropriate expenditures).
- Amy Finton continues to process deeds and help customers, along with other projects put on her desk. She has taken on the records of the unclaimed funds and has created an unclaimed foreclosure request form to help those seeking payment.
- Dustin Gregory has achieved his certifications in both aspects of his job description. All devices have been inspected and he is working along with Jarrod on the Change Finder project (see page 9).
- Jackie Jackson also continues to process all items at the counter. She has located a new dog tag point of sale in the eastern part of the county and implemented a spreadsheet to monitor the distribution of tags to various points of sale.
- Kyle Lowe is our go-to person for all things related to our CAMA and VIP software (and other things). He has now brought on all departments to enter their payroll and financial records remotely. Currently he is working with software support people to correct the tax calculation issues.
- Lindsay McCullough's organizational skills continue to help with the records and processes of the real estate records. One of her contributions was setting up Gadgets on the software to help manage CRP data entry and CAUV renewals.
- Sue McNerney has successfully trained Alex, cleaned up the OPERS issues, and has made sure we are paid every two weeks ☺
- Jetta Mencer is adding value to our tax duplicates by researching and restoring un-taxed parcels to the records.
- Alex Taylor has nearly reached his one-year anniversary and has run payroll solo. He is now getting a crash course in year-end real estate adders and remitters.
- Chief Appraiser Jarrod Tipton worked hard on our triennial update. I instructed him to fairly apply neighborhood increases instead of an across-the-board 10% increase by class, and we still ended up within the State-ordered 10% total county increase for agricultural and residential properties. He is also spearheading the Change Finder project (page 9).

I am thankful for such a great group of employees. I could not do it without them!

Until next time,

*~Chris*

**October - December  
County Anniversaries with  
more than 20 consecutive  
years**

Barbara J. Powell	31 years
Timothy L. Greer	28 years
James C. Priest	28 years
Beth D. Walsh	27 years
Ronda E. Barnes	26 years
Nancy K. Foughty	26 years
Scott D. Mast	26 years
Tracy L. Luce	25 years
Donna S. Ryan	25 years
Beth Tumblin	23 years
Pamela D. Matz	23 years
Jennifer E. Fry	21 years
Sharon K. Thomas	21 years
Debra K. Miller	20 years
Nancy E. Wilt	20 years

**Congratulations and  
Best Wishes to:**

***Willa M. Hamersley,***  
*who retired October 31,*  
*2018, from the County*  
*Health Department*  
*(WIC) after more than 31*  
*years of service.*

**Just a reminder:** County employees will receive their W2s no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>, as the law requires. The departments will be notified when they are ready to be picked up at the Auditor's Office. Since electronic delivery is not an option, they will be treated as the paper paychecks were – only department heads or those designated in writing will be able to pick up all the W2s for their employees.

**Payroll Page**

**PLEASE WELCOME COSHOCTON COUNTY'S NEW HIRES:**

**Hired by EMS:**

*on 9/22/2018 Nicole R. Hershberger.*

**Hired by the County Sheriff:**

*on 9/30/2018 Trevor A. Bradford.*  
*on 10/29/2018 Alexander Troyer.*

**Hired by the Board of Election:**

*on 10/15/2018 Jerry A. Shaw.*

**Hired by Jobs & Family Services: Child Support Division:**

*on 10/15/2018 Nancy J. Ziegler.*

**Hired by Hopewell (Board of DD):**

*on 10/23/2018 Alisha J. Miller & Kari E. Nelson.*  
*on 10/25/2018 Colleen J. Kirker.*

**Hired by Jobs and Family Services:**

*on 11/26/2018 Jennifer L. Rogers & Jennifer E. Westcott.*

**Hired by Probate/Juvenile Court:**

*on 12/10/2018 Heather D. Newell.*

**Is Your Name Correct on Your Social Security Card?**

If you have had a name change since your social security card has been issued, the nearest Social Security Office can help get you up to date. You will need original or certified copies of documents proving your legal name change, your identity, and citizenship.

For your legal name change, show a marriage document, divorce decree, court order for a name change, or naturalization certificate with a new name.

To prove your identity, either a U.S. driver's license, State-issued non-driver's ID card, or U.S. passport would suffice. If none of these are available, sometimes an employer, school, or U.S. military ID card or health insurance card would do.

Citizenship can be proven with a U.S. birth certificate, passport, or consular report of birth abroad, or a certificate of naturalization or citizenship.

Once you have your documents gathered, go to the link below for the form and instructions:

[https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf?utm\\_source=mip1018&utm\\_medium=online-media&utm\\_content=need-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-001&utm\\_campaign=ocomm-mip-fy19](https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf?utm_source=mip1018&utm_medium=online-media&utm_content=need-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-001&utm_campaign=ocomm-mip-fy19)

The form and documents can be dropped off or mailed to the Social Security Office. The nearest office to this area is at 3823 James Court, Zanesville, OH 43701 and their phone is 855-884-3408.

