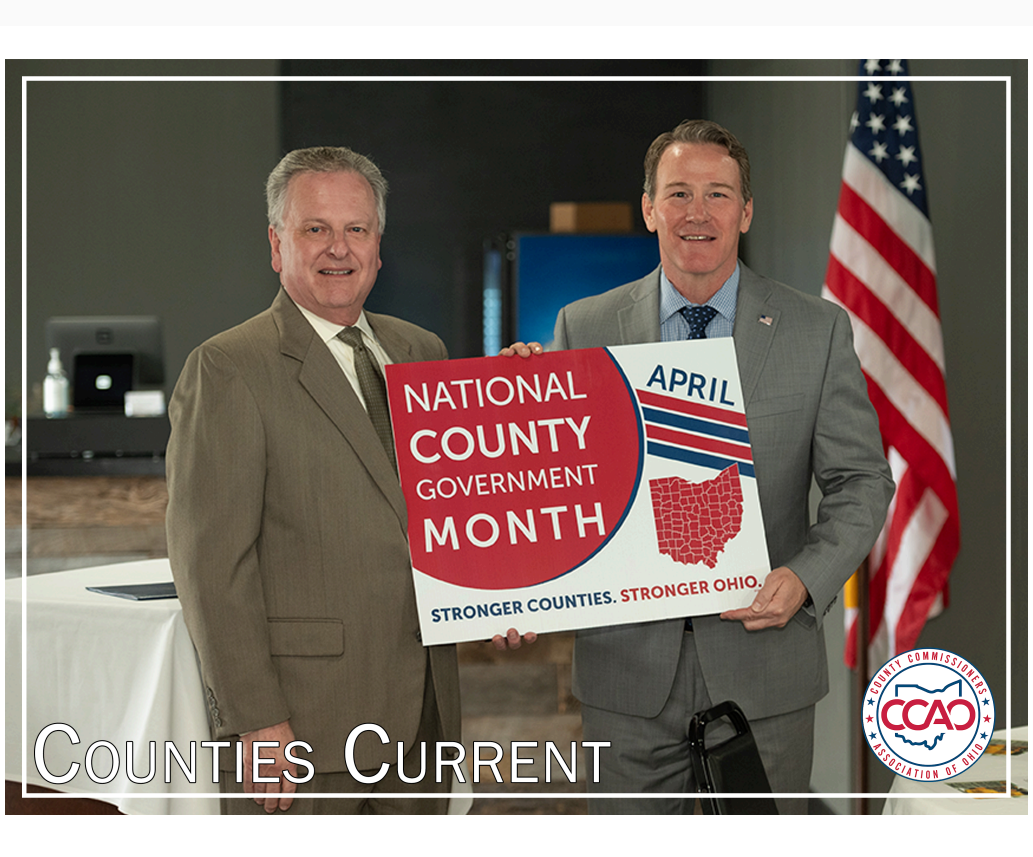
View this email in your browser



April 3, 2023

CCAO President and Henry County Commissioner Glenn Miller and Ohio Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted unveil the National County Government Month sign at the Northwest Ohio Commissioners and Engineers Association district meeting.

If you are having issues viewing Counties Current in your email, click [View this email in your browser] at the top of the email.

Association and Member News | State and Federal News |
Education and Grants | ARPA and BIF Resources | County News | Did You Know? |
Job Postings

Statehouse Report and Counties Current Archive | Print Version | Dates to Remember

ASSOCIATION AND MEMBER NEWS

Back to Top

Hocking County Commissioner Gary Waugh passes away

It is with heavy heart that CCAO shares that Hocking County Commissioner Gary Waugh passed this week after battling health issues. Gary was elected to office in 2016 and won re-election in 2020.

"Gary was a kind and considerate man, proud to be born in Hocking County and graduate from Logan High School," [fellow commissioner Sandra] Ogle told The Logan Daily News. "He worked hard with the board of commissioners to move the county forward for the benefit of the residents of Hocking County. He loved his family, his friends, and especially this county. It has been a great honor to work with Gary. He was a friend to all. Speaking on behalf of the commissioners and the staff, we will greatly miss our friend Gary. Our deepest sympathy to his wife and family."

