



FALL 2017



COMMISSIONER NEWS



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Warren County Commissioners Partner with Amazon Bringing 1,000 Full-Time Jobs



Warren County Board of Commissioners: Commissioner Tom Grossmann, Commissioner Shannon Jones, and Commissioner David Young

The Warren County Board of Commissioners is proud to have the creation of 1,000 full-time jobs become available to its residents through a new partnership with Amazon. The hi-tech, online retailer announced in September plans to open its fourth Ohio fulfillment center in Warren County, which will create more than 1,000 full-time positions. Associates at the one-million-square-foot facility will pick, pack, and ship larger customer items such as sports equipment, gardening tools, and pet food.

“Warren County is an incredible place to live, work, and play, and we are enthusiastic that Amazon sees the benefits of investing in our region,” said Tom Grossmann, Warren County Commissioner. “It is a priority of the Board to develop and provide a strong platform for our county’s workforce to serve from and Amazon’s growth as a company is a reflection of that commitment to providing opportunities for our residents.”

Amazon also offers regular full-time employees maternity and parental leave benefits and access to innovative programs like Career Choice, where it will pre-pay up to 95 percent of tuition for courses related to in-demand fields, regardless of whether the skills are relevant to a career at Amazon.

Full-time employees at Amazon receive competitive hourly wages and a comprehensive benefits package, including healthcare, 401(k) and company stock awards starting on day one. If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the positions becoming available at the new Amazon fulfillment center, visit www.amazondelivers.jobs.

Warren County Tax Budget Commission sets Tax Cut for Warren County Residents Savings on Property Tax to take Effect January 1

The Warren County Board of County Commissioners, in the Tuesday, July 18 Commissioners' Board Meeting, enthusiastically approved a 1.5 MILL property tax reduction in the levy collected by the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities. The property tax reduction cuts property taxes for Warren County residents by \$46 per \$100,000 in property value and save taxpayers an estimated \$9.5 million each year.

The tax cut will go into effect January 1, 2018. The Board of Commissioners commends the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board and the Warren County Budget Commission for their work in reducing taxes for the people of Warren County.

"The continued good stewardship by the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities has made this possible," said Jones. "We are grateful for their partnership."

The action taken by the Board of Commissioners is consistent with its fiscally conservative approach. Warren County already has one of the lowest county property tax rates in the region and this action will reduce that number even more.

Board of Commissioners approves property tax cut to take effect January 1, 2018.

Commissioner Jones Facilitates Opioid Discussion with other County Leaders

Shannon Jones, Warren County Commissioner, participated in an event, hosted by Warren County Area Progress Council, including several county leaders of the legal community, social services, and schools, to discuss the heroin epidemic: both the problems it causes and possible best practices to solve those problems.



Pictured, left to right: Duane Stansbury, Warren County Health Commissioner; Susan Walther, Director of Warren County Childrens Services; David Fornshell, Warren County Prosecutor; Shannon Jones, Warren County Commissioner

If you or a loved one need help, call Solutions' Crisis Hotline, a recovery center of Warren County, (877) 695-6333.

Commissioners Visited by Daughters of the American Revolution Turtlecreek Chapter

Early in September of this year, the Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Agenda included a visit from the Daughters of the American Revolution Turtlecreek Chapter. As part of their visit, a proclamation was made by the Board declaring Sept. 17-23, 2017, Constitution Week in Warren County. The Board of Commissioners approved the proclamation designating the week marking the 230th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Also at the meeting, the Board was given a print of the signing of the Constitution by the Daughters of the American Revolution Turtlecreek Chapter.



Pictured above: Commissioner Tom Grossmann, Commissioner Shannon Jones, Commissioner David Young along with the Daughters of the American Revolution Turtlecreek Chapter.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

Jim Aumann, Warren County Treasurer, Retires after Eighteen Years at Warren County

The Board of Commissioners congratulates Jim Aumann on his retirement and thanks him for his 18 years of service to Warren County. Jim Aumann is a lifelong resident who has dedicated his life to the service of his family and community. He attended William Mason High School, Miami University, and the American Institute of Banking.

Jim began his career as a bank teller, and later a branch manager at the First-Mason Bank, which became Fifth Third Bank, and also worked as an officer for Chase Manhattan Bank and Vice President of Community National Bank. Mr. Aumann left banking to become the Assistant County Treasurer in 1999 and was elected as County Treasurer in 2004.

Jim is a former Deerfield Township Trustee and has served on numerous boards and committees, and is an Elder of Heritage Presbyterian Church in Mason. Best wishes to him as he begins a new phase of life, spending more time with his wife Janet and their children and grandchildren.

Getting a ‘Check-Up from the Neck Up’: Kiosks offer anonymous assessments to Warren County residents

We’ve all been there a time or two – maybe more – in our lives. Something happens along the way that makes us feel down, anxious, or alone. It might last a day or two, but somehow we find a way to bounce back. We find the joy in life again. For some, though, that bounce back isn’t easy – or it’s not happening. That down feeling just doesn’t leave. It feels like there’s not a way out of it.

