

Wood County, Ohio

2010

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2010 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

James F. Carter,
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Tim W. Brown,
VICE PRESIDENT

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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 Eleazar 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.



2011 Wood County Elected Officials. **Front Row:** Commissioner Alvin Perkins, Sheriff Mark Wasylshyn, Commissioner Tim Brown, Commissioner James Carter, and Auditor Michael Sibbersen. **Center Row:** Treasurer Jill Engle, Clerk of Courts Cindy Hofner, Judge Robert Pollex, Recorder Julie Baumgardner, and Prosecuting Attorney Paul Dobson. **Back Row:** Coroner Douglas W. Hess, Judge Reeve Kelsey, Judge Alan Mayberry, Engineer Raymond Huber, and Judge David Woessner

A Message from the Board of County Commissioners

Despite the gloominess of the national and state economies, many good things occurred in 2010. While it was a year filled with economic uncertainty for families and businesses, it was also a year marked by excellent work and achievement by county staff on behalf of county citizens.

The tornado that devastated parts of Lake Township on June 5 will be remembered for the deaths and damage it caused. It will also be remembered for the teamwork that ensued almost immediately to assist those in need with the assessment, cleanup, and recovery. The people of Lake Township, as well as neighboring communities, are to be commended for banding together to work through this process in a very successful manner.

We are very pleased to specifically note the work of our staff in the Wood County Emergency Management Agency – Brad Gilbert, Tammy Feehan, Suzette Hall, and Linsey Atkin – to coordinate vital response efforts associated with this severe weather event. From all around Wood County we received numerous positive comments from citizens who were pleased with the high degree of professionalism and teamwork that was displayed by our Emergency Management staff and the other officials on the scene.

At the Wood County Department of Job & Family Services (JFS), one division and two individual staff members were honored for their excellent work. First, the staff of JobSolutions at JFS – Mary DeWitt, Holly Robertson, RoxAnn Neifer, Kathy Estep and Kathy Costic – received the Excellence in Strategic Workforce Planning by the Ohio Economic Development Association. The staff at JobSolutions assists people with job searches, resume construction, job training, and recruiting for employers.

JFS Children Services Worker, Tonya Camden received the 2010 Mary Ellen Award at the annual Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Celebrate Kids Conference. This award is for a children services worker who exhibits outstanding professionalism in working with children and families and obtaining positive outcomes. As one colleague stated, "Tonya is approachable without being weak, she is direct without being punishing, and she is clear about her goal to reunify the family."

Finally, Paulette Stephens, JFS Director, was named Director of the Year by the Ohio Job & Family Services Directors Association (OJFSDA). Paulette has dedicated 38 years in the social services field to helping people get back on their feet, find a job, care for their family, and work toward improving their quality of life. Currently, she and Assistant JFS Director Dave Wigent are working on a project with seven other counties that will make service delivery to citizens more efficient and cost effective. Wood County continues to shine because of people like Paulette.

We express sincere thanks to the other county elected officials for working closely with us during these difficult economic times. Through our combined efforts we have continued to provide good service to the citizens of Wood County as we have cut expenses in numerous areas. In terms of County finances, this effort has allowed us to maintain a positive financial position as we weather the economic storm. We will keep a very watchful eye as the Governor and State Legislature work to address serious issues related to the state budget.

How can you help? We encourage you to shop locally. The benefits to our local retailers and the local economy are significant. In addition, the largest source of revenue to fund county government is our one penny of sales tax. If you shop in Wood County, your penny stays here. If you shop in another county, that county

keeps your sales tax. Wood County has the lowest sales tax rate of most of our neighboring counties, and only five counties in Ohio have a sales tax rate that is lower than ours. Please support our local businesses and save money.

Finally, we ask you to take time to read this annual report to learn about the good things happening in Wood County government. It is because of you, the citizens of Wood County, that we are able to do this important work. We also encourage you to actively participate in your local government through service on a board or commission, or by attending one of our town meetings that are held several times each year throughout the county. We live in a great county and have positive expectations for the future.

The Board of County Commissioners,
Wood County, Ohio


James F. Carter

James Carter, President


Tim Brown

Tim Brown, Vice President


Alvin L. Perkins

Alvin Perkins

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

To address unfavorable fiscal circumstances, the Commissioners approved the reorganization of three County departments during 2009 – Building Inspection, Solid Waste Management District, and Wood Haven Health Care. While all of these departments improved following reorganization, the most dramatic change was at Wood Haven. In 2009, the Medicaid cost report for Wood Haven stated a prior year loss in excess of \$800,000. However, the same report in 2010 displayed a near break-even fiscal performance. This is a tribute to the staff at Wood Haven for learning about and understanding the difficult financial circumstances facing this department, and working hard to make this correction.

To continue their efforts toward energy efficiency in County facilities, the Commissioners applied for and were awarded three grants from the Ohio Department of Development totaling \$906,290. The first two grants will assist with replacement of less efficient boilers at

the Justice Center and the Courthouse. While the third and largest grant will assist with replacement of the windows in the County Office Building. All three projects will result in cost savings to the county for heating and cooling expenses.

The Commissioners were pleased to welcome high-school aged delegates to the American Legion's Buckeye Boys State in mid-June. Buckeye Boys State began in 1936, and each year since 1978 has brought 1,300 delegates to the campus of Bowling Green State University. As part of this nine-day exercise in local and state government, the Commissioners annually conduct a morning session with those delegates elected to county office.

Changes mandated by the federal government will affect the health benefits program for County employees. For nearly three decades county government has worked diligently to provide quality, cost-effective health benefits to employees. The new federal health care bill will change provisions of the county plan

beginning in 2011. A notable change is the removal of all lifetime limits for the cost of medical and prescription coverage and restrictions on annual limits as well. For example, prior to the federal law change, the annual limit for prescription drug coverage was \$45,000. The second notable change is the extension of dependent eligibility from age 23 to age 26. The state legislature added to this by mandating that the county make health insurance available to dependents up to age 28. The Commissioners, with the assistance of the Employee Health Benefits Committee will closely monitor these and other changes that result from federal law.

With the Governor and state legislature looking to address a budget shortfall approximated at \$8 billion for the next biennium, the Commissioners continued to emphasize a cautious approach to the 2011 budget. Over the past several years the state legislature cut the state budget by shifting costs to counties, and by giving authority for local governments to propose local tax increases. The Commissioners remain steadfast in their opposition to raising local taxes, especially to replace funding that had come from the state. Wood County remains in good fiscal condition because of good work by all county offices to cut expenses.

The sixth 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 2010, Town Hall meetings, which are usually planned to precede regularly scheduled council meetings, were held in North Baltimore, Northwood, Perrysburg, Rossford, and Walbridge. 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.

PAIR OF PEREGRINE FALCONS SPOTTED AT COURTHOUSE



Photo: Andrew Weber/Sentinel-Tribune

Two peregrine falcons were spotted roosting in the clock tower of the Wood County Courthouse in October. The closest reported nests to Bowling Green are two in Toledo, one in Oregon, and another in Lima. The Ohio Division of Wildlife will monitor if the pair stay in the area and nest.

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 using careful budget oversight.

Revenue generated for the General Fund during 2010 totaled \$34,831,826.49. This amount combined with the beginning

cash balance of \$11,567,792.79 provided \$46,399,619.28 in available funds. General Fund expenditures totaled \$33,551,284.64 leaving an unencumbered ending balance of \$12,848,334.64.

In spite of continued revenue restrictions from the State of Ohio, the appropriations and expenditures for 2010 reflected a cautious, yet optimistic outlook by the Commissioners. The appropriations 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.

