

Wood County, Ohio

2011

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2011 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

James F. Carter,
PRESIDENT

Tim W. Brown,
VICE PRESIDENT

Alvin L. Perkins,
MEMBER

Andrew S. Kalmar,
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Sandy Long,
CLERK OF THE BOARD

Janese Diem,
EDITOR

A BRIEF HISTORY OF WOOD COUNTY

Wood County was organized on February 12, 1820, when the Legislature carved 14 counties from the lands purchased from the Indians as a result of the Lower Maumee Treaty of September 29, 1817. Lucas County was then a part of Wood County. By law, Maumee was named as the temporary Seat of Justice. The Act further provided that the unorganized counties of Hancock, Henry, Putnam, Paulding, and Williams should be attached to Wood County for civil purposes until further provisions were made by law.

Wood County was named for Colonel Eleazor D. Wood, a graduate of West Point, a gallant soldier and the engineer who planned Fort Meigs.

The selection of county officers took place on April 1, 1820. In May 1822, the Commissioners designated Perrysburg as the first County Seat. It remained so until 1868 when the Seat of Justice was moved to Bowling Green.

The County lines were the same as now, except that the northern boundary extended to Michigan. In 1835, Wood County was dismembered when Lucas County was formed and the Maumee River became its northern boundary.

Out of the Great Black Swamp of yesterday has emerged a well drained, rich, fertile, and productive county.

Today, Wood County covers 617.4 square miles and consists of five cities, 21 villages and 19 townships. Census estimates list the 2009 population of Wood County at 125,380.



2012 Wood County Elected Officials. Front row: Sheriff Mark Wasylshyn, Commissioner James Carter, Commissioner Tim Brown, Commissioner Joel Kuhlman, Auditor Michael Sibbersen. **Middle row:** Treasurer Jill Engle, Clerk of Courts Cindy Hofner, Recorder Julie Baumgardner, Judge David Woessner, Prosecuting Attorney Paul Dobson. **Back row:** Judge Robert Pollex, Judge Reeve Kelsey, Judge Alan Mayberry, Engineer Raymond Huber, Coroner Douglas Hess.

A Message from the Board of County Commissioners

This past year marked the end of an era for the Commissioners' Office and Wood County government. On December 22, 2011, Alvie Perkins announced his retirement from being a County Commissioner – a post he held longer than any other person in the history of Wood County – 25 years. His last day in office was January 11, 2012 – his 79th birthday.

Throughout his tenure, he was involved in many significant issues and changes to Wood County government. These include construction of the County Justice Center, the Sheriff's office, the Job and Family Services building, the Dog Shelter, the Fuel Maintenance Facility, the Health Department building, restoration of the Courthouse exterior, relocation of the Public Defender office, renovation of the old jail for use as the Records Center and Law Library, construction of the Courthouse Atrium, creation of the Northwestern Water & Sewer District, creation of the Wood County Economic Development Commission, participation in the County Comprehensive Plan as a member of the Planning Commission, and more.

He left a positive legacy in county government for the people of Wood County, and often spoke of the pride he felt to have served over 15 years with the same team of commissioners. His humor and good nature at the Commissioners' Office will be very much missed.

When we wrote to you last year at this time, the Ohio Legislature was working to solve a projected \$8 billion shortfall. Two items included in their solution had a significant negative impact on county revenues. First, the Local Government Fund was cut by

\$321,000. We anticipate this funding source will be cut again, and are not optimistic that it will exist at all in future years. In addition, reimbursement to counties for personal property tax was eliminated. The collection of personal property tax ended when the Legislature created the Commercial Activities Tax several years ago. At one time, this represented \$700,000 to the county general fund. While the reimbursement to counties was to be reduced gradually until 2018, the Legislature ended it completely at the end of 2011.

Due to significant revenue reductions, we approved the 2012 general fund appropriations of \$37,103,062.49, which is \$1,000,731.50 less than 2011 appropriations. This is the lowest level of general fund appropriations since 2006. Despite positive sales tax results, other significant revenue sources – property tax, investment income, and the local government fund – continue to decline.

In spite of all the negative news about the economy, we remain optimistic about the future of Wood County, and our ability to provide excellent services. This has been accomplished while cutting the budget and not raising taxes. The sales tax in Wood County has not been raised in over 20 years. Out of 88 counties only five have a lower rate than Wood County. We believe that helps our local businesses to draw business to our county and our citizens to save money. Additionally, we have good cooperation among all the county elected officials and continue to work together to look for ways to provide services more efficiently. There is tremendous opportunity in this county because of its good people, excellent educational opportunities, and potential for continued economic growth. We

will successfully navigate this recession because we work together.

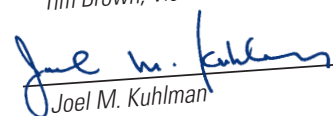
It is because of you, the citizens of Wood County, that we are able to do the important work of operating county government. Please take a few moments to read this annual report. We ask each of you to consider three things that directly benefit our county -- volunteer to serve on a county board or commission; do your shopping in Wood County to keep your sales tax dollars working right here at home; and participate in our town-hall meetings, which are held several times a year around the county.

Wood County is a great place to call home, and we have a bright future.

The Board of County Commissioners,
Wood County, Ohio


James Carter, President


Tim Brown, Vice President


Joel M. Kuhlman

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of County Commissioners is the administrative coordinator of County Government and has direct oversight responsibility for 13 agencies and departments. Together the Commissioners manage County funds, buildings and property, and also serve as the County's contracting and tax authority.



James F. Carter



Tim W. Brown



Alvin L. Perkins

Within the Commissioners' Office significant personnel changes occurred over the past year. Long-time Clerk of the Board/Budget Director Kristy Muir announced her retirement, followed shortly thereafter by Assistant Clerk of the Board Marcy Collins. These two people represented more than 60 years of experience with the Commissioners' Office, and their knowledge, presence, and talents will be missed.

With these retirements, the Commissioners took the opportunity to review the staffing needs of their office. They agreed to modify the Budget Director position into the position of Assistant County Administrator, and to re-create the individual position of Clerk of the Board. Following public searches for

both jobs, the Commissioners hired Joe Fawcett to be the Assistant County Administrator, and Sandy Long to be the Clerk of the Board. Finally, when one of the front desk employees resigned, the Commissioners decided to redistribute the duties of this position to other staff, and to abolish this position. The end result of these changes is that the Commissioners' Office now operates with one less full-time employee.

After many years of respected service, Paulette Stephens announced her retirement as Director of the Department of Job and Family Services. Following a public search, the Commissioners welcomed Dave Wigent as the new Director.

The Commissioners were pleased to welcome Andrew

Snyder as the new Chief Dog Warden at the Wood County Dog Shelter. Andrew had been on staff at the Shelter for seven years and he agreed to serve in this role in March of 2011. Since becoming Chief Dog Warden, Andrew has worked diligently to better define procedures at the Shelter, as well as modernize financial transactions, and improve staff communication and interaction.

Energy efficiency remained a priority in 2011 as work progressed on three grant funded projects. Old boilers in the Courthouse and Justice Center were replaced with new high efficiency units. The new systems operate with much greater efficiency and allow for much better heat control throughout these buildings, resulting in decreased costs which we are already seeing. In addition to this, work progressed slowly toward replacing the windows in the County Office Building. When complete, this project will significantly increase the energy efficiency of this building. All three of these projects were funded in part by a \$906,290 grant from the Ohio Department of Development.

The seventh official State of the County address was presented by the Commissioners in March in the Courthouse Complex Atrium. The event was sponsored by the Bowling Green Chamber

of Commerce. In addition, the Commissioners continued their practice of holding open forum, Town Hall meetings at locations around the County. During 2011, Town Hall meetings, which are usually planned to precede regularly scheduled council meetings, were held in Bradner, Millbury, Tontogany, and Troy Township. Open forum time for citizen comments and questions is also scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday during the Commissioners' regular sessions. In an effort to provide more public access to Commissioners' sessions, agendas and meeting minutes are posted on the Commissioners' website.

The Commissioners appoint members to a variety of boards and commissions, such as the Developmental Disabilities Board; the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board; the Airport Authority; and the Historical Society Board. The Commissioners have established a process whereby they meet in public session with every person that is appointed or reappointed to these Boards and Commissions. Citizen participation in local government is imperative and these meetings provide an excellent opportunity for the Commissioners to meet their appointees, establish good lines of communication, and thank them for their service.

PEREGRINE FALCONS HATCH IN COURTHOUSE CLOCK TOWER



In June, staff from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources banded the four peregrine falcons that hatched in the clock tower of the Courthouse. Hatched in May, the four female falcons were a source of fascination around the Courthouse as they grew and learned to fly. The four young left the area in late summer, but the parents remained.

The Commissioners create and adopt the annual operating budget for the County. As required by law, the budget is balanced each fiscal year, which runs from January through December. While the Commissioners have no direct authority over other elected officials - the auditor, clerk of courts, coroner, engineer, judges, prosecuting attorney, recorder, sheriff, and treasurer - the Commissioners are required to determine funding levels for every office. Commissioners must understand the responsibilities of each of these County office holders. This allows them to allocate federal and state funds, and local tax revenue to these other offices through careful budget oversight.

Revenue generated for the General Fund during 2011 totaled \$33,756,908.39. This amount combined with the beginning cash balance of \$12,848,334.64 provided \$46,605,243.03 in available funds. General Fund expenditures totaled \$33,967,268.24 leaving an unencumbered ending balance of \$12,637,974.79.

In spite of continued revenue reductions from the State of Ohio, the appropriations and expenditures for 2011 reflected a cautious, yet optimistic approach by the Commissioners. This resulted in expenditures that maintained quality services to the citizens of Wood County, allowed for modest equipment purchases and capital improvements, and protected the County's financial position through its excellent bond rating.

Despite these revenue restrictions from the State, the Commissioners continued their support for various grants including the Agricultural Society, Airport, OSU Extension, Humane Society, Violence Against Women (VAWA), D.A.R.E., Community Policing, Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA), the Emergency Management Agency, Wood Soil and Water. Equipment including computers and vehicle purchases totaling \$545,238.19 and the transfer of \$1,000,000 to the permanent improvement fund were also included.