Gary served for more than three decades in various roles in law enforcement, including as a sky marshal and on several presidential protection details with the Secret Service.

You can read Gary's obituary, and access information regarding his visitation and memorial service, here.

Alberta Lee, former Allen County Commissioner, passes away

Allen County lost a dedicated public servant last week when former Allen County Commissioner Alberta Lee passed away.

She served in the role from 1990 to 2002 and was the first woman to hold the position. In addition to county commissioner, Lee also served on the boards of the Lima City School District and Rhodes State College and served as Allen County Recorder.

Ohio Council of County Officials Legislative Reception now open for registration

Registration for the 2023 Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) Legislative Reception is now open! The event will be held at the Statehouse Atrium from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on April 19. The event is free to attend and is a great opportunity to get to know your legislators and statewide office holders.

Registration can be completed at CCAO's website. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Robin Garrett, CCAO Boards' Liaison and Events manager at rgarrett@ccao.org.

Let CCAO help you celebrate National County Government Month!

As you may be aware, April is National County Government Month. CCAO wants to help counties across Ohio celebrate!

We have mailed each county two window slicks to display in your county buildings along with a sample resolution for your county to adopt recognizing National County Government Month.

CCAO also has two yard signs for you to display. These are available at our office in Columbus. They will be distributed to you when someone from your county comes into our office or as our CCAO, CORSA and CEBCO staff visit your counties.

During the four weeks of April, CCAO will be running a social media campaign focusing on 4 Pillars of County Government:

- Week One: Justice/Public Safety
- Week Two: Roads/Transportation
- Week Three: Economy & Employment
- Week Four: Services for children, families, seniors and veterans

The purpose of the campaign is to educate the residents of your counties about the multifaceted and vital work that gets done at the county level. If you choose to opt-in to the campaign, CCAO will provide you with a customized graphic (with your county name and flag) each week of April to use on your social media platforms, websites, email messaging, etc.

NATIONAL
COUNTY
GOVERNMENT
MONTH
APRIL
CCAO
Justice & Public Safety
Counties operate 91% of all local jails and invest over $107B in justice and public safety annually, including 911 centers.

The image to the left (click to view the full copy) is a sample of what you will receive for week 1 of April. In place of the CCAO logo would be your respective county's flag. You can opt-in at any time to this campaign here.

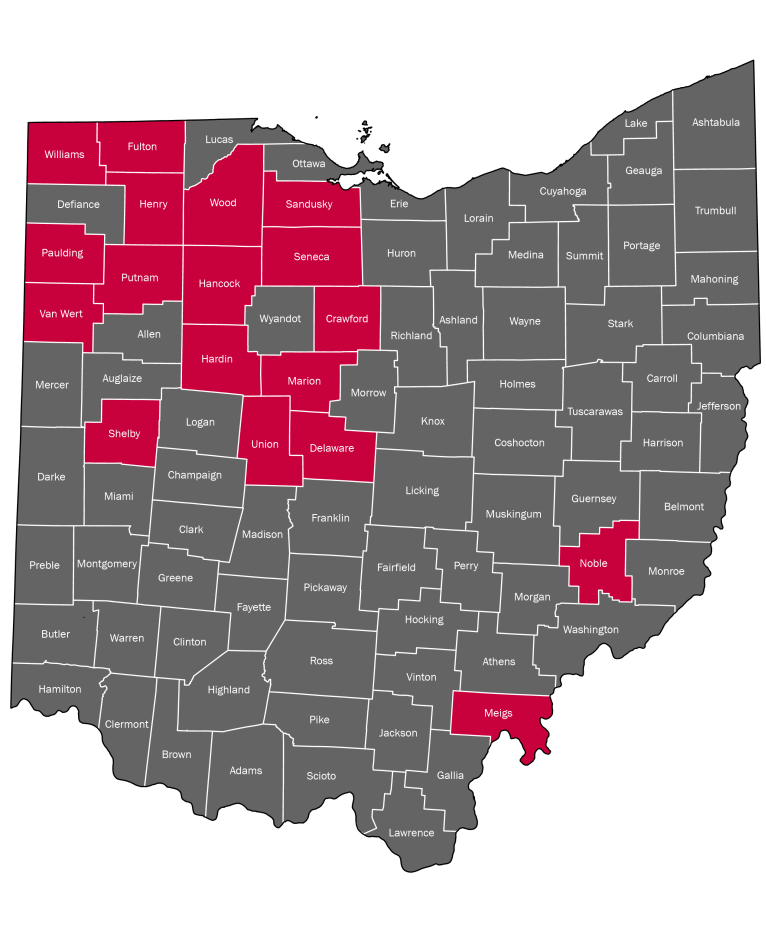
After you submit the form, you can upload an image file of your county's seal or logo. If no image is uploaded, your county flag image will be used in the graphics.