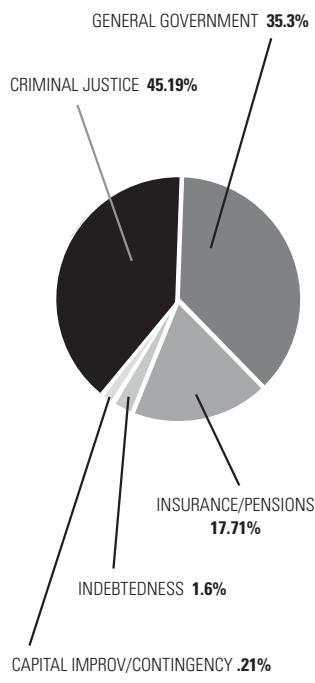
The level of expenditures in 2010 was influenced by several significant factors outside of normal operating expenses including general fund contributions totaling \$690,822.02 to various grants including the Agricultural Society,

Airport, OSU Extension, Humane Society, Violence Against Women (VAWA), D.A.R.E., Community Policing, Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA), the Emergency Management Agency and the Wood Soil and Water; equipment including computers and vehicle purchases totaling \$609,037.58; the transfer of \$1,000,000 to the permanent improvement fund; and the absorption of debt for the Landfill property acquisition at a cost of \$137,615.

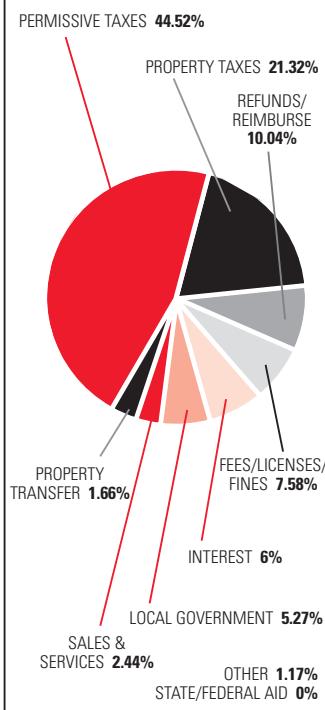
Sales tax revenue showed an increase, mirroring national trends. The year-end total was \$15,505,828.48, a 3.17 percent increase from the previous year. Investment income for the year ended at \$2,089,635.01, a 24.2 percent decrease from 2009.

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

2010 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES



2010 ACTUAL RECEIPTS



for distribution through Job and Family Services; 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 food bank serving Wood County residents.

An awards ceremony was scheduled for January 13, 2011, to honor the 173 employees who completed five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35 years of service during 2010.

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. •

SALES TAX INCOME

2010	\$15,505,828.48
2009	\$15,029,615.79
2008	\$16,116,923.64
2007	\$15,000,365.83
2006	\$14,978,818.95

Department of Job and Family Services Paulette Stephens, Director

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.



Because economic conditions continued to be troublesome in the nation, the Wood County Department of Job and Family Services saw the need for their services increase. The agency however was able to carefully manage funding in 2010 and determined that the agency could save money for Wood County Taxpayers by not collecting the Child and Adult Protective Service levy for one year starting in January 2011.

Along with the careful management of funds the agency saw three great awards presented to its workforce: Tonya Camden received

the Court Ordered Special Advocates (CASA) Mary Ellen award for her children's service work with families, the One Stop JobSolutions team at Wood County JFS was awarded the Ohio Economic Development Associations' award for working with the Wood County Economic Development Agency in its work, and Paulette R. Stephens, Director was named the Director of the Year by the Ohio Job and Family Services Director's Association.

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

Records Center

Brenda Ransom, Records Manager

Created in 1998, the Records Center provides records management services to 25 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 10,708 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 2010 including scanning Public Defender case 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. •

2010 RECORDS CENTER STATISTICS

Records stored (cubic feet)	7,858
New records (cubic feet)	575
Eligible for disposal (cubic feet)	278
Storage Space Recovered (cubic feet)	838
Tons of paper recycled	10.5
Documents scanned	1,619
Rolls of microfilm created	260

INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) cash payment cases (MA)	317
Medicaid recipients	26,198
Medicaid cases (MA)	8,216
Medicaid issuance (MA)	\$7,471,949
Food assistance recipients	13,313
Food assistance issuance (MA)	\$630,183
Food assistance issuance per case (MA)	\$182
Children issued food stamps (MA)	3,672

CHILDREN'S PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT

Children served	2,475
Children placed in substitute care	72
Cost for substitute care	\$1.5 million
Home protective services children	133
Reports of child abuse/neglect investigated	719
Adoptions finalized	9
Certified foster/adoptive homes provided with services	22

JOB SOLUTIONS UNIT

Information and referrals	2,713
Families provided emergency assistance (PRC)	380
Adults without children provided rent assistance	44
Emergency assistance (PRC) inquiries	3,240
Ohio Fuel Fund funds administered	\$88,308
Individuals receiving WIA training services	62
New job seekers	2,410
Youth Employment Program participants	300

SOCIAL SERVICES UNIT

Child care providers registered	120
Elder chore services provided	31
Adults receiving home health aid services	133
Adult Protective Services assessments completed	178
Children who received child care services (MA)	560
Homemaker visits provided (MA)	214
Adults receiving personal care services	64
Transportation (1 way trips) to Medicaid and Title XX services	1,923

MA = Monthly Average

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 2010, the Department continued consolidating computer hardware equipment to reduce resources required to provide technology to other offices.

Staff also built up the County's email infrastructure to provide disaster recovery enhancements.

The IT Department relocated to the third floor of the Office Building during 2010. This move provided additional office space and greater accessibility to the network servers. •

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.

In 2010, the Agency's legal staff implemented a Diversion program with the Bowling Green Municipal Court, allowing a person charged with nonsupport to avoid a criminal conviction by either making their regular support payments and a lump sum toward the arrearage, or making partial payments while successfully participating in job search activities. So far, nine defendants have participated in the program with seven of those defendants currently meeting their support obligations.

The Agency also started an early intervention program to assist parents with new support orders. A current case manager, selected to be the Agency's New Order Worker (NOW), provided the parents

with a packet of information and worked to create a partnership to help prevent the accrual of arrearages and enhance the overall collection of support. As part of this early intervention, the Agency performed outreach work with local schools, the NorthWest Community Corrections Center, and other community groups.

In observance of Child Support Awareness Month in August, the Agency offered amnesty to 317 parents who had warrants issued for their arrest due to their failure to appear for their contempt or nonsupport hearings. Of the 46 that responded to the offer, several reported new employment or began making payments, while others successfully resolved their cases without having to be

arrested. Additionally, one paid a lump sum of over \$4,200 to pay off the account and secure a dismissal.

The license suspension program continued in 2010, allowing the Agency to suspend the driver's or professional license of individuals in default of their support obligations or with outstanding warrants. By December, nearly 1,500 cases had active suspensions, with \$299,530.68 collected through one-time payments

from individuals wishing to keep their license or to have a license reinstated.

The Agency continued to offer an on-site genetic testing program. More than 300 parent-child relationships were acknowledged throughout the year.

As of December 31, 2010, the Agency had a total of 7,313 open cases.

