



CLERMONT
COUNTY OHIO



2013
ANNUAL
REPORT



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Our annual report outlines numerous projects and initiatives that took place in 2013, including the announcement of Huhtamaki, Inc.'s purchase of nearly one million square feet of manufacturing space. Helping create the business environment for companies to create and retain jobs continues to be a top priority.

In addition to economic development, another significant project for Clermont County was the opening of the Community Alternative Sentencing Center (CASC), the first facility of its kind in the State of Ohio. Talbert House operates the center, which serves misdemeanor female offenders with rehabilitative programming in lieu of jail time. More detailed information on CASC is available in this report.

Information accessibility is vital and we encourage citizens to use the various communication tools available to stay informed. County government utilizes Facebook and Twitter to promote various activities throughout Clermont County, as well as our YouTube channel to share all of our Commissioners' meetings. Citizens are encouraged to become actively involved by attending Board sessions on most Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Please call ahead to verify times and dates. All regular meetings of the Board are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, located at 101 East Main Street in Batavia. Sessions are also broadcast on area cable access television stations. For additional information, call 513-732-7300, or visit our website for a meeting agenda, www.clermontcountyohio.gov.

Please take time to review this annual report and the achievements that took place in Clermont County in 2013. We would like to thank you for choosing to live in Clermont County and for all you do to contribute to the vitality of our county.

Ed Humphrey, David Uible, Bob Proud



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Clermont County's economy grew stronger in 2013 with the creation of nearly 700 jobs. The largest project of the year was the announcement of Huhtamaki, Inc. purchasing almost one million square feet of the former Ford transmission plant. The company committed to hire 237 employees and invest more than \$60 million in this manufacturing facility. Jeff Wyler Automotive Group moved its headquarter facility to the former NCE building in the City of Milford and has developed the property into a multitenant office and warehouse operation. Software Packaging Associates (SPA) occupies 200,000 square feet of space there and employs twenty-five. AIM MRO purchased the former Hilltop Research site in Miamiville and will invest \$3.5 million in a new building and create 20 jobs. Other announced projects this year were mostly office users and all of them located in the Ivy Pointe Commerce Park in Union Township. The Class A office building across from Total Quality Logistics headquarters is now 97% occupied.

In addition to economic development, the Department of Community and Economic Development also manages planning and community development projects. In 2013 the Clermont County Planning Commission reviewed thirteen zone changes, five zoning resolution text amendments, five subdivision extension approvals, and four subdivision design plans. The approval of these subdivisions resulted in the creation of 160 lots in the design plan stage.

Also in 2013, planning staff began developing the Clermont County Comprehensive Plan. An advisory committee consisting of 22 members was formed to create goals and vision for the future of Clermont County. The plan addresses transportation, housing, public facilities, natural systems, economic development and land use for future developments countywide. The plan is not a governing document but a reference guide to assist local leaders in decision making for their community's future.

Under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), approximately \$502,500 was awarded to Clermont County this past year and helped fund the General Health District's Septic System Rehabilitation Program, a bridge replacement on Spring Street in the Village of Bethel, an alcohol and drug treatment program, and drainage repairs to portions of Fifth & Third streets in the Village of Moscow.

The Community Housing and Improvement Program (CHIP) was funded in the amount of \$400,000 and is assisting low to moderate income homeowners with necessary repairs to their homes, as well as assisting qualified applicants with down-payment assistance to become a homeowner.

A grant of approximately \$500,000 was awarded to the county through the Ohio Attorney General's office to aid communities in the removal of blighted and vacant properties. The Moving Ohio Forward Demolition program has helped to fund the demolition of over 65 deteriorated residential structures in Clermont County.

To learn more about Community & Economic Development programs, call 513-732-7825 or visit www.clermontcountyohio.biz.



WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

In 2013, the Clermont County Water Resources Department (CCWRD) completed the construction of the Bob McEwen Water Treatment Plant expansion and granular activated carbon (GAC) facility. Construction of the project began in 2011 and the official ribbon cutting ceremony was held May 29, 2013. The project expanded the treatment capacity of the facility from 10 million gallons per day to 19 million gallons per day and added a GAC adsorption facility to the treatment process. The Bob McEwen Water Treatment Plant uses surface water from Harsha Lake as the raw water source. The addition of GAC treatment will enhance removal of organic compounds, improve taste and odor, and help our drinking water maintain compliance with new drinking water regulations.



OTHER NOTEWORTHY PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2013 INCLUDE:

- Renovation of the Pierce, Union, Batavia (PUB) Water Treatment Plant and Well Field improvements located in Pierce Township.
- The rehabilitation and repainting of the Amelia Elevated Water Storage Tank, located on SR 132 south of SR 125 in Pierce Township, and the Booster #4 Ground Water Storage Tank, located at the intersection of SR 132 and SR 131 in Stonelick Township.
- Installation of approximately 1,300 feet of new sanitary sewer from Kitty Lane to Eva Lane in Union Township to replace aging infrastructure and provide additional capacity to alleviate basement flooding.
- Installation of over 2,700 feet of new sanitary force main from the Forest Glen Lift Station to the intersection of Clough Pike and Taylor Road in Batavia Township to replace aging infrastructure.

For more information, call 513-732-7970 or visit www.wrd.clermontcountyohio.gov.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) implemented an educational program for county schools, a Household Hazardous Waste voucher program, and diverted recyclables from the landfill via the drop-off recycling program. The county teamed with various agencies and organizations to host several neighborhood clean-ups, including the East Fork River Sweep and the Ohio River Sweep; which drew 873 volunteers who removed 1,279 bags of trash. Sixty-two tons of litter were removed from over 1,344 miles of roads utilizing the Municipal Court alternative sentencing program. The Tire Amnesty Event enabled collection of over 10,000 tires from Clermont County. The Office of Environmental Quality monitored water quality at 12 sites in the East Fork of the Little Miami River, including the new permanent water quality monitoring stations upstream and downstream of the CECOS facility.