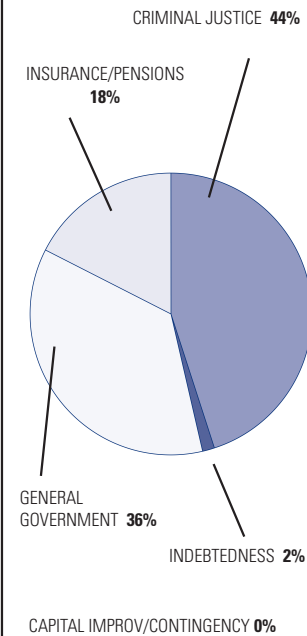
Sales tax revenue showed an increase, mirroring national trends. The year-end total was \$16,397,517.17, a 5.75 percent increase from the previous year. Investment income for the year ended at \$1,580,792.46, a 24.35 percent decrease from 2010.

As a means of "giving back" to the community, County employees volunteered for and participated in several special projects.

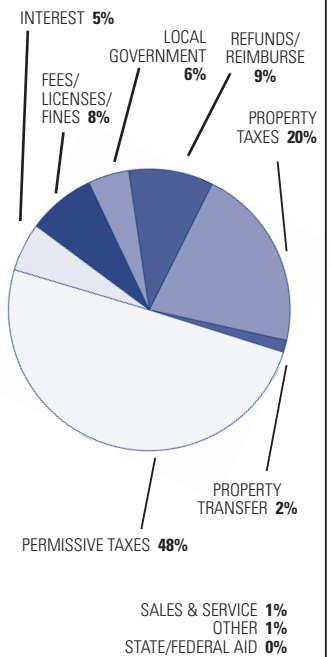
The annual United Way campaign raised more than \$24,900 from County employees to benefit United Way agencies in the local area. An additional \$1,500 was raised during special events, including the annual chili cook-off.

Other volunteer opportunities for County employees included three blood drives and the Holiday Helping Hands Days that gave employees the opportunity to donate hats, gloves, and mittens to the Health Department's Mitten Tree and canned goods to a

2011 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES



2011 ACTUAL RECEIPTS



SALES TAX INCOME

2011	\$16,397,517.17
2010	\$15,505,828.48
2009	\$15,029,615.79
2008	\$16,116,923.64
2007	\$15,000,365.83

food bank serving Wood County residents.

An awards ceremony was scheduled for January 12, 2012, to honor the 155 employees who completed five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 40 years of service during 2011.

It is the non-statutory duties of the Commissioners that make them different from other elected officials.

By necessity the Commissioners must take a broad view of actions

necessary to make the County a better place to live and work. The Commissioners are thus active in promoting public/private partnerships in human services, economic development, health, and infrastructure development. The Commissioners also take an active role in improving the environment, promoting job training programs, and improving agriculture.

The Board of County Commissioners is authorized to perform its duties under Chapters 305 and 307 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

Job and Family Services Implements New Call Center • 1.855.ASK.DJFS

The Wood County Job and Family Services has implemented a call center under a new program known as Collabor8. The call center, 1.855.ASK.DJFS (1.855.275.3537), will allow customers to interview for benefits by phone following submission of a completed application.

Calls will be answered Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Customer Service Representatives will be available to assist with public assistance changes and case status information, and answer general questions about benefits.

Applications may be submitted online at <http://ODJFSBenefits.ohio.gov>, at the local office located at 1928 East Gypsy Lane Road in Bowling Green, or other participating county Department of Job and Family Services.

Knox, Hancock, Sandusky, Morrow, Delaware, and Marion counties are also participating in the program.

Other inquires regarding the Wood County Department of Job and Family Services will still be directed to the local office at 419.352.7566.

Wood County Joins NACo Prescription Discount Card Program

The Wood County Commissioners recently announced that they have joined the NACo Prescription Discount Card Program. This program helps residents save money on their prescription medications any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance. The discount card is not insurance.

Average savings are 24 percent; some discounts may be more, and some less, depending on the drug and quantity purchased. The cardholder pays the negotiated discount price or the pharmacy's retail price, whichever is lower.

The cards may be used by all county residents regardless of age, income or existing health coverage. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders and their family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance.

More than 60,000 pharmacies nationwide accept the card including most chain pharmacies and many independent pharmacies.

It is also a useful option with Medicare Part D. For example, the card can be used when a Medicare Part D plan doesn't cover a medication.

The free cards are available in the Commissioners' Office, Job and Family Services, Child Support. County residents can also print a card by visiting the County's website.

To learn more about this program, visit the County's website, www.co.wood.oh.us.

Department of Job and Family Services

Paulette Stephens, Director (Jan. 1 - Oct. 31, 2011)

Dave Wigent, Director (Effective Nov. 1, 2011)

The Department of Job and Family Services, which operates under the Board of County Commissioners, administers federal, state, and county legislated and regulated basic needs assistance; workforce development; child and adult protective services; and social services.

The Department of Job and Family Services staff joined staff from six other counties to implement a new call center known as Collabor8. Wood County, along with Knox County, piloted this initiative which became operational on December 1, 2011. Through these collaborative efforts, public assistance consumers in these counties are able to interview for benefits, report case

changes, and receive status updates.

In April, staff of the Children's Service's Unit participated in the "Pin Wheels for Prevention" event. The purpose of the event was to draw attention to 719 cases of child abuse and neglect reported during 2010.

The Department is also the fiscal agent for the Wood County Family and Children First Council. •

INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

cash payment cases (MA)	317
Medicaid recipients	27,873
Medicaid cases (MA)	8,607
Medicaid issuance (January - July MA)	\$8,651,392
Food assistance recipients	13,638
Food assistance issuance (MA)	\$693,600
Food assistance issuance per case (MA)	\$187
Children issued food stamps (MA)	3,803

CHILDREN'S PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT

Children served	1,779
Children placed in substitute care	68
Cost for substitute care	\$2.05 million
Home protective services children	118
Reports of child abuse/neglect investigated	810
Adoptions finalized	4
Certified foster/adoptive homes provided with services	22

JOBSOLUTIONS UNIT

Information and referrals	2,347
Families provided emergency assistance (PRC)	692
Emergency assistance (PRC) inquiries	2,841
Ohio Fuel Fund funds administered	\$57,300
Individuals receiving WIA training services	81
New job seekers	3,034
Youth Employment Program participants	300

SOCIAL SERVICES UNIT

Child care providers registered	50
Elder chore services provided	42
Adults receiving home health aid services	131
Adult Protective Services assessments completed	155
Children who received child care services (MA)	587
Homemaker visits provided (MA)	207
Adults receiving personal care services	60
Transportation (1 way trips) to Medicaid and Title XX services	1,081

MA = Monthly Average

Child Support Enforcement Agency

Frank McLaughlin, Director

The Child Support Enforcement Agency manages the collection and distribution of child support monies, locates absent parents, establishes support and paternity, modifies support orders, and enforces medical and child support orders.

During 2011, the Agency's legal department initiated 350 contempt of court actions in the Common Pleas and Juvenile Courts. Further, 53 counts of misdemeanor criminal nonsupport were filed at the Bowling Green Municipal Court. The Agency also intervened in estates and placed liens against property. This allowed the Agency to intercept payments that otherwise would have been paid to persons who owed past due child support. These collective activities directly resulted in lump-sum payments of more than \$181,655 and reinitiated regular child support payments for Wood County's children during

these challenging economic times.

In the past year, the Agency continued its commitment to outreach. In recognition of Child Support Awareness Month, the Agency kicked off its "On the Road Again" driver's license amnesty program. This event was directed at parents who had had their driver's license suspended for non-payment of child support or arrearages. Parents with suspended licenses could get them reinstated for one month's obligation plus an additional \$50.00. This special activity brought in nearly \$24,000 in payments and reconnected the Agency with parents who did not make regular support payments. Throughout 2011, the license suspension

program was directly responsible for child support payments of more than \$363,000.

The Agency also continued its early intervention program. This program helps inform parents that have new support orders through face to face contact, letters, phone calls, and the provision of educational materials. The goal is to benefit Wood County's children by getting payments started as soon as

possible after a court order is recorded.

The Agency continued to provide an on-site genetic testing program. In 2011, more than 400 parent-child relationships were acknowledged.

As of December 31, 2011, the Agency had a total of 7,084 open cases.

The Child Support Enforcement Agency operates under the Board of County Commissioners. •

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY STATISTICS

Wood County Children Served	8,856
Collections/Disbursements to Custodial Parents	\$17,550,994.01
Public Assistance Returned to State of Ohio	\$258,595.37
Recouped through Income Tax Refund Offset	\$827,906.21
Reimbursements to WCJFS for Foster Children	\$27,666.81
Contempt of Court Actions	350
Misdemeanor Criminal Nonsupport Cases	53
Felony Cases Referred to Wood County Prosecuting Attorney	3
Active Warrants Initiated	131
Warrants served	237

Building Inspection

Michael Rudey, Chief Building Official

As a State of Ohio Certified Building Inspection Department, Wood County's Building Inspection Department inspects all buildings covered by the state building code in Wood, Hancock, and Henry Counties. This 1,455 square mile area encompasses 40 municipalities including Bowling Green, Perrysburg, Northwood, Rossford, Fostoria, Findlay, Bluffton, Mt. Blanchard, Deshler, Napoleon, and Ridgeville Corners, making Wood County the largest building inspection department geographically in the State. The Department is setup as an enterprise fund operating solely on permit revenue. Residential building permits within Wood County account for 39 percent of all fees collected.

The Department expanded its service to provide code enforcement for manufactured homes to Hancock and Henry Counties. The Department also contracted with the Village of Bairdstown to provide commercial and residential inspections within the Village limits.

During 2011, the Department issued 3,853 permits. The issuance of permits resulted in 9,857 field inspections, with 552 lists of deficiencies requiring corrective action. Of the inspections conducted, 7,734 occurred inside Wood County with 4,406 residential and 3,328 commercial.

Total receipts for 2011 were \$1,076,300 with Wood County residential and commercial receipts totaling \$775,293, Hancock County at \$263,761, and Henry County adding \$37,246.

Building Inspection operates under the Board of County Commissioners and uses the

2011 Ohio Building Codes for all commercial structures and the 2006 Residential Code of Ohio for all residential structures. These are uniform codes adopted throughout the State and promote energy conservation, safety, and sanitation of all buildings for the intended use and occupancy. •

Buildings and Grounds

COURTHOUSE COMPLEX: Tim Hainen, Superintendent

EAST GYPSY LANE COMPLEX : Alan Stoots, Superintendent

Buildings and Grounds oversees the day-to-day maintenance of County office facilities located primarily in the Courthouse Complex and the East Gypsy Lane Complex, as well as at satellite locations. Two maintenance departments provide assistance in facility planning, remodeling, and preventative maintenance.