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

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY STATISTICS

Children Served in Wood County	8,464
Collections/Disbursements to Custodial Parents	\$17,403,625.66
Public Assistance Returned to State of Ohio	\$229,877.23
Recouped through Income Tax Refund Offset	\$840,832.44
Reimbursements to WCJFS for Foster Children	\$31,718.55
Contempt of Court Actions	350
Misdemeanor Criminal Nonsupport Cases	60
Felony Cases Referred to Wood County Prosecuting Attorney	10
Felony Charges Filed for Criminal Nonsupport	9
Warrants initiated and executed	239

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 39 municipalities including Bowling Green, Perrysburg, Northwood, Rossford, Fostoria, Findlay, Mt. Blanchard, Deshler, Napoleon, and Ridgeville Corners, making Wood County the largest building inspection department geographically in the State. The Building Inspection Department also conducts residential building inspections within Wood County, accounting for 39 percent of all fees collected.

In May, the Department was certified to provide code enforcement for all manufactured homes in parks and on private property. The

Department hopes to expand this service to Hancock and Henry Counties in the future.

During 2010, the Department issued 3,936 permits, an increase

of 534 from the previous year. The issuance of permits resulted in 9,215 field inspections, with 481 lists of deficiencies requiring corrective action. Of the inspections conducted, 7,430 occurred inside Wood County consisting of 4,905 residential and 2,525 commercial.

Receipts for 2010 totaled \$805,182. Wood County residential and commercial receipts totaled \$631,677. Hancock County commercial inspections added \$117,861, with Henry County adding \$55,644. Building Inspection operates under the Board of County Commissioners and uses the

Ohio Building Code, and the Residential Code of Ohio for One, Two, and Three Family Dwellings. These are uniform codes that are used to enforce the commercial/industrial and residential building codes. •

PERMITS ISSUED BY YEAR

2010	3,936
2009	3,402
2008	4,225
2007	4,992
2006	5,315

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 Department provided assistance to satellite agencies, including Public Defender, Highway Garage, Auto Title, and Veterans Assistance Center. Maintenance staff performed recycling and other light maintenance functions for these offices.

During 2010, maintenance staff completed remodeling and technology up-grades for the Prosecutor's Office and numerous other alterations throughout the complex. Staff oversaw and assisted in the repair and replacement of the Office Building roof system and added ice protection for the Atrium skylight. Other projects included floor replacement for the Public Defender restroom, a new concrete entrance ramp for the secured garage entrance, the replacement of an automatic door for the underground parking garage and numerous energy efficient lighting upgrades throughout the complex.

The Custodial Staff implemented new touchless paper towel dispensers to help reduce costs. Staff performed window cleaning, floor re-finishing, and carpet maintenance, along with recycling and general office cleaning. Community Employment Services of Wood Lane continued to provide weekly pickup service for the recycling.

East Gypsy Lane Complex

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

Maintenance staff remained busy in 2010 keeping up with ever changing health and safety regulations for several departments. One regulation change included a review of the electrical systems through an arc flash analysis at the Justice Center and Wood Haven.

The staff used their experience to work with other departments to oversee projects such as remodeling, reconstruction, replacement of appliances and equipment. Staff also continued its extensive preventative maintenance program to identify potential problems before they occur. Other duties included snow removal, mowing and general grounds upkeep.

The 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 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, is a Hill-Burton provider and serves individuals covered under various nursing care insurance plans.

Wood Haven Health Care registered 188 admissions with 120 residents returning home following their stay. Of the 28,515 in-house days logged in the facility, privately funded residents represented 16 percent of those days, while 58 percent were Medicaid, nine percent Medicare, 10 percent Managed Care and seven percent Hospice. Bordner Therapy Care provided out-patient services to many individuals who were discharged to home. Overall, in-house days logged in the facility increased approximately six percent from the 26,848 days reported in 2009.

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; Scrabble tournament; Bible study; Wii

bowling, boxing, golf and racing; and OSU vs. Michigan tailgate party. Special activities included the second Western Jamboree Hoe Down and annual resident/family Christmas party. Residents joined with seniors from other area facilities participating in bowling tournaments and bingo in the park.

The facility 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.

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

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.

Progress at the CSX Intermodal's \$845 million "National Gateway" project—The Northwest Ohio Transshipment Terminal, in Henry Township continued with the installation of five ultra-efficient, state-of-the-art, green technology, Austrian-made cranes in June. Simulators to train the crane operators were also installed. Owens Community College will be engaged in train-the-trainer activities at the site, building further local capacity. The site is scheduled to become fully operational in the first quarter of 2011.

The Workforce Development division of Owens Community College assisted First Solar

of Perrysburg Township and Willard & Kelsey of Perrysburg in securing close to \$2 million (\$1.2M and \$700K respectively) in "Energizing Green Careers" grants from the Ohio Department of Development. Together, these two companies employ more than 1,000 manufacturing employees in the County, making it North America's solar energy hub.

On a routine visit to Magna Norplas, a multi-national tier one automotive supplier in Northwood, staff were made aware of a possible expansion at the facility. New business the company is hoping to obtain could result in 300 new jobs and require a \$6.5 million expansion adding 30,000 square feet to

the existing 400,000. The staff worked with Ohio Department of Development and Job and Family Services personnel to optimize state and local incentives to make that happen.

The Commission renewed its sponsorship of the "Renewables and Energy Efficiency Roadshow" presented by the German American Chamber of Commerce in Columbus, Detroit, and Chicago.

Through participation in the "Wind Energy Supply Chain" initiative of the Great Lakes Wind Network(GLWN), the Commission helped local manufacturers to be evaluated by capability for inclusion on a supply chain index being offered by the Ohio Department of Development to

international manufacturers.

The Commission also co-sponsored the second annual Northwest Ohio Manufacturers' Forum and Business Expo, held at Bowling Green State University. The event had more than 170 attendees and 62 exhibitors.

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. •



Historical Museum and Center • Christie Raber, 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 planned a number of collaborative events with other local agencies. The season began with a Smithsonian traveling exhibit, "Between Fences," coupled with a variety of activities and programs throughout Wood and Defiance Counties. Annual events saw an increase in attendance including the monthly tea series, Trash or Cash Antique Appraisal Clinic,

Wood County Heritage Days, and the Old Home Holiday Tour.

The Center's Vintage Baseball Education Program celebrated its 6th year with nine games, drawing much attention to the museum and involving the community.

In 2010, while 29 educational programs were delivered in the schools, five area schools visited the Center. Other education programs included:

the 6th annual Girl Scout Living History Lantern Walk, the Civil War drill weekend, the 2nd annual Revolutionary War encampment, and Demonstration Day.

To help with these visitors and events, over 200 individuals and groups contributed more than 1,300 volunteer hours to the Center.

The Center partnered with the Ohio Historical Society and the Ohio Community Service Council to create the Ohio History Service Corps. Through these collaborative efforts, dozens of AmeriCorps members have been placed in museums around Ohio to develop regional programs for preserving and sharing local history. The Wood County Historical Center is hosting two AmeriCorps members, one is spearheading collections digitization efforts;

the other is working with area historical organizations to create programming and preservation projects to commemorate the American Civil War (the sesquicentennial of which will occur in 2011) and the bicentennial of the War of 1812.

Work was completed on the Porch Renovation Project during 2009 and the porches were re-opened to the public in the spring of 2010. Other maintenance work performed on the building included masonry repairs to portions of the museum's exterior; installation of new flooring in the west wing; and painting and carpeting of the meeting rooms.

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. •

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 along with a consultant worked throughout the year with local officials to update the Wood County Natural Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Federal Emergency Management Agency requires counties to update their plan every five years.

Utilizing Homeland Security Grant funding, the Agency worked with RCC Consultants, Inc. for most of the year to perform an analysis of the Wood County Public Safety Communication System and interoperability. The analysis will be used by officials to efficiently address gaps in the existing communication system and to evaluate other options that may be considered in the future. Narrowbanding of all radio equipment by January 1, 2013, is a requirement of the FCC and needs to be a priority for all public entities over the next two years.

