The Mahoning County Courthouse was designed by Charles F. Owsley in the Second Wren Renaissance Revival Style. The cornerstone was laid on June 11, 1908, and construction was completed in 1910.

The Mahoning County Courthouse, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has earned its distinction as a unique and valued architectural and historical treasure.

Driven by the need to preserve this historic structure, the Commissioners authorized ms consultants, inc. to oversee restoration of the Mahoning County Courthouse. The project included restoration of the cornice, gutters, parapet, and roof. The 16 foot copper statue was restored and will be positioned back on top of the courthouse.

Terra cotta—fired, ornamental clay masonry—will be placed at or near the roof of the 105-year old building. The terra cotta is made from southern Ohio clay. A total of 730 pieces of terra cotta from 105 different molds were delivered from Boston Valley Terra Cotta of Orchard Park, NY—one of only two terra cotta makers in the nation.

The project is scheduled for completion in fall of 2016. The Commissioners are planning to have a public viewing of the statue prior to its placement on the pedestal on the Courthouse roof.
“Proactive Rehabilitation”

The Mahoning County Juvenile Court, under the direction of Judge Theresa Dellick, has been a forerunner in juvenile programs that stop delinquency before it starts. It prevents future recidivism, and restores the dignity of all the victims that come before it.

- The Juvenile Court provides programming for boys and girls including:
  - Victim Impact Program
  - Anger Management
  - Girls Circle
  - Thinking for Change
  - Respect the Game
- The Juvenile Court leads the State of Ohio with 6 certified specialty dockets:
  1. Education Court
  2. Treatment Court
  3. Mental Health Court
  4. Family Dependency Court
  5. Sex Offender Court
  6. Re-Entry Court
- In 2008 the Mahoning County Juvenile Court and the Mahoning County Educational Service Center partnered to create the Mahoning County High School:
  - Students who are suspended or expelled from their home schools are accepted.
  - Credit recovery is a primary focus.
  - Over 200 students have graduated who otherwise would have no education or diploma.

“Protective Justice”

The Mahoning County Juvenile Court not only protects the community and those who have been victims of delinquency or bullying, but also those who can’t speak for themselves and who are abused, neglected or dependent children.

- The Court’s Probation department has three officers assigned to the Mahoning Valley Violent Crimes task force whose focus is to identify and target organized gangs responsible for drug trafficking, murder, and crimes of violence.
- The Court has partnered with The Mahoning County Children Services Board to address “Cross Over Youth” or those youth who have been abused, neglected or dependent and who have an alleged delinquency violation as well. Through this partnership, many children and families have been connected with desperately needed services and assistance.

The Juvenile Court is able to offer the majority of these programs and services AT NO COST to the County’s General Fund. The court secured almost $3 million in grants over the last year through the State of Ohio and the federal government which has allowed it to rehabilitate our youth and protect our community in the most economically efficient means possible.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- $1.3 million received from RECLAIM Ohio for personnel and programming.
- $1 million received through competitive grant opportunities for programming and personnel.
- Fully functioning and operational detention center that remains open 365 days per year.
- Received State funding for Georgetown University School-Justice Partnership to provide services to Youngstown City Schools.

TRAINING & INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

Lean Ohio Training was provided by a state grant for efficiency, collaboration, and shared services.

The Mahoning County Commissioners with Susan Willeke, Ohio Ethics Commission, who provided a full day Ethics Education Seminar.

US Army Corps of Engineers and the Mahoning County Commissioners hosted a flood mitigation seminar to identify preparedness strategies.
2016 Appropriation Budget of $35,118,785.00 is allocated into three Program Areas:

- **$14,873,021 Legislative & Executive:**
  Departments include: Commissioners, Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder, Data Processing, Facilities, Board of Elections, Planning Commission, and Microfilm.

- **$18,217,010 Judicial:**
  Departments include: Common Pleas Court, Judicial General Juvenile Court & Juvenile Justice Center, Domestic Relations Court, Probate Court, Probate Mental Disability, Area Courts, Probation, Bailiffs, Municipal Court, and Clerk of Courts.

- **$2,028,754 Human Services:**
  Department Includes Veteran Services Commission

Challenges facing stabilizing general fund revenue and resources:

- Federal Challenges to State based sales tax formulas.
- Dependency on State receipts and allocations for the Local Government Fund and Casino revenue vulnerable to legislative changes.
- Building a conservative revenue base that allows the ability to adjust to cycle changes and economic downturns.
- Stable business growth for sales tax base.
- Building adequate reserves for Bond requirements and cash flow needs.