**Coshocton County's 2018 Total Payroll:  
589 employees - \$16,831,317.74**

## Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

- Jan 1–NEW YEAR’S DAY – Offices Closed  
–Statutory lien date for tax purposes
- Jan 2–(on or about) ‘Certificate of the Total Amount From All Sources Available For Expenditures and Balances’ **due at Auditor’s Office** from Townships and Municipalities  
–Avoid THEN & NOWs by opening up purchase orders for all contracts or by opening **one** blanket purchase order in **each** expense account
- Jan 4–Rent Party, entertainment TBA (7:30 p.m. Pomerene Center \$10)
- Jan 8–First day to file Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) applications.  
–SWCD/OSU Ext’s Farmer’s Breakfast “County Roads Update” (Edie Ryan’s 7:30 a.m.)
- Jan 9–County bill run (entry due 1/3)
- Jan 11–County pay date (entry due 1/7)
- Jan 14–Fixed Asset and Supplies & Materials Inventories **due at Auditor’s Office**
- Jan 15– OSU Extension: Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-Certification at Co. Services Bldg. Rm 145 622-2265
- Jan 19–Health, Safety & Wellness Expo, Kids America, 8 a.m. to noon
- Jan 20–School SFY 19 Budgets **due at Auditor’s Office**  
–Coshocton Community Choir & Cardinal Winter Pops Concert “Dream a World” (3 p.m. Presbyterian Church)
- Jan 21–MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY – Offices Closed
- Jan 23–County bill run (due 1/17)
- Jan 25–County pay date (due 1/18)
- Jan 26– Beer, Bourbon & Bites Johnson-Humrickhouse Museum (JHM) Fund-raiser (\$55 reservations by 1/21)
- Jan 27– SEOWS: Phantazia Exhibit ends JHM
- Jan 29–OSU Extension: 2019 Agronomy School at Dresden UM Church RSVP by 1/23/18 622-2265
- Jan 31–Non-Contributing List due to OPERS  
–Federal Financial Assistance (Grants) Forms **due at Auditor’s Office**  
–Capital Leases Forms **due at Auditor’s Office**  
–Last day to buy Dog Tag or Kennel License without penalty
- Feb 4–County Budget Commission (2-4 p.m.) to review SFY 18 school budgets
- Feb 8–County pay date (due 2/4)

*Continued, next page)*

## Spotlight on. . .

### Coshocton County Jobs and Family Services

*Submitted by Daniel Brenneman, DJFS Director*

**“Through public service and community collaboration, we provide individuals and families with the respect, encouragement, support, and assistance necessary to achieve an improved quality of life. Coshocton Job and Family Services coordinates the planning, development and implementation of programs and services that support and promote achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency and independent living.”**

This is not just a forgotten mission and purpose statement tucked away somewhere, but what we strive to do every day. Our agency, the Coshocton County Department of Job & Family Services (JFS), is a sixty-employee-strong entity working on behalf of those age 0 to 100...or beyond...in our community.

As agency director, I am honored to have JFS represented in *The Due Diligence*. I appreciate the opportunity to share a little about who we are and what we do in the areas of **Child Support Enforcement, Child Welfare, Public Assistance and Workforce Development**. Our programs and services are as diverse as the population and community we serve. In fact, over one in four Coshocton County residents are served by or are a part of one of our services directly or indirectly.



*Picture, left, Jen McCoy, Lisa Hopper, Misty Shaw, and Sara Hopper.*

Let me start with some of the folks that are the glue for the agency. **The Support/Clerical staff** (pictured left) are responsible for the day-to-day work flow and document processing as well as greeting customers in the lobby or on the phone, I.T. support and human resources. They provide excellent internal and external customer service and are wonderful resources for information about agency and community services.

Not pictured but also critical is a dedicated **Fiscal Staff** of three performing all fiscal functions for the agency including purchases, budgeting and reconciling multiple local, state and federal funds totaling over \$7 million in transactions each year. And that is only from direct transactions! The total agency impact is more than \$85 million per year when factoring in all services approved.

**The Child Support Enforcement (CSEA)** division of JFS is primarily responsible for assuring the collection and distribution of court-ordered child support, collecting over \$3.8 million last year. But that’s not all. These eleven CSEA staff members also determine paternity, schedule and hold administrative hearings for support order modifications, and provide services and refer to maximize the impact of child support for children. Every child deserves support from both parents. This support includes both financial and emotional support. Child Support enhances the well-being of children while promoting positive parental involvement and improving a family’s self-sufficiency.