The Agency and Local Emergency Planning Committee coordinated hazardous materials

emergency planning and training development for first responders. A new concept of hazardous materials training called Hazmat IQ was made available to all fire departments in Wood County. A tabletop exercise dealing with a hazardous materials emergency was conducted in May with help from the Village of North Baltimore.

The Agency continued to administer the State Homeland Security Grants, Emergency Management Performance Grant, and the Countywide Cost Recovery Program for hazardous material incidents. The Agency helped collect \$269.70 for the County's first responders in 2010 for hazardous material incidents.

The Emergency Management Agency operates under the Board of County Commissioners with input from the Emergency Management Advisory Committee. •



Seven Lake Township police vehicles were destroyed in addition to the extensive damage to the Administrative Building. Two police dispatchers and two paramedics were on duty when the EF-4 tornado hit. All four survived and continued working after escaping the damaged building.

Tornadoes Rip Through Wood County



A total of 12 homes were destroyed, with 10 homes sustaining major damage and an additional 50 homes with minor damage. Main Street in Millbury was one of the hardest hit residential areas.

During 2010, Wood County experienced some of the most intense severe weather it has seen in many years.

On May 7, numerous severe thunderstorms moved across the County causing widespread damage. The National Weather Service confirmed the touch down of an EF-0 tornado in Portage and Montgomery Townships which damaged several agricultural and residential buildings. The same series of thunderstorms caused straight line wind damage to buildings and infrastructure in Middleton, Perrysburg, and Lake Townships. The Emergency Management Agency conducted preliminary damage assessments and assisted the National Weather Service with their investigations of the storms.

On June 5, an EF-4 tornado touched down for seven miles in Lake Township. Six deaths resulted from the storm along with extensive damage to residential, commercial, and agricultural structures including the Lake Township Administration/Police/EMS building and Lake High School. At the request of Lake Township, the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated to assist. The EMA/EOC assisted local officials on-site for two weeks and an additional four months off-site with numerous issues in the response and recovery phases of the disaster.



The Lake High School and Gymnasium were destroyed the night before graduation ceremonies were to take place in the gymnasium.

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 Solid Waste Management District completed a State-required five year update of the Solid Waste District Plan. The Plan, which will be submitted to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in 2011, outlined a commitment to provide 15 years of disposal capacity and meet recycling goals while maintaining a balanced budget.

Reduced revenues from solid waste fees remained a concern. Flow control by contract is being considered to maintain sufficient revenue and assure all waste generators pay a fair share of support.

The District maintained the \$1.00 per capita recycling support to all local government entities providing residential recycling programs and will continue to do so as funds allow.

An innovative residential curbside compostable organics program was implemented by the Village of Luckey with Solid Waste District support and is diverting significant quantities (18%) to composting.

Partnerships with entities such as Community Employment Services (C.E.S.) and the Bowling Green Recycling Center continued to provide residents with recycling opportunities for schools, businesses, and local communities.

The District, as required by the State Solid Waste Plan, provided education and informational programs to schools, communities, and businesses to improve waste

collection and disposal practices and to increase awareness of recycling opportunities. Education staff provided 94 presentations, 137 tours, and participated in 22 community events.

In honor of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, the District hosted a Billboard Art Contest funded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Litter Prevention and Recycling by means of the 2010 Litter Grant. Nearly 200 entries were received and judged with Ashley Greeno, a sixth grader from North Baltimore Elementary and Jenne Venier, a sixth grader from Eastwood Middle School, selected as the two winners.

Construction of a clay liner on top of the original footprint of the Landfill provided greater environmental protection and disposal capacity for an estimated 20 years. Future construction operations will focus on capping completed disposal areas, extending roadways, and other surface projects.

Construction of a dedicated sewer line from the Landfill to the Bowling Green Waste Water Treatment Plant provided a permanent long-term, cost-effective solution to transport and treat leachate from the Landfill.

In addition to providing proper disposal of waste materials, the Landfill operated several recycling services including recycling concrete and brick into stone, leaves and grass for compost, and brush into mulch. Scrap metal, batteries, and tires were also collected and recycled.

The methane gas project to generate electricity from Landfill gas progressed as negotiations continued on an agreement with the City of Bowling Green and AMP Ohio.

The District is supported by fees (taxes) collected on all solid waste disposed at the Wood County Landfill and the Evergreen

Landfill in Northern Wood County. The Wood County Landfill is a government enterprise operation intended to be self-supporting from monies charged for services.

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

Dog Shelter

Rodney Cook, Chief Dog Warden

The purpose of the Dog Shelter is to enforce Section 955 of the Ohio Revised Code, which includes checking licenses and the proper confinement of dogs, as well as investigating dog bites, livestock kills, and other related complaints. The Dog Shelter is self-supporting. 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 salaries, maintain trucks, pay utilities, maintain the building, and pay veterinarian fees. The Shelter also receives assistance from rescuers, who publicize dogs available from the Shelter. The Dog Shelter operates under the Board of County Commissioners.

Statistics

	2010
Total Dogs Impounded	665
Adoptions	235
Redemptions	167
Euthanised	258
Incidents Investigated	566
Dog Licenses Sold	20,896
Licenses Sold On-Line	4,291
Kennel Licenses Sold	157

**HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR
WOOD COUNTY DOG LICENSE?**



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*, Mathew Harper*, Margie Harris*, Beverley Hirzel*, Michael Linthicum, Tom Kiger*, Frank McLaughlin*, Eric Reynolds, Michael Rosenberg, Randy Rothenbuhler*, Rickey L. Rudey*, Steve Spirk*, H. Jay Salvage, Thomas Vermilya, and two vacancies

BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Hugh Caumartin, Joe Catalono*, Timothy Harris*, Cindy Herman*, Shirley McFee, David C. Miller*, and Pam Von Mooy*

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE **

Tim Brown, Tom Chidester, Dorothy Cromley, Tim Hainen, Robert Pollex, Christie Raber, Michael Sibbersen, Karen Young, and two vacancies

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 F. 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 Waslylyshyn

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION MEMBERS

Harold Bateson, 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, Mona Contris, John Eschedor, Ethel Green, Phyllis Mercer, Edie Olds, Gene Roe, Dorsey Sergent*, Louis Snyder*, Leslee Thompson, Bob Willman, and Becky White-Schooner

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Shelian Beaupre, Joseph Catalano, Sue Clanton, Michael George, Luci Gernot, Chad Huebner, Stephanie Kelley, Judy Knox, Susan Miklovic, Paul Mortimer, Denise Niese, Tim Scherer, Paulette Stephens, Timothy Tegge, Martha Woelke, Laurie Young, and one vacancy. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Larry Mershman and Melanie Stretchberry

LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD

Dennis East*, Ann Bowers*, Thomas McDermott, Thomas Teet,

Jeffrey Nelson, Betty Coggins, and Doug Ruck

LOCAL COURT SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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

NORTHWESTERN WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

John Ault, John Cheney*, John Current, Bill Hirzel*, Melinda Kale, Alex Molner*, Phillip Shaffer, 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

Nick Ezzone, Anna Griffith*, Chet Marcin, Scott McEwen*, Brian Paskvan*, Jane Robb, and David Swartz*

REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Thomas Bamburowski, William J. Davis Jr., Gaylyn Finn, 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**

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

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, Harold Lunde, Denise Niese, Paulette Stephens, and Winn Stone.