For more information, visit www.oeq.net or contact OEQ at 513-732-7894.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The role of the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is to coordinate activities with local first response agencies to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural, accidental and human-caused disasters that may impact the County. Working with various local public safety agencies in 2013, EMA updated the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, conducted a full-scale exercise to test local capacity to respond to a hazardous materials incident, and renewed the National Weather Service Storm Ready Program. EMA responded to multiple weather related incidents in 2013, as well as a hazardous materials transportation accident in Wayne Township.



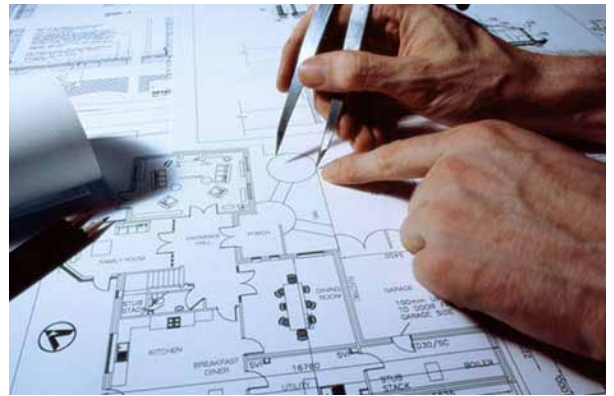
During National Preparedness Month, EMA made great strides towards improving public awareness. EMA presented preparedness information on workplace safety and security, emergency planning, and continuity of operations planning.

EMA had the opportunity to present the Clermont County Board of Development Disabilities with the FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Honorable Mention Award for Outstanding Citizen Corps Initiative. This national award recognized Clermont DD for their coordination of the Volunteer Reception Center following the March 2, 2012 tornado.

**For more information on EMA,
please call 513-732-7661 or visit
www.ema.clermontcountyohio.gov.**



BUILDING INSPECTION DEPARTMENT



Building Inspection Department is responsible of the administration and enforcement of state building codes and other local regulations as designated by the Board of County Commissioners. Building inspectors perform inspections for compliance with these state and local regulations. The department issues building permits for non-residential and residential sites in most of Clermont County and non-residential sites in most of Brown County. In 2013, the Building Inspection Department issued a total of 4,699 permits with a declared value of \$199.4 million.

**The Building Inspection Department
is located within the
Permit Central Building at
2275 Bauer Road, Batavia,
and can be reached by calling
513-732-7213 or visit
www.permit.clermontcountyohio.gov.**



In 2013, the Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) welcomed Judy Eschmann as the new Executive Director. Prior to joining Clermont County, Ms. Eschmann served as the Director of Clinton County Job and Family Services. She has made significant strides in improving internal processes, and has also guided the agency through significant changes imposed by state and federal requirements. CDJFS is a quadruple combined agency containing Public Assistance, Child Protective Services, Child Support Enforcement and Workforce Investment Act programs.



DIVISION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA)

The Division of PA administers Food Assistance, Medicaid, Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation, Ohio Works First, Disability Financial Assistance, and Child Care Programs. The Division is additionally responsible for Fraud Investigations and Benefit Recovery.

In 2013, these programs served the following number of individuals in Clermont County: Food Assistance – 31,198; Medicaid – 29,926; Ohio Works First Cash Assistance – 2,126; and Child Care Program – 699.

In 2013, the Public Assistance Benefit Recovery Unit collected \$479,793, a 3% increase over 2012 collections. The PA Division also earned \$90,905 in incentive funding, which is a 19% increase from 2012.

**For more information call 513-732-7111 or
www.publicassistance.clermontcountyohio.gov.**



DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT (CSE)

As of 2013 year end, CSE was administering 14,445 open cases serving 42,973 individuals (28,890 adults and 14,083 children), and collected \$36,978,762 in support payments. The Ohio Department of Job & Family Services recognized Clermont County CSE for “Best Performance Paternity Establishment and Most Improved Collections on Current Support” both in Large Caseload Division for Federal Fiscal Year 2013. The Child Support Enforcement Division is located at 2400 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.

**For more information call 513-732-7248
or visit www.clermontsupportskids.org.**



DIVISION OF CHILDREN'S PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS)



CPS conducted over 1,600 child abuse investigations in 2013. These investigations were initiated because community members called CPS to report their concerns. At the end of 2013 there were 380 children in CPS custody. CPS has increased its efforts to recruit local foster and adoptive parents in order to keep more children that are in CPS custody placed in Clermont County. Currently, about half the children placed in CPS custody are placed outside of Clermont County. In 2013, CPS found adoptive homes for 49 children.

**Children's Protective Services is located at
2400 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.
To report child abuse or neglect, call
513-732-STOP.**

**For more information about becoming
a foster or adoptive parent call 513-732-7765
or visit www.clermontforkids.org.**

OHIO MEANS JOBS (OMJ) CLERMONT COUNTY

OMJ Clermont County (previously known as Clermont Workforce One) is comprised of numerous county partnerships with on and off-site agencies that provide local services. These agencies include the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Clermont County Probation, Veterans' Services, Mature Services, LifePoint Solutions, Easter Seals Tri-State Youth Services, Dress for Success, Legal Aid and Adult Basic Literacy and Education. OMJ Clermont County continued to help residents secure employment or receive additional training that will enable them to obtain a new or better job. In 2013, OMJ Clermont County received 19,625 visits to the facility from job seekers. OMJ arranged for and financed career training for 159 citizens and provided \$606,023 in tuition and related supplies. Training was also provided for careers in health services, transportation, advanced manufacturing, and information technology, as well as other fields that show potential for growth. Additionally, 34 new employees took advantage of On-The-Job training agreements with six different companies. OMJ Clermont is supporting this new employee training and job retention with a financial contribution of \$231,000 to offset the company cost of training their new employees.