We hope you join us in recognizing the greatness of Ohio counties! Please reach out to CCAO Service Corporation Manager Steve Caraway at (614) 220-7998 or scaraway@ccao.org with any questions.

Happy birthday to 19 counties!

Nineteen counties were born on April 1, the second-most of any day! These counties are mostly in the northwest of the state, as 1820 saw the creation of counties out of land once reserved for Native American peoples under the Treaty of Greenville. To save space in this issue of *Counties Current*, you can read more about these counties on CCAO's website.

The map below shows the counties that celebrated birthdays on April 1.



STATE AND FEDERAL NEWS

Back to Top

ARPA Project and Expenditure Reporting portal opens today

NACo recently informed state associations that the reporting portal for counties to submit their annual and quarterly Project and Expenditure (P&E) Reports will open today.

ALL COUNTIES MUST SUBMIT A P&E REPORT BY APRIL 30.

Please note that there is new information that is required for these April P&E Reports. Counties are now required to include the following information (these requirements DO NOT apply to expenditures that are paid for using lost revenue – EC 6.1):

1. **Unique Entity ID Requirements for Subrecipients and Contractors:** All subrecipients and contractors are required to have a Unique Entity ID (UEI) and have that number included as part of the reporting process. The UEI is the replacement for the previously used DUNS numbers, and they are issued by SAM.gov. While this requirement is not new, starting in April 2023's P&E Report the report form will now return an error when no valid UEI is provided when creating new Subrecipient or Contractor entities. **This was previously not explicitly required, but strongly urged by Treasury.**
   1. Treasury has stated that for the April 2023 P&E reporting form, **if a pre-existing subrecipient or contractor record does not have a UEI, the system will simply flag it as a warning but not prevent them from submission of the entire P&E report.**
   2. However, **ANY NEW** subrecipient or contractor records will be required to have their UEIs provided and they cannot create those entities without one.
   3. Treasury has stated they **DO NOT KNOW** how long they will be able to keep this flexibility available after April 2023 so **counties should get their UEIs together ASAP.**
2. **New Subaward/Direct Payments Entity Type:** All Subawards/Direct Payments records will be required to have an "entity type" selected before a subaward can be created. This field will capture whether the entity receiving the award or payment is a Subrecipient, Contractor, or Beneficiary. **If a county attempts to create a new subaward for a subrecipient without a populated entity type field will result in an error.**

Information from the US Treasury Department on how to complete the P&E reports can be found in its User Guide and its Reporting and Compliance Guidelines.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services: completing Multiple Worksite Reports

Multiple Worksite Reports

Employers with employees at multiple locations will likely receive a request to complete a "Multiple Worksite Report" from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, in coordination with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

If you're asked to complete this report, please do! In fact, if you have 10 or more employees in your secondary work location(s), you're required to complete this report.

Why is the report important?
The Multiple Worksite Report gathers important information about local employment and wages. By collecting data by worksite, it provides a detailed look at business and economic conditions at both the regional and county level. This information helps inform decisions, including federal fund distribution.

How to complete the report:
Reporting online is easiest.

Online: Log in to idcf.bls.gov using the ID and password you were sent.

If you didn't receive login credentials, or if you didn't get a form in the mail, you can download the Multiple Worksite Report - BLS 3020 and submit it by email, fax, or mail:

Email: MWR_OH@bls.gov
Fax: 1-614-752-9627
Mail: Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services

Bureau of Labor Market Information

PO Box 182428

Columbus, OH 43218-2428

To learn more about the Multiple Worksite Report, visit bls.gov/respondents/mwr.