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 Melvin L. Browning*, Kellee Downard, Alan W. Fosnaugh*, Dean King, Roberta Lane, and Monica Thompson

WORKFORCE POLICY BOARD**

Jerry Bower, Frank Day, Mary Gregory, Diana Herman, Tamela Ledford, Kay Jones, Ronald Matter, John Quinn, John Schlagheck, Cathy Newlove-Wenig, Joyce Winters, and two vacancies.

AD HOC MEMBERS: Thomas Blaha, Luci Gernot, Andrew Kalmar, Mary DeWitt, and Paulette Stephens

WORKFORCE POLICY BOARD - YOUTH COUNCIL**

Judy Didion, Annette Haskins, Doris Herringshaw, Valerie Linkey, Ronald Matter, and Joyce Winters.

AD HOC MEMBERS: Wade Gottschalk, Mary DeWitt, and Ed Plazer



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 real and personal 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.

Michael Sibbersen

For the 14th consecutive year, Wood County received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for 2009.

In December, the Auditor held a Forfeited Land Sale offering at auction 50 properties that were forfeited to the State of Ohio for delinquent real estate taxes. Of those, 33 were sold and returned to tax paying status.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) department provided digital mapping information to residents, businesses, and governmental entities. In 2010, new aerial images were added for other local government units to use with their own applications.

The State's expanded Homestead Exemption program provided 8,608 residents, those ages 65 and older or permanently disabled, with property tax relief. Taxpayers enrolled in this program saved \$3,409,181 in tax dollars compared to a savings of \$3,108,389 in 2009.

Although personal property tax was phased out in 2008, reimbursements to all subdivisions continue to be processed in diminishing amounts until 2018. Delinquent amounts continued to be billed and collected.

The Office assessed 74,028 parcels of real property with a taxable value of \$2,864,091,980. 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 2010, 3,669 such conveyances were processed, including 5,647 individual land parcels for a total of \$574,427. 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 321,903 acres in the County are enrolled in this program which brought a tax savings to landowners last year of over \$10,700,000.

As agent for the County Dog and Kennel Fund, the Auditor recorded record sales of dog licenses with 20,896 dog licenses and 157 kennel licenses during 2010. The online dog registration remained popular, with 4,291 licenses sold utilizing this method.

The Weights and Measures division inspected 727 commercial scales, 1,410 gas pumps, as well as electronic scanners in retail and wholesale use, and investigated 19 consumer complaints. Inspectors also checked packages at various locations throughout the County for correct net weight.

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. •



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 \$153,132,807.66 in real estate taxes during 2010. An additional \$758,310.55 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 \$718,519.30 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 2010, 230 taxpayers utilized the automatic withdrawal plan and 330 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 2010 was \$2,089,635.01.

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

2010	\$2,089,635.01
2009	\$2,756,898.29
2008	\$3,947,996.95
2007	\$4,633,743.20
2006	\$3,427,992.27



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 2010, the Office began accepting credit cards as a form of payment.

The Legal Office continued to aggressively image and microfilm old records in order to eliminate storage issues.

Cross-training of Title Office staff provided additional clerical support to the Legal Office as needed.

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	60,243
Motor Vehicle Mortgages Recorded	12,263
Salvage Titles	201
Penalties (for not transferring titles timely)	2,958
Inspections	7,607
Affidavits	20,209
Manufactured Home Archives Recorded	557
Boat titles, Duplicates and Memo Titles (includes charged replacement titles)	1,511
Watercraft Mortgages Recorded	266
Watercraft Affidavits	816
Watercraft Penalties	129

TITLE DISBURSEMENT TOTALS **\$15,018,293.93**

Clerk of Courts	
Certificate of Title Fund Receipts	\$655,284.77
Wood County General Fund	\$1,245.00
State of Ohio Motor Vehicle and Watercraft	
Casual and Dealer Tax	\$14,200,976.41
Certificate of Title Fees	\$156,587.75
Watercraft Fees	\$4,200.00

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 2010, 195 deaths were reported to the Coroner's Office. After evaluation, 75 of those deaths were determined to be Coroner's cases. •

LEGAL CASES AND DOCUMENTS FILED (Partial List)

CasesAppealed to 6th District Court of Appeals	85
Domestic Relations Cases Filed	465
Domestic Violence Civil Protection	149
Civil Stalking/Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Orders	105
Foreign Support	4
Domestic Cases Reopened	327
Foreign Judgments Filed	1
Conciliation	1
Criminal Cases Filed	590
Civil Cases Filed (Includes 650 Civil Foreclosure Cases)	1,220
Land Foreclosure Cases	78
Judgment Liens Filed	1,037
State Tax Liens Filed	2,003
Foreign Judgment Liens	6
Executions Filed (Aid & Writ)	19
Debtor Exams	46
Garnishments	273
Publications	65
Wrts of Possessions	75
Total Number of Judgment Entries	16,324
Notary Commissions Filed	440
Passport Applications Accepted	259
Criminal Investigations	2
Criminal Record Checks	203
Search Warrants	6
Coroner's Reports Filed	72

LEGAL DISBURSEMENT TOTALS **\$2,896,618.76**

General Fund	\$477,770.76
Legal Research Fees	\$9,754.16
Computerization Fees	\$44,483.74
Reimburse Court Diagnostic Fees	\$16,504.72
Mediation Costs	\$77,346.32
Fines Paid to the County	\$24,878.23
Fines Paid to the Law Library	\$750.00
Statutory fees paid to non-Wood County entities	\$215,474.50
Funding Shelters for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$14,211.32
Fees Paid to the Sheriff	\$123,656.44
Fines Paid to the Sheriff	\$12,145.52
Interest Paid to General Fund (includes interest for CDs)	\$4,719.16
Fees Paid to Appraisers	\$108,710.30
Indigent Application Fees	\$1,927.84
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	\$1,764,286.75

2010 CORONER CASES

Auto Accidents	13
Drug Accidents	8
Other Accidents	21
Natural	26
Suicide	6
Pending	1
Total Cases	75



Julie Baumgardner

RECORDER

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 18,538 documents were recorded and/or filed, with \$1,009,816.90 collected in fees. Of this amount \$496,585.90 was remitted to the State of Ohio for the Ohio Housing Trust Fund, less one percent paid into the County's general fund; \$71,492 was deposited into the Recorder's supplemental equipment fund; and the remaining \$441,739 was paid into the County's general fund.

In response to a decrease in workload and revenue over the past few years, the Wood County Recorder reorganized the Office structure in May to more efficiently perform its statutory functions and 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. •

2010 DOCUMENTS

Deeds	4,486
Judgment entries and certificates for transfer	130
Mortgages (total value \$1,319,772,733.78)	4,785
Mortgages released (with a value of \$5,728,186,983.49)	6,015
Land Contracts	46
Rights of way and easements	194
Leases	79
Mechanics liens	36
Plats	4
Federal Tax Liens	286
Financing statements	32
Terminations	36
All Others	2,409



Help Wherever You Turn

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 Crisis Line - The Link of Behavioral Connections	419-352-1545 or 800-472-9411
United Way's Health & Human Services Resource	211
Behavioral Connections	419-352-5387 or 419-872-8419
Bowling Green City Schools	419-352-3576
Children's Resource Center	419-352-7588 or 1-888-466-KIDS
City of Bowling Green	419-354-6203
Family Service Counseling Center	419-352-4624 or 1-877-352-4624
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	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	419-352-7566
Educational Service Center	419-354-9010
Health Department	419-352-8402 or 419-244-1610
Wood County Hospital	419-354-8910 (ER) or 419-354-8900
Juvenile Court	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 2010, Judge Kelsey served as Administrative Judge and represented the County on the Maumee Conservancy District Court. Judge Pollex served as Presiding Judge and represented the Court on the Judicial Advisory Board for the NorthWest Community Corrections Center; and Judge Mayberry served as Court Security Judge.