Courthouse Complex

In addition to duties at the Courthouse and Office Building, the Courthouse Complex maintenance staff provided assistance to satellite agencies, including the Public Defender, Highway Garage, Auto Title, and Veterans Assistance Center. The maintenance staff performed recycling and other light maintenance functions for these offices.

Utilizing federal grant money, maintenance staff oversaw the installation of three condensing boilers in the Courthouse. These new energy efficient units utilize six gallons of water at a time and are expected to lower heating bills for the building.

Maintenance staff also completed roof and window repairs at the Public Defender office, installed the falcon cam and nesting box, and performed numerous other alterations throughout the Complex. Staff oversaw and assisted in the repair and replacement of the Highway Garage fuel system power feed and removed obsolete air conditioning systems in the Recorder's and the Clerk of Court's offices.

The Custodial Staff implemented phase one of refinishing the original ceramic tile floor in the Courthouse.

Additionally staff performed window cleaning, floor refinishing, carpet maintenance, recycling, and general office cleaning for the Courthouse Complex.

East Gypsy Lane Complex

The East Gypsy Lane Complex Maintenance staff maintained the County-owned office buildings on East Gypsy Lane and the Dunbridge Road Building which houses the Solid Waste Management District, Economic Development Commission, and OSU Extension. They also provided services to the Historical Center.

Federal grant monies were secured for the replacement of the boilers at the Justice Center adding to the energy saving measures being taken by the department. Staff also oversaw the replacement of rooftop units at the Sheriff's Office; safety fencing and new storm drainage at Wood Haven Health Care; new lighting at the Historical Center and maintenance garages; roof repairs; masonry restoration and sealant; and blackout replacement.

Both Buildings and Grounds Departments operate under the Board of County Commissioners. •

Wood Haven Health Care David Cecil, Administrator

Wood Haven Health Care, Senior Living & Rehabilitation, a 99-bed short-term rehabilitation and long-term health care facility, provides both skilled and intermediate level care and services. Available rehabilitation programs through Bordner Therapy Care include physical, occupational, and speech therapies designed to meet the rehabilitative needs of residents with the goal often being regaining the ability to return home. Health care services include 24-hour professional nursing care, nutritional evaluation and meal planning, social services and family support, therapeutic recreational programs, psychological intervention and physician oversight. Hospice and short-term respite care are also available. Additional services, customized to meet the individual needs of each resident, are provided as needed. Wood Haven is Medicare and Medicaid certified and serves individuals covered under various nursing care insurance plans.

Wood Haven Health Care was found to be deficiency free during the 2011 annual health inspection survey conducted by the Ohio Department of Health. The facility also received an overall four star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on its Five Star Quality Rating scale. This rating includes health inspections, staffing levels, and quality measures. Comparative information on area nursing homes is available at www.medicare.gov using the Nursing Home Compare tool.

Throughout the year residents participated in regular outings along with trips to the Toledo Zoo, Art Museum, and Senior Day at

the Wood County Fair. In-house activity favorites included the annual Euchre tournament; Easter Egg Hunt; poetry writing group; Bible study; Wii bowling, boxing, golf and racing; and OSU vs. Michigan tailgate party. Special activities included the third annual Western Jamboree Hoe Down and annual resident/family Christmas party. Residents joined with seniors from other area facilities participating in community activities.

Wood Haven Health Care is a member of the American Health Care Association, Leading Age Ohio, and the Ohio County Home Association and operates under the Board of County Commissioners. •

2011 WOOD HAVEN STATISTICS

Registered Admissions	193
Residents Returning Home Following Stay	137
In-House Days Logged	27,522
Privately Funded Residents	16%
Medicaid Residents	57%
Medicare Residents	10%
Managed Care Residents	8%
Hospice Residents	9%

Solid Waste Management District Ken Rieman, Director

The Solid Waste Management District manages solid waste planning and the development of recycling opportunities for residents. It also operates the Wood County Landfill, established under 1968 garbage district legislation. All cities, villages, and unincorporated areas of Wood County are part of the Wood County Garbage District and thereby share financial responsibility for the Wood County Landfill. The mission of the County-owned facility is to provide an environmentally responsible disposal facility for citizens, businesses, and industry that is self-supporting and meets or exceeds all regulations. The District is required to assure there is sufficient disposal capacity for solid waste generated within Wood County. It also must assure that 90 percent of the citizens have access to curbside or drop-off recycling and educate people on proper waste disposal.

The District continued to experience reduced revenues from solid waste fees in 2011. Reductions, including the elimination of one staff position, were made to maintain a balanced budget. In efforts to assist with declining revenue, designation flow control was also implemented. All Wood County waste generators now pay an equal, fair share of support regardless of where the solid waste is disposed.

The District received Ohio EPA approval for the Solid Waste Plan in March. As required by the Plan, the District provided education and awareness presentations on responsible solid waste management, litter prevention, and recycling to schools, communities, and businesses. Education staff provided 76 presentations; led 102 tours of the Wood County

Landfill, Wind Turbines, and Bowling Green Recycling Center; and participated in more than 20 community events.

The District once again hosted a Billboard Art Contest, funded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Litter Prevention and Recycling by means of the 2011 Litter Grant. Close to 300 entries were received.

In June, the District hosted the Ohio Association of Litter Prevention and Recycling Professionals (OALPRP) Conference. The event brought together close to 100 professionals to further their knowledge in litter prevention, recycling, food waste handling, and other solid waste management subjects.

The focus of construction operations at the Landfill included cleaning the

sedimentation basins; covering the clean fill area with soil; and reshaping the outside slopes on the west end of the center cell to proper slope and contour. Above average rainfall in 2011 presented operational challenges due to wet soil conditions.

The methane gas project to generate electricity from Landfill gas required additional testing. The current plan is to install a generator in 2012.

In addition to providing proper disposal of waste materials,

the Landfill operates several recycling services. Asphalt, concrete, and brick are accepted and recycled into stone used for Landfill access roads; leaves and grass are composted; brush is ground into mulch; and scrap metal, lead-acid batteries, and tires are collected and recycled.

The Solid Waste Management District operates under the Board of County Commissioners with input from a Policy Committee of seven local officials and citizens. •

SOLID WASTE FEE REVENUE

2011	\$621,720.16
2010	\$762,347.96
2009	\$904,583.72
2008	\$1,001,348.42
2007	\$1,230,076.74

Dog Shelter • Andrew Snyder, Chief Dog Warden

The Dog Shelter enforces Section 955 of the Ohio Revised Code which includes issuing and checking dog licenses, ensuring proper housing of dogs, impounding and caring for stray dogs, investigating dog bites and livestock claims, and other related issues. User's fees, dog licenses, kennel fees, fines and penalties are the primary funding sources for the Dog and Kennel Fund which is used to pay for all aspects of the Shelter's operations. The Shelter receives assistance from rescuers, who publicize dogs available from the Shelter, which further assists in the staff's ongoing effort to find permanent homes for sheltered dogs. The Dog Shelter operates under the Board of County Commissioners.

Statistics

	2011
Total Dogs Impounded	670
Adoptions	248
Redemptions	200
Euthanized	220
Owner Surrenders	117
Surrendered for Euthanasia	35
Unadoptable Dogs	179
Adoption Rate	67%
Adoption Rate (Adoptable Dogs)	91.6%
Incidents Investigated	576
Dog Licenses Sold	21,062
Licenses Sold On-Line	4,641
Kennel Licenses Sold	144
Dogs Transferred to Rescues	64

HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR WOOD COUNTY DOG LICENSE?

Emergency Management Agency

Bradley J. Gilbert, Director

The Emergency Management Agency is responsible for the four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The Agency assists County government and local communities in responding to natural disasters and special needs situations. Emergency Management is the umbrella of emergency forces that respond to and mitigate an emergency that may occur in Wood County.

The Agency continued to assist with the long term recovery efforts stemming from the June 2010 tornado in Lake Township. The Long Term Recovery Committee continued to meet and assist residents with needs throughout the first half of 2011. The Agency along with representatives from Ottawa, Fulton, and Lucas County EMAs were requested to present details of their response to and recovery from the tornadoes to area first responders at the annual Partners for Life Conference in Toledo in February. The Partners for Life Conference also awarded the annual Dr. Frank Foss Excellence Award to the Agency along with all the Wood County first responders who assisted with the response to the Lake Township tornado.

Utilizing Homeland Security Grant funding, the Agency continued to work closely with Sheriff Wasylshyn, the Wood County Fire/EMS Chief's Association, and RCC Consultants to plan for improvements to the County's first responder communication system. Improvements to the existing VHF radio system should begin in 2012. The Agency also began preparing for the FCC requirement of narrowbanding all radio equipment.

The Agency created a Facebook page, "Wood County Emergency Management Agency", on which the Agency provides periodic emergency preparedness information, training information, and special alerts to inform the public of critical information. The Agency encourages citizens and businesses who have Facebook accounts to "like" the Agency's page so they can receive important information.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Agency collaborated with the Wood County Hospital and the City of Bowling Green to conduct a hazardous materials functional exercise at the Hospital. This exercise tested decontamination procedures and the influx of patients into the Emergency Department. This type of increased collaboration between agencies allows them to meet their training/exercise requirements by sharing resources and reducing training/exercise costs.

The Emergency Management Agency operates under the Board of County Commissioners. •

Records Center

Brenda Ransom, Records Manager

Created in 1998, the Records Center provides records management services to Wood County offices. The Center, which opened in 2002, offers secure, environmentally sound storage of paper records, preservation microfilming, and digital imaging services. The storage rooms contain high-density mobile shelving units with a maximum storage capacity of 10,678 cubic-foot records boxes. A small microfilm vault stores some of the County's duplicate copy microfilm.

Records Center staff continued a number of digital imaging and microfilming projects in 2011 including scanning Public Defender case files, Sheriff's inmate files, and microfilming for the Commissioners' Office, Board of Elections, Clerk of Courts, Probate Court, and Sheriff's Office.

In addition to records storage and preservation activities, staff assisted and supported County offices regarding development of records retention schedules and destruction of records that have reached their retention periods.