In addition, OMJ Clermont assisted 1,448 local businesses in 2013. 6,719 job opportunities were posted and 19 companies were represented at 55 different hiring events with 1,642 citizens seeking employment at these events. Two major job fairs were conducted at OMJ Clermont for 42 different companies, with 438 job candidates attending those hiring events. In addition, OMJ Clermont continues to be the exclusive application site for Huhnamaki USA. Over 1,500 applications have been collected in this effort.

The 10th annual Clermont youth career expo was held at UC Clermont. Nearly 200 high school juniors and seniors from Clermont County schools were trained in formal job-readiness classes, participated in a tour of the UC Clermont College campus, and visited thirty local businesses to learn about careers available in their industry and the training necessary to work in those professions.

OMJ Clermont County is located at 756 Old SR 74.
For more information call 513-943-3000,
or visit www.ohiomeansjobs.com.



CLERMONT TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION

Clermont Transportation Connection (CTC) transported 104,959 passengers in 2013 (a 0.5% decrease from 2012). 2013 was the fourth year in CTC's 35 year history that it transported more than 100,000 citizens annually. CTC transports people to jobs, medical appointments, schools, shopping and entertainment destinations throughout Clermont County and downtown Cincinnati. The Route 2X New Richmond Express and Route 4X Amelia Express provide non-stop service into downtown Cincinnati.



DIAL-A-RIDE is a door-to-door public transit service which operates very similar to a taxi cab. Passengers must call the Dispatch office and schedule a ride. The service is open to any citizen in Clermont County. All vehicles are wheel chair accessible. CTC is open to the public and operates from 6:00am to 6:00pm Monday through Saturday.

For more information please call
513-732-7433 or visit
www.ctc.clermontcountyohio.gov.

NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION

(NET) is a service provided to Medicaid eligible individuals and is administered by the DJFS Division of Public Assistance (PA). NET provides transportation assistance for individuals to and from a Medicaid eligible service, primarily through the Clermont Transportation Connection (CTC). In 2013, CTC provided 16,431 trips to 2,576 Medicaid riders.

COUNTY RECORDER

The Clermont County Recorder's Office processed 35,428 documents in 2013, collecting a total of \$1,937,842. The funds are distributed according to the law of the State of Ohio. A total of \$964,321 was deposited into the Ohio Housing Trust Fund and the remaining \$973,520 was deposited into Clermont County's General Fund.

Records in the Recorder's Office are public records and can be accessed by coming into the office or for online records, through the records management system. Records from 1993 forward can be accessed from online. Archive Viewer provides access to records back to 1978 and indexes back to 1953. The Recorder's Office will be changing the online site from Land Access to US Land records in 2014. Information and links to these sites are provided through the website.

The Clermont County Recorder is Deborah Clepper. The Recorder's Office is located in the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia.

For more information about the Recorder's Office please call 513-732-7236 or visit the website at www.recorder.clermontcountyohio.gov.

COUNTY TREASURER

The Clermont County Treasurer's Office continued its aggressive efforts pertaining to the collection of taxes. In 2013 the office collected \$240 million in real estate taxes, \$729,000 in manufactured home taxes and \$15,000 in personal property taxes. As of December 31, 2013, a total of 130 real estate tax foreclosures were filed and the county's real estate tax delinquency rate was 1.84 percent.

The Clermont County Treasurer is J. Robert True. The Treasurer's Office is located in the County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street, Batavia.

For more information about the Treasurer's Office call 513-732-7254 or visit www.clermonttreasurer.org.

COUNTY AUDITOR



In 2013 Linda L. Fraley, Clermont County Auditor, received the "Auditor of State Award with Distinction" from Auditor of State Dave Yost for the fiscal year 2012 county audit. This award is given to fewer than five percent of governmental agencies throughout Ohio.

The Auditor's office GIS department increased its presence in order to provide higher quality map products for the Auditor's website, as well as acting as an additional GIS resource for the citizens of Clermont County. This department will also provide much needed support for the property assessment process, which will be completed in 2014.

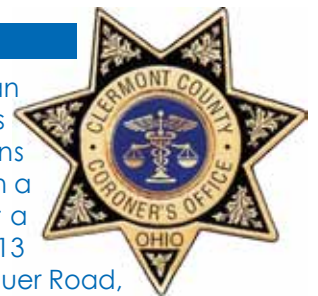
The Auditor's real estate website is a comprehensive source of property data, tax and land information for both the public and private sectors of Clermont County.

The Auditor's Office is located in the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia.

For more information visit the website www.clermontauditor.org or call 513-7362-7150. Land and parcel data can be accessed at www.clermontauditorrealestate.org or select the Real Estate Search icon on the Auditor's website.

COUNTY CORONER

The Clermont County Coroner is Dr. Brian Treon and the mission of the Coroner's Office is to promptly serve the citizens and visitors of Clermont County, Ohio in a dignified and professional manner at a time of great emotional distress. In 2013 the Coroner's Office moved to 2277 Bauer Road, Batavia, and is now located in the same building as the Health District, where citizens can obtain death certificates. The office entrance and parking is in the rear of the building. In 2013, the Coroner's Office assisted/ investigated 605 total cases. We had 483 natural deaths, 2 homicides, 4 undetermined, 31 suicides and 85 accidental cases. Contained within those categories were 56 drug related cases that were ruled accidental, 5 suicides, 1 homicide and 1 undetermined. The Coroner's Office works closely with law enforcement, the Mental Health and Recovery Board and the General Health District in effort to reduce future drug related deaths.



Please call 513-732-8117 with questions. Coroner staff can be reached 24 hours a day. More information is available at www.clermontcoroner.org.

COUNTY SHERIFF

The mission of the County Sheriff is, "To protect and serve the citizens of Clermont County." Sheriff A. J. Rodenberg, Jr. and the 189 employees in the Sheriff's Office provide primary law enforcement services for unincorporated portions of Clermont County, in addition to operating the county jail and providing security and other services to the courts.