CSEA offers many services to the Non-Custodial Parent **and** the Custodial Parent. We believe working positively with all parties in the case leads to better results for all, especially the children in these cases. The CSEA also has a legal department led by our in-house attorney. This group is responsible for reviewing and preparing numerous legal documents and presenting in court cases. **Coshocton CSEA manages over 3,500 cases**

**Child Welfare (Children Services)** receives complaint calls of abuse, neglect, exploitation or dependency of children under age 18. These 17 dedicated staff work long and/or unorthodox hours to help ensure the safety of children. They develop and oversee case plans, investigate complaint or “intake” calls and work very closely with service providers. Caseworkers oversee the 50 current foster placements in our

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**Upcoming Dates & Deadlines (continued)**

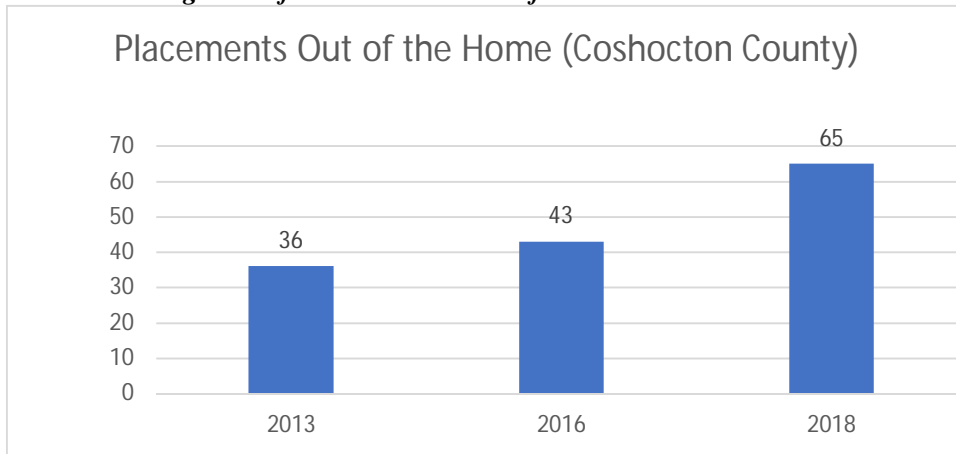
- Feb 9–Chocolate Extravaganza (Career Center, 3 to 5 p.m. \$12 at door/\$10 in advance)  
–Sweetheart Big Band Dance (Lake Park Pavilion 8 to 11 p.m.)
- Feb 11–OSU Extension: Money 101: Keys to Financial Stability-Pt. 1 “Values & Goal Setting” (Coshocton Library 622-2265)
- Feb 12–SWCD/OSU Ext’s Farmer’s Breakfast “Today’s Ag & FFA Programs”, (Edie Ryan’s 7:30 a.m.)
- Feb 13–**County bill run** (due 2/7)
- Feb 16– Coshocton Relay for Life Ladies 80s Prom Fundraiser (tickets 740-509-0196)
- Feb 18–**PRESIDENT’S DAY** – Offices Closed  
–OSU Extension: Money 101: Keys to Financial Stability-Pt. 2 “Creating Your Spending Plan” (Coshocton Library 622-2265)  
–OSU Extension: Macro-Photography in the Outdoors at Co. Services Bldg. Rm 145 RSVP by 2/11/18 622-2265
- Feb 22–**County pay date** (due 2/15)
- Feb 23–Chili Church Wild Game Dinner (tickets in advance only 545-9707)
- Feb 24–Bridal Expo at Lake Park Pavilion (12-3 p.m.)
- Feb 26– OSU Extension: Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-Certification at Co. Services Bldg. Rm 145 622-2265
- Feb 27–**County bill run** (due 2/21)
- Mar 1 –District Health 2015 Budgets **due at Auditor’s Office**
- Mar 1-7–National **Weights & Measures** Week
- Mar 4- Last day to file **CAUV Initial or Renewal Applications**
- Mar 6&7–Tiverton Institute
- Mar 8–**County pay date** (due 3/4)
- Mar 11–OSU Extension: Money 101: Keys to Financial Stability-Pt. 3 “Financial Decision Making” (Coshocton Library 622-2265)  
–OSU Extension: Thinking of Selling Timber? at Frontier Power Community Room RSVP by 3/4/18 622-2265
- Mar 12–SWCD/OSU Ext’s Farmer’s Breakfast “History of Tiverton Institute”, (Edie Ryan’s 7:30 a.m.)
- Mar 13–**County bill run** (due 3/7)
- Mar 18–OSU Extension: Money 101: Keys to Financial Stability-Pt. 4 “Debt & Credit Repair” (Coshocton Library 622-2265)
- Mar 22–**County pay date** (due 3/18)
- Mar 27–**County bill run** (due 3/21)
- Apr 1–**Last day to file Board of Revision Complaint Form** (Extended because statutory deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup> is a non-business day)

**Coshocton County Jobs and Family Services (Continued from page 3)**

county and train and license new foster parents. We have many exceptional local foster homes and are always recruiting more. (If interested, please call **Rachel Kyle at 740-295-7494**).