During 2010, the Court completed 3,007 cases and 1,174 cases remained pending. Of the total cases completed, 1,375 were general civil, 1,086 were domestic relations, and 546 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 119 new applications and 336 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 2010, the magnetometers at the main entrance to the Courthouse Complex registered 132,323 walkthroughs during the year, resulting in the holding of approximately 1,497 prohibited items.

Staff handled 118 incident reports during the year.

The Department received a \$50,000 federal grant to coordinate training for all court personnel within the County

to develop and strengthen effective responses to violence against women.

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

The Department reported to Judge Alan Mayberry, who served as the Court Security Judge during 2010. •

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 2010, the Department conducted pre-sentence investigations on 304 offenders and 322 new offenders were placed under the Department's supervision.

The Adult Probation Department supervised 1,019 offenders. Of those, 272 individuals were terminated from supervision, leaving 747 individuals under direct control on December 31.

The Department conducted 7,862 drug tests and supervised the incarceration of 22 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 105 offenders placed on Intensive Supervision Probation and 173 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 2010, Probate Court processed 792 new cases as well as 25 additional cases that were filed in previous years but reopened for further action in 2010. These figures include appointments of emergency guardians as well as civil commitment affidavits for hospitalization of mentally ill individuals, which increased

substantially over previous years. The total number of civil commitment filings equaled the total of the three previous years combined. In addition, 715 marriage licenses were filed during the year.

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 2010, the Juvenile Court had 3,290 cases filed and disposed of 3,283. Juvenile delinquency and traffic filings accounted for a significant portion of the year's filings. Among other cases, there were 285 cases filed alleging abused, neglected or dependent children.

The 48-bed Juvenile Detention Center provided both pretrial and short term commitments for 539 residents during 2010. This figure included 397 males and 142 females.

The Juvenile Court Probation Department supervised 572 youth and adults during 2010. A total of 350 youth performed 6,407.5 hours of community service work and returned \$17,010.38 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 48 volunteers who advocated for 121 allegedly abused or neglected children and provided more than 4,800 hours of service. As of December 31, a total of 40 CASA/GAL volunteers continued to advocate for 68 children. CASA was able to serve 100 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. •

Accessibility of Probate Records Expands

Records retention and access to records issues are a challenge for Probate Courts and other offices. Understanding the public's frequent interest in Probate Court records for genealogical and historical research, the Wood County Probate Court continues to utilize a variety of methods to insure its historical records are accessible now and for generations to come.

Although Ohio law permits the Probate Court to dispose of original records and maintain only microfilm copies, Probate Judge Dave Woessner acknowledges the significant historical value original paper records may have. Therefore, original, paper records are kept when possible.

In keeping with this philosophy, the Court has entered into agreements with other agencies to house a variety of original records, particularly those from the 1800s and early 1900s. These agreements came into being through the combined effort of the Wood County Records Center, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, and the Center for Archival Collections (CAC) at BGSU's Jerome Library. Interested parties may visit these agencies or start by viewing their respective websites which offer extensive information on their holdings, including searchable databases. The Hayes Presidential Center website is www.rbhayes.org and the CAC website is www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/.

Examples of Probate Court records available off-site include, but are not limited to, estates, guardianships, miscellaneous, and divorce cases. Judge Woessner has also ordered that a random sampling of a wide variety of original, paper Probate Court pleadings and papers be maintained over time regardless of their age.

Microfilm copies of all Probate Court records are maintained on site for viewing at the Probate Court. The public may also receive copies of documents via mail or e-mail. Arrangements can also be made to bring original records kept off site to the Probate Court for viewing.

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



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. •

Mark Wasylshyn

2010 WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

CIVIL DIVISION

Sheriff foreclosure property sales	397
Proceeds from parcels sold	\$4,240,371
Service fee income to General Fund	\$401,117
Warrants, summons, subpoena & indictments served	3,275
Civil Protection Orders served	162
Child support warrants served	239
Inmates extradited from out of state	23
Cost to extradite out-of-state inmates	\$18,993
Prisoners transported to penal institutions	242
Miles traveled by the Civil Division	99,921

JUSTICE CENTER

Inmates booked	4,186
Inmates released	4,203
Average daily population	148
Inmates transported to local courts	1,718
Total meals served	187,469
– Justice Center	160,822
– Juvenile Detention Center	21,675
– Educational Service Center	4,972
Average meals served per day	534
Average meal cost	\$1.35
Trustys worked in food service /laundry	168
Hours worked by trustys	78,336

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

Domestic violence arrests	63
Court case victim assistance	151
Students taught in six schools	938
Law enforcement officers trained	69
Citizens taught at community groups	220

SEX OFFENDERS

Registered	250
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WEAPON PERMITS & BACKGROUND CHECKS

Concealed Carry Weapon permits issued	658
Concealed Carry Weapons permits renewed	129
Persons fingerprinted for background checks	981

DETECTIVE BUREAU

Cases assigned	576
Cases cleared by arrest/closed/inactive	517
Cases pending investigation	59
Theft/fraud/forgery	194
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	146
Suspicious incident/departmental	73
Missing person/assault	13
Death/suicide	9
Sex offense/child abuse	32
Narcotic investigations	70
Fines/forfeitures to Drug Fund	\$50,715
Fire/arson	11
Solicitation	11

911 DIVISION/COMMUNICATIONS

911 calls answered	37,207
Fire calls dispatched	5,001
EMS calls dispatched	4,549
Calls dispatched to WCSO deputies	22,051
Village police depts. & park ranger calls dispatched	4,465
Warrants entered into state/national databases	2,397

VOLUNTEER AUXILIARY PROGRAM

Members	51
Special events worked	40
Funeral escorts	77
Hours of work volunteered	5,092

MOTORCYCLE UNIT

Event escorts	33
Motorcycle safety fairs/seminars	3
Total miles logged	3,310
Hours volunteered	322

EXPLORER PROGRAM

Members (Young adults 15 - 20)	21
Hours volunteered	1,008
Special events	17
Classroom hours	52
Field Trips	3

ROAD PATROL DIVISION

Complaints received and investigated	22,052
Criminal charges	562
Traffic citations	1,453
Traffic warning written/verbal	5,214
Crashes investigated	755
Injury crashes	174
Injured persons	249
Fatal crashes	2
Driving under the influence – DUI	69
Driving under suspension – DUS	91
Miles driven by Sheriff's vehicles	890,525

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

Participating School Districts: Eastwood, Elmwood, Lakota, McComb, Milton Center, North Baltimore, Otsego, and St. Louis	
D.A.R.E. core students	948
D.A.R.E. students grades K-6	415
D.A.R.E. students grade 7	222
Non D.A.R.E. classes	16
Non D.A.R.E. students	248
School staff members	68
Children participating in Safety Towns	42

COMMUNITY POLICING

Citizens Police Academy students	27
Bike Rodeos	3
Bikes registered	28
Carfit students	15
Sheriff's Office tours	4
R.A.D. Kids Safety students	12

LITTER CONTROL PROGRAM

Number of trustys worked	480
Hours trustys worked	694
Trash collected (lbs.)	24,646
Plastic collected (lbs.)	2,179
Aluminum collected (lbs.)	1,556
Tires collected	291
Miles of roads cleaned	658
Fair hours worked	36
Pounds of recyclables collected from WCSO & WCJC	31,313



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.