CRIMES INVESTIGATED AND SOLVED

The investigations component investigated and solved a number of challenging cases in 2013. The Clermont County Narcotics Unit embarked on several lengthy investigations, including the apprehension of a criminal gang, the "Get it Quick", who were distributing narcotics and engaging in violent criminal activity in the Piccadilly apartment complex of Union Township, as well as the dismantling of a multifaceted narcotics distribution network responsible for dispensing hundreds of pounds of marijuana throughout Clermont County. These cases, and others, resulted in the arrest of numerous criminal suspects making Clermont County safer for its residents.

CORRECTIONS

The Clermont County Jail currently operates 278 beds, operating over capacity for most of the year. To help curb the inmate population issue, the County opened a Community Alternative Sentencing Center (CASC) that is operated in an unused portion in the Jail. The program, operated by Talbert House, is the County's attempt to address the complications associated with repeat offenders who commit non-violent crimes due to substance abuse/addiction. Inmate programs continue to be well attended, including drug education, AA and chapel services. The "Thinking for a Change" class initiated in 2012 by Municipal and Common Pleas Probation for selected inmates is still in operation, as well as the OMVI Court for repeat offenders.

NEW ARMORED RESCUE VEHICLE

In 2013, the Clermont County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) took possession of a new Lenco Bearcat Armored Rescue Vehicle. This specially equipped vehicle allows the SRT to respond to critical incidents, keeping officers and citizens safe. The cost was covered by a federal D.H.S. Grant.



The County Sheriff's office is located at
4470 S.R. 222 in Batavia.

For more information please call
513-732-7500 or visit the website at
www.clermontsheriff.org.

2013 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION & MERIT AWARDS

Deputy Gebhardt- Successful investigation of an 11 year old sexual assault crime involving a juvenile.

Deputy DePuccio- Seizure of drugs, firearms, and \$40,000 following an investigation and search warrant.

Deputy Schubert- Successful apprehension of a felon that fled to Puerto Rico; and coordinating the capture of suspects breaking into storage lockers.

Officers Joel Gilpin and Jeffery Johnson- Intervened in a suicide attempt by an inmate, saving his life.



COUNTY ENGINEER

Several road construction projects made for a busy 2013 for the Clermont Engineer's Office and the Clermont Transportation Improvement District. These highlighted projects are projected to ease congestion, expand access to business and shopping, and improve safety for all who travel through the area. The Clermont County Engineer is Patrick J. Manger, P.E., P.S., whose office is located at 2381 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.

EASTGATE NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD

Completed early in 2013, this project created a new roadway alignment with additional lanes and traffic signal improvements, and established a new connection to relocated ramps to and from SR 32. These improvements have provided better access to and from SR 32 and Eastgate Blvd, particularly for traffic moving through the Eastgate area retail hub.

EASTGATE BOULEVARD OVER SR 32

This project includes the reconstruction and widening of the Eastgate Blvd structure over SR 32, the relocation of existing westbound entrance and exit ramps from SR 32 to Eastgate North Drive instead of Eastgate Blvd, and the reconstruction of the westbound loop ramp from Eastgate Blvd to SR 32. These changes will eliminate the existing westbound ramp intersection from Eastgate Blvd which will increase mobility and improve levels of service along the Boulevard. Construction began in the summer of 2013 and is expected to conclude in the summer of 2014.

US 50/SR 131/MILFORD PARKWAY

Completed late in 2013, the intersection of US 50, SR 131, and Milford Parkway received additional turn lanes, improvements to the traffic signal, and additional sidewalk throughout the area. These changes are expected to improve traffic flow and increase safety due to the added capacity at the intersection. The new sidewalk has also created safer pedestrian access to the River's Edge/Milford Commerce Park area.

CLOUGH PIKE WIDENING

A third lane is being established along a 1.3 mile section of Clough Pike, between Mt. Carmel Tobasco Road and Gleneste Withamsville Road. In addition to the center turn lane, plans also include new sidewalk along the north side of the road, drainage improvements throughout the area, and upgrades to traffic signals. Construction began in the summer of 2013 with an expected completion date in the fall of 2014.

I-275/SR 32 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS

These improvements represent the most significant change to traffic patterns in the area.

Planned improvements include:

- Widening portions of SR 32 from Old SR 74 to Eastgate Square Drive.
- Constructing new ramps to provide new access to SR 32 from I-275, as well as new ramps and structures on I-275 that will allow for the reconnection of Aicholtz Road under the interstate.
- Improving safety by increasing the spacing distance between on and off ramps to eliminate weaving traffic.

The I-275/SR 32 Interchange Improvements are a well-coordinated series of projects that have been designed to serve current as well as projected travel demand. Improvements will also reduce congestion and delay and improve roadway safety. Construction began in the summer of 2013 and will continue into the fall of 2015.

For more information about the Engineer's Office please call 513-732-8857 or visit www.clermontengineer.org.



COMMON PLEAS COURT - GENERAL DIVISION

The Court of Common Pleas General Division has original jurisdiction to hear all adult felony criminal cases and all types of civil cases. In addition, the Court presides over the Clermont County Grand Jury, which has the power to hand down indictments in criminal cases. The Court is responsible for the operation of the Probation Department, which supervises those criminal defendants placed on community control as part of their sentence. Judge Victor M. Haddad served as Administrative Judge for the General Division and Judge Richard P. Ferenc served as Presiding Judge for all Common Pleas Court Divisions. In 2013, courthouses throughout Clermont County once again hosted the district and regional Ohio State High School Mock Trial competitions under the direction of the Clermont County District and Regional Coordinator, Judge Jerry McBride. The program engages students from area high schools in developing critical thinking skills by analyzing a hypothetical legal action and developing and presenting arguments for each side of the case. The following judges served the Common Pleas Court in 2013, Judge Jerry McBride, Judge Victor Haddad, Judge Richard Ferenc and Judge Thomas Herman. The court facilitates jury service for both Common Pleas and Municipal Court.