2015-2016 COMMISSIONERS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The USDA Rural Development Office has issued conditional approval to begin Phase 1 of 3 for major improvements to segments of the wastewater treatment plant(s) and collections system(s).

- Phase 1 is for Boardman Treatment Plant upgrades and is estimated at $3,338,000. Phase 2 is the construction of the Five Points regional pumping station and force mains. Phase 3 is the elimination of the New Middletown Treatment Plant and converting the site to a pumping station. Grants ($5,000,000) and loans ($11,812,000) are tentatively allocated from USDA Rural Development.

McCartney Road Sanitary Sewer Improvement in the amount of $564,000.

- Publicly owned gravity sewer line along route 422 was extended 2,700 linear feet. Public and Private partnerships funded this improvement to serve the Iron and String Life Enhancements, Inc. (I.S.L.E). The I.S.L.E. provides jobs, job training and services to disabled members of the community.

Mahoning County Senior Levy will help over 13,000 Mahoning County Residents.

- Services will be administered by the Area Agency on Aging with 95% of net levy dollars for program services to residents, and 5% for administration. Senior’s age 60+ will be eligible for programs in 2017.

The Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Development awarded $657,000 to Mahoning County.

- A Downtown Revitalization competitive application was awarded in PY 2016 in the amount of $300,000 for business investments in the Downtown area of Lowellville Village. The funds will revitalize businesses and complete small infrastructure improvements in the project area. Lowellville business owners will participate by providing match funds to strengthen the local economy.

The Community Development Allocation for PY 2016 is $357,000. Funds will complete small infrastructure projects in the County. Townships, cities and villages were invited to submit proposals for use of grant funds. Projects selected are in Austintown, Struthers, Lowellville, and Coitsville.
Judge Beth Smith has the privilege of serving the citizens of Mahoning County as judge of the Domestic Relations Court. A trailblazer for women, Judge Smith became the first female elected as a judge in Mahoning County. Judge Smith remains committed to her goal of protecting children from the potentially devastating effects of divorce. Judge Smith firmly believes that parties involved in family disputes require a timely and comprehensive resolution to their cases which helps litigants transition into a new family structure. Judge Smith has always maintained an impeccable rating for compliance with the Ohio Supreme Court case completion guidelines.

Recognized for her dedication and passion for the safety and well-being of families and children, Judge Beth Smith has received the following national and state awards & honors:

- Chief Justice Warren E. Burger Healer Award from the National Children’s Rights Council.
- Ohio State Bar Association’s Judicial Administration and Legal Reform Committee’s Innovative Court Practices Award.
- Attendee National Judicial Institute of Domestic Violence Conference.

Domestic Relations Court hears civil cases concerning families involved in annulment, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, divorce, and domestic violence.

- The Court resolves where children will reside, the companionship/visitation arrangement, responsibility for making decisions for the children, and allocation of financial support for the children.
- The Court presides over cases regarding the issuance of approximately 800 civil protection orders annually to family or household members.
- The Court resolves issues concerning property division, payment of debts, and spousal support.
- The Court presides over cases relating to the registration of non-Ohio orders for the establishment and enforcement of foreign support and foreign custody.
- The Court utilizes the use of conciliation when both parties want to try to reconcile their marriage.
- The Court initiated and implements in-house mediation to assist litigants to resolve their disputes, saving them additional expense and helping to minimize conflict for their children.

Judge Beth Smith always undertakes efforts to safeguard the interests of Mahoning County citizens by making cost-effective and reasonable use of public funds.

- The Court has made budget cuts through reorganizing staff and cross-training employees.
- The Court increases the County’s general fund revenues by approximately $100,000 annually due to submission of Federal Title IV-D case-work.

Judge Beth Smith has been committed to help ensure the safety of families through utilization of innovative programs and grants.

- Judge Smith unveiled the first Civil Protection Order (CPO) Card in the State of Ohio to assist survivors of domestic violence and law enforcement.
- Grant recipient of funds under the Violence Against Women Act to enable the Court to hire a Domestic Violence Coordinator to help survivors of domestic violence escape the cycle of violence.