Questions? Call 1-614-752-9494 or email ContactLMI@jfs.ohio.gov.

Ohio Means Jobs Gen Z Virtual Career Fair

Ohio has more than 940,000 working-age individuals in the "Gen Z" generation. If your organization is interested in tapping the talents of young workers just starting their careers, consider participating in the first-ever statewide OhioMeansJobs.com **Gen Z Virtual Career Fair**.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is hosting this event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, **May 3**. Ohio employers of all sizes, industries, and from all parts of the state are invited to participate. You can advertise specific job openings and even interview candidates on the spot, for full-time, part-time, summer, or internship positions.

To learn more or register, email EmploymentServices@jfs.ohio.gov or contact a workforce specialist at your local OhioMeansJobs Center. To find your local OhioMeansJobs Center, visit jfs.ohio.gov/owd/wioa/map.stm.

The fair will take place during In-Demand Jobs Week, a statewide celebration of the jobs, industries, and skills that are in-demand in Ohio.

Office of Criminal Justice Services launches strategic planning survey

The Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS), in conjunction with the Kent State University Survey Research Laboratory, is conducting a survey to obtain input about Ohio's criminal justice needs. The results of this survey will be used by OCJS as it develops a five-year strategic plan to determine Ohio's criminal justice funding priorities, particularly with regards to Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.

You can access the survey link here.

PLEASE NOTE: If you receive a survey invite directly from the OCJS, please use that link and not the one shared above.

NACo releases overview of county priorities in President Biden's budget request

Last week, NACo released an analysis of President Biden's FY 2024 budget request as it pertains to county government. You can access the detailed analysis here.

NACo highlights eight items in the budget request of particular interest to counties:

- Continued funding for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law programs, such as $60.1 billion for highways and $14 billion for transit authorities.
- Increased funding for mental health services, such as funding for the 9-8-8 crisis line, $1.3 billion for substance abuse prevention and treatment, and $387 million for behavioral health workforce development.
- Dedicated support for the country's veterans and military families.
- Direct investment in local law enforcement through $4.9 billion in discretionary grant funding.
- Reinstatement of the Child Tax Credit, which helped reduce child poverty rates by 50% in 2021.
- Direct investments in clean energy and water utility infrastructure, such as $4 billion for upgrading drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.
- Increased investments in local election systems, such as $5 billion in election assistance grants.
- Expanded support for rural broadband deployment funding, largely through a $400 million investment in the US Department of Agriculture's ReConnect Program, which funds broadband infrastructure in rural service areas.

EDUCATION AND GRANTS

Back to Top

Visit the Grants and Funding Opportunities page on the CCAO website for a detailed listing of open grant programs.

CCAO, OACBHA to host ADMAH Board property tax levy training

On Friday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m., CCAO and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) will be hosting a training on the topic of ADAMH Board property tax levies that will be open to members of both CCAO and OACBHA. The training will be presented by representatives from OACBHA, CCAO, the Ohio Department of Taxation, and the Franklin County Auditor's office.

Registration is free and can be completed here.

Grant opportunity round up

CCAO has posted several new grant opportunities on our Grants and Funding Opportunities page that counties may choose to pursue. Below is a brief description of some.

- RecoveryOhio Law Enforcement Fund
  - To providing funding to help defray costs of drug task forces.
  - Deadline: April 17
- Ohio Parenting and Pregnancy Program
  - To increase awareness of and increase availability of services to pregnant women and parents, as well as other relatives caring for children less than 12 months old.
  - Deadline: May 1
- Family-Based Alternative Justice Program
  - To build capacity for diversion and alternate justice programs for parents in order to mitigate the harmful effects that the incarceration of a parent has on children.
  - Deadline: May 1
- Community Oriented Policing Services Hiring Program
  - To provide funding directly to law enforcement agencies to hire additional career law enforcement officers.
  - Deadline: May 11

Lake Erie Commission to host event on the Ohio Domestic Action Plan in April

On April 20, the Ohio Lake Erie Commission will be hosting a virtual event to review progress made on the Ohio Domestic Action Plan and kick off updates that will occur on the plan during 2023.