The Records Center operates under the Board of County Commissioners. •

2011 RECORDS CENTER STATISTICS

Records stored (cubic feet)	7,880
New records (cubic feet)	722
Eligible for disposal (cubic feet)	292
Storage space recovered (cubic feet)	674
Tons of paper recycled	12.3
Pages scanned	536,073
Rolls of microfilm created	156

Information Technology

Ben Hendricks, IT Director

Information Technology (IT) staff provide technical support to many Wood County offices. The staff maintains PCs, servers, networking hardware, phone hardware, and other IT related equipment. The IT Director provides strategic guidance, policies, and procedures for county government and assists the Automatic Data Processing Board with research and discussion related to technical issues.

In 2011, the IT Department continued tasks to consolidate computer hardware equipment and reduce the resources required to serve technology to the County offices. Staff also continued to build up the County's infrastructure used by various systems to provide disaster recovery enhancements. As part of the IT Department's normal function, support was provided to offices throughout county government in order to assist those offices with their technology related projects and planning. •

Economic Development Commission

Thomas Blaha, Executive Director

The Economic Development Commission, an Ohio nonprofit corporation, strives to expand the employment base through existing industry development and the systematic recruitment of new businesses. The Commission actively markets Wood County and its communities to outside industrial prospects, while continuing to provide services to the County's communities and existing industries helping them broaden and diversify the tax base while creating and retaining jobs.

The long-awaited opening of the \$175 million CSX Intermodal Terminal in Henry Township took place in February. This state-of-the-art facility created almost 300 new jobs and will serve as the transfer point for hundreds of thousands of freight containers annually. Fast response by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in creating a "connector" to Interstate 75 by modifying State Route 18 is expected to accelerate the attraction of even more employers who see economic advantage in being located near this state of the art transportation hub.

At the other end of Wood County, the Ohio Department of Development announced in the summer of 2011 that the Eastwood Commerce Center in Troy Township became certified as an Ohio Jobs Ready Site—one of only four statewide. This 400+/- acre mega-site was also designated by CSX Transportation as one of only 11 "CSX Select Sites" in the eastern U.S.

Companies announced new investments and/or job creating/retaining expansions showing that Wood County is leading the economic recovery in Northwest Ohio. Among these were

Chrysler Machining and the Fram Group of Perrysburg Township; Principle Business Enterprises of Middleton Township; Rosenboom Machine and Vehtek of Bowling Green; D.S. Brown of North Baltimore; and Charter Steel of Perry Township.

The Office of Economic Development staff are employees of the Wood County Commissioners, while the Economic Development Commission coordinates planning and policy for the Office. •



The CSX Intermodal Terminal in Henry Township is expected to handle a capacity of nearly two million containers per year.

Historical Museum and Center

Christie Weininger, Director

The Historical Center, located on the grounds of the former Wood County Infirmary, actively preserves and shares the history of Wood County and the Wood County Infirmary. This historic site is one of the last county poor farms where nearly all of the original structures still remain. Financial support for the Center is derived from County tax dollars and through the private fund-raising activities of the Wood County Historical Society. The 50-acre County-owned site is part of the system of parks maintained and patrolled by the Wood County Park District.

The Wood County Historical Center hosted a number of events during 2011 including the monthly tea series, Artifact Antique Appraisal Clinic, Cemetery Living History Program, Folklore and Funfest, Wood County Heritage Days, and the Old Home Holiday Tour.

In commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, a new exhibit entitled "Wood County's Role

in the Civil War," was added. This exhibit examined the contributions citizens made to the war effort on the battlefield and in Wood County. The exhibit opening was followed by a Civil War encampment and a county-wide series of lectures, coordinated by Museum staff in conjunction with other historical organizations in the County. Also on display were the original Civil War battle flags of the 14th and 21st Regiments of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Wood County

men fought in both regiments. The flags were loaned to the Museum by the Ohio Historical Society.

In September, the Museum developed a program on flight and the Wright brothers for a community event at BGSU. In October, the staff worked with the Wood County District Public Library on a Civil War themed Community Reads Month, and the Civil War theme was woven into the Friday Night Folklore Tours.

In 2011, 11 area schools toured the Museum, with educational programs delivered in schools to 1,754 students.

To help with these visitors and events, over 400 individuals contributed nearly 2,100 volunteer hours to the Center.

The Historical Museum and Center staff are employees of the Board of County Commissioners, while the Historical Society Board sets the policy for operation of the Center. •



Individuals from across the County provide representation on a number of Wood County governing boards and commissions. Their role is to provide knowledge and support to enhance the functioning of County government. The Board of County Commissioners greatly appreciates the willingness of so many citizens to accept appointments and serve on these Boards and Commissions to help keep Wood County a great place to work, live and raise a family.

If you are interested in serving as a member on a County Board or Commission, please contact the Commissioners' Office in writing to indicate which Board or Commission you may have an interest in and provide a copy of a resume for future reference.

ALCOHOL DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD

Jerome Carpenter*, Casey Cromwell, Judy Ennis*, Beverley Hirzel*, Michael Linthicum, Tom Kiger*, Frank McLaughlin*, David C. Miller*, Eric Reynolds, Harold Rosenberg, Randy Rothenbuhler*, Rickey L. Rudey*, Steve Spirn*, H. Jay Salvage, Thomas Vermilya, and three vacancies

BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Joe Catalano*, Frank Day, Timothy Harris*, Cindy Herman*, Ed Metzger, David C. Miller*, and Pam Van Mooy*

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE **

Tim Brown, Tom Chidester, Dorothy Cromley, Tim Hainen, Robert Pollex, Christie Weininger, Elaine Skoog, Michael Sibbersen, Karen Young, and one vacancy

GOVERNING BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

BUILDING STANDARDS & APPEALS**

Fred Arn, Ron Bechstein, Tim Enright, Ray Huber, Richard Marten, Robert Maurer, Laurie Melchior Huskisson, Carl Snyder, and Connie Workman.
ALTERNATES: David Kellermeier and Mike Dunipace

CLIENT COMPLAINT REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR CDBG CHIP PROGRAM**

Mike Rudey and Richard Kohring

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BOARD**

Joni Bretz, James Carter, Paul Dobson, John Fawcett, Dan Galway, Ann Garcia, Ronda Gibson, Kathleen Hamm, Scott Howard, Andrew Kalmar, Reeve Kelsey, Alan Mayberry, S. Dwight Osterud, Robert Pollex, Mark Reddin, Matt Reger, Gary Spencer, and Mark Wasylshyn

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION MEMBERS

Tim Brown, James Carter, Maxine Cross, John Eckel, Jill Engle, Andrew Kalmar, Cathy Newlove-Wenig, W. David Steiner, Alvin Perkins, and Michael Sibbersen

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

Jeff Baney, Rebecca Bhaer*, Millie Broka, Dick Conrad, John Eschedor, Ethel Green, Becky Mancuso, Dana Nemeth*, Edie Olds, Jim Philo, Gene Roe, Louis Snyder*, Leslee Thompson, Becky White-Schooner, and Bob Willman

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Shelian Beaupre, Joseph Catalano, Sue Clanton, Stephanie Kelley, Judy Knox, Susan Miklovic, Paul Mortimer, Denise Niese, and Laurie Young
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Larry Mershman, Melanie Stretchbery, and Dave Wigent

LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD

Dennis East*, Ann Bowers*, Thomas McDermott, Thomas Teet, and Jeffrey Nelson

LOCAL COURT SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Joni Bretz, Nancy Buchanan, Tom Chidester, Brad Conner, Rodney Fleming, Brad Gilbert, Scott Hicks, Cindy Hofner, Nina Oberkirsh, Alvin Perkins, Richard Schmidbauer, Rick Schmidt, Anthony Thompson, Mark Wasylshyn, and Karen Young

NORTHWESTERN WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

John Ault, John Cheney*, John Current, Bill Hirzel*, Melinda Kale, Alex Molner*, Leonard Michaels, Adam Seibert, and Lyle Schulte

PLANNING COMMISSION**

Anthony Allion, John Brossia, Tim Brown, James Carter, Patrick Fitzgerald, Raymond Huber, Richard Kohring, Alvin Perkins, Donna Schuerman, Robert Stitt Black, and Leslee Thompson.
NON-VOTING ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Mike Rudey, Pam Butler, Jerry Greiner, Kelly Hemminger, and W. David Steiner

PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

Charles Boss*, Eva Dhondt, Elizabeth Emmert, Dennis Ferrell*, and Fred Matthews*

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Nancy Buchanan*, Nick Ezzone, Anna Griffith*, Chet Marcin, Scott McEwen*, Brian Paskvan*, and Jane Robb

REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Thomas Bamburowski, William J. Davis Jr., Dean Hetrick, Steve Hopkins, Gerald Jones, Matt Reger, and C. Michael Solley

ROSSFORD TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Ron Andes*, Ed Ciecka, Luci Flannery*, John Hrosko, Raymond Huber, Bob Mack, Edward Pavuk, and Bob Watrol

TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL**

John Cheney, Valerie Hovland, Cathy Newlove-Wenig, and one vacancy
ALTERNATES: Tim Harris

TERRORISM ADVISORY TEAM**

Alan Baer, Thomas Bentley, Thomas Brice, Gary Britten, Pam Butler, Tammy Feehan, Brad Gilbert, Jerry Greiner, Thomas Gross, Raymond Huber, Andrew Kalmar, Jeff Klein, Rod Lucas, Tim McGiffin, Alvin Perkins, John Quinn, Gary Spencer, Joan Stevens, Janet Stoudinger, and Mark Wasylshyn

WOOD COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

John Cheney*, Cheryl Johnson*, Milton F. Knight, Jeffrey A. Reitzel, John Rust Jr., Thomas Uhler, and Martha Woelke*

WOOD HAVEN ADVISORY BOARD**

Margaret Chamberlain, Jean Ladd, Harold Lunde, Denise Niese, Winn Stone, and Doug Troutner
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: David Cecil, Sue Coker, Andrew Kalmar, and the President and Vice President of the Resident's Council

WOOD SANDUSKY OTTAWA SENECA COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION

Total Membership - 24
Wood County Members: Carmen Beltran, Melvin L. Browning*, Alan W. Fosnaugh*, Dean King, Jennifer Wagner, and one vacancy

WORKFORCE POLICY BOARD**

Frank Day, Mary Gregory, Diana Herman, Tamela Ledford, Ronald Matter, John Quinn, John Schlagheck, Cathy Newlove-Wenig, Joyce Winters, and two vacancies.
AD HOC MEMBERS: Thomas Blaha, Andrew Kalmar, Mary DeWitt, and Dave Wigent

WORKFORCE POLICY BOARD - YOUTH COUNCIL**

Judy Didion, Valerie Linkey, Ronald Matter, Joyce Winters, and two vacancies.
AD HOC MEMBERS: Wade Gottschalk, Mary DeWitt, and Ed Plazer



Michael Sibbersen

AUDITOR

The Auditor serves as the County's chief fiscal officer and appraiser. He prepares financial reports, acts as payroll agent, and reviews and pays all County bills. The distribution of property tax settlements to the subdivisions and the distribution of local government funds are also the responsibility of the Auditor. An agent for the Ohio Department of Taxation, the Auditor processes and distributes estate tax payments and sells vendor's licenses. He is the sealer of weights and measures and is also secretary of the Budget Commission, Board of Revision, and Data Processing Board.