The unfortunate impact of illegal use/abuse/misuse of drugs has been especially impactful on children and Children Services in our community and others. Child removal (and associated cost) has grown dramatically since 2013. In 2018, costs for placements exceeded \$1.5 million, tripling costs from only a few short years ago.

**Drugs are a factor in about 80% of all Children Services cases**



I am cautiously optimistic, however, that this trend has subsided, and we will trend lower in the coming year.

The Children Services staff works diligently to find appropriate matches for adoption, and we have seen several successes this year. Nothing brings more fulfillment than witnessing Judge Blanchard issuing a court ruling for adoption: permanency for a child!

**Public Assistance (PA)** is where many of the traditional, core benefit determination and issuance takes place. This group of 15 eligibility specialists and supervisors is responsible for:

- Medicaid
- Food Assistance (SNAP)
- Prevention/Retention/Contingency (PRC) services
- Ohio Works First (cash assistance)
- Nursing Home Assistance/Waivers
- Fraud Investigation
- Daycare Licensures and Assistance Approvals

Most PA Records are now paperless, and we are continuously moving toward scanned and electronic documents. Please be patient with us as we migrate to this logic/ practice.

To the right is a picture of the award Lisa McCoy received on behalf of our agency in 2017. Lisa is our fraud investigator and led Coshocton to be the most improved county in the state for fraud claims initiation! Lisa has implemented a rejuvenated relationship with our County Prosecutor and other partners in clamping down on benefit fraud in our county. We want to send the message “...not in our county!”

The PA unit has many senior JFS staff. This group provides exemplary service with accuracy and efficiency. It is very common to see our county in the top tier of performance metrics compared to other counties. **Cash assistance in Coshocton County is at an all-time low with only 24 assistance groups (as of October 2018)!**



**Ohio Means Jobs Coshocton (OMJ)** is the workforce development of the agency.

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### CAAO Legislative Committee Update

We are at the end of the lame duck session with much activity and some bills languishing. Below are current bills that are of interest to the County Auditor's Association of Ohio' (CAAO) Legislative Committee. Those that don't get passed by December 31 will die and perhaps be reintroduced in 2019.

- HB 3 – *DataOhio Board Creation*. Creates board and catalogs public data online, governs online public records, addresses uniform chart of accounts. **Passed by House, Vote 90-0.**
- HB 70 – *Fuel Tax Transparency*. Requires our weights & measures inspectors to place stickers on all pumps itemizing taxes. **1<sup>st</sup> 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 exemption reimbursements, require the Treasurer of State to issue bonds to refund school debt, among other items. **2<sup>nd</sup> 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. **1<sup>st</sup> Hearing, Senate Finance Committee.**
- HB 205 – *Senior Housing Relief*. Prohibits tax foreclosures on senior homeowners who have paid current taxes in all but five or fewer tax years. **1<sup>st</sup> Hearing, House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development.**
- HB 295/HB 558 – *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. **295-2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing/ 558 Passed by House, Vote 90-0.**
- HB 298 – *Public Employee Sick Days*. Changes the number of sick days provided to public employees. **2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing, House State & Local Government Committee.**
- HB 310 – *Elected Official Concealed Carry*. Permitting an elected official to carry a handgun in a government facility if he/she holds a valid license. **In House Federalism & Interstate Relations Committee.**
- HB 323/SB 181 – *Garbage Collection Fees*. Authorizes municipalities to certify these fees to the Auditor as a special assessment. **HB reported out; SB reported out.**
- HB 337 – *Textbook Sales Tax Exemption*. To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students. **Reported out as Amended.**
- HB 342/HB 488 – *Local Tax Issues-Election Dates/Ballot Language*. To modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies. **342 1<sup>st</sup> Hearing, Senate Ways & Means/ 488 2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing, House Ways & Means Committee.**

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### Coshocton County Career Center's Construction Technology Students Partner with Habitat

Submitted by Tammy Hess, CCCC Treasurer

The Coshocton County Career Center Construction Technology program has partnered with The Habitat for Humanity of Coshocton County for this year's Habitat for Humanity house.

This is not the first house the Career Center program has been involved with, but it is unique in that this year the class has taken on the task of seeing the house from start to finish, doing as much of the work as they can along the way. This opportunity allows students to get real life, hands-on experience in the field they've chosen, all while benefitting Habitat's Mission by providing low cost homes to those in need within the County.

This is the 17th house in the County of Coshocton that has been built by Habitat for Humanity volunteers and students. The partner family for this home, located on N 15th Street, is Janelle Titus and her two children.