Among action items currently included in the Domestic Action Plan are H2Ohio support for home sewage treatment system remediation, establishing science-based agricultural best management practices and supporting farmers to implement them, and integrating the role of watershed planning at the local level to help better reduce nutrients efficiently.

You can find more information about the Lake Erie Commission and Ohio's Domestic Action Plan here.

Glenn College of Public Affairs MAPS recommendations for local government leaders

The John Glenn College of Public Affairs at the Ohio State University hosts a number of Management Advance for the Public Service (MAPS) professional development courses annually. The Glenn College has released a list of eight upcoming courses that it believes will be of particular value for local government leaders.

The first four local government MAPS courses are listed below. You can find the rest of the local government leaders MAPS courses here and a complete listing of courses here.

Strategic Inclusive Leadership

- Participants will explore the moral and business cases for DE&I work and how diversity leads to more inclusive workplaces, stronger performing teams and a competitive advantage.
- April 4, Virtual (Zoom)

Foundations of Community Engagement

- As a community leader, it is important for you to have a good understanding of the purpose, approaches and tools for engaging your community, and working effectively with your leadership team to promote community engagement. During this session, participants will learn best practices for community engagement.
- April 11, Virtual (Zoom)

Building a Succession Pipeline

- This course approaches succession planning as an organizational responsibility, where everyone can and is expected to play a role in successful succession practices. Participants explore the importance of succession management and how everyone in the organization is already contributing to how it is done today.
- April 18, OSU Columbus Campus

SAM.gov, federal grant portal, walkthrough available; grant writing resources available

Last month, the US General Services Administration hosted an online forum to help walk state and local officials through how to use SAM.gov. The website is the primary portal for intergovernmental assistance from the federal government to state and local governments.

The Administration has made the presentation slide deck and the recording of the session available for download, as well as a one-page guide.

Grants are a valuable resource for counties to utilize, but knowing how best to develop competitive applications can be difficult and the learning curve cause counties to lose out on grants. Luckily, federal agencies and nonprofits offer resources to assist in developing competitive applications. Federal agency websites point to internal and external sources and many conduct free training and targeted one on one or small group technical assistance. Here are some current resources to explore:

- Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse
- Great Lakes Community Action Partnership
- Local Infrastructure Hub
- National Wildlife Federation
- Rural Community Assistance Partnership
- State and Community Energy Programs-Tools and Resources
- US Department of Transportation
- USDA Rural Development
- 10,000 Communities Initiative

ARPA and BIL RESOURCES

Back to Top

This section of Counties Current will be a permanent fixture for the foreseeable future to help counties with the ins and outs of the American Rescue Plan Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These two laws provide a once-in-a-generation investment.

Federal legislation increases ARPA flexibility for infrastructure, disaster response, and CDBG projects

The federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 was signed into law on December 29, 2022. The legislation contains important updates to how counties and other local governments may use their ARPA funds. First, the Act codifies the standard allowance included in the US Department of the Treasury's Final Rule that permits counties to use up to $10 million for the provision of government services under the "revenue loss" eligibility category without having to demonstrate losses through a complicated formula. This codification means that the Treasury Department cannot alter the standard allowance in any subsequent rulemaking.

The Act also permits counties to use the greater of $10 million or 30 percent of their total ARPA allocation for federal infrastructure projects, responding to natural disasters, or Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects. Counties must expend these funds no later than September 30, 2026, rather than the standard date of December 31, 2026. Eligible natural disaster responses include emergency relief and the negative economic impacts of natural disasters, including temporary emergency housing, food assistance, financial assistance for lost wages, or other immediate needs. CDBG projects must meet the requirements of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

Some of the federal infrastructure programs eligible for ARPA match include the National Highway Performance Program; Bridge Investment Program; Surface Transportation Block Grant Program; and, the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program. More information, and a complete list of eligible transportation programs, is available from NACo at this link.