During 2011, the Geographic Information System (GIS) department undertook a project to improve the parcel basemap. GPS collected geographic section corner control points were added to enhance accuracy for aerial mapping purposes.

The State's expanded Homestead Exemption program provided 8,755 residents, those ages 65 and older or permanently disabled, with property tax relief. Taxpayers enrolled in this program saved \$3,464,300 in tax dollars.

The Office assessed 74,114 parcels of real property with a taxable value of \$2,706,070,780. Special assessments for waterlines, sewers, ditches, etc., were also collected with the real estate tax duplicate and distributed to all appropriate local governmental units. Whenever property is sold, the deed is brought to the Auditor to convey taxable ownership before it is recorded. In 2011, 3,603 such conveyances were processed, including 5,882 individual land parcels for fees totaling \$544,354. These funds are forwarded to the County's General Fund and the Economic Development Fund.

The Auditor's office administers the Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) program implemented by the State in 1974 as a tax saving program for farmland. A total of 322,761 acres in the County are enrolled in this

program which brought a tax savings to landowners last year of over \$8,603,230. In August, the Auditor's Office co-sponsored an informational meeting in anticipation of the state's every three year CAUV revision which included sizable increases for the 2011 tax duplicate which is payable in 2012.

As agent for the County Dog and Kennel Fund, the Auditor recorded record sales of dog licenses with 21,062 dog licenses and 144 kennel licenses during 2011. The online dog registration remained popular, with 4,641 licenses sold utilizing this method.

The Weights and Measures division inspected 726 commercial scales, 1,450 gas pumps, as well as electronic scanners in retail and wholesale use, and investigated 23 consumer complaints. Inspectors also checked packages at various locations throughout the County for correct net weight.

For the 15th consecutive year, Wood County received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for 2010.

The Office continued to offer two websites: one for general office information, forms, and dog registration and one for real estate information and mapping.

The Auditor is authorized to perform his duties under Section 319, 322, 323, 5701-5743, et al. of the Ohio Revised Code. •



Jill Engle

TREASURER

The Treasurer oversees the receipt and disbursement of funds for the County and is responsible for collecting taxes for the County, as well as for the schools, municipalities, and townships within the County. The two largest and most noted sources of revenue are generated through real and personal property taxes. More than 50 area financial offices serve the County as real estate tax payment sites. Qualifying taxpayers may utilize an available escrow program or delinquent tax repayment program. The Treasurer's Office also collects taxes on mobile homes and inheritance.

The Office collected \$154,969,664.84 in real estate taxes during 2011. An additional \$352,253.66 was collected in personal property tax. This was payment of delinquent tax charges and current telephone utilities assessments. Manufactured home taxes in the amount of \$768,135.85 were also collected.

Payment for real estate tax by credit card, with a convenience fee attached, or through automatic withdrawal from bank accounts remained popular with constituents. During 2011, 429 taxpayers utilized the automatic withdrawal plan and 307 taxpayers participated in the monthly automatic withdrawal plan. Information on how to enroll in the automatic withdrawal

is available on the Treasurer's website. Change of address and remission of penalty forms, as well as real estate tax information are also accessible online.

All investments made by the Treasurer's Office were fully collateralized and sufficiently liquid to enable the County to meet reasonably anticipated operating requirements. Investment income for 2011 was \$1,580,792.46.

The Treasurer serves on the Budget Commission, Board of Revision, and Data Processing Board in addition to her duties as Investing Authority for the Investment Advisory Board.

The Treasurer is authorized to perform her duties under Section 321 and 323 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

INVESTMENT INCOME

2011	\$1,580,792.46
2010	\$2,089,635.01
2009	\$2,756,898.29
2008	\$3,947,996.95
2007	\$4,633,743.20



Cindy Hofner

CLERK OF COURTS

The Clerk of Courts maintains the records of Common Pleas Court, issues motor vehicle and watercraft titles and serves as Clerk for the Sixth District Court of Appeals. All documents filed since 2002 are available to court staff and others to access electronically. By statute she is a member of the Data Processing Board and Records Commission.

In 2011, the Title Office became a Watercraft Agency, allowing the staff to process watercraft registrations. The Title Office also processed the highest number of titles in the last 10 years.

The Legal Office worked with the Attorney General's Office and the

Sixth District Court of Appeals to improve efficiencies. An electronic mailing solution was also installed to reduce postage costs.

The duties of the Clerk of Courts are authorized under many sections of the Ohio Revised Code. •

TITLE DOCUMENTS PROCESSED

Auto Titles, Duplicates & Memo Titles	67,364
Motor Vehicle Mortgages Recorded	15,351
Salvage Titles	205
Penalties (for not transferring titles timely)	3,003
Inspections	7,350
Affidavits	20,382
Manufactured Home Archives Recorded	603
Boat titles, Duplicates and Memo Titles (includes charged replacement titles)	1,135
Watercraft Mortgages Recorded	178
Watercraft Affidavits	734
Watercraft Penalties	133

TITLE DISBURSEMENT TOTALS\$19,012,072.35

Clerk of Courts	
Certificate of Title Fund Receipts	\$686,193.83
State of Ohio Motor Vehicle and Watercraft Casual and Dealer Tax	\$18,152,148.02
Certificate of Title Fees	\$170,652.50
Watercraft Fees	\$3,078.00

LEGAL CASES AND DOCUMENTS FILED (Partial List)

Cases Appealed to 6th District Court of Appeals	80
Domestic Relations Cases Filed	405
Domestic Violence Civil Protection	126
Civil Stalking/Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Orders	112
Foreign Support	6
Domestic Cases Reopened	356
Foreign Judgments Filed	2
Criminal Cases Filed	702
Civil Cases Filed (Includes 504 Civil Foreclosure Cases)	1,081
Land Foreclosure Cases	108
Judgment Liens Filed	1,325
State Tax Liens Filed	2,361
Foreign Judgment Liens	6
Executions Filed (Aid & Writ)	19
Debtor Exams	33
Garnishments	251
Publications	43
Writs of Possessions	82
Total Number of Judgment Entries	16,616
Notary Commissions Filed	434
Passport Applications Accepted	114
Criminal Investigations	4
Criminal Record Checks	195
Search Warrants	1
Coroner's Reports Filed	74

LEGAL DISBURSEMENT TOTALS\$3,672,687.94

General Fund	\$454,105.94
Legal Research Fees	\$7,164.79
Computerization Fees	\$43,182.66
Reimburse Court Diagnostic Fees	\$8,935.65
Mediation Costs	\$70,553.49
Fines Paid to the County	\$28,147.42
Fines Paid to the Law Library	\$750.00
Statutory fees paid to non-Wood County entities	\$169,036.25
Funding Shelters for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$13,614.59
Fees Paid to the Sheriff	\$103,661.16
Fines Paid to the Sheriff	\$14,687.58
Interest Paid to General Fund (includes interest for CDs)	\$2,330.98
Fees Paid to Appraisers	\$72,864.70
Indigent Application Fees	\$2,029.11
Sundries –includes, but not limited to: bond refunds, deposits less costs or deposits in whole refunded, court ordered civil, domestic and criminal disbursements (i.e. restitution), and appropriation disbursements	\$2,671,764.49



Douglas W. Hess, M.D.

CORONER

The Coroner evaluates and rules on all violent, accidental, and suspicious circumstance deaths including homicides, suicides, and sudden deaths of persons in apparent good health. The Coroner generally does not investigate deaths that occur from natural causes, when the person has a family physician. The Coroner is a Ohio licensed physician in good standing who carries out and directs the investigation of deaths in the County. The investigation may involve the scene, as well as labs, x-rays, and autopsies as needed. The Coroner is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 313 of the Ohio Revised Code.

In 2011, 199 deaths were reported to the Coroner's Office. After evaluation, 81 of those deaths were determined to be Coroner's cases. •

2011 CORONER CASES

Auto Accidents	9
Drug Accidents	7
Other Accidents	20
Natural	24
Suicide	11
Homicide	1
Undetermined	2
Pending	7



RECORDER

Julie Baumgardner

The Recorder's Office is responsible for making a complete, accurate, and permanent record of every document pertaining to the conveyance and encumbrance of land within the County. The office takes great care to ensure that every document received is accurately filed, recorded, indexed, and retained in an archival form. As the repository of records for all property transactions in the County, the Recorder's Office safeguards every property owner's title. Though real estate documents constitute the majority of filings in the office, financing statements on personal property, military discharge papers, and a listing of veteran's graves in the county are also filed in the Recorder's Office.

A total of 18,352 documents were recorded and/or filed, with \$992,602.72 collected in fees. Of this amount \$491,123.07 was remitted to the State of Ohio for the Ohio Housing Trust Fund, less one percent paid into the County's general fund; \$72,992 was deposited into the Recorder's supplemental equipment fund; and the remaining \$428,487.65 was paid into the County's general fund.

In response to dwindling revenues, the Recorder automated office procedures, updated outdated and inefficient equipment, and collaborated with other offices to save taxpayer dollars.

The Recorder is authorized to perform her duties under numerous sections of the Ohio Revised Code. The Recorder also serves on the Data Processing Board and the Records Commission Board. •

2011 DOCUMENTS

Deeds	4,034
Judgment entries and certificates for transfer	127
Mortgages (total value \$7,616,906,884.28)	4,720
Mortgages released (with a value of \$14,139,539,521.53)	6,157
Land Contracts	37
Rights of way and easements	89
Leases	184
Mechanics liens	62
Plats	2
Federal Tax Liens	269
Financing statements	47
Terminations	27
All Others	2,538



Many Wood County residents may not know where to turn when they need help.

