



# OCMA NEWSLETTER

*Ohio City/County Management Association*



Treasure Island Park and the Float Troy program  
City of Troy

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## 2020 - 2021 OCMA Board Members

Ken Filipiak, *President*

Sheryl Long, *Vice-President*

Mark Schwieterman, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Mark Wendling, *Board Member*

Dana McDaniel, *Board Member*

Robert Fowler, *Board Member*

Patrick Titterington, *Immediate Past President*

# Spring 2021 Issue

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## IMPORTANT DATES

March 31

### Membership Dues payment deadline

Don't forget to renew your OCMA membership! Payments options include:  
**Credit Card or E-Check - [OCMA website](#)**

**Check** - Ohio City/County Management Association  
1810 College Rd  
210 Page Hall  
Columbus, Ohio 43210

May 2021

### OCMA Summer Newsletter Arrives

2021

### OCMA 2021 Annual Winter Conference Update

With heavy deliberation, the OCMA 2021 Annual Winter Conference has been canceled. The decision came with consideration of the OCMA community and the policies provided by the state and local municipalities, including travel restrictions. The OCMA Board is committed to providing professional development and member connection by exploring alternative programs. We hope to provide an update in the Summer OCMA newsletter. For questions or concerns, please contact [ocmaohio@gmail.com](mailto:ocmaohio@gmail.com).

September 18-21,  
2022

### 2022 ICMA Annual Conference Columbus

We are excited for the ICMA 2022 Conference: Columbus/Franklin County and to be successful, we will need numerous commitments from individuals around the state. If you are interested in volunteering to plan the conference, please fill out the volunteer form [here](#).

### Congratulations - New Job Positions

#### **Monica Irelan**

Westerville City Council announces Monica Irelan, of Painesville, Ohio will replace retiring City Manager David Collinsworth as Westerville's 16th City Manager. Irelan was appointed on Tuesday, November 10 at a special meeting of Council.

Irelan has been City Manager in Painesville for four years. Prior to that, she held city management positions in the cities of Troy, Grosse Pointe Farms in Michigan and the City of Napoleon, Ohio. Irelan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Legal Certificate from the University of Detroit Mercy and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Wayne State University in Detroit.

Irelan is the first woman to hold the position of City Manager in Westerville. She started in this position in early January and is reappointing an Assistant City Manager to replace Julie Colley, who is retiring.

"I am incredibly honored to be selected as the next City Manager in Westerville," said Irelan. "Westerville has a tradition of high-functioning, long-term City Managers, and I am excited to join that rank. I am excited to get to work with the amazing team that already exists in Westerville. That includes Council, staff and the numerous community organizations."

*This is an excerpt taken from the Westerville website. Read the complete article [here](#).*

#### **Doug Lewis**

On December 21, 2020, Painesville City Council unanimously approved the appointment of Doug Lewis to the position of City Manager of Painesville. This comes just two weeks after the departure of former City Manager Monica Irelan to her new position in Westerville, Ohio. Lewis has served as Assistant City Manager of Painesville over the past 12 years.

#### **Dan Ralley**

Beginning January 19, 2021, Dan Ralley became the Assistant City Manager of the City of Hilliard. He was formerly the Assistant City Manager of the City of Upper Arlington. In terms of baseball, he considers this as the equivalent to a mid-season trade, moving to the west side of the Scioto River.

#### **Dan Wendt**

Beginning February 1, 2021, Dan Wendt became the City Manager of the City of Vandalia. Dan was formerly the Assistant City Manager of the City of Fairfield.

## **Jonathan Westendorf**

Sonny Lewis with the City of Franklin (Warren County) has retired after 47 years of faithful service to this community. Moving from the Division of Fire & EMS, Jonathan Westendorf has taken over for Lewis. Westendorf served as Chief for the past 20 years.

## **Retirement Announcements**

### **David Collinsworth and Julie Colley**

David Collinsworth retired from City Manager of the City of Westerville. Collinsworth has been with the city for more than 12 years, succeeding Dave Lindimore, who retired in 2007. Collinsworth is a 32-year public servant, having also served the Ohio communities of Tipp City (1997-2007) and Miamisburg prior to joining Westerville.