Resources for ARPA Reporting and Compliance

The most recent version of the US Treasury Reporting Guidance was published September 20, 2022. Counties and other local governments with populations greater than 250,000 or ARPA distributions greater than $10 million are required to file Project and Expenditure Reports no later than 30 days after the end of each quarter throughout the grant period. Other recipients will file Project and Expenditure Reports annually by April 30.

Members are urged to consult resources from US Treasury, NACo, and the Ohio Office of Budget and Management for more information about reporting and how to use ARPA funds. CCAO maintains a list of ARPA links and resources, including a comparison of state and federal procurement laws, at the ARPA Resources page.

Ohio Ethics Commission issues statement regarding stimulus funds

Last week the Ohio Ethics Commission released a statement ensuring that public officials are aware that stimulus funds, such as those received under the federal American Rescue Plan Act and the funds that communities will receive under Governor Mike DeWine's Appalachian investment program, are public funds and that conflict of interest laws must be observed.

To that effect, the Commission also recirculated its Advisory Opinion No. 2009-006, issued in 2009 regarding stimulus funds made available to governments under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It provides a more in-depth examination of potential conflicts of interest with stimulus funds, including a discussing regarding vendors.

CCAO encourages members refamiliarize themselves with this Advisory Opinion and conflict of interest laws to ensure good stewardship of ARPA and Appalachia funds.

Guidance and overview of available BIL funding available from NACo and the Ohio Department of Transportation

NACo and ODOT each host a resource page providing information to counties about the Bipartican Infrastructure Law. The pages are rich with information including multiple tables providing overviews and links to funding opportunities, a timeline of upcoming grant programs, and much more.

The NACo website can be found here and the ODOT website can be found here.

CCAO strongly encourages counties to frequently visit the sites and apply for funding through the myriad of programs to bring valuable federal funds to Ohio communities.

COUNTY NEWS

Back to Top

Each week Counties Current highlights the happenings in our counties in the words of their local media. One county from each of the CCAO's five districts is highlighted.

Northwest District

Henry County commissioners approve new incentives for employees

The Crescent News, March 29, 2023

Henry County commissioners approved several incentives for county employees during their Tuesday meeting. A five-member committee met three or four times, according to Commissioner Jeff Mires, and came up with several incentives that his colleagues approved in a pair of resolutions Tuesday. One updates the county policy manual for employees; the other approves the incentives.

They include:

• employee service bonuses based on each employee's PERS years, capped at $2,000. Full-time employees will receive $100 for each year while part-timers will get $50 for each year.

• more generous vacation time: one year for two-year employees, three weeks for five-year employees, four weeks for 12-year employees and five weeks for 20-year employees. Previously, the amounts were two weeks for one-year employees, three weeks for eight-year employees, four weeks for 15-year employees and five weeks for 25-year employees.

Northeast District

Commissioners approve agreement with public defender corporation

Star Beacon, March 21, 2023

The Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners approved a memorandum of understanding with Ashtabula County Public Defender Inc., to transfer funds to the county's public defender office during a meeting Tuesday morning.

The funds, $50,000, will be used for the Ashtabula County Public Defender for litigation support, expert witness fees, extraordinary litigation expenses, client support and transportation, and office facilities and supporting technology, according to the resolution approved by the

Ashtabula County Public Defender Inc. is a corporation that formerly oversaw the county's indigent defense services, before the commissioners created the current Ashtabula County Public Defender's office.

Commissioner Casey Kozlowski said the corporation is winding down its operations after the change, and wanted to allocate most of its remaining funds to the Public Defender's Office.

Central District

Knox County commissioners award The Winter Sanctuary $500,000 in ARPA funding

Knox Pages, March 31, 2023

In directing $500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding to The Winter Sanctuary, Commissioner Thom Collier said the commissioners wanted to make sure they were helping address homeless issues.

"A lot of times public perception is that government should do things like that, but government isn't always very efficient," Collier told sanctuary Executive Director Julie Miller. "We recognize that you are the group that is already doing these services and doing it efficiently.

The shelter is open Nov. 1 through April 30. Women and families are sheltered at St. Paul's Parrish House. The men have a shelter on South Norton Street.

