

COMMISSIONERS CORNER



SANDUSKY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Happy Valentine's Day

from the
Sandusky County Commissioners and Staff

Did you know?

The acronym SWAK (sealed with a kiss) is said to have originated in medieval times when contracts were not considered legal until signers included an X and then kissed it to prove their sincerity.

County Engineer

The Sandusky County Engineer is responsible for all maintenance, repair, widening, re-surfacing, reconstruction and construction of pavements, culverts and bridges on County roads. This includes snow removal, mowing and sign maintenance. The Engineer is also responsible for all bridges on Township roads and bridges within municipalities which are on, or on the extension of, a State Highway County Road.

Those critical responsibilities are carried out among the 27 employees and designated crews at the Engineer's office. Throughout the year the crews can be found mowing, clearing brush, excavating, crack sealing, berm work, making signs, replacing culverts, tiling, repairing potholes, completing maintenance on their equipment and buildings and even disposing of deceased animals on the roadway!

During the winter months, the road crew works tirelessly early mornings, late nights, holidays and weekends clearing snow and ice from our county roadways. Recently, dur-

ing a snowstorm, Truck 132 was on their route when they noticed a vehicle stuck on the roadside. Instead of passing them by, the crew assisted the couple in pulling their vehicle out. This is just one of many examples of how dedicated and important the Engineer's crews are.

Some projects on the Engineer's 2019 agenda this year include:

- Paving all of CR 53 from the Seneca County Line to the Ballville Bridge, and Port Clinton Road from North Street to SR 53.
- Paving all of CR 229 and CR 239 for a total of about 16 miles.
- Annual Pavement Marking contract: This contract covers about 1/3 of the miles in Sandusky County, annually; and
- Ditch Petition Projects.

Thank you to the Engineer and staff for your hard work and going the extra mile for our community!



Snow Removal



Salt Shed Outside



Salt Shed Inside-Salt Delivery



Boom Mower-Used for Mowing Areas Inaccessible by a regular mower for Ditches or Overpasses

Did you know?

There are 297 miles of county roads and approximately 270 bridges for which the County Engineer is responsible.

The Engineer's road crew used 4,901 ton of salt from 2017-2018. Over a 20 year span, the highest was 4,994 ton from 2014-2015 and the lowest was 1,112 ton from 2001-2002.

Sheriff Hilton just celebrated his two year anniversary as Sandusky County Sheriff.

The Sandusky County EMS Life Squads now have GPS units which will work with the 911 system to allow the closest ambulance to respond to calls.

January 26th marked the 40th anniversary of the "Blizzard of 1978".

A road vacation means "to abandon" or "to give up" the public's right to use a road or road right-of-way for transportation. After all criteria are met, and a public hearing is held, the Commissioners determine whether or not the road should be vacated.

Meet Your New Colleagues



Joseph Gerber
Assistant Prosecutor
Prosecutor's Office



Eric Corns
Probation Officer
Adult Probation



Bill Windnagel
Community Work
Program Coordinator



Dixie Gibbs, Deputy Dog Warden
Oath of Office Ceremony



Jody Hatfield
Formerly the work program coordinator, Jody has accepted the Courthouse Security Supervisor Position.

2019 Code-A-Thon

Commissioner Russ Zimmerman was selected to participate as a Judge for the second annual Code-A-Thon event at Terra Community College. Code-A-Thon is a free 48 hour program that gives students from around the world the opportunity to use technology, research and collaborate to address issues and problems confronting the human race on a global scale. Students work together to learn to code HTML, CSS and Java Script. Commissioner Zimmerman stated that he was very impressed with the participants and their projects. He was surprised to learn the amount of hours it takes to complete the coding

for a commonly used web page option such as a "back button".

Other Sandusky County employees on the panel of Judges were Assistant Prosecutor Rachel Dewey and Deputy Clerk Justin Smith.