Julie Colley retired on January 21, 2021 as Assistant City Manager in Westerville. Collinsworth appointed Colley to assistant city manager in 2008. Colley previously served as city planner and economic-development administrator in Westerville as part of her 30-year service record. She also worked as city administrator in Grandview Heights.

“Long before the changes associated with the current (COVID-19 coronavirus) pandemic, Julie Colley and I had already made these personal decisions that happen to coincide,” Collinsworth said. “I consider it a great honor and privilege to have been afforded the opportunity to lead this incredible city and appreciate the great support from city councils past and present in our endeavors over the years.”

“Being Westerville’s assistant city manager has truly been a privilege,” Colley said. “I’ve had many opportunities to serve this community, both in my professional role and as a volunteer. This community has so much heart. As I prepare to transition my part in leadership, I know as a resident Westerville is in capable, talented hands.”

*This is an excerpt taken from the Westerville website. Read the complete article [here](#).*

### **Gary Huff**

Gary A. Huff retired on January 8, 2021 after over nine years as City Manager of the City of Piqua. He is now President/CEO of his own company, Paddle Creek Consulting.

## Job Postings

### Painesville Seeks Assistant City Manager

The City of Painesville, Ohio, a full-service city, is seeking a professional Assistant City Manager with vision and proven leadership skills. The ideal candidate would be a forward thinking, innovative change agent able to inspire others to achieve excellence in public service.

The Assistant City Manager is responsible for assisting the City Manager in the overall operations of the City. Duties include (but are not limited to) project oversight, ongoing operations and organizational initiatives, long range and strategic planning, policy developments and implementation. The Assistant City Manager stays abreast of current and projected developments in the conduct of city government through frequent conferences and contact with the City Manager. This position has wide latitude for the application of independent professional judgement.

Applications are subject to Ohio's public information laws.

- The City of Painesville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
- Position open until filled, with first review of applications on February 1, 2021.
- Questions about the position or process can be directed to **Kristin Young, Human Resources Director**, at [kyoung@painesville.com](mailto:kyoung@painesville.com) or 440-392-5787.
- For more information about the position, please go to [www.painesville.com](http://www.painesville.com).

### Find more jobs or post a job on the OCMA website.

To find employment opportunities, visit the [OCMA website](#).

### To post a job on the [OCMA website](#), sign into your account and follow these steps:

1. Click on "Resources" (located in the main menu at the top of the page)
2. Click on "Employment Opportunities"
3. Click on "Manage Job Postings" (to the right of the title Employment Opportunities)
4. Click on "Add Job Posting"
5. Complete the requested information
6. Preview (you can choose to preview before posting; preview will open in another tab)
7. Post

### Post a job in the OCMA Newsletter

Please submit your job posting for the newsletter after receiving the request for newsletter submissions. The request is sent out about a month before each newsletter.

- Up to the first five job posting submissions will appear in the newsletter.
- Please limit one job posting per municipality per newsletter.
- Include the position title, brief description, deadline to apply, where to apply and who to contact with questions about the position (if a contact person is available).

## OCMA Senior Advisors

In January, OCMA welcomed its newest Senior Advisor, David Collinsworth. OCMA now has four Senior Advisors. Senior Advisors are retired managers of the profession who offer confidential professional and personal support and advice with OCMA members. Senior Advisors are not consultants, but are friends, colleagues, and advisors to the profession.

Each region of Ohio (North, West Central, East Central and South) has an assigned Senior Advisor. A map and listing of these regions can be found on the [OCMA website](#). You can also view the map on the next page.

Who are our Senior Advisors? Let's introduce them!



Senior Advisor Ohio  
Region: North

Edward Ciecka holds an undergraduate degree from De Paul University and a master's degree from the University of Toledo. He is a forty-two-year veteran of public management in Ohio starting with a staff position with a regional transit authority, service in county government for 26 years, 20 as the County Administrator and 11 years as City Administrator with the City of Rossford. In retirement he has served as an interim Village and City Administrator.

He is a member of ICMA and OCMA, serving on the OCMA Board of Directors and as OCMA Treasurer. In addition, he has been a member of numerous public and non-profit boards. He has been a Senior Advisor since 2017.