Wood County's No Wrong Door program provides information about services and resources with one call to any of the member agencies. No Wrong Door can help with the real life challenges that touch Wood County residents and provide guidance for issues like home repair, employment, food, clothing, shelter, financial assistance and more. For more information on the No Wrong Door program, visit the Wood County Website, www.co.wood.oh.us, and click on the No Wrong Door Logo.

No Wrong Door is a partnership of Wood County human and social service agencies, schools, law enforcement agencies, government and the courts, dedicated to assisting Wood County residents in need.

If you need help and don't know where to turn, just call any one of the agencies listed and they will guide you to the services you need.

NO WRONG DOOR Agencies

24 Hour Information and Referral - United Way 2-1-1	Dial 2-1-1
Crisis Line - The Link of Behavioral Connections	419-352-1545 or 800-472-9411
Behavioral Connections	419-352-5387 or 419-872-2419
Bowling Green City Schools	419-352-3576
Children's Resource Center	888-466-KIDS or 419-352-7588
City of Bowling Green	419-354-6203
Family Service Counseling Center	877-352-4624 or 419-352-4624
American Red Cross	419-352-4575
United Way of Greater Toledo - Wood County Office	419-352-2390
Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Services	419-352-8475
Board of Developmental Disabilities	800-356-3218 or 419-352-5115
Commissioners' Office	866-860-4140 or 419-354-9100
Committee on Aging	800-367-4935 or 419-353-5661
OSU Extension	419-354-9050
Job and Family Services	888-282-1118 or 419-352-7566
Educational Service Center	419-354-9010
Health District	866-861-9338 or 419-352-8402
Wood County Hospital	419-354-8910 (ER) or 419-354-8900
Juvenile Court	866-860-4140 or 419-352-3554
Prosecuting Attorney's Office	866-860-4140 or 419-354-9250
WSOS Community Action Commission	419-353-7407

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

General Division

The Court of Common Pleas, General Division, adjudicates felony criminal cases; all civil actions including those arising out of automobile accidents, product liability claims, real estate matters, contract disputes; administrative appeals, such as those in the areas of worker's compensation, unemployment compensation; and appeals from certain local governments. The Court also adjudicates divorces, dissolutions, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities, child and spousal support enforcement and modification. The Judges supervise the Grand Jury, which determines if, based upon the evidence presented by the Prosecuting Attorney, probable cause exists to charge an accused with a felony criminal offense. If the Grand Jury so finds, they return an indictment, advising the accused of the nature of the charges. The matter then goes before the Court for further proceedings. The Judges supervise the Adult Probation and Court Security Departments and appoint and supervise the Jury Commission. They also appoint members to the Veterans Service Commission, Public Defender Commission and the Wood County Public Library Board.



Robert C. Pollex
COURTROOM 1



Reeve Kelsey
COURTROOM 2



Alan R. Mayberry
COURTROOM 4

During 2011, Judge Kelsey served as Presiding Judge, Court Security Judge and represented the County on the Maumee Conservancy District Court; Judge Mayberry served as Administrative Judge; and Judge Pollex represented the Court on the Judicial Advisory Board for the NorthWest Community Corrections Center.

During 2011, the Court completed 2,938 cases and 1,156 cases remained pending. Of the total cases completed, 1,310 were general civil, 1,023 were domestic relations, and 605 were criminal.

Cases continued to be referred to mediation by the general,

domestic relations, juvenile and probate divisions of the Court. The Court, having adopted the foreclosure mediation model set forth by the Ohio Supreme Court, offered mediation as an option in foreclosure cases. Both litigants and the Court benefited by the early, and less expensive, resolution of cases settled through mediation.

The Judges also receive and approve applications for notary public, with 126 new applications and 315 renewal applications received during the year.

The Court of Common Pleas operates under Title 23 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

Court Security

Thomas G. Chidester, Chief Court Constable

Court Constables are the primary law enforcement officers at the Courthouse Complex, and provide for the safety and security of the courts, employees at the site, and the visiting public. They also manage the systems that monitor fire, panic, and intrusion alarms, as well as those that control access to the buildings.

During 2011, the magnetometers at the main entrance to the Courthouse Complex registered 126,010 walkthroughs during the year, resulting in the holding of approximately 1,249 prohibited items.

Staff handled 80 incident reports during the year.

The \$50,000 federal grant provided four training sessions for all court personnel within the County to develop and

strengthen effective responses to violence against women. Three additional trainings are scheduled for 2012.

The Department also maintained a website to provide the public with information regarding the Complex including parking information.

The Department reported to Judge Reeve Kelsey, who served as the Court Security Judge during 2011. •

Adult Probation

Joni Bretz, Director

The Adult Probation Department, under the authority of the Court of Common Pleas, conducts pre-sentence investigations for purposes of sentencing, and supervises felony level offenders placed under court-ordered supervision.

In 2011, the Department conducted pre-sentence investigations on 310 offenders and 339 new offenders were placed under the Department's supervision.

The Adult Probation Department supervised 1,086 offenders. Of those, 280 individuals were terminated from supervision, leaving 806 individuals under direct control on December 31.

The Department conducted 7,461 drug tests and supervised the incarceration of 21 offenders in the work release program, which is housed at the Justice Center.

With funding from the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the staff supervised 134 offenders placed on Intensive Supervision Probation and 172 on Electronic Monitoring. •



David E. Woessner

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Probate and Juvenile Division

Cases heard in Probate Court involve decedent's estates, guardianships, conservatorships, testamentary trusts, civil actions, adoptions, mental illness, minor settlements, and wrongful deaths. In addition, the Probate Court provides registration services for births, name changes, miscellaneous filings, and marriage license applications. In addition to trial proceedings, the Probate Court Judge makes a number of appointments to Boards and agencies as allowed by law.

During 2011, Probate Court processed 776 new cases as well as 28 additional cases that were filed in previous years but re-opened for further action in 2011.

The court processed 796 marriage applications, an 11 percent increase over the previous year's filings. Another notable increase in filings was in the miscellaneous category, which increased roughly 18

percent from 2010. This category includes, but is not limited to, cases such as name changes, minor settlements, and birth registrations.

The Probate Court Judge is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 2101 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

The Juvenile Court hears cases concerning traffic offenses, delinquency, unruliness, neglect, abuse, dependency, and custody involving individuals under the age of 18, as well as paternity cases for adults and children. The Court may also hear misdemeanor cases involving adults charged with victimizing children. The Juvenile Detention Center is also administered through the Juvenile Court.

In 2011, the Juvenile Court had 3,148 cases filed and disposed of 3,213. Juvenile delinquency and traffic filings accounted for a significant portion of the year's filings. Among other cases, there were 268 cases filed alleging abused, neglected, or dependent children.

During 2011, the Juvenile Court implemented a Mental Health docket for selected cases in which the Court, by working with community agencies, determines that a youth's delinquent behavior is grounded in mental health difficulties experienced by that youth. The emphasis in these cases is on avoiding future delinquent conduct by addressing mental health needs through a combination of therapy, behavior modification techniques, and imposition of consequences when necessary.

The 48-bed Juvenile Detention Center provided both pretrial and short term commitments for 479 residents during 2010. This figure included 339 males and 140 females.

The Juvenile Court Probation Department supervised 532 youth and adults during 2011. A total of 305 youth performed 5,493.75 hours of community service work and returned \$7,924.27 in restitution to victims. Programs facilitated by the Department included: Electronic Monitoring, the Theft Offenders Program, Drug Screening, Gun Safety courses, a Goals for Gals/Guys program, and Diversionary programming involving the Court and Detention Center.

The Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad Litem (CASA/GAL) program supervised 47 volunteers who advocated

for 125 allegedly abused or neglected children and provided more than 4,300 hours of service. As of December 31, a total of 36 CASA/GAL volunteers continued to advocate for 64 children. CASA was able to serve 98.8

percent of the abuse, neglect, and dependency cases for which CASA volunteers were requested during the year.

The Juvenile Court's jurisdiction is outlined in, but not limited to, Section 2151.23 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

Looking for a way to give back to your community?

Become a CASA/GAL Volunteer. Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad Litem (CASA/GAL) volunteers bring with them a variety of life experiences including various professions and educational backgrounds. People of all cultural backgrounds and experiences are encouraged to become CASA/GAL volunteers.

CASA/GAL volunteers gather information about the life of a child who has allegedly been abused, neglected, or dependent; reports the facts to the court; makes recommendations and advocates for the best interest of the child in court; and monitors the situation until a safe permanent home is made for the child.

To learn more about the volunteer opportunities available, contact the Juvenile Court at 419.352.3554 or email casa@co.wood.oh.us





Mark Wasylyshyn

SHERIFF

As the County's chief law enforcement officer, the Sheriff provides law enforcement, correctional services, and civil services to residents. The Sheriff polices and serves all areas in the County and provides contract police services. The Office of the Sheriff is unique among law enforcement organizations. The Sheriff is the only elected law enforcement official in the State of Ohio. The Sheriff is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 311 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

2011 WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

CIVIL DIVISION

Sheriff foreclosure property sales	370
Proceeds from parcels sold	\$2,374,227
Execution of Certificates of Judgment	90
Service fee income to General Fund	\$333,039
Warrants, summons, subpoena & indictments served	3,031
Civil Protection Orders served	126
Child support warrants served	235
Inmates extradited from out of state	36
Cost to extradite out-of-state inmates	\$22,494
Prisoners transported to penal institutions	241
Miles traveled by the Civil Division	102,685

JUSTICE CENTER

Inmates booked	4,446
Inmates released	4,454
Average daily population	145
Inmates transported to local courts	1,895
Total meals served	196,070
– Justice Center	169,388
– Juvenile Detention Center	21,099
– Educational Service Center	5,583
Average meals served per day	537
Average meal cost	\$1.36
Trustys worked in food service /laundry	104
Hours worked by trustys	24,808

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

Domestic violence arrests	59
Court case victim assistance	156
Students taught in six schools	926
Law enforcement officers trained	78
Citizens taught at community groups	262
Temporary protection order violation arrests	23

SEX OFFENDERS

Registered	436
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WEAPON PERMITS & BACKGROUND CHECKS

Concealed Carry Weapon permits issued	1,368
Concealed Carry Weapons permits renewed	45
Persons fingerprinted for background checks	962