Code-A-Thon Winners



Code-A-Thon Panel of Judges

Sick Leave Use Policy Refresher

Sick Leave Use: Sick leave may be used for the following reasons: a. Illness, injury, pregnancy, or childbirth related condition(s) of the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family where the employee's presence is reasonably necessary to provide care for the health and welfare of the affected family member; b. Death of a member of the employee's immediate family as defined in last paragraph of

this policy. (Sick leave usage for this purpose is limited to the time actually required to make funeral arrangements and attend the funeral. A maximum of five [5] working days for each occurrence may be used.); c. Medical, dental, or optical examinations or treatment of an employee or a member of an employee's immediate family which cannot be scheduled during non-working hours and where the employee's presence is rea-

the employee's presence is reasonably necessary. Employees should make every effort to schedule appointments at a time which least interrupts work, use of sick time will only be allowed for the time actually needed for travel to and from the appointment and the time needed for the appointment; d. Exposure of an employee to a contagious disease where attendance at work would jeopardize the health of the employee

other employees.

Please review Section 4.02 of the Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual for the full and complete policy.



On-site Health Screenings

On-site health screenings have been scheduled. Completion of the screening and health assessment will earn you 300 wellness points. This is the easiest, most cost effective way to complete this screening. As a reminder, in order to receive the wellness incen-

tive a 2% savings on your health insurance premium, all employees and their insured spouse must acquire 600 wellness points by August 15, 2019. Deadline to register for the on-site screenings is **February 20, 2019.**

On-site Screening Schedule:

2/27 DJ&FS
2/28 Sheriff's Department
3/1 Courthouse



5 WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH IN 5 MINUTES OR LESS:

1. Pack a Snack before you head out the door each morning.
2. Clear your desk from clutter.
3. Pump up the music.
4. Stretch.
5. Prioritize your daily tasks.

DJ&FS Co-workers are Sweet

January 24 was National Compliment Day. In celebration of that, the Department of Job and Family Services FUN Committee sold Candy-grams. Employees could send a candy-gram note along with a candy bar to a co-worker. They sold 462 candy grams. The funds were used to improve their fitness room. The group also recently revamped their fitness committee.

Agency employees can look forward to some fun and new events in the future.



DJFS Fitness Room

Courthouse Ramp Project

The Commissioners are working with the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership on construction of the new ADA ramp at the Courthouse located on North Park Avenue. Construction is set to begin this spring. The outside elevator will be removed as a part of this project. The ramp will make the building more accessible to all and will be a great improvement to the facility.





Did you know?

President's day this year is February 18th. President's day was established in 1885 in honor of President George Washington's Birthday.

Rutherford B. Hayes was our 19th president. He and his family resided in the Spiegel Grove Estate. Spiegel Grove was named for the large puddles of rainwater that collect beneath the towering trees following a storm. "Spiegel" is the German word for mirror.

There are 35 parks named after American Presidents.

President John Adams and President Thomas Jefferson died on the same day, July 4, 1826.

President Barack Obama won a Grammy Award in 2006 for his voice on the audio book "Dreams from My Father".

President John Tyler had 15 children.

William Henry Harrison was the 9th president. His grandson, Benjamin Harrison was the 23rd president.

President Martin Van Buren was the only president to speak English as a second language.

The Sandusky County Commissioners serve as administrators for Sandusky County by:

- Formulating a Multi-million Dollar Budget;
- Approving Purchase Vouchers;
- Negotiating and Approving Union Contracts;
- Pro-active long term planning;
- Handling day-to-day county issues;
- Approving the county road program for the County Engineer;
- Advertising and taking bids on all road, bridge, ditch and sewer projects;
- Implement maintenance on the inside and outside of county buildings; and
- Holding hearings to discuss drainage ditch projects, establishing and vacating roads, personnel and equipment needs for county departments, budget and expenses for upcoming county projects.

The Commissioners board meetings are held weekly, on Tuesday and Thursday, commencing at 8:00 a.m. Public forum sessions begin at 10:00 a.m. Evening sessions are held quarterly at 6:00 PM. Generally, all sessions are open to the public and anyone interested in attending the meetings are welcome to do so!

In Case You Missed It



Health Department Accreditation Ceremony



Engineer's Office Enjoying their Victory Lunch



Photos from Code-A-Thon