### GET THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY!

If you would like to receive the Due Diligence in your inbox, please email Chris at [chrissycks@coshoctoncounty.net](mailto:chrissycks@coshoctoncounty.net)







**CAAO Legislative Committee Update**

*(Continued from Page 6)*

Review Committee to periodically review each property tax exemption. **In House Ways & Means Committee.**

- SB 17 – *LGF 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 unpaid water charges special assessments. **1<sup>st</sup> Hearing, Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee.**
- SB 123 – *Property Tax Complaint Process*. Owner & County Recorder only filers. **2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing, Senate Ways & Means.**
- SB 181 – *Unpaid Municipal Garbage Fees*. To authorize all municipal corporations that charge a garbage collection fee to certify unpaid amounts to the county auditor for collection on the tax duplicate. **Reported out.**
- SB 336 – *Subsidized Rent Valuations*. To require county auditors to value federally subsidized residential rental property based on its market rent without regard to government police powers or other governmental action. **In Senate Local Government, Public Safety, & Veterans Affairs Committee.**

**OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES NEW ONLINE ACCESS TO ADVISORY OPINIONS**

*Submitted by Susan Willeke, Ohio Ethics Commission*

The Ohio Ethics Commission (OEC) authorized staff to post “Informal” Advisory Opinions on the Commission’s website. Formal Advisory Opinions dating back to 1974 consider situations that may occur in a variety of jurisdictions or apply to many other public officials or employees. These opinions are reviewed and approved by the Commission. Currently, 345 formal opinions are available on OEC’s website.

Informal Advisory Opinions are issued to an individual person under the authority of the Commission. While they are also reviewed and approved by the Commission, they have not historically been available on the Commission’s website. At their October meeting, the Commission directed staff to make these opinions accessible online.

“It’s long been a goal to have the informal opinions readily available on our website,” said Executive Director Paul M. Nick. He noted that 424 informal opinions have been scanned into searchable documents. Nick added, “This new resource will provide easy, online access to past Commission guidance on how to comply with the Ohio Ethics Law.”

Go to <https://www.ethics.ohio.gov/advice/informal.html> to view the OEC’s Informal Advisory Opinions. Formal Advisory Opinions can be viewed at <https://ethics.ohio.gov/advice/formal.html>

**Coshocton County Health Department Welcomes Two New Employees**

*Submitted by Tammy Smith, Director of Nursing, Coshocton County Health Department*

Denise Thompson filled the part time position of Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps Nurse. Denise has lived in the county for about 21 years and is celebrating 35 years of marriage with her husband Tom. Together, they have ten children. Three are students at Ridgewood Local Schools and one attends Ohio University. Denise received her degree in Nursing from COTC and is currently working on her baccalaureate degree through Muskingum University. Denise enjoys spending time with family, quilting, and remodeling houses. In her new position, Denise looks forward to meeting new families, explaining the program, and assisting parents in meeting their child’s medical needs. Her office is located at the County Health Department. Denise has been a wonderful addition to this program and a valuable resource for Coshocton families.



Alishia Virostko has filled the part time position of Child Health Nurse in the Maternal and Child Health Center. Alishia grew up in Coshocton County and has two children and one grandson. She earned her Nursing degree from Kent State University Tuscarawas Branch. Alishia has been a nurse for 18 years, many of those years spent working in the Obstetrics Unit at Coshocton Hospital. “I like working in Child Health because I get to teach parents about the importance of vaccines, and I get to interact with the kids.” Alishia also fills in when needed in the Prenatal Clinic. Through funding awarded to the Clinic by the Coshocton Foundation, she will be providing Childbirth Education classes to Coshocton County residents starting this spring. Alishia likes to crochet and garden in her spare time. We are delighted to have such an experienced nurse joining our Maternal and Child Health team.



**HOPEWELL INDIANS**

**2018 - 2019 GAME SCHEDULE**

Thursday, December 13th	Away	6:30 p.m.	Tuscarawas Co.
Tuesday, December 18th	Home	7:00 p.m.	Jefferson Co.
Thursday, December 20th	Home	6:00 p.m.	Guernsey Co.
Tuesday, January 8th	Away	6:30 p.m.	Stepping Stones
Thursday, January 10th	Home	6:00 p.m.	Tuscarawas Co.
Tuesday, January 15th	Away	6:30 p.m.	Guernsey Co.
Thursday, January 17th	Away	6:30 p.m.	Holmes Co.
Thursday, January 24th	Home	7:00 p.m.	Jefferson Co.
Saturday, January 26th	Home	TBA	3 on 3 Tournament
Tuesday, January 29th	Away	6:30 p.m.	Muskingum Co.
Thursday, January 31st	Home	6:30 p.m.	Belmont Co.
Tuesday, February 5th	Home	6:00 p.m.	Muskingum Co.
Thursday, February 7th	Away	7:00 p.m.	Belmont Co.
Tuesday, February 12th	Home	6:00 p.m.	Holmes Co.
Tuesday, February 19th	Home	6:30 p.m.	Stepping Stones
TBA	Area Tournament Games		
March 22nd & 23rd	State Team Games		

This is a tentative game schedule!