COMMON PLEAS COURT ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT

The Common Pleas Court Adult Probation Department strives to uphold its mission to serve the Common Pleas Court Judges and the citizens of Clermont County by maintaining community safety through appropriate and meaningful supervision of felony level offenders and by facilitating victim reparation through the collection of restitution from offenders for their victims. In 2013, the Common Pleas Adult Probation Department supervised an average of 1,168 offenders each month. These offenders were assigned to various units for the most appropriate level of supervision, depending on the offender's needs and level of risk. On 12/12/13 the Common Pleas Adult Probation Department was recognized as a "Patriotic Employer" by the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve after being nominated by employees serving in the military.

The Common Pleas Court House is located at 270 East Main Street in Batavia.

For more information on the Common Pleas Court, please call 513-732-7108 or visit www.clermontcommonpleas.com.



MUNICIPAL COURT



2013 was a year of transition for the Municipal Court. Judges James A. Shriver, Anthony W. Brock, and George E. Pattison elected Judge Shriver Administrative and Presiding Judge. However, in July Judge Shriver was appointed by Governor Kasich to Probate/Juvenile Court. Visiting Judge Robert Taylor handled Judge Shriver's docket until a replacement was appointed. Judge Brock assumed the role of Administrative and Presiding Judge. In September, Kevin T. Miles was appointed by the governor to the vacant seat, and Judge Miles was elected in November to serve the balance of the term.

In 2013, 33,812 new cases were filed in Clermont County Municipal Court: 22,346 traffic cases; 6,935 criminal cases; and 4,531 civil cases. There were also 6,916 pending cases where the offender had failed to appear that were reactivated. The Court collected over \$145,000 in restitution for victims of crime. The total receipts for traffic, criminal, and civil cases combined totaled \$8,026,257.

Last year the judges of Clermont County Municipal Court partnered with the County Commissioners, the Sheriff, and Talbert House in creating the Clermont County CASC program, the first community alternative sentencing center in the State of Ohio. The program is a lock down facility providing female misdemeanants with rehabilitative programming in lieu of jail.

Municipal Court is located at 4430 S.R. 222 in Batavia.
For more information about the Municipal Court please call 513-732-7911
or visit www.municipal.clermontcountyohio.gov.

MUNICIPAL COURT – ADULT PROBATION & COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Adult Probation Department of the Municipal Court supervised approximately 1,300 misdemeanor offenders in 2013. Approximately 550 of those offenders were new referrals for reporting community control services sentenced by the Municipal Court Judges.

A total of 2,132 offenders completed more than 61,000 hours of community service during 2013. Community service projects were performed by individuals at local government and non-profit agencies, and also on the Court's community service work crews.

Community service work crews continued to operate seven days a week, performing multiple projects in the community. The crews continued their year-round roadside litter pickup efforts, removing 6,944 bags of litter and 486 tires from 1,340 miles of state, county and township roadways.



On October 10, 2013, the department was awarded the 2013 Clifford Skeen Award for Excellence in Community Correction Programming. The award acknowledged efforts to create effective evidence-based programs that provide judges with sentencing alternatives. These programs include intensive supervision probation (ISP), intensive treatment/dual-diagnosis caseload, OVI Court, day treatment and residential jail corrective thinking programs, and community service. In order to address the increased number of females placed on intensive supervision, a gender-specific female probation officer was created by shifting existing departmental resources. The ISP program experienced a 17% reduction in the number of unsuccessful program terminations and the community service program increased successful completions by 11% during state fiscal year 2013.

In 2013, the Court continued to utilize electronically monitored house arrest as an alternative to jail time, saving nearly 2,500 estimated jail days.

JUVENILE/PROBATE COURT

Juvenile/Probate Court went through a year of transition in 2013. Judge Stephanie Wyler retired after 22 years, and Governor Kasich appointed Judge James A. Shriver to replace Judge Wyler effective July 1, 2013. Judge Shriver served as a Municipal Court Judge of Clermont County from 1995 until the appointment was effective July 1, 2013. Judge Shriver was an Assistant Prosecutor from 1984-1995, prior to serving as Municipal Court Judge.

The Juvenile Court oversees matters related to Delinquent Children, Unruly Children, Abused, Neglected, and Dependent Children, Juvenile Traffic Offenders, Paternity and Custody matters, certain Adult Cases and Child Support matters. The Court saw an increase of 43% in Child Support Contempt filings in 2013, an increase of 20% in Paternity matters, an increase of 63% in new Abused, Neglected and Dependency filings, and an increase of 20% for motions for permanent custody. Juvenile Delinquency filings were down about 15%, with reductions in misdemeanor filings of Criminal Damaging, Theft, and Possession/Consumption of Alcohol being the three charges that saw the most reduction. Felony filings were down in Burglary and Breaking and Entering. Overall, the total number of new cases filed in 2013 was virtually the same as the cases filed in 2012.

The Probate Court hears a wide variety of case types as well including Adoptions, Birth Corrections, Birth Registrations, Civil Actions, Conservatorships, Estates, Guardianships, Mental Illness, Mental Retardation, Minor Settlements, Name Change, and Testamentary Trust. In 2013, a total of 2,232 new cases were filed with the Court, a reduction of 5.9% from 2012. The two largest case types filed are Estates and Marriage License Applications.

The Juvenile/Probate Judge, by statute, is its own Clerk. The Court is also responsible for its own Detention Center for juveniles, as well as its own Probation Department. The Juvenile/ Probate Court employs approximately 85-90 full-time and part-time employees.

**Juvenile Court is located at
2340 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.
For more information on the Juvenile Court,
please call 513-732-7696, or visit
www.probatejuvenile.clermontcountyohio.gov.**

**Probate Court is located at
2379 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.
For more information on the Probate Court,
please call 513-732-7243, or visit
www.probatejuvenile.clermontcountyohio.gov.**

DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT



Judge Kathleen Rodenberg finished her third year in office in 2013. Reflecting upon the accomplishments and challenges of the year, Judge Rodenberg remained committed to fiscal responsibility, continuing improvement of the services to the public, furthering professional growth of her staff as well as ensuring the safety of the public and staff. Domestic Relations and Juvenile Courts continued to share resources. By rotating Magistrate administrative (non-court) days, Judge Rodenberg was able to grant Juvenile Court the use of a second court room one day each week.