The Highway Garage staff completed work on five bridge replacements and three culvert replacements. Through the County Engineers Association of Ohio, the Engineer obtained \$305,065 in federal funds for the load rating of 68 bridges. Federal dollars were also used to fund three safety studies: a sign inventory, guardrail inventory, and curve speed study. The Engineer also received a \$182,587 grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission that provided half of the funding for the Huffman

Road bridge replacement over the Middle Branch of the Portage River. Staff also completed Pavement Condition Ratings of all 250 miles of county road that will be used to prioritize future road projects.

The Engineer oversees a staff of 19 at the County Office Building and 35 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 2010, the Criminal Division opened 590 new adult felony cases, with 18 cases resolved by jury or court trial. Of those, 16 resulted in convictions. The office successfully prosecuted three murder cases, including the 1991 murder of 19 year old Deana Meeks.

The Juvenile Division opened 1,007 new delinquency cases and adjudicated 35 felony level offenses committed by juveniles. Additionally, the Juvenile Division filed five permanent custody cases.

The Civil Division opened 28 opinion requests from various county offices. Additionally, the

2010 SOURCES OF MOTOR VEHICLE AND GASOLINE TAXES

Motor Vehicle License Fees.....	\$3,945,468.54
Gasoline Tax	\$2,366,744.74
Traffic Fines & Receipts.....	\$141,268.15
Reimbursements.....	\$302,678.41
Refunds.....	\$398.40
Grants	\$677,905.50
Other Receipts.....	\$4,076.64
Interest	\$5,323.14
Total	\$7,443,863.52

BRIDGE PROJECTS COMPLETED

Huffman Road (Portage Twp.)	\$365,174
Main Street (Tontogany)	\$115,000
Hanley Road (Lake Twp.)	\$94,000
Sand Ridge Road (Weston/Grand Rapids Twp.)	\$115,000
Bridge Street (Pemberville).....	\$25,000
Cygnet Road (Bloom Twp.).....	\$55,000
Cross Creek Road (Washington Twp.).....	\$20,000

ROAD PROJECTS COMPLETED

Tracy Road (2.5 miles).....	\$400,000
Tar and Chip Various County Roads (19.7 miles).....	\$288,500

DRAINAGE PROJECTS COMPLETED

Culvert Replacements (3).....	\$118,000
Ditch Cleanouts	30 Miles
Ditch Bank Mowing	34.5 Miles
Ditch Bank Debrushing	9 Miles
Ditch Bank Protection and Repair	1.5 Miles

division opened various nuisance, zoning violation, tax-related and other cases before the courts of the County.

The Youth Services Division, or C.Y.C.L.E. Program (Cooperating with Youth, the Community, and Law Enforcement), provided youth crime prevention programs. The division initiated the Teen Court program which utilizes select students from around the County who, in a "court hearing" setting and under the supervision of an adult hearing officer, determine penalties and programs for juvenile offenders to complete in order to respond to unruly or delinquent acts. Other programs, including the Juvenile Mediation Program (JuMP) and Face 2 Face Peer Mediation, provided

mediation both to at risk youth and several school districts in the County. On March 13th, approximately 500 students participated in the 11th Annual Youth Olympics focusing on "Competition without Conflict". The Safety Kids Calendar contest also celebrated its 21st year.

The Prosecuting Attorney hosted the annual law enforcement conference in September at Nazareth Hall. More than 100 participants learned about changes in the law affecting the investigation of crimes.

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 2010, the Planning Commission heard and reviewed 10 zoning requests. Six involved text changes to current zoning resolutions in Center, Portage, Perrysburg, Liberty, Bloom, Grand Rapids and Middleton Townships. Three involved the rezoning of existing land in Middleton, Plain and Milton Townships. Eight were recommended for approval, and two were recommended for denial. Sample zoning language for small wind farms, those under 5 Megawatts in size, was finalized and technical assistance was provided to Portage Township with an update to their zoning resolution.

The Commission reviewed and granted final approval to one residential subdivision in Perrysburg Township. This

subdivision was a new phase to an existing development and covered approximately 3.5 acres of land and contained 14 single family residential lots.

In addition to major subdivisions, the Planning Commission also reviewed and approved 97 minor lot splits and combinations totaling approximately 1,342 acres of land. Of those, 76 were parcel splits and 21 were combinations of existing parcels of land.

During fiscal year 2010, the Planning Commission received a total of \$322,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. These funds will be expended in 2011.

Funding from the 2009 block grants assisted income qualified residents of Risingsun with costs associated with tapping into

new sanitary sewer systems; installed a new storm sewer system in Custar; constructed ADA curbs and ramps as well as new sidewalks in Risingsun and West Millgrove; constructed an ADA compliant entrance ramp at the Risingsun Village Hall; installed a new security fence at the Cygnet water treatment plant; and repaired sanitary sewer manholes in Hoytville.

The Planning Commission applied for and received funding under the FY10 CHIP (Community Housing Improvement Program). Projects planned with this grant include assistance to the Wood County Habitat for Humanity with the construction of two new homes, housing rehabilitation, emergency repairs, and replacement of failing septic systems for low

and moderate homeowners in Wood County.

Also in 2010, the Planning Commission Office utilized Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Funds to demolish 10 blighted homes in Northwood, Rossford, West Millgrove, Bloomdale, and North Baltimore as well as in Lake Township. Wood County also used a portion of these funds to aid Wood County Habitat for Humanity in redeveloping vacant properties with new homes for single family residential use. The NSP Funds were part of the National American Recovery Act – Stimulus funding program(s).

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

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Pamela Butler, MPH, Health Commissioner

The Wood County Health Department 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 Department expenditures for 2010 totaled \$4,286,625 while revenue for the year totaled \$ 4,198,944. A more comprehensive 2010 annual report of the Health District's activity is available on the Health Department's website.

The 11 member Board of Health, in addition to appointing the Health Commissioner, assumes the responsibility of overseeing the District's activities to provide for the protection and promotion of health for those living in and visiting Wood County. Dr. Steve Dood served as President of the Board of Health during 2010. •

LAW LIBRARY

Judith Gill, Librarian

Ohio Law requires each County to have a law library. Funding is derived from fines and penalties generated by state traffic code violations. The collection provides digital access to the laws, regulations and cases of all 50 states and the federal government. The in-house collection includes all Ohio primary source materials, as well as legal encyclopedias, treatises and manuals.

As a result of State legislation in 2009, the five member Law Library Resources Board officially became the Appointing Authority for the Law Library effective January 1, 2010, making the Law Library an official county agency.

During the year, staff logged a total of 1,393 reference events. Of

those events, 157 were with the courts and elected officials, 689 with attorneys, and 547 were with county residents. Visits to the library accounted for 944 events, with 411 via phone and 47 by email.

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

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

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

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 4-H Program brought awareness to healthy lifestyles by conducting "4-H'ers Walk Across Wood County". Volunteers and members walked 7,920 miles - 132 times across Wood County, raising more than \$1,000 for local organizations including tornado relief efforts.

CarTeens, a traffic safety program, covered traffic safety education, offenders' self-esteem, and interpersonal skills for 110 first-time juvenile traffic offenders. The classes were instructed by 15 teen facilitators and eight adult volunteers.

In compliance with Ohio Law, in-depth quality assurance training for Junior Fair market livestock exhibitors was provided to 293 young producers in a club setting with trained volunteers and 99 members in a county-wide training meeting.