After your teams are set up, we will let you know what team is playing in what game!

### City of Coshocton Receives Auditor of State Award

*Submitted by Sherry Kirkpatrick, Coshocton City Auditor*

The City of Coshocton received the Ohio Auditor of State Award for a “clean” audit report that contained no findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, or any questioned costs for the fiscal year ended 2017.



*L-r, Chris Winegar, Sherry Kirkpatrick, & Michelle Brown.*

*Congratulations to City Auditor, Sherry Kirkpatrick and all the City’s Offices that did their due diligence! - Chris*

### Coshocton County Board of DD News

*Submitted by Brittany Coon, Public Outreach Coordinator*

The Coshocton County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) has had a great quarter. Two individuals in our program presented their journey to community employ



ment at the Synergy Conference in Sandusky, OH. Our very own Dave McCarty, School Instructor Assistant (pictured

with Superintendent Steve Oster) received an award from the Arc of Ohio on October 5 in Hartsville, OH. The Arc created the “Direct Service Professional of the Year” category based on the nomination because he did not fall into any specific category. This award category will be honored every year in the future.

Hopewell School has been busy. We held our annual Craft Show and had over 70 vendors and several hundred shoppers through our school in November. Santa has been to the school to visit all the children and there were several wonderful holiday programs the students put on for their families and guests.

Special Olympics started a flag football team this fall and were very competitive with teams that have been around for years. Basketball (see schedule, page 7), Cheerleading and Bowling are starting up again- make sure to stop out and cheer on all the athletes at upcoming games! On January 26, 2019 we will host “Hoops4Hopewell” a 3 on 3 basketball tournament! To enter, you must have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 players and pay the \$20 entry fee. The final winners will receive \$50 and all other proceeds will benefit the Hopewell Indians Basketball team.

### Coshocton County Jobs and Family Services (Continued from page 4)

These eight staff members are responsible for developing and implementing training and education and support services for job seekers, students, disadvantaged adults and dislocated workers as well as providing employer services:

- Job Postings
- Receive and Screen Applications
- Sort and prioritize Resumes based on business requirements
- Provide ACT WorkKeys Assessments
- Provide Office Space in our Conference areas for Recruitment.
- Assist in Hiring or Interview process.
- Provide services for special populations i.e.: Disabled, Youth, Veterans, Dislocated Workers, Adults, Long time unemployed – **we proudly provide Priority of Service to Veterans**
- Assist employers with mass recruiting
- Organize Business Job Fairs
- Provide scholarships for training through WIOA program.
- Provide Rapid Response Teams
- Resource Center Availability to Public
- Incumbent Worker training
- Development of Job Descriptions
- Provide Generic or specialized applications.
- Provide Summer Youth or other labor opportunities
- Skill Development Workshops
- OJT or On the Job Training Dollars
- Provide Labor Market Information
- Career Exploration
- Work Experience Opportunities
- Training Dollars
- Workshops
- Career Assessments
- Career Counseling
- Comprehensive and Intense Case Management
- Adult Literacy Assistance



**Coshocton County**  
A proud partner of the American Job Center network

OMJ maintains current job openings at [www.coshoctonjfs.org](http://www.coshoctonjfs.org). Our current positive job market has demanded a shift in our work toward providing more services to employers. Local and regional firms are increasingly using our services to recruit, train and retain much-needed workers. We are very pleased to provide this service! **The OMJ Job listing had 18,300 hits in the 28-day period ending 12/20/18**

In addition to in-house services in the above divisions, we have numerous contracts in the community for Adult Protective Services, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Support programs, and many agreements with other county entities, such as Coordinated Transportation.

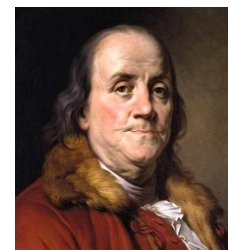
I feel very fortunate to be able to lead this organization with confidence and the support of our County Commissioners, other local elected officials, and community partners and service providers. I do believe that our services, coupled with community collaboration and support, help to move our county in a positive direction.

*If anyone has questions or needs more information, please contact JFS at 740-622-1020 and hit “0” to be connected to an operator. Also, much information is available on [www.jfs.ohio.gov](http://www.jfs.ohio.gov), or contact me directly at 740-295-7511 or [daniel.brenneman@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:daniel.brenneman@jfs.ohio.gov) - Danny Brenneman, Director*

### Famous Quote:

“Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man.”