By sharing Domestic Relations Court hearing rooms, Juvenile Court was able expand its available docket time by two additional hearing days each week. Judge Rodenberg remained acutely aware of safety for her staff and the public. With the help of the Court Services Department of the Clermont County Sheriff's Office, the Court organized and participated with Juvenile Court in the first fire drill during Judge Rodenberg's term. At Judge Rodenberg's request, Court Services also organized safety drills for staff. The safety drills educated staff on what action to take when faced with a person wielding a deadly weapon or when a person becomes threatening to other litigants or court personnel. Domestic Relations Court, under the guidance of Judge Kathleen Rodenberg, looks forward to meeting more challenges and creating more opportunities in 2014.

**Domestic Relations Court is located at 2340 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.
For more information, please call 513-732-7327 or visit www.domesticcourt.org.**

CASA FOR CLERMONT KIDS

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Clermont County is a private, non-profit agency funded primarily by the generous donations of individuals and corporations in the community, as well as two state grants. The mission of CASA for Clermont Kids is to advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected, or dependent children who have been introduced into the Clermont County Juvenile Court through no fault of their own. A non-profit agency based on the belief that children are entitled to a safe, loving and permanent home, CASA recruits and trains community involved citizens to volunteer as Guardians Ad Litem who independently work in the court system and in collaboration with involved agencies and community resources to serve as children's advocates and court representatives.

In 2013, 231 children were served by 55 volunteer advocates through CASA and 56 of these children achieved permanency in a safe and stable home. These volunteers spent over 2,900 hours advocating for their children and drove over 28,000 miles. Also in 2013, 17 community involved citizens completed 40 hours of pre-service training and were sworn in as officers of the court by both the Honorable Judge Stephanie Wyler and the Honorable Judge James A. Shriver so that they may represent the best interests of children in Clermont County.

The program has only two full time positions and three part time positions. The program's lean budget and ability to provide quality advocacy to such a large number of children is based on the hard work and dedication of the 55 volunteers who want to make a difference in the life of a child.

To learn more about this program, make a donation, or to volunteer please visit www.casaforclermontkids.org.



PUBLIC DEFENDER



The Clermont County Public Defender is statutorily mandated to provide legal representation to indigent adults and juveniles who are charged with an offense. The Public Defender is selected and appointed by the Public Defender Commission. The current Commission members are John Daggett, Theodore Froncek, William J. Rapp, Gary Rosenhoffer and William B. Strubbe. The Commission has an office staff of four full-time and one part-time administrative staff, one private investigator, six full-time attorneys and ten attorneys as part-time assistant public defenders in addition to the part-time director. R. Daniel Hannon has been the Director for over 30 years and is responsible for managing the office, maintaining records of all cases, as well as appointing the assistant public defenders and all supporting personnel. In 2013, legal representation was provided to indigent defendants in 5,549 municipal cases, 1,664 common pleas cases, 1,107 juvenile cases and 87 domestic relations cases.

As a result of the dramatic increase in full-time staff, the Public Defender's Office outgrew its facility and relocated its main office to 302 East Main Street in downtown Batavia.

The main office handles Common Pleas, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts. An auxiliary office is located in the Municipal Court House and handles Municipal Court cases exclusively.

For more information on the Public Defender, please call 513-732-7223 (main office) or 513-732-7418 (Municipal Court Division).

BOARD OF ELECTIONS



In 2013 the Board of Elections completely revised the precincts and polling locations in Clermont County. This process included consolidating the number of precincts from 200 down to 166 at 66 polling locations. This consolidation will result in a savings to the taxpayers of Clermont County in the amount of \$22,000 per election. The new precinct structure was in place for the countywide November election and the transition process was a success.

The Board of Elections conducted two elections in 2013, a May single issue ballot for the Milford Exempted Village Schools, and the countywide general election in November. Voter turnout reflected state and national trends with declining participation rates.

For the November general election, only 36,156 voted out of the total 135,011 registered voters.

The Board of Elections is still exploring updating and adding electronic election equipment, with a focus on making voting easier and faster while maintaining the highest levels of security and trust in the process.

The Board of Elections is located at 76 S. Riverside Drive in Batavia, and can be reached at 513-732-7275. For more information, please visit the Board of Elections website at www.clermontelections.org.

GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

2013 was a year of transition for the General Health District. Marty Lambert retired as Health Commissioner in March 2013 and Julianne Nesbit, former Assistant Health Commissioner, was appointed to lead the agency.

A Community Health Assessment (CHA) was conducted by public health system partners across the county in 2013 which provided an analysis of the health of the county. The assessment provides a snap shot of the community's health and will be conducted every five years to look at trends, improvements, or areas of concern. Many of the health concerns outlined in the CHA are related to health behaviors such as lack of physical activity, diet, and tobacco and drug use.

The results of the CHA will be used to collaboratively work with system partners, stakeholders and the community to collectively develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) in 2014. The CHIP will be used to guide public health partners in work towards improving the health of the county.

The Clermont County General Health District is located at 2275 Bauer Road in Batavia. The Nursing Division is located at 2400 Clermont Center Drive. To find out more about the programs offered by the General Health District call 513-732-7499 or visit the website www.clermonthealthdistrict.org.



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

In 2013, the Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) assumed responsibility for managing Clermont County's storm water management programs as required by Ohio EPA. These programs are designed to reduce the amount of pollutants from washing into local streams and lakes. In conjunction with the Water Resources Department, CCSWCD worked to complete mapping of all storm sewers in the urban areas of the county. Also in 2013, CCSWCD conducted over 350 school presentations, reaching more than 7,000 students with conservation education programs designed to raise awareness about soil and water conservation and litter prevention. Additionally, CCSWCD helped establish a green cafeteria program in Clermont Northeastern schools.