What if taking an anonymous assessment could help you figure out whether talking with someone could get you out of that funk? That’s the idea behind a few mental health kiosks that Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren & Clinton Counties (MHRS) has placed around its two-county service area. Developed by Boston firm Screening for Mental Health, the kiosks can help Warren and Clinton County residents who think they may be living with depression or anxiety to decide if reaching out to a therapist might help them.



“It can be hard for some people who think they might need help to make that first call,” said Tommy Koopman, MHRS Director of Wellness and Prevention who runs the kiosk program. “They may not be sure if what they’re feeling is something that requires some counseling. By taking an assessment, though, they get a little insight. It doesn’t take the place of seeing a professional; instead, it helps people decide whether to take that next step and call.”

Each kiosk links to 8 assessments, including depression, anxiety, substance abuse, alcohol use disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. They don’t require a lot of time – generally about 5 minutes each – but they offer information that can help you decide to get in touch with a health professional.

You can email the results to yourself, and you can also link to some helpful articles, too.

The kiosks will move periodically to locations across Warren County. Right now, you can visit one at Fields Pharmacy in Waynesville. Other locations will be announced later this year.

Online versions of the assessments are also available if you can’t get to a kiosk. Just go to www.mhrsonline.org and click on the Services tab, then Online Behavioral Health Screenings.

Warren County Job & Family Services and Warren County Educational Service Center Begin New Partnership

Warren County Job & Family Services is pleased to announce a new partnership with Warren County Educational Service Center (ESC). This new partnership provides Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Funding (TANF) to ESC which has allowed for ten new Resource Coordinators that are placed within six of our school districts, the Warren County Learning Center, and the Warren County Alternative School.

The Resource Coordinator program provides supports and resources to needy families with academically and otherwise at-risk children. Resource Coordinators focus on low-income students and their families who have been identified within the school system. Resource Coordinators help identify, create, and maintain resources for families.

Warren County's Board of Developmental Disabilities receives State's highest rating



Megan Manuel
Superintendent of the WCBDD

The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities (WCBDD) recently received the State of Ohio's highest rating in a mandatory accreditation review. The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) is responsible for the monitoring and oversight of Ohio's 88 county boards of developmental disabilities.

Accreditation reviews are conducted to ensure that boards meet accreditation standards, as outlined in the Ohio Administrative Code. Based on the results of an accreditation review, a county board is awarded an accreditation of one or three years. The WCBDD received a three year accreditation, the highest maximum that could be received.

The DODD accreditation process was designed to assist county boards in continuously improving the quality of their services and supports they provide to individuals with developmental disabilities.

In a letter to the WCBDD, DODD's Director John Martin stated, "You, the board members, your superintendent and staff are to be commended for your efforts in achieving this status. Department staff and I are well aware that this accomplishment required considerable commitment of resources and energy. Your efforts are now acknowledged as being in substantial compliance with state accreditation standards."

Megan Manuel, Superintendent of the WCBDD said, "I firmly believe that a review such as this does not happen because we got everything together the weeks or even months before the review. It happens because the staff here at the WCBDD does a great job every single day. I am grateful for all of their hard work that led to such a great accreditation review. We have a great agency, thanks to them."

The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities supports more than 1,800 individuals with disabilities and their families through Early Intervention, Adult, Employment, Residential, Therapy, and other support programs.

Warren County Emergency Services Achieves Accreditation

After months of work, the Communications Center (County 911 Dispatch) finally received word that they have met all of the criteria necessary to be dually approved by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) as an Emergency Medical and Fire Dispatch Center of Excellence—Warren County has earned the distinguished honor of becoming the 243rd Emergency Medical Dispatch Accredited Center, and the 40th Emergency Fire Dispatch Accredited Center in the world. It is also the only dually accredited center in the State of Ohio!

The IEAD is a non-profit standard-setting organization promoting safe and effective emergency dispatch services worldwide. This organization supports first-responder related research, unified protocol application, legislation for emergency call center regulation, and strengthening the emergency dispatch community through education, certification, and accreditation.

Warren County Emergency Services achieved accreditation for demonstrating compliance to the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) and the Fire Priority Dispatch System (FPDS) and the associated "20 Points of Excellence" which encompass the international practice standards of excellence for EMD and EFD.



Information Given to New Homeowners

Beginning in mid-September, the Recorder's office has started a new policy of mailing every new homeowner a letter from Recorder Oda, as well as information about the County's Property Fraud Alert program, and a copy of their deed.

"For the past four years we have been trying to inform the public about a scam where new property owners are sent a letter implying they are required by law to have a copy of their deed at all times to prove ownership and for \$79.95, this company will supply them with one," Mrs. Oda said.