DETECTIVE BUREAU

Cases assigned	497
Cases cleared by arrest/closed/inactive	448
Cases pending investigation	49
Theft/fraud/forgery	163
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	110
Suspicious incident/departamental	57
Missing person/assault	2
Death/suicide	13
Sex offense/child abuse	20
Narcotic investigations	52
Fines/forfeitures to Drug Fund	\$60,563
Vehicles seized/forfeited to WCSO (6)	\$9,357
Fire/arson	8
Solicitation	16
Aggravated Robbery	4
Other	16

911 DIVISION/COMMUNICATIONS

911 calls answered	37,062
Fire calls dispatched	5,344
EMS calls dispatched	5,062
Calls dispatched to WCSO deputies	24,462
Village police depts. & park ranger calls dispatched	4,794
Warrants entered into state/national databases	2,508
Protection orders entered into national database	294

VOLUNTEER AUXILIARY PROGRAM

Members	53
Special events worked	31
Funeral escorts	104
Hours of work volunteered	4,828

EXPLORER PROGRAM

Members (Young adults 15 - 20)	17
Hours volunteered	890
Special events	22
Classroom hours	101
Field Trips	2

ROAD PATROL DIVISION

Complaints received and investigated	24,462
Criminal charges	556
Traffic citations	1,219
Traffic warning written/verbal	5,018
Crashes investigated	797
Injury crashes	151
Injured persons	219
Fatal crashes	7
Driving under the influence – DUI	69
Driving under suspension – DUS	133
Miles driven by Sheriff's vehicles	891,100

D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education)/S.R.O. (School Resources Officers)

Participating School Districts: All Saints, Eastwood, Elmwood, Lakota, McComb, Milton Center, North Baltimore, Otsego, Rossford, and St. Louis

D.A.R.E. core students	518
D.A.R.E. students grades K-6	678
D.A.R.E. students grade 7	251
Non D.A.R.E. classes	34
Non D.A.R.E. students	692
School staff members	58
Children participating in Safety Towns	41

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Citizens Police Academy students	20
R.A.D. Kids Safety students	27
Youth identification cards	1,173

LITTER CONTROL PROGRAM

Number of trustys worked	332
Hours trustys worked	484
Trash collected (lbs.)	17,399
Plastic collected (lbs.)	1,755
Aluminum collected (lbs.)	1,210
Tires collected	111
Miles of roads cleaned	293
Fair/festival hours worked	61
Pounds of recyclables collected from WCSO & WCJC	31,150

Drop Boxes Available for Disposal of Unwanted Prescription Drugs

Residents may dispose of unwanted prescription medications at drop boxes available at the Wood County Sheriff's Office or Bowling Green Police Station. The usual disposal method - flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash - pose potential safety and health hazards. However, due to restrictions on processes of disposal, the following cannot be accepted: liquids, plastics, glass, bio-hazards, radioactive waste, syringes, drug paraphernalia or other medical waste.



Raymond A. Huber, P.E., P.S.

ENGINEER

The Engineer has the responsibility of maintaining highways, bridges, culverts, and traffic control signs in a safe and proper manner. Under the ditch maintenance program, the Engineer is responsible for cleaning and debrushing more than 570

miles of open streams and ditches, which is just part of the more than 3,000 miles of open water courses in the County. The Engineer also serves as engineer for each of the 19 townships. He provides cost estimating for road repair projects, assists with grant applications, right-of-way location surveys, investigates drainage problems, and applies surface treatment to some of the 989 miles of Township roads. The Engineer's Office maintains tax map records of daily land transactions such as annexations and parcel splits, as well as keeping an extensive file of survey field records.

Through the County Engineers Association of Ohio, the Engineer obtained \$37,900 in federal funds for the load rating of 23 bridges. Federal dollars totaling \$31,000 were used to fund two safety studies, a crash hazard study, and a sign upgrade. The Engineer also received a

\$170,000 grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission to complete road and bridge projects including work on three bridge replacements and six culvert replacements.

The Tax Map, GIS and Survey Departments all took an active role in the GIS Parcel Data Improvement Project including

2011 SOURCES OF MOTOR VEHICLE AND GASOLINE TAXES

Motor Vehicle License Fees.....	\$3,945,817
Gasoline Tax.....	\$2,310,207
Traffic Fines & Receipts.....	\$161,813
Reimbursements.....	\$366,536
Refunds.....	\$80
Grants.....	\$872,687
Other Receipts.....	\$10,865
Interest.....	\$11,986
Total.....	\$7,679,990

ROAD PROJECTS COMPLETED

Bahnsen Road (Lake Twp.).....	\$163,000
Roachton Road (Perrysburg Twp.).....	\$210,000
Cygnat Road (Village of Cygnat/Bloom Twp.).....	\$162,000
Road Striping.....	\$25,000

BRIDGE PROJECTS COMPLETED

East Broadway (Lake Twp.).....	\$68,238
Greensburg Pike (Montgomery Twp.).....	\$335,813
Dairy View Road (Freedom Twp.).....	\$183,000
Ash Road (Washington Twp.).....	\$47,227

DRAINAGE PROJECTS COMPLETED

Culvert Replacements (6).....	\$152,138
Ditch Cleanouts.....	38.32 Miles
Ditch Bank Mowing.....	35.51 Miles
Ditch Bank Debrushing.....	31.63 Miles
Ditch Bank Protection and Repair.....	.25 Miles

the location of more than 4,100 Section Corners and Control Monuments. The Tax Map Department also reviewed 1,158 legal descriptions and 484 parcel splits. During the year, 130 culverts were set with grade, sized, or surveyed.

The Engineer oversees a staff of 19 at the County Office Building and 33 at the Highway Garage located on Poe Road. The Engineer is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 315 of the Ohio Revised Code. •



Paul Dobson

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney includes three divisions. The criminal division prosecutes all felony criminal offenses committed by adults in the County. The juvenile division prosecutes all cases involving juvenile offenders, whether

felony or misdemeanor. Further, the Juvenile Division, in cooperation with the Department of Job and Family Services, prosecutes adults for acts of abuse, neglect or dependency against children (also known as "status" offenses). The civil division provides legal services to the county departments and agencies, as well as school districts and townships. The Prosecutor's Office has 14 attorneys, a victim services unit, an investigator, a youth services and programs division, and support staff.

In 2011, the Criminal Division had 670 indictments and/or bills of information for adult felony cases, with 15 cases resolved by jury or court trial.

The Juvenile Division had 963 delinquency cases filed. Of those, 100 unruly cases and 33 felony level offenses committed by juveniles were adjudicated. Six permanent

custody cases were filed.

The Civil Division opened 39 opinion requests from various County offices. Additionally, the division opened more than 600 bank and tax foreclosures, nuisances, and zoning variance cases.

The Youth Services and Programs Division or C.Y.C.L.E. Program (Cooperating with Youth, the Community and Law Enforcement), provided youth crime prevention programs, the gang task force, and conflict management training for youths and adults. Nine students from six different school

districts served on Teen Court which heard 39 cases. Seventy-four mediations were held and close to 500 students participated in the Youth Olympics focusing on "Competition without Conflict". In its 22nd year, the Safety Kids Calendar contest attracted over 150 entries from students.

Approximately 400 victims of or witnesses to a crime in the County were helped through the legal process and procedures by the Victim/Witness Services unit.

The Prosecuting Attorney is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 308 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

PLANNING COMMISSION • W. David Steiner, Director

The Planning Commission administers policy concerning residential, commercial and industrial subdivisions, zoning regulations, and land use issues. The staff approves parcel splits, assigns rural addresses, and issues floodplain development permits. They also administer the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP). The Planning Commission is also responsible for revising and promoting adherence to the Wood County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and assisting townships and villages in their local zoning programs.

During 2011, the Planning Commission heard and reviewed eight zoning requests. Seven were approved including text changes to current zoning resolutions in Center, Portage, Troy and Middleton Townships, and rezoning of existing land in Troy and Perrysburg Townships. The Office also provided technical assistance to Portage Township with an update to its current zoning resolution.

The Commission utilized block grant funds from 2010 for storm sewer upgrades in Milton Center; the purchase of a sanitary sewer pump station in West Millgrove; the construction of a new drinking water distribution station in Troy Township; the construction

of ADA compliant curbs and ramps in North Baltimore; and financial assistance to income qualified residents tapping into new sanitary sewer systems.

The Commission also received grant funding under the FY10 CHIP (Community Housing Improvement Program) to provide housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs to low and moderate (LMI) homeowners, with \$40,000 set aside to assist Wood County Habitat for Humanity with the construction of two homes.

In 2011, the Commission began updating the current Wood County Subdivision Rules and Regulations. Poggemeyer Design Group was contracted

to update this document that regulates construction of residential, commercial, and industrial subdivisions.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency issued new Flood Hazard Maps during 2011. As a result, the Commission adopted new Floodplain Development Regulations on June 26.

In order to receive federal grant funding, the Commission completed the required Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing Plan, which identifies barriers to fair housing opportunities in the County.

The Planning Commission operates under Chapter 713 of the Ohio Revised Code. •

2011 PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIVITY

Rural addresses assigned	36
Minor parcel split transactions	101
Total acres in minor parcel splits	2,030
Transactions split from existing lots	72
Transactions combined with existing lots	29
Residential subdivisions approved	2

FY11 CDBG PROJECTS AWARDED FOR COMPLETION IN 2012

Bradner waterline repair	\$52,000
Countywide (NWWSD) sanitary sewer line upgrades	\$53,000
Northwood street rebuilding	\$50,300
Portage street repair	\$55,700
Weston storm sewer upgrades	\$29,500
Countywide (Health Dept) sewer tap-in assistance	\$25,000

LAW LIBRARY • Judith Gill, Librarian

The Wood County Law Library serves the legal information needs of the courts, government, and citizens of the county. The governing board is comprised of five members, appointed by the Municipal and Common Pleas courts, the Prosecuting Attorney, and the County Commissioners. Primary funding comes from fine monies from state traffic violations and bond forfeitures. The print collection includes Ohio primary sources: statutes, regulations and cases. Other print sources include legal encyclopedias and legal practice materials and treatises, particularly those that are Ohio-specific. The online databases provide access to Federal primary sources and for all fifty states as well.

The Law Library staff logged a total of 1,516 patron events. Of those events, 206 were with the courts or county government, 894 with attorneys, and 416 were with county residents.

Visits to the library accounted for 1,167 events, with 328 via phone and 21 by email.