Through Farm Bill programs, approximately \$360,000 in cost share funds and technical assistance were provided to landowners for installing conservation practices throughout our region. Under a Conservation Innovation Grant, CCSWCD demonstrated the use of winter cover crops in improving soil quality and reducing storm water runoff pollution through multiple field days, and also constructed an innovative storm water treatment system in an eroded agricultural waterway. In 2013, the Stonelick Creek Watershed Action Plan was endorsed by the Ohio EPA, which will make it easier for CCSWCD to obtain grants for conservation projects in the watershed. The Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District is located at 1000 Locust Street in the Clermont County Fairgrounds in Owensville.

For more information about the District call 513-732-7075 or visit www.clermontswcd.org.

PARK DISTRICT

The Clermont County Park District had another successful and busy year in 2013. The Park District's lodge, log cabin, picnic shelters, and yurts were rented over 450 times and brought over 32,000 people to county parks to celebrate birthday parties, family reunions, family picnics, weddings, and other special occasions. February and March found Pattison Park busy with the Maple Syrup Program for schools and the popular Pancakes in the Park event to welcome in spring. Park District naturalists conducted programs for over 4,300

people during the year, with over 1,200 students attending programs that support their schools' curriculums. The Park District added 40 acres to the James L. and Frances Wilson Nature Preserve through a Clean Ohio Fund Grant. The preserve protects a section of Lucy Run Creek and brings the preserve to 145 acres in size. The Park District and its trail partners opened up the Campground segment of the Williamsburg to Batavia Hike Bike Trail. The trail now connects the Village of Williamsburg to the East Fork State Park campground.



For more information about the Clermont County Park District call 513-732-2977 or visit www.clermontparks.org.

CLERMONT SENIOR SERVICES

Clermont Senior Services is a private, nonprofit agency funded primarily by the Clermont County Senior Services Levy. The mission of Clermont Senior Services is to provide services that enable older adults to remain as active and independent as possible while living in their own homes.

In 2013, the agency provided services to more than 5,000 Clermont County senior residents, most of whom receive multiple services. Those services provided by Clermont Senior Services include Case Management, Specialized and Personal Transportation, Home Care, Home-delivered Meals, Adult Day Services at the Lois Brown Dale Welcome Center, Home Repair and Modification, Lifelong Learning Centers, a traditional Senior Center, Caregiver Support Group and Community Outreach/Education. Volunteers are used to assist with community projects, home repair and modification, home-delivered meals and for programming at the various center facilities.



Clermont Senior Services is the contract provider for the Clermont County Department of Jobs and Family Services to perform the investigations for Adult Protective Services, as well as the contract provider for Guardianship services through the Clermont County Probate Court. Cindy Gramke is the Executive Director/CEO of the agency.

For further information call 513-724-1255, or visit the website at www.clermontseniors.com.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION CLERMONT

To strengthen families and communities, the Clermont County Extension taught 220 Family and Consumer Sciences nutrition education programs in 2013, reaching 1,962 residents. Senior citizens, families with/without children and youth participated in interactive classes developed to improve quality of diet, manage food resources, promote food safety and increase physical activity. "Counting Your Money" budgeting classes, financial coaching sessions and the America Save\$ campaign offered in partnership with various county organizations were provided to 300 individuals.



Clermont County Extension is identified as a HUD-Approved Local Housing Counseling Agency, and 39 families received counseling and qualified for financial assistance through Ohio's First Time Homebuyer Program. These 39 families added \$3.6 million to the local housing economy.

To prepare youth for success, the Clermont County 4-H enrolled 758 members in 40 community clubs. Last year 11 new volunteers were trained and they joined 316 experienced adult volunteers. Adult volunteers provide support, guidance and encouragement to help make 4-H members successful. There were 93 youth, ages 9 to 15, who attended the Clermont/Hamilton County 4-H Camp at 4-H Camp Graham, located in Clarksville, Ohio.

OSU Extension Clermont is located on the Clermont County Fairgrounds at 1000 Locust Street in Owensville and offers a wide variety of additional resources.

For more information about OSU Extension call 513-732-7070 or visit www.clermont.osu.edu.



CLERMONT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



The Clermont County Public Library staff works hard to provide residents with more than just books and magazines. With ten branches located throughout the county, children use the library to finish homework and participate in fun, educational activities. Library staff members are dedicated to providing comprehensive early literacy opportunities. Adults use the library for many tasks like searching for new jobs,

learning how to use computers and popular programs as well as learning about a variety of topics presented by guest speakers. The library also often features entertainment like movies and concerts.

The library is an essential part of Clermont County and designated staff members work hard every day to meet the needs of all residents. Executive Director David Mezack retired in 2013 after seven years in the position. The board of trustees, library administration and the staff thank him for his hard work. Christine Wick was appointed director in December. Chris has been with the library for more than 13 years, having served as branch manager in New Richmond, Amelia and Union Township.

There is something for everyone at the Clermont County Public Library where the mission is to foster lifelong learning by providing resources that inform, programs that engage and ideas that inspire.

For more information about the Clermont County Public Library, call your local branch or visit www.clermontlibrary.org.

Connect with the public library system on Facebook at www.facebook.com/clermontcountypubliclibrary.

VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Clermont County Veterans' Service Commission (VSC) filed 837 federal and state benefit applications during 2013, bringing in a total amount of \$5,017,044 in reported compensation/non-compensation veteran benefits. The office provided \$720,669 in Emergency Financial Assistance to almost 800 Clermont County families. The Veterans' Service Commission assisted 1,021 veterans by providing them with transportation for medical appointments at local VA facilities.

The mission of the Clermont County Veterans' Service Commission is to oversee the operation of the VSC office; to provide emergency financial assistance to veterans, spouses, dependent children and surviving spouses; and as veteran advocates, assist veterans in obtaining earned benefits from the federal, state, and local levels of government. The VSC office is located at 76 S. Riverside Drive in Batavia.