Domestic Relations Court maintains a website located at www.mahoningdrcourt.org to assist the public and attorneys.
Criminal & Administrative Justice Sales Tax Revenue:

On November 4, 2014 the Voters of Mahoning County approved the renewal of the 1/2% and an additional 1/4% Sales Tax, a total of 3/4% for Criminal and Administrative Justice Services.

- A dedicated source of revenue allocated to select offices in our Criminal and Administrative Justice System.
- The additional 1/4% tax is $25 on every $10,000 spent on taxable items.
- Shopping locally supports the security of our neighborhoods by keeping local dollars going to local services.
- Revenue can only be used for stated purposes.

Additional Revenues:
The Board of Commissioners, Sheriff, and Prosecutor, have also secured and allocated other revenues to these purposes.

Departments and services supported by the Justice Fund:

- **Sheriff:** Road Deputies, County Jail, Senior Services, Special Task Forces, Court Security, Investigations, Court Services, Local, State, & Federal Support Services, Inmate Transport, Foreclosures, and other services.
- **Prosecutor:** Criminal Investigation and Prosecution, Investigation, Civil support for local governments and the county, contract review and oversee, victim and other services.
- **Coroner:** Autopsies, Investigation into cause of death, Identifications, expert testimony, certification of death, and other services.
- **911 Dispatch Operations:** Showcased below.
- **Administration:** Covers central State fees.

2016 Revenues Budget $28,065,720
- PERMISSIVE SALES TAX: 93.03%
- INTERGOVERNMENTAL: 2.34%
- FEES, LIC. AND PERMITS: 2.01%
- RENTS AND ROYALTIES: 1.07%
- CHARGES FOR SERVICE: 1.55%

2016 Expense Budget $27,729,788
- PROSECUTOR: 13.88%
- ADMINISTRATION: 0.94%
- EMERG. 911 OPER.: 3.75%
- SHERIFF: 78.29%
- CORONER: 3.14%

911 DISPATCH OPERATIONS
COUNTY INITIATIVE TO ENHANCE SERVICE DELIVERY

The Austintown, Boardman, Mahoning County Regional Council of Governments (COG) Initiative:
- Connecting first responders together.
- Consolidation, upgrade, and expansion of the County’s 800 MHz systems.
- Provide clear and concise communication between the dispatcher and the officers in the field.
- Build-out a system that can be utilized County-wide to enhance 911 services.
- Upgrade county radios and equipment to the latest technology.
- Accomplished by reallocation of resources and consolidation of local government dispatch centers.
- Initially will service over 13 Townships and Villages, the Mahoning County Sheriff, Coroner, and Dog Warden with the capacity to expand.

“This is a classic example of multiple governments and jurisdictions working together to provide better service for the taxpayers.”

- Jerry Greene, Mahoning County Sheriff
New Dog Shelter

The Mahoning County Board of Commissioners approved the construction of a 14,300 square foot Dog Shelter. Copich Architects, a local firm specializing in animal care facilities, designed and is lead on the project. The new facility will accommodate 80-100 dogs and provide a clean, secure, healthy environment for pet retrieval and adoption. This project is supported by Dog Licenses, Fees and contributions.

MAHONING COUNTY CVB
PROMOTING OUR AREA AND WELCOMING VISITORS

Tourism is a $42 billion dollar industry in the state of Ohio. In order to capture our share of visitors, the Convention & Visitors Bureau promotes all of Mahoning County—our attractions, golf and outdoor recreation, arts & culture, culinary & wineries, and special events. We reach travelers through print and digital advertising placed throughout our region, and provide information through our website, www.youngstownlive.com. Special events are promoted through social media and monthly eNewsletters. An annual Travel Guide is published and distributed throughout the region and we attend numerous trade shows to get our information into the hands of the traveling public.

Tourism certainly means business here in Mahoning County. A report commissioned by TourismOhio shows that in 2015, visitors to Mahoning County generated $542 million in direct spending within those business sectors related to the tourism industry: lodging, food & beverage, retail, recreation and transportation. That number jumps to $821.7 million when you factor in indirect spending—what those individual business sectors spend to operate and maintain their business, and provide goods and services to our visitors. The report also shows that tourism and tourism-related businesses contribute to Mahoning County’s economy by supporting over 9,500 jobs.

The numbers show that tourism is an integral part of the economy here in Mahoning County. Travel and tourism, sports tournaments and business meetings and conferences all bring people and visitor dollars into our community, which generates considerable business activity.

source: Longwoods International

www.facebook.com/youngstownlive

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

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