Camp Palmer once again hosted 4-H Camp with 209 County members in attendance. 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 2010, 79 persons completed the 16-hour program.

The Family Nutrition Program provided 350 presentations on

the USDA MyPyramid Food Guidance System, Dietary Guidelines for Americans, food safety, and other nutrition topics. Take Control of your Diabetes was offered four times throughout the County for people with diabetes and their families. Food preservation demonstrations and workshops were also held throughout the County.

The Extension Office prepared a directory of local farm and garden products offered by Wood County growers, producers, and retailers. This directory provided residents with access to locally produced products, thereby enhancing the local economy.

Agricultural research projects conducted by Wood County Extension in 2010 sought to increase knowledge for producers, consultants, and ag professionals in the areas of nutrient management, soil and water quality improvement, integrated pest management, and production efficiency. Specific projects focused on cover crops, soil compaction, corn rootworm scouting, western bean cutworm monitoring, nitrogen rate comparison, crop rotation, and sustainable cropping systems.

Private pesticide applicator license re-certification sessions were conducted for over 150 local farmers. Participants gained information about pesticide use including wearing personal protective

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 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 in 2010. Elected were State of Ohio and Federal offices as well as one County Commissioner, County Auditor and one Common Pleas Court Judge. Voters passed 51 of 58 issues on the ballot in Wood County during 2010.

The number of registered voters for the November General Election was 103,312 which was an increase of 1.4 percent from the previous November.

Of the 44,760 General Election voters, 12.76 percent voted before Election Day through the absentee ballot program. This continues

the significantly increasing trend toward early voting that has occurred since "No Fault Absentee" laws were implemented in Ohio. Elections website.

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. •

equipment and using pesticide management practices to protect water supplies.

The Crop Observation and Recommendation Network (C.O.R.N.) Newsletter was distributed to farmers and agri-business. The newsletter provided crop scouting, integrated pest management, cultural practice and other practical information during the growing season plus updated research results

during the winter months.

The Master Gardener Program, a volunteer program, provided 16 individuals with extensive coursework in horticulture in exchange for a donation of volunteer hours. 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 2010, Veterans reached out for \$73,730 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 \$49.98 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 2010

Veterans Residing in Wood County	10,674
Total Client Contacts:	15,040
Veterans Transported to Medical facilities	429
Veterans Photo I.D. Cards issued	314
Newsletters Distributed	7,500
Memorial Day Appropriations	\$10,100
Flags and Grave Markers Distributed	9,661
Federal VA Claims/ Documents Processed.	18,569
Total Federal Dollars Brought into County	\$16,881,000

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 2010, the Lake Erie Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program resulted in 166 signed contracts for 407.5 acres including 392.5 acres of filter strips, 16,430 row feet of windbreaks, and 15 acres of other conservation plantings. 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.

Through the Conservation Reserve Program's Continuous Sign-up, 16 contracts were signed for 21.2 acres including 9.4 acres of quail buffers and 10.2 acres of filter strips, and 1.6 acres of other conservation plantings.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program brought \$15,315.50 to Wood County through three contracts. The Stewardship Program added an additional \$280,366 through six 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.

Nearly 3,000 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 & Wildlife Workshop.

SK Worm, a new teaching tool made available through Erie Basin RC&D, is a 6' tall museum quality animatronics

model of a worm coming out of a detailed soil monolith. 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. •

2010 CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Structures	7
Grassed Waterways	2
Wetlands	2
Water Control Structures	2
Secondary Containment Facilities	4
Surface Drains	4
Private Group Drainage Projects	8
Assistance on Other Projects	5

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 2010, the Office of the Public Defender represented approximately 3,200 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 2010. 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. •

SPIRIT OF WOOD COUNTY AWARDS

Nominations for the 2011 Spirit of Wood County Awards are being accepted through April 29, 2011.

Commissioners James Carter, Tim Brown, and Alvin Perkins encourage residents of Wood County to nominate current or former residents for one of seven award categories that will be presented on June 12, in conjunction with Wood County Heritage Days at the Historical Center. The County Commissioners have honored outstanding citizens since 1987. A listing of previous award recipients is available on the County website.

Agricultural Leadership

This award is for a person who plays an active role in agriculture and as a leader in the strengthening and betterment of agriculture in Wood County. The individual should have an appreciation for Wood County's great resources, its soils and the rural way of life. Nominees may include active farmers or those who have maintained a close contact with farm life.

Liberty Through Law/ Human Freedom

Nominees for this award will include those who support the guarantee of due process as well as those who have confirmed the principle that liberty is not a privilege of race. Also, persons who have protected liberty through the administration of justice. (Candidates may include a former judge, lawyer, police officer, former prosecuting attorney, civil liberty advocate and others. Current office holders are not eligible.)

Education for Civic Responsibility

This award is for an individual whose work in and for the educational system has helped form responsible citizens. Board members, professors, principals, teachers, parents or any other Wood County citizen active in education is eligible for this award.

Industrial/Economic Development

Individuals nominated for this award may include those who through the years have played a direct or indirect role in their community in fostering a business climate. Whether through a leadership role or direct involvement in the establishment of a business or industry, evidence of their contribution can be seen in community or county improvement.

Lyle R. Fletcher Good Citizenship Award

Individuals who have in their own way epitomized the pioneer spirit of American citizenship are eligible for this award. They are law-abiding community builders who have a concern for their neighbor's welfare but whose activities often go unrecognized.

Religion and Liberty

This award is given to one who fosters religious liberty and recognizes his/her contribution to good government. Nominees should be those whose activities give evidence that religion and religious liberty are beneficial to society (e.g., a lay person in civic involvement, a defender of religious liberty, or a leader of a religious institution)

Self-Government

Nominees should be persons who have given exemplary service to the people through government. (e.g., past city, county or village or township office holders as well as citizens who have served on community boards, political organizations, or other civic organizations. Current office holders are not eligible.) •

2010 Spirit of Wood County Award Recipients



Front Row Left to Right: Alvin Perkins, Jayne Roth (Agricultural Leadership); Mary K. Williams (Religion and Liberty); Edie Olds (Lyle R. Fletcher Good Citizenship); and James Carter

Back Row Left to Right: Harold Bower (Education for Civic Responsibility); Richard Edwards (Self-Government); Bernard Murphy (Industrial/Economic Development); and Tim Brown.

Not pictured is Raymond Fischer (Liberty Through Law/Human Freedom).



2011 Spirit of Wood County Award Nomination Form

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED? Current or former residents of Wood County are eligible to be nominated for a Spirit of Wood County Award.

WHO CAN NOMINATE? Any Wood County resident is invited to make one or more nominations. The nominator may also assist the Commissioners in presenting the award at the awards program.

Nominee Information:

Name _____	(FIRST)	(LAST)	(MII)	
Address _____	(STREET)	(CITY)	(ZIP)	(COUNTY)
Telephone _____	(HOME)	(WORK)		
Category: _____				

Nominator Information:

Name _____	(FIRST)	(LAST)	(MII)	
Address _____	(STREET)	(CITY)	(ZIP)	(COUNTY)
Telephone _____	(HOME)	(WORK)		

Reason(s) for Nomination: On a separate sheet of paper, please describe why you believe this person should be nominated for the award listed above. Please be as detailed as possible to provide the selection committee with enough information to make an informed decision. Nominations remain active for two years.

Return completed form by April 29 to: Spirit of Wood County Awards, c/o Board of County Commissioners, One Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, Ohio, 43402 or e-mail: commissioners@co.wood.oh.us

Wood County Government
One Courthouse Square
Bowling Green, Oh 43402

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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:

- 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