For more information about the programs and assistance available, please call 513-732-7363 or visit the www.clermontcountyveterans.com.



BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Clermont DD) serves babies, children, and adults. The Thomas A. Wildey Center is located in Owensville and serves many age groups. The Early Intervention Program is located within this center and provides services to babies, birth to the age of 3. When a child is born with a developmental delay or disability, he or she is referred to the Clermont DD for Early Intervention Services. Adult services are provided at this facility as well as at two sheltered workshops, located in the Batavia area, to assist individuals to gain additional vocational training.

Clermont DD is proud of the many accomplishments that took place in 2013. Early Intervention Services continued for infants and toddlers, three students graduated from the Thomas A. Wildey School, and the Adult Services Program embraced Governor Kasich's Employment First Initiative to assist individuals in obtaining community employment. The Board and staff of Clermont DD are very appreciative of the community's support with the passage of a renewal levy in 2013.



For more information call 513-732-7000 or visit www.ClermontDD.org

MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY BOARD

The most dominant issue for the Mental Health and Recovery Board in 2013 was the continuing problem of opiate addiction (prescription drugs and heroin) in the county. A total of 52 county residents died of an overdose in 2013. The community recognizes the overwhelming consequences of opiate addiction, as evidenced by the more than 300 people who attended the STAND Opiate Summit in April. Participation in the Board's Opiate Task Force, and the number of calls received at the Board from people looking for treatment for family members, also underscore the severity of this issue. The Recovery to Work/ Horizon program, which was implemented in 2011 and serves primarily individuals with opiate addiction being released from jail by providing treatment and supported employment services, was recognized with an award from the National Association of Counties in July.

Increased partnership with County law enforcement through the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) has proven to be an asset to the community. CIT training increases first responders' knowledge of mental illness, community resources and treatment, and provides practical skills to deescalate a mental health crisis. Because of the CIT training, crisis hotline utilization increased by 57% (2,001 in SFY13 versus 1,152 in SFY12). CIT trainings continued in 2013, and there are now 156 certified CIT officers in Clermont County, with CIT officers available in the majority of police departments. 2013 was also year five of a six year Federal System of Care Grant (FAST TRAC), which focuses on mental health services for children and families. In September, FAST TRAC hosted a two-day Wraparound Conference. Along with local FAST TRAC and Family & Children First staff, attendees from seven states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico attended.

**The Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board is located at
2337 Clermont Center Drive in Batavia.**

For further information call 513-732-5400 or visit www.ccmhrb.org.

2013 REVENUES - BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BUDGETED FUNDS

Assessments	\$1,876,834	1.00%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,676,158	0.90%
Charges For Services	\$23,350,958	12.49%
Economic Development	\$832,499	0.45%
Debt Issues\$	\$13,000,000	6.96%
Casino Revenue	\$2,253,794	1.21%
Intergovernmental	\$36,418,994	19.48%
Investment Earnings	\$698,185	0.37%
Non-operating	\$1,612,24	0.86%
Other Revenues	\$8,640,960	4.62%
Permissive Sales Tax	\$25,152,544	13.46%
Other Taxes	\$558,867	0.30%
Property Taxes	\$29,820,891	15.95%
Property Taxes - State	\$4,070,769	2.18%
Vehicle License & Fuel Tax	\$6,755,345	3.61%
Licenses & Permits	\$1,658,419	0.89%
Water & Sewer Charges	\$28,537,398	15.27%
GRAND TOTAL	\$186,914,854	100.00%



2013 EXPENSES - BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BUDGETED FUNDS

Non-Operating	\$716,550	0.44%
Criminal Justice	\$23,102,452	14.07%
Economic & Community Development	\$1,932,927	1.18%
Environmental & Water Resource	\$29,287,896	17.83%
Facilities & Insurance	\$2,725,043	1.66%
General Government	\$17,466,527	10.64%
Parks	\$791,037	0.48%
Health & Human Services	\$57,090,900	34.76%
Improvement Districts	\$2,102,252	1.28%
Judicial Services	\$11,961,791	7.28%
Public Safety	\$4,082,900	2.49%
Transportation	\$12,975,195	7.90%
GRAND TOTAL	\$164,235,470	100.00%

2013 EXPENSES - GENERAL FUND

Judicial Services	\$11,007,715	20.52%
Criminal Justice	\$19,740,136	36.79%
Public Safety	\$3,474,603	6.48%
Economic & Community Development	\$4,073,802	7.59%
Facilities & Insurance	\$2,725,043	5.08%
General Government	\$7,560,337	14.09%
Health & Human Services	\$2,621,944	4.89%
Non-Operating	\$2,449,181	4.56%
GRAND TOTAL	\$53,652,761	100.00%

2013 REVENUES - GENERAL FUND

Charges For Services	\$10,198,840	19.32%
Economic Development	\$832,499	1.58%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,072,551	2.03%
Licenses & Permits	\$1,009,610	1.91%
Non-operating	\$2,310,493	4.38%
Other Revenues	\$1,058,191	2.00%
Permissive Sales Tax	\$22,758,779	43.10%
Investment Earnings	\$678,956	1.29%
Casino Revenue	\$2,253,794	4.27%
Intergovernmental	\$1,888,585	3.58%
Property Taxes	\$7,738,216	14.66%
Property Taxes - State	\$998,309	1.89%
GRAND TOTAL	\$52,798,823	100.00%



Charts exclude Internal Service Funds, Special Assessments and Interfund Transfers. The numbers presented in this report represent Commissioners' budgeted funds and include allocation of certain costs to the major service groups and departments. As they are unaudited at the time of this report, there may be adjustments upon audit. Due to all of these factors, the numbers will differ from those presented in the Clermont County Auditor's Financial Statements which may be viewed at www.ClermontAuditor.org. Intergovernmental revenues are monies received from Federal, State or Local Government entities. Local Government Funds are received from the State as a sharing of tax revenues based on population and municipal tax values.