The Law Library operates under Section 307.51 et. seq. of the Ohio Revised Code. •

HEALTH DISTRICT

Pamela Butler, MPH, Health Commissioner

The Wood County Health District promotes conditions that allow people in the County to lead healthy lives by routinely reviewing health related issues and taking action to prevent illness and injuries.

Health District expenditures for 2011 totaled \$5,180,475 while revenue for the year totaled \$ 4,330,814. A more comprehensive 2011 annual report of the Health District's activity is available on the Health District's website.

The 11 member Board of Health, in addition

to appointing the Health Commissioner, assumes the responsibility of overseeing the Wood County General Health District's activities to provide for the protection and promotion of health for those living in and visiting Wood County. Dr. Ted Bowlus served as President of the Board of Health during 2011. •

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Alan Sundermeier, Extension Educator,
Agriculture & Natural Resources, Director

The Ohio State University Extension Office strives to provide current, up-to-date information on agriculture and natural resources, horticulture, community development, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development.

The Wood County 4-H Program, with support from the Commissioners, Agricultural Society, and Historical Center, developed the "Wood County 4-H Quilt Square Trail" during 2011. Fifteen 4-H clubs committed to constructing 8' x 8' plywood quilt blocks to display on historical barns and buildings throughout the County in 2012.

CarTeens, a traffic safety program, covered traffic safety education, offenders' self-esteem, and interpersonal skills for 147 first-time juvenile traffic offenders. The classes were instructed by 20 teen facilitators and 14 adult volunteers.

During 2011, 4-H offered educational experiences to 4,900 youth, 276 volunteer advisors, and 202 teen leaders. Wood County has 55 4-H clubs with an enrollment of 1,300, while 4-H In-School units instruct 2,096 4-H projects.

Camp Palmer once again hosted 4-H Camp with a record attendance of 212 County members. Forty-four camp counselors received training to enable them to design a camp program that incorporated many of the critical elements needed in a positive 4-H experience.

The Extension Office continued offering the ServSafe food safety

certification program, the industry standard in food safety training accepted in almost all jurisdictions that require employee certification. During 2011, 145 individuals completed the 16-hour program.

OSU Extension staff provided leadership for the countywide *Be Healthy Now - Wood County* program. This 12-week program focused on improving personal health and wellness for the 185 registered participants.

The Family Nutrition Program provided 330 presentations on the USDA MyPlate Food Guidance System, Dietary Guidelines for Americans, food safety, and other nutrition topics.

Approximately 3,000 Wood County residents received information on horticultural subject matter via telephone calls, email, and seminars. Areas of the most importance during 2011 were questions and site visits responding to gypsy moth infestations, emerald ash borer, pond management, tree and small fruits, general landscape questions, and pest problems.

The Master Gardener Program, a volunteer program, provided extensive coursework in horticulture in exchange for a donation of volunteer hours.

Extension staff continued

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Terry L. Burton, Director; Deborah S. Hazard, Director

The Board of Elections is responsible for the administration and execution of all primary, general and special elections in Wood County. These responsibilities include the administration of Election Day, the absentee voter program, coordination of the polling official volunteers, auditing of all campaign financial reports, and verification of all candidates and ballot issues for compliance with all Ohio Revised Code requirements. In addition the office maintains all current and historical voter information, detailed election records and precinct maps both of which are available to the public. Citizens of Wood County may register to vote at the Board of Elections office as well as the Wood County Treasurer's Office, any Ohio License Bureau, U.S. Armed Forces Recruiting Office, public library or municipal offices. The voter registration deadline is 30 days prior to each election.

The Wood County Board of Elections held three elections during 2011. A total of 248 candidates ran for elected office in municipalities, township, and school districts across the County. Voters passed 26 out of the 37 issues on the ballot in Wood County during 2011.

The number of registered voters for the November General Election was 104,515. In that election, 4,106 voters cast absentee ballots. This continues the significantly increasing trend toward early

voting that has occurred since "No Fault Absentee" laws were implemented in Ohio.

The Board of Elections maintained a website featuring voter registration information, absentee ballot processes, candidate information, past election results, current office holders and governmental links. News releases and other important information are updated daily.

The Board of Elections operates under the direction of a four-member board and the Ohio Secretary of State. •

to provide a directory of local farm and garden products, *Buy Fresh, Buy Local, Buy Wood County*, to promote locally produced products along with distribution of the Crop Observation and Recommendation Network (C.O.R.N.) Newsletter which provided practical information during the growing season plus updated research results during the winter months.

Northwest Ohio Women in Agriculture, Annie's Project, and Farm Finances for Women, continued to provide educational opportunities for women in farm families.

The Extension Office is a cooperative effort of the Ohio State University, the Wood County Commissioners, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. •

VETERANS ASSISTANCE CENTER

Mary E. Hanna,
Executive Director

The goal of the Veterans Assistance Center is to provide compassionate, high quality services to Wood County veterans and their families. The staff strives to accomplish this by making the clients, rather than the benefit program, the central focus.

The Center continued issuing Veteran Identification Cards to County veterans containing the veteran's photo, address, branch of service, dates of active military service, and character of discharge.

In 2011, Veterans reached out for \$76,621 in emergency financial assistance through the Center. The number of claims continued to rise with increased use of medical and nursing home benefits. Transportation to VA medical facilities continued to be provided through a contract with Life Star Ambulance.

For every dollar spent by the County on veteran assistance, the Veterans Assistance Center brought \$48.78 in federal money back into the County. These funds benefited those veterans directly receiving assistance. In addition, the economy benefited because these federal funds increased the purchasing power of veterans and their families.

The Veterans Service Commission is outlined in Ohio Revised Code 5901.01 et seq. •

STATISTICS FOR 2011

Veterans Residing in Wood County	10,674
Total Client Contacts	15,881
Veterans Transported to Medical Facilities	621
Veterans Photo I.D. Cards Issued	296
Newsletters Distributed	7,500
Memorial Day Appropriations	\$10,200
Flags and Grave Markers Distributed	9,742
Federal VA Claims/ Documents Processed	18,646
Total Federal Dollars Brought into County	\$18,506,000

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Nicki Kale, District Administrator/Education Coordinator

The Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) includes all the lands within the County. The District, chartered in 1949, is a subdivision of the State of Ohio formed by a referendum petition. The major function of the District is to determine natural resource needs and implement programs that protect and develop these resources. The District operates on funds provided by the Commissioners, which is matched by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Soil and Water Conservation Commission. The SWCD operates under Chapter 1515 of the Ohio Revised Code. Policies are set by a five-member board of supervisors who are elected for a three-year term.

During fiscal year 2011, the Lake Erie Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program resulted in 240 signed contracts for 622.5 acres including 580.6 acres of filter strips, 3,500 row feet of windbreaks, and 9.4 acres of wetland construction.

Through the Conservation Reserve Program's Continuous Sign-up, 17 contracts were signed for 27.9 acres including 1.1 acres of quail buffers and 26.8 acres of filter strips.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program brought \$509,234 to Wood County through five contracts. The NRCS Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program added an additional \$13,814 through three contracts.

The Western Lake Erie Basin Partnership continued

to fund a conservationist position, headquartered in Wood County. Primary duties included conservation planning and implementation, farm bill assistance, nutrient management and waste utilization assistance, assistance to landowners in implementing USDA farm bill programs, and public information and outreach activities.

More than 2,200 youth were reached through District education programs. These programs included the Area 1 Envirothon, a natural resources knowledge competition for high school students; Northwest Ohio Conservation Camp; and Northwest Ohio Woodland and Wildlife Workshop.

SK Worm, a 6' tall museum quality animatronics model of a worm coming out of a detailed soil monolith, visited 12 classrooms

during the year. SK has been preprogrammed to interact with students and reinforces the Ohio Department of Education's benchmarks for Earth and Space Sciences as they relate to soil. Other classroom visits utilized the groundwater model, the watershed model, the drinking water and wastewater treatment model and other hands-on opportunities for the students.

The District website provides current program information as well as downloadable order forms for the annual seedling and fish sales. •

2011 CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Structures	6
Surface Drains	2
Manure Structures	2
Private Group Drainage Projects	6
Assistance on Other Projects	7

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Kathleen Hamm, Chief Public Defender

Established in 1979, the Public Defender's Office provides constitutionally mandated legal representation for indigent defendants in juvenile and criminal cases. To be eligible for public defender representation, the individual must qualify under the Ohio Public Defender Commission Standards of Indigency, as listed in Ohio Administrative Code section 120-1-03. Individuals are represented in the Bowling Green, Perrysburg, and Fostoria Municipal Courts, Juvenile Court, Common Pleas Court, and all levels of the Appellate Court. The Public Defender also operates a satellite office at the Perrysburg Municipal Court to accommodate the significant Northern Wood County caseload.

In 2011, the Office of the Public Defender represented approximately 3,400 clients. Cases included felonies, misdemeanors, delinquencies, status offenses, appeals and other post-conviction remedies.

Funds for appointment of

counsel were budgeted by the County Commissioners and were reimbursed by the State at 35 percent in 2011. Since 2005, Ohio law mandates individuals requesting representation to pay a \$25 application fee. The County retains 80 percent of the fee to offset the costs of

providing legal representation.

The duties of the Public Defender are outlined in Section 120 of the Ohio Revised Code. A five-member commission, appointed by the Common Pleas Judges and County Commissioners, oversees the Office Administration. •

ARE YOU A VETERAN LIVING IN WOOD COUNTY?

The Veterans Assistance Center wants to ensure you are registered with their office to make sure you are receiving all the benefits you are entitled to receive. Contact their office to learn more 419.354.9147.



HOW TO CONTACT US...

CALL 419.354.9000 and let us help you or call toll-free

1.866.860.4140

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.co.wood.oh.us

The County's website provides links to Elected Official and Departmental websites as well as quick links to the following information:

- Prescription Discount Card (Commissioners)
- Real Estate Information (Auditor)
- Real Estate Tax Payment (Treasurer)
- Real Estate Index Search (Recorder)
- Voter Location Search (Board of Elections)
- Bids / Requests for Proposals (Commissioners)
- Court Records Search (Clerk of Courts)
- Internet Auction (Commissioners)
- Dog Adoptions (Dog Shelter)
- Dog License Purchase (Auditor)
- Marriage License and Probate Records (Probate Court)
- Building Permit Inquiry (Building Inspection)
- Sex Offender Database (Sheriff)
- Sheriff Sales (Sheriff)
- Interactive Map (Engineer)
- Road Closings (Engineer)
- Spirit of Wood County Awards (Commissioners)
- History of Wood County