Senior Advisor Ohio  
Region: East Central

David (Dave) Collinsworth (CM) was the City Manager for the City of Westerville, one of the largest suburban communities of Columbus, Ohio. In a 30-year career in local government, Dave has served as Assistant City Manager for the City of Miamisburg, Ohio and City Manager in Tipp City, Ohio. In Westerville, Dave was responsible for more than 430 full-time employees and an annual city budget exceeding \$200 million. He oversaw the programs and services of 10 departments, including a municipal electric, water and fiber-optic utility. Known nationally for its expansive parks and recreation system, Westerville has twice been named to Money Magazine's list of "America's Best Places to Live" and was recently named a "Top 7 Intelligent Community" by the Intelligent Communities Forum.

Dave, a past president of the Ohio City/County Management Assoc., graduated Cum Laude (Political Science) from the University of Dayton in 1988 and earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration at the University of Kansas in 1990. He resides in Westerville with wife Jane and three children, Rachel, Abbie and Andrew.



Senior Advisor Ohio  
Region: South

Brian Humphress' career spanned 41 years of public service in Kentucky and Ohio. He was the CAO in five communities, including 13 years as City Manager in Willard, Ohio. He completed his career in 2019 after serving as the Executive Director for the Miami Valley Communications Council from 2015 - 2019. Amongst Brian's honors and certifications include Certified Planner (AICP), Certified Housing Finance Professional (NDC), University Service Award (Northern Kentucky University), and serving as OCMA President (2007 -2008).

In retirement Brian serves as a Senior Advisor for OCMA & ICMA and has done the occasional consulting/hiring assessment gig. Otherwise, he is enjoying retirement with his wife of 45 years (Sharon) and their three sons and four grandchildren, and by traveling (at least, he was before COVID showed up).



Senior Advisor Ohio  
Region: West Central

Jim Bodenmiller began his career with the City of Springfield in 1987 and retired as its City Manager in 2019. He is currently employed as the Program Director for the Ohio Fire Executive Program. Jim served as an adjunct faculty member at Wittenberg University for 10+ years and he is a trainer and instructor for Ohio's police management development programs.

Jim holds a B.S. in Psychology from Bowling Green State University; a Master of Science in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Radford University, and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Dayton. He has completed senior executive programs at the University of Virginia and at Harvard University.

Jim is married to his high school sweetheart Jo Ann, and they have three grown children and three grandchildren, all residing in Ohio.