~ Benjamin Franklin,  
Founding Father  
(1706 - 1790)





**COSHOCTON COUNTY**  
**CAR SEAT DISTRIBUTION CLASS**  
**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 5 @ 12PM TO 2PM**  
**COSHOCTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

You must meet the following requirements:

- Resident of Coshocton County
- Custody of a child between the ages of birth to 8 years-old and/or Expecting a child prior to March 31, 2019
- Eligible for WIC or Medical Card (provide proof)
- Register to attend the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes class on February 5, 2019
- Attend and complete the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes class on February 5, 2019

To register or for information:

Call 330-451-1468—leave your name, phone number, child's age, and child's weight.

**\$1.3 Million in Added Market Value**

In the last issue of Due Diligence, County Auditor Chris Sycks announced the use of technology to aid with the 2018 triennial update: Change Finder software. It compares the photos done on the 2017 autumn flight with those done in spring of 2014 and alerts the appraisers of change.

We have had the software in place since early September and have added **\$1.3 million** in market value of new or modified structures previously not on record.

Ohio Revised Code Section 5713.17 requires owners to report any change or addition in excess of \$2000 value to the auditor's office within 60 days of the beginning of the new construction, or a 50% penalty is added to the tax. New construction found by the new software will have the penalty added to the new bills going out at the beginning of 2019. A cover letter explaining the changes and penalties will be included with the adjusted bills. Any new construction within a permitted corporation will also be forwarded to the village or city for their records.

**BOARD OF REVISION UPDATES**

*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. Tax year 2018 complaint period is open, and forms are currently being accepted. The Board consists of the county treasurer, the auditor, and one commissioner. Taxpayers are able to appeal the BOR's decision at the Common Pleas Court (CPC) or Ohio Board of Tax Appeals (BTA). Since the BOR has no additional evidence nor plan on hiring an attorney to argue the case, it was their decision to waive appearance on all cases and allow the judge or the BTA to determine based on evidence and argument included in the BOR case file and transcript. Following are the open appeals from the prior tax year.*

**TY 2017 BOARD OF REVISION**

*The following three cases have filed an appeal and are awaiting a hearing.*

<b>OWNER/PARCEL</b>	<b>WAS</b>	<b>REQUESTED</b>	<b>BOR</b>	<b>APPEAL</b>
<b>(DISMISSED)</b>				
HAVRANEK, A&H/0080000018400	Requested CAUV	Dismissed (wrong tax year)		CPC
<i>CPC ordered reinstatement of CAUV.</i>				
<b>(INCREASES)</b>				
CRAMER, J & A/0180000014800	\$ 61,310	\$ 36,310	\$ 85,000	BTA
<i>BTA hearing held 10/24/2018; awaiting BTA decision.</i>				
ARG/RV/0440000008303	\$500,000	\$2,048,270	\$764,720	BTA
<i>Scheduled for 2/5/2019 hearing date at Board of Tax Appeals.</i>				

**March 1 – 7 is Weights & Measures Week**

Most consumers take for granted that they get what they pay for, but one of the duties of the County Auditor's Office is to make sure that they do. Weights and Measures Week, running from March 1<sup>st</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup> every year, is a reminder that fairness in the marketplace exists largely through the efforts of county inspectors working behind the scenes. Coshocton County's appointed Weights and Measures Inspector is Dustin Gregory. The National Conference on Weights and Measures uses the week to bring awareness to the importance of what these inspectors do.

Taxpayers may not recognize weights and measures oversight as an essential service that benefit all through assurance of accuracy in packaged goods, product measurements, and transactions. According to the Ohio Revised Code, the County Auditor is the sealer of weights and measures for the county. As sealer, Christine Sycks is responsible for certified test weights and measures equipment and for having a certified weights and measures inspector on staff. These certifications are checked regularly by the Ohio Department of Agriculture against standard weights, volumes, and training methods maintained by the State of Ohio for this purpose.

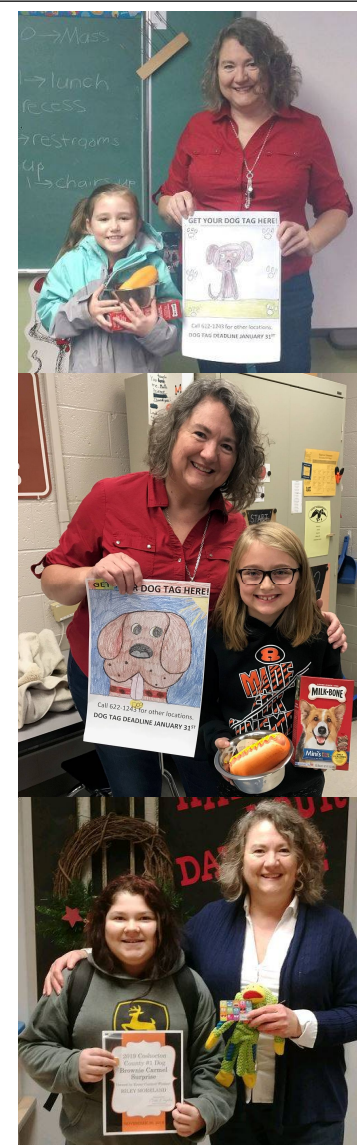
Dustin does on-site visits to inspect scales, meters, scanning equipment and packaged products anywhere money is exchanged. These visits are evidenced by a yellow approval seal affixed to the device with the auditor's name and the date of inspection marked. This service protects consumers, businesses and manufacturers from unfair practices. There are no fees charged for inspection services and all devices are inspected on a rotating schedule, unless a specific request or complaint is submitted. The City of Coshocton shares in some of the expenses for devices located within the city limits.