Legislation concerning the problem has been introduced twice in Ohio's General Assembly, but it has not yet passed. So Mrs. Oda decided to do something to help Warren County homeowners by mailing them a copy of their deed after the transfer from one owner to the other had been recorded. She said a typical deed costs about 20 cents if someone would come into her office.

Oda said the letter, copy of the deed and information about Property Fraud Alert is just good government. "It's really a good opportunity to educate homeowners not only about their rights as property owners, but also of services offered in my office, including our Veterans ID program," Oda said.

For more information about Property Fraud Alert, Veteran ID cards, or to receive a free copy of your deed, please contact the Warren County Recorder's office at 513-695-1382.

Additionally, a brochure about Property Fraud Alert is enclosed in the letter. All Warren County property owners are eligible for this free service. If anyone records a lien or other document against their property, they will immediately get an email or telephone call letting them know to check with the County Recorder concerning their property.

"This is a free service that is offered through our software vendor to people in Warren County. We have had several people tell us that this service works, and gives them peace of mind, knowing someone is paying attention to what is going on with their property," she said.

Opportunity for Local Veterans to Meet with Veterans Services and Recorder's Office

The Warren County Recorder's office, in conjunction with the Warren County Veterans Service Commission, will be at the Mason Community Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on November 8, and 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on November 9. Veterans will be able to stop by any time to record their DD214s (discharge papers), have their photo taken for a Veteran ID card, and even talk to a qualified Veteran Service officer about potential benefits they may not know about.

"We know that many of our veterans are busy," said Linda Oda, Warren County Recorder. "It is our hope if we make it more convenient for veterans, they will take advantage of some great opportunities that we offer for them in Warren County." Veterans can record their DD214 on site in Mason with Mrs. Oda. Then, if they ever need a copy of their discharge papers, they will be available to the soldier and their family forever. They are not public documents, and no one has access to them except people who work in the Recorder's office, she said.

Veteran ID cards are considered "state issued" ID cards and can be used for identification purposes. They also can be used for discounts at many area venues. The Recorder's office has a list of hundreds of businesses that offer these discounts, and they can also be found on the Recorder's website at www.co.warren.oh.us/Recorder.

Additionally, the Warren County Veterans Service Commission will be on hand and will be able to access the soldiers' files and let them know what benefits they should be getting, and possibly opportunities they didn't know about.

For more information, please contact the Recorder's Office at 513-695-1382.

TAKE NOTE

Warren County Commissioners to Hold Traveling Meetings Opportunity for More Residents to Interact with County Government



The Warren County Board of Commissioners has scheduled four traveling meetings in various parts of the county during the 4th quarter of 2017. These Board meetings will be held in various townships throughout Warren County and provide a way for more residents to interact with their county government, ask questions, and share ideas.

“We are enthusiastic about getting out into the community and hearing directly from the residents,” said Tom Grossmann, President of the Board. “We are grateful for the partnerships we have with our local township officials and look forward to learning more about their good work.”

The schedule is as follows:

OCTOBER	Thursday, October 12, 2017	Traveling Meeting beginning at 5 :00 p.m.— Deerfield Township Trustees Meeting Room, 4900 Parkway Dr, Suite 180, Deerfield Township, OH
	Tuesday, October 17, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
	Tuesday, October 24, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
	Tuesday, October 31, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
NOVEMBER	Thursday, November 2, 2017	Traveling meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m.— Turtlecreek Township Administration Building, 670 N State Route 123, Lebanon, OH
	Tuesday, November 14, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
	Thursday, November 16, 2017	Traveling meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m.— Clearcreek Township Government Center, 7593 Bunnell Hill Road, Springboro, OH
	Tuesday, November 21, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
	Tuesday, November 28, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
DECEMBER	Tuesday, December 5, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
	Thursday, December 14, 2017	Traveling meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m.— Franklin Township Administration Office, 418 Fairview Drive, Franklin, OH
	Tuesday, December 19, 2017	Regular Tuesday meeting at 9:00 a.m.
	Thursday, December 21, 2017	Regular Thursday meeting at 5:00 p.m.
	Thursday, December 28, 2017	Regular Thursday meeting at 5:00 p.m.

For more information regarding times and locations of the Board’s meetings, visit their website at: <http://www.co.warren.oh.us/commissioners/>, or call: (513) 695-1250.

Your County Guide | *How do I?...*

Obtain a copy of my deed – Recorder’s Office – 406 Justice Drive 513-695-1382

Obtain a building/electrical permit – Building Dept. – 406 Justice Drive 513-695-1290

Obtain a Vendors License – Auditor’s Office – 406 Justice Drive 513-695-2616

Pay my Property Taxes – Treasurer’s Office – 406 Justice Drive 513-695-1300

Obtain a Marriage License or a copy – Probate Court – 900 Memorial Drive 513-695-1771

Obtain a passport – Clerk of Courts Title Office – 19 Dave Avenue 513-695-1175

Obtain a copy of a birth certificate – Health Dept. – 416 S. East Street – 513-695-1228