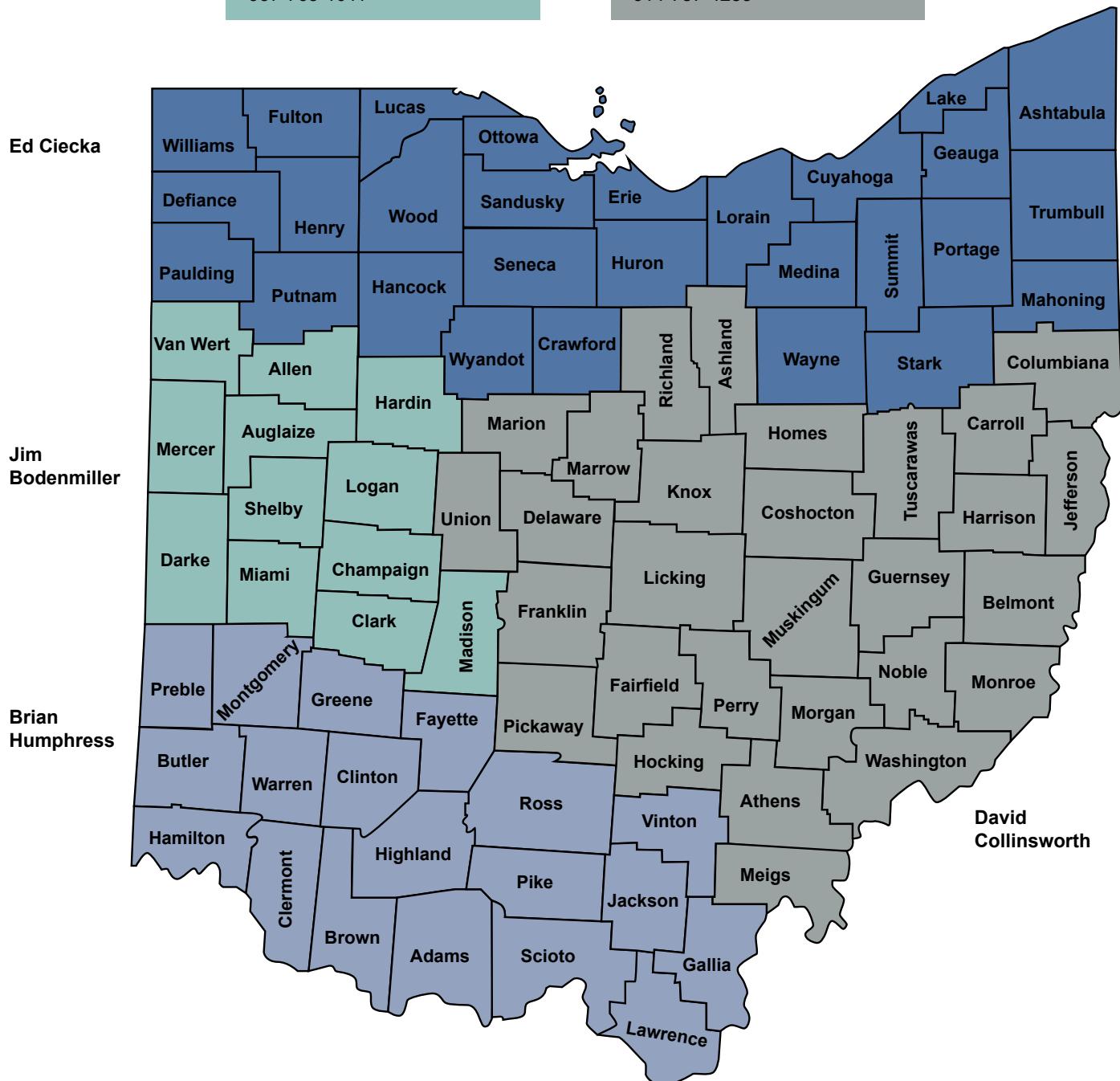


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## Newsletter Cover Photo

Thank you for all of your photo submissions for the cover of the spring issue of the OCMA Newsletter! You can find a few of the other submissions below. The photo on the cover was sent in by the City of Troy.

This summer, the City of Troy's Treasure Island Park will again be home to the Float Troy program, the only publicly-available floating tent experience in the United States. Ten floating tents, owned and operated by the City's park department, will be available for the public to rent on 23 dates in 2021.

Float Troy launched in 2020, after the City purchased ten floating tents from Smithfly, Inc., which was founded in Troy. The first of its kind, the shoal tent is an inflatable, floating raft with a tent topper that allows campers to sleep out on the water. Treasure Island Park, located on the Great Miami, is an ideal location for the floating tent experience. The park hosts various concerts and events through the summer, it provides access to the Great Miami Riverway's paved trail, and it is within walking distance of Troy's historic downtown.

The shoal tents, available for \$85 per night, sleep up to four people. Float Troy visitors are provided with life jackets as well as kayaks or rafts to take to their accommodations – and, yes, restrooms are accessible on the river bank. Floating fire pits are also placed within close proximity to the tents.

The unique experience has been a hit with visitors; Float Troy hosted 48 families last year and will begin taking reservations for 2021 in February.

For more information about Float Troy, visit [www.float-troy.com](http://www.float-troy.com).



City of Sandusky - Jackson Street Pier



Washington Township - Countryside Park



Washington Township - Family Adventure Day



## OCMA Website Homepage Photos

We received 55 submissions from many of the great communities that make up Ohio! Thank you for sharing your photos with OCMA. Congratulations to the four that were chosen and can be found on the homepage of the OCMA website: Canal Fulton, Kettering, Oakwood and Troy. Below are a few of the submissions to share with you.



Oakwood - Smith Garden



Kettering - Fire Department Headquarters



Canal Fulton - Sam and Shorty pulling St. Helena III Canal Boat



Troy - Float Troy program on the Great Miami River



Centerville - Annual Fall Festival at Stubbs Park



Sharonville - Veterans Day at Patriot Pointe



Springboro - Bike the Boro



Vandalia - schoolkids plating new trees for Arbor Day



Toledo - city slogan in the Uptown District



West Chester - Community Annual Fall Celebration

### **Painesville Out-of-the-Box Thinking**

*Written by Chris Mackar, Recreation Coordinator, City of Painesville*

*Article submitted by OCMA member Doug Lewis, City Manager, City of Painesville*

Painesville Recreation Department in Ohio was prepping for its busiest time of the year, but with the news of the COVID-19 virus, summer camp was not going to start on time and was in jeopardy of being completely canceled.

