

# County Administrator's Digest

October 19, 2012

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## **ROBINSON TOWNSHIP TOWER** (Paul Sachs)

On Tuesday (October 16) AT&T's wireless broadband service went "live" on the County's new Robinson Township tower. The County is also in receipt of a signed Lease Agreement from Verizon Wireless to co-locate their broadband equipment on the new tower. Verizon expects to commence with the installation of its broadband equipment at this site before the end of the month.



**HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION** (Donovan Thomas)

On October 8th, the Health Department received the official letter from the Michigan Department of Community Health conferring state accreditation with commendation status. Accreditation with commendation is currently the highest accreditation status possible in Michigan. This designation is awarded to local health departments that fully meet the following requirements:

- Meet 95% of the Essential Indicators during a multi-day on-site review process. Sections evaluated include Department Administration, Food Service Sanitation, Communicable Disease, Hearing, Vision, Immunization, Sexually Transmitted Disease and On-Site Sewage Disposal.
- Miss not more than two indicators in any program.
- Have zero repeat missed indicators from the previous accreditation process.
- Meet 80% of the Quality Improvement Supplement.

While the Health Department has traditionally scored very well in the accreditation process, the department met 100% of all Essential Indicators and Quality Improvement requirements in the recent evaluation. Accreditation with commendation is a reflection of the continued hard work of the Health Department staff, and their commitment to providing the highest level of service, and quality programs to Ottawa County residents and visitors.

**HOLLAND COUNTRY CLUB RESTORATION NEARING COMPLETION** (John Scholtz)

The former Holland Country Club property, now known as Macatawa Greenspace, is a 122 acre Ottawa County Park located in the City of Holland where habitat restoration and park improvements are currently underway and nearing completion. Construction is expected to be mostly completed by late November with the park scheduled to officially open in the spring of 2013, although public access will be allowed over the winter.

Ottawa County Parks received a \$646,800 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through its Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant program for habitat restoration work at the site. Matched by \$100,000 in county park funds, the \$750,000 project involves implementation of best management practices identified in the Macatawa Watershed Implementation Plan including wetland and stream restoration focused in the lower elevation riverfront areas of the site. The project includes 32 acres of wetland restoration which supplements 22 acres of wetland mitigation funded by Request Foods, a private business that purchased a conservation easement from Ottawa County and funded a 22 acre wetland mitigation project on the property.

The restoration project focuses on wetland construction and stream bank stabilization which will reduce non-point source pollutant loading to Lake Macatawa and Lake Michigan and reduce phosphorous levels. With its highly visible urban location, the restoration project will also provide opportunities for watershed education through interpretive signing and public programs.

Concurrent with the restoration work, Ottawa County Parks is also constructing park facilities identified in a recent master planning process. Construction of a parking lot, restrooms, trailhead, bike paths, boardwalks and trails are nearing completion. Picnic areas and interpretive signs along with a disc golf course will also be provided. A children's nature play area will be included in a future phase.

The Holland Country Club property was acquired in March of 2010 for \$450,000. Funding was provided by the county parks millage plus \$70,000 in donated funds raised by the Outdoor Discovery Center – Macatawa Greenway Partnership, a project partner.



New wetland boardwalk



Wetland excavation area



View of rock vane in river



Armored stream banks



New boardwalk



Small building demolished

## **EMPLOYEE AWARDS BANQUET**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual County Employee Awards Banquet was held last night at the Pinnacle Center in Hudsonville. This is truly one of the fun and special nights of the year when we pause to recognize the years of service of our outstanding employees. Occasionally I will get a question from one of our local unit officials on how the County is able to pay for such an event. The answer is that we worked with our auditors to amend County policy to include the banquet as a “de minimis” benefit of employment. Twenty-five years ago, the banquet replaced department by department employee recognition expense. With a complex organization such as the County with 35 departments, offices, courts and agencies, it makes sense to have some standardization and equality among employees.

I've included a list of all employees who met the various years of service distinction even though all were not able to attend the banquet. Congratulations to all on a job well done! Many thanks goes to the Board of Commissioners for their continued support of this valuable recognition activity.

**5 Year Recipients**

Abel Arispe	Facilities Maintenance
Victoria Benavidez	Circuit Court (Juvenile Detention)
Keith Biros	Sheriff's Office
Jon Braxmaier	Drain Commissioner's Office
Laura Catalino	District Court
Pamela Coleman	Community Mental Health
David DeWitt	Sheriff's Office
Vicki DeWitt	Fiscal Services
James Douglas	Sheriff's Office
Melissa Doxey	Public Health
Michael Hallmeyer	Sheriff's Office
Jeanette Heckman	Facilities Maintenance
Vernon Helder	District