Southwest District

Celebrate summer with Make Music Darke County

Miami Valley Today, March 29, 2023

Make Music Day, an international celebration of the Summer Solstice, returns June 21 for Make Music Darke County. Darke County Center for the Arts (DCCA) will again join other groups in communities around the globe to coordinate an event where anyone can experience the joy of performing music, and where everyone is invited to participate.

New this year is a collaboration with Katie Gilpin, the local resident and singer will be the Program Coordinator for a concert and musical celebration titled "We Are All In This Together." "Please join us for a musical celebration of community, inclusion, and acceptance on June 21st as part of Make Music Darke County," said Gilpin.

If you and/or your group would like to participate in this worldwide festival, send a description of your music, how many people are in your group, your preferred time and location to perform (if you have a preference) along with any samples you may have of your work to darkecounty@makemusicday.org.

Southeast District

Children's Advocacy Center discusses funding needs with commissioner

The Daily Jeffersonian, March 31, 2023

Member of Guernsey County's Multi-Disciplinary Team, Commissioner Skip Gardner and CEO/Executive Director of Ohio Network of Children's Advocacy Centers Danielle Vandegriff recently met with State Rep. Don Jones on March 24 to discuss options for state funding of Ohio's 37 Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC).

In the past four years, funds have decreased by more than 80% for Ohio's Children's Advocacy Centers. Without funding, much-needed services will be reduced or removed entirely. For some CACs, this means the difference between closing or keeping their doors open. These cuts have resulted in significant challenges in Guernsey County's Children Advocacy Center, as its staff has been cut in half.

All 50 states, including Ohio, have passed legislation requiring government agencies to collaborate on cases of child abuse and CACs are the key component to ensuring ongoing and effective collaboration. According to Kelly Lynch, board president of Guernsey County's Children Advocacy, "Our Multi-Disciplinary Team is one of, if not, the strongest in the state of Ohio. Highly-trained professionals from law enforcement, children services, victim advocacy, mental health, developmental disabilities and medical (fields) work collaboratively to wrap around the child victims of sexual abuse to provide a safe environment in which the child can tell their story to a specially trained forensic interviewer. Using this format saves money, increases prosecution rate and reduces trauma to the child victims."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please view the CCAO Calendar for a comprehensive list of events to note.

Back to Top

APRIL 5 - 13
Passover

April 9
Easter

APRIL 19
CCAO Board of Directors Meeting
OCCO Legislative Reception

APRIL 27 - 28
CEBCO Board of Directors Retreat

DID YOU KNOW?

Back to Top

Ohio Baseball

In honor of the 2023 Major League Baseball season beginning, some baseball facts!

The first professional baseball team in the country was the Cincinnati Red Stockings in 1869. The team dissolved in 1871. A new Cincinnati Reds franchise was a charter member of the National League in 1876, but that team folded in 1880 when it was expelled from the NL after serving beer at games. A third Reds franchise was formed in 1881 as a charter member of the American Association. That team has continued on to today.

Ohio has produced more than 1,000 baseball players, good for sixth in the nation (behind California, Pennsylvania, New York, Texas, and Illinois).

Ohio has produced 13 members of the Baseball Hall of Fame, the fifth most of any state (behind California, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas). Among Ohio's Hall of Famers are Cy Young, the all-time wins leader with 511 and the namesake of the Cy Young Award, given annually to the best pitcher in each league, and Barry Larkin, a native of Cincinnati who played his entire 19-year career with his hometown Reds.

Of Ohio's 13 Hall of Famers, Cuyahoga County has produced the most, with three. Montgomery County has produced two, while Adams, Belmont, Hamilton, Hardin, Highland, Jefferson, Lucas, and Tuscarawas have each produced one.

Ohio is home to eight professional baseball teams:

- The Cincinnati Reds (major league)
- The Cleveland Guardians (major league)
- The Columbus Clippers (AAA-level minor league)
- The Toledo Mud Hens (AAA-level minor league)
- The Akron RubberDucks (AA-level minor league)
- The Dayton Dragons (High A-level minor league)
- The Lake County Captains (High A-level minor league)
- The Lake Erie Crushers (an independent minor league)

Copyright © 2023 CCAO, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.