“Camp in a box” allowed us to keep the department going and continue its mission, “to enrich the quality-of-life for our residents and surrounding communities while focusing on the family unit

and promoting good health and well-being.” We wanted this new concept to be special and safe while providing social-distancing activities during this challenging time. Each box contained sports equipment to get children outdoors to be active. Since the boxes were intended to promote both physical and mental health as well as to inspire children’s imaginations, a science project, an arts-and-craft activity, and fun stuff like a hat that can be decorated and silly sunglasses were included. Each kit contained instructions as well as the department’s office number for parents to ask any questions about the activities.



Each week concluded at 1 p.m. with a Zoom meeting and virtual field trips. The meetings consisted of a half-hour get-together, where the campers could share their projects with others in the program. Bird feeders, decorated hats, and large bubbles were featured during the video meetings.

This program proved to be very popular and was featured in our local paper, The News Herald. There was such a positive reaction that we are considering offering boxes for winter vacation and spring break.

*This is an excerpt taken from the Parks and Rec Business website. Read the complete article [here](#).*

### **Kettering - Bruce Duke Elected to the National League of Cities Board of Directors**

*Article submitted by the City of Kettering*

Bruce Duke, City Council Member of Kettering, Ohio, was elected to the National League of Cities (NLC) board of directors by NLC’s membership at the 2020 Virtual City Summit. Duke was elected to a two-year term and will provide strategic direction and guidance for NLC’s federal advocacy,

governance and membership activities. NLC is the largest and most representative organization for cities, their elected leaders and municipal staff, and advocates for city priorities in Washington by building strong federal-local partnerships. Bruce Duke has been a Kettering City Council Member for more than 30 years and has served on various committees for the NLC. "My election to the NLC Board of Directors at this time is both an honor and a significant responsibility. The issues facing our nation's cities and towns because of COVID-19 will require creative solutions that impact every citizen. The opportunity to address these concerns will benefit not only Kettering and surrounding municipalities, but cities across the country. I look forward to the challenge."

*This is an excerpt taken from the Parks and Rec Business website. Read the complete article [here](#).*

## **Painesville and Ric-Man Set Record for New Water Intake**

*Article submitted by OCMA member Doug Lewis, City Manager, City of Painesville*

On Wednesday, September 30, the City of Painesville held a small grand opening ceremony for the Painesville Water Plant's new 4,000-foot raw water intake. The \$14 million project, which has been in the works since November 2016, is an example of modern engineering and local collaboration.

The new intake broke a U.S. construction record with Ric-Man Construction Inc. achieving the title of the longest microtunneling project in the United States by tunneling 25 feet below the bottom of Lake Erie's shale and clay for a total of almost 4,000-feet with a 60-inch pipe. *Cont.*

The City's old 36-inch, 4,000-foot water intake was originally designed in 1951 and was plagued with problems from the beginning. Due to unforeseen joint and pipe issues, the water plant was only able to pull water 1,500-feet from shore. After years of repairs, the remaining 2,500-feet of pipe and intake crib was abandoned in 1968.

After the harmful algal blooms that plagued Lake Erie's western communities in 2014, the Ohio EPA began offering planning and design loans at 0% interest to encourage development that prevents harmful algal blooms from affecting community water supplies. With this loan, the new water intake project became a reality for the City of Painesville.

In 2014, the City selected Burgess & Niple to prepare plans and specifications for the new water intake. Ric-Man Construction Inc. was named the primary contractor and construction engineer and inspector, Mannick Smith Group, were all able to work together with water plant staff to resolve design and construction issues throughout the three and half year construction.

"The new intake is essential for the on-going operation of the Painesville Water Treatment Plant because it will take us into the next 100 plus years," said Doug Lewis, Assistant City Manager at the time.

The Painesville Water Plant supplies quality water to approximately 32,000 people in Painesville City, Painesville Township, Grand River, Concord Township and a small section of Mentor. The new intake is projected to help save costs on reduced treatment processes and require less wear and tear on plant equipment, making for a more efficient water treatment process. *Cont.*

"Generally, the further out you are, the cleaner the water," said Orin McMonigle, Painesville Water Superintendent. "Lake Erie is a fantastic water source regardless of where you pull from, but the deeper you can get, the less contaminants there are from nature and humans."

## Montgomery County - A Better Life for Man's Best Friend

Article written by the Montgomery County Communications Department

Submitted by Montgomery County



Montgomery County Animal Resource Center staff provided free microchipping (and treats!) for pets in the West Carrollton community in Oct. 2020.

within the shelter's operations, the ARC needed a change in leadership. "We needed a strong leader to guide the department during a turbulent time, hire new staff, enhance training, and ensure the safety and welfare of all the animals in the ARC's care. Bob Gruhl was the right person for this massive undertaking," said Assistant County Administrator for Business Services, Chris Williams.

The Animal Resource Center will participate in even more outreach, providing services and education directly to the community. With Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funding, the ARC purchased a mobile veterinary clinic to provide vaccinations to pets across the County. "This is a great resource for communities, especially now during the pandemic when people are more hesitant to leave their homes and take their dogs to the vet for routine vaccinations" said Montgomery County Commissioner Debbie Lieberman. "The mobile allows us to bring resources to dog owners throughout Montgomery County. In the future, the mobile clinic will also offer low-cost spay and neuter surgeries to help control the region's pet population." *Cont.*

Two years ago, things weren't looking good for the Montgomery County Animal Resource Center; overcrowding and high rates of euthanasia brought animal welfare advocates and residents alike to demand change.

"We hired Team Shelter U.S.A. to come in and take a critical look at our operations and procedures," said Montgomery County Administrator Michael Colbert. "What they reported back to us, frankly, was hard to hear. We not only acknowledged but embraced that feedback. We took all their suggestions to heart, outlined steps to meet those recommendations and state requirements, and every day the ARC staff worked hard to meet those objectives while ensuring transparency to the public."

Before work could get underway and progress be truly made



The County purchased a Mobile Clinic using CARES Act funds.

"We have a hard-working and dedicated staff, and they've shown commitment to community education, protecting the public, and saving the lives of so many dogs in our communities," said Robert Gruhl, Animal Resource Center Director. "We don't intend to rest on our laurels. We are going to keep coming up with innovative ways to improve the health and wellbeing of these dogs."

Visit the [Montgomery County Animal Resource Center](#) for more information.

## Amberley Village - Ice Cream Social: 2020 Drive Thru Edition a Huge Success!

*Submitted by Amberley Village*



2020 had its challenges for every community around the globe. But in the midst of an isolating pandemic, Amberley Village recognized the importance of offering residents something to look forward to that connected them with their neighbors and the community as a whole. Staff worked over and above to ensure the event exceeded a simple "drive through the fire house to pick up some ice cream," utilizing creativity and ingenuity to include games, prizes, music, giveaways and even bubbles. The Village's recognition of the needs of its residents was clearly well-received, as the event drew a 33% higher attendance than its traditional format. Staff then created a video to share with residents to highlight the event, providing another connection and opportunity to celebrate all that makes Amberley Village a special place to be!

Amberley Village welcomed more than 750 guests to its 2020 "Drive-Thru Edition" Ice Cream Social. That's more than 250 more than usual! Seems the vision to offer something fun during a difficult year of pandemic was on the mark.

Guests to the event drove through the firehouse (above) and received lots of giveaways, including a new Amberley Village Coloring Book and Spin to Win game prizes, as well as t-shirts and gift bags for residents. The highlight of the event was free ice cream courtesy of UDF Homemade Brand, with kosher and non-dairy options available as well.

Watch the video recap of the event [here](#).

## Kettering Hosts Cycling Summit

*Submitted by the City of Kettering*

The City of Kettering is excited to announce its plans to host a virtual half-day conference May 7 followed by a self-guided, or small group guided tour of Kettering's cycling routes and infrastructure May 14.



The Miami Valley Cycling Summit is a regional biennial forum that aims to use the power of cycling to drive economic development in communities both large and small throughout the region. The theme for the 2021 Summit is Safe Streets for All. The event will showcase how planning for safe streets makes thriving communities. The Summit is facilitated by Bike Miami Valley, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit advocacy organization, and is conducted as an interactive, conference-style program and includes presentations from nationally respected speakers and professionals in the field. The event typically attracts hundreds of elected and appointed state and local government officials, along with cycling and outdoor recreation advocates

and enthusiasts from throughout the Miami Valley and beyond. Last year's event in Miamisburg drew more than 250 attendees from more than 50 surrounding communities.

For more information, please visit [Cycling Summit 2021](#).

## Painesville Appoints New City Manager

*Submitted by the City of Painesville*

At Monday, December 21's Painesville City Council meeting, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Doug Lewis to the position of City Manager of Painesville. This comes just two weeks after the departure of former City Manager Monica Irelan to her new position in Westerville, Ohio.

Lewis has served as Assistant City Manager of Painesville over the past 12 years. In addition to working on projects assigned by the City Manager, Lewis oversaw the Engineering, Building, Zoning and Housing functions for the City. Recently, his responsibilities included long-term planning of major infrastructure projects.

"City Council is proud to make this announcement. Doug has proven his commitment to Painesville over the past 12 years and has been unwavering in his support for our residents and the betterment of the community," said Paul Hach, President of Painesville City Council.

"I want to thank City Council for the opportunity to serve as Painesville's next City Manager. It is an honor and a privilege. As a Painesville resident and long-time employee, I am committed to working with City Council and our talented and dedicated staff to do what is best for our City. I am confident that by working together we can continue making progress for the betterment of our community," said Lewis.

## Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit

*Written by and submitted by OCMA member Tom Carroll, Village Manager, Village of Silverton*



Please consider attending the Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit held virtually between May 12-14th. The theme of the 2021 Summit is accelerating action to meet needed environmental goals by 2030.

The year 2030 is viewed as a key milestone—if bold actions are not taken by then, the catastrophic impacts of climate change could be irreversible. The challenge of the next decade for all of our organizations and communities is going to be figuring out how to launch green policies to dramatically reduce our climate footprint. This will be a central theme of the Biden Administration, and sustainability will increasingly become the challenge posed to us by our residents and elected officials.

This summit is a great way to start building the foundation all OCMA members will need to have in order to find bold policies that accelerate environmental action. Municipalities, townships, and counties will be leaders in the next few years, but we are already behind where we need to be. Our residents will be demanding local actions and looking to Ohio's local governments to lead this change.

The Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit brings together businesses, government representatives, experts, non-profits, and engaged community members committed to building a more environmentally sustainable and economically vibrant region. The Summit is spearheaded by OCMA member the City of Cincinnati, and is put on by a partnership between Xavier University and Green Umbrella. But it is truly a regional conference, and thus will have utility to all OCMA members. As a virtual conference, none of us will need to travel and the registration costs are quite reasonable.

Visit [Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit](#) to learn more about this virtual conference.

## Centerville Styrofoam Recycling Event

Written by Kate Bostdorff, Communications Director, City of Centerville

Submitted by the City of Centerville



Any guess how much space 1,200 pounds of recyclable Styrofoam takes up? Enough to fill two box trucks and an entire school bus, which several volunteers learned firsthand in early January.

The City of Centerville worked in partnership with Centerville Washington Park District and Montgomery County Environmental Services to organize the first-ever Styrofoam Recycling Event at Activity Center Park on North Main Street.

“On average, at least one car showed up every minute for six hours. Two box trucks were filled in four hours, and cars were still lined up. In desperation, local Boy Scout Troop 516

brought their 45-passenger bus over. Two hours later, it was also filled from floor to ceiling with foam,” volunteer and troop leader Mike Fanelli said.

Rumpke Recycling does not accept Styrofoam, so most Centerville residents throw the material in their waste receptacle. Styrofoam is estimated to take up 30% of the space in landfills, and it takes hundreds of years to break down.

“This was the first time Montgomery County held an event for recycling Styrofoam. The timing was perfect to gauge interest. Families had a lot of packing material left over after the holidays,” said Montgomery County Environmental Services Program Specialist John Woodman.

Woodman and others are members of Sustainable Centerville, a year-long advisory group focused on developing sustainability strategies to be presented to Centerville’s City Council. During a clean-up event the group hosted at Cornerstone Park, volunteer Mike Fanelli and Centerville-Washington Park District Program Assistant Pam Gromen were inspired to explore possibilities for recycling Styrofoam. Gromen and Fanelli approached the broader committee, and the team put together this successful event with a short turnaround.

“The community’s overwhelming response shows that there is a real need for Styrofoam recycling in our area,” Gromen said. ECO Development – a company based in Mason, Ohio – staffed the event and accepted the materials at no cost. They process and sell the Styrofoam, which is then turned into items like insulation, plastic hangers and picture frames.

“Centerville is proud to be a leader in sustainability. The city’s strategic plan directs us to explore innovative methods and tools for effective service delivery, and the Sustainable Centerville committee helps us prioritize where effort and resources should be directed,” Centerville Deputy Mayor JoAnne Rau said. Cont.



The group collected approximately 600 pounds of Styrofoam, filling two box trucks and a school bus. By opening the event to the entire region, hundreds of people in 34 different communities made the trip to drop off their recyclables. One couple drove from Troy with a decade's worth of Styrofoam they had been avoiding throwing it away in a landfill.

The Montgomery County Solid Waste District is now exploring the most efficient and economical ways to recycle Styrofoam, saying the pilot event's success demonstrated a need for an ongoing program or perhaps a permanent site.

## **City of Sandusky Announces Holody as Director of Community Development**

*Submitted by OCMA member Eric Wobser, City Manager, City of Sandusky*



The City of Sandusky recently announced that Jonathan Holody will be joining the City of Sandusky in January as the Director of Community Development. Selected from over 40 applicants, Jonathan's responsibilities will include overseeing staff and activities related to planning, zoning, recreation, Sandusky Transit, community development and economic development.

Jonathan will come to Sandusky from Euclid, Ohio where he currently serves as the Director of Planning and Development, overseeing planning, community development and economic development. Euclid is a historic and diverse inner-ring lakefront suburb of Cleveland with a population of nearly 50,000.

With over 15 years of experience, Jonathan has many notable accomplishments including overseeing the razing of an abandoned mall and the attraction of an Amazon Fulfillment Center, which brought over 2,000 jobs to Euclid. He also served as a member of the team that oversaw the planning and construction of the innovative Euclid Lakefront Trail, an award-winning lakefront redevelopment project.

In addition to being an Eagle Scout, Jonathan earned a Bachelor's Degree in Public Policy and Administration from Ohio University and Master's Degree in Urban Planning, Design and Development from Cleveland State University.

"I am excited to come to Sandusky because it's a diverse, historic, waterfront community that is experiencing a comeback," shared Jonathan. "Much has been accomplished in recent years, but I understand there is more that city leaders and the community want to achieve, and I look forward to helping make that happen."

"We are excited to welcome Jonathan Holody as our new Director of Community Development. Jonathan has significant experience overseeing planning, housing and economic development activities with the City of Euclid, a community with many similarities to the City of Sandusky," shared Eric Wobser, City Manager, City of Sandusky. "Jonathan came highly recommended and with a record of accomplishments that included successfully managing the process to bring an Amazon Fulfillment Center to an abandoned mall and construction of a new Euclid Lakefront Trail. This experience will help him to hit the ground running in Sandusky as we look to continue our momentum as America's Best Coastal Small Town."

### Mission

To promote excellence in local government management and encourage personal and professional growth of local government administrators.

### Vision

OCMA is the leading organization in the State of Ohio promoting and developing excellence in local government. OCMA supports its members through professional development programs, member services, promoting high ethical standards, and networking with other professional organizations to achieve excellence in government.

### Goals

The OCMA goals affirmed February 2012 by the membership are:

- Articulate and develop the value proposition of OCMA membership
- Consistent with OCMA's mission and vision, the association will embrace opportunities to support local efforts related to professional local government management. This includes identifying opportunities for involvement and initiating a response to communicate the benefits of professional local government management
- Evaluate current communication strategies against other opportunities that will increase the frequency and usefulness of information shared with OCMA members
- Grow the number of OCMA dues-paying members
- Host summit of local government associations to secure the future of local government in Ohio
- Strengthen relationships with universities
- Successful implementation of the Friends of OCMA Corporate Partners program

[OCMA Website](#)