Whether it is at the gas pump, grocery store or any other business, County Auditor Christine Sycks wants the public to know that the charges are correct any time they buy something. If you have concerns or questions, the Auditor's Office can be contacted at 622-1243 for either retesting or the initial testing of any device, new or previously untested.

*Watch our Facebook posts, news releases, and the Courthouse Annex' display window for additional information regarding Weights & Measures. The Auditor is also available for presentations to groups pertaining to this or any other aspects of her office. To schedule, please contact her at the above phone or via email [chrissycks@coshoctoncounty.net](mailto:chrissycks@coshoctoncounty.net)*

### Dog Tag Poster & Essay Winners

Auditor Chris Sycks sponsored the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Dog Tag Poster Contest and the 1<sup>st</sup> annual #1 Dog Essay Contest this year to kick off the 2019 dog licensing season. Poster winners received prizes including a gift card and dog items. The essay winner won dog tag #0001 for her pet as well as a dog toy and gift card. All prizes, including the purchase of the tag, were paid for personally by the auditor. Watch our website and Facebook page for details of next year's contests, as well as other updates and office news. Winning posters are displayed at license



points of sales. All entries are displayed at the Annex during January.

Shown in the photos to the left with Chris Sycks are, (top to bottom), K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade winner Aria Williams (Sacred Heart Elementary), 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade winner Cameron Mladek (Ridgewood Elementary), and Riley Moreland (Ridgewood Middle School), owner of the #1 Dog in Coshocton County, Brownie Carmel Surprise.

### Willa Hamersley Retires

*Submitted by Adana McKay, WIC Support Staff*

The Coshocton County WIC program congratulates Willa Hamersley on her retirement after more than 31 years of dedicated service!

Willa Hamersley began her career with the Health Department in 1987 as the Director of the Maternal and Child Health Center (MCHC). She worked as the MCHC Director for 20 years and assumed the WIC Director position in 2004, serving as dual Director of both programs for 3 years. In these roles, Willa sought to make sure our community had direct care such as an immunization clinic, prenatal care, well child visits, and speech/hearing/vision screenings, even if it meant volunteering her time when funding was strapped.

Willa's management style has been one of genuine concern for every individual who has served under her. This has meant many positive changes to our clinic, including transition to walk-ins that improved customer service, advocating for a written Breastfed Infant at Work policy that positively impacted multiple peers and even a Health Professional, and being supportive in allocating funds for an afterhours breastfeeding cell phone that helped multiple breastfeeding dyads overcome challenges happening outside clinic hours.

In 2003, Willa's efforts were recognized by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the Business & Professional Women's (BPW) Club of Coshocton when she was designated Woman of the Year in Human Services.

She will be missed by her friends and co-workers of the Coshocton County Health Dept.

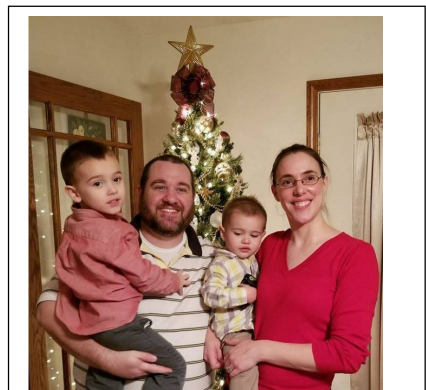


*Pictured, l to r: Allison Mylander (State WIC Nutrition Administrative Services), Willa Hamersley, Steve Lonsinger.*

### MEET THE NEW WIC PROGRAM DIRECTOR

*Submitted by Adana McKay, WIC Support Staff*

WIC and the Coshocton County Health Department would like to welcome Cindy Hilbish, RDN, LD, CLC as she assumes the position of Coshocton County WIC Program Director. Cindy is married and a mother of two adorable sons. As a working mom, Cindy has been an asset to Coshocton WIC as a Health Professional and Breastfeeding Coordinator for the last three years. Cindy will bring a fresh perspective as she assumes the role of the WIC Director.



*Cindy with her husband, Keith, and sons, Christian and Grayson.*

**Buy Your Dog Tag BEFORE January 31st to Avoid a Ticket!**



**TAG IT or TICKET**  
**IT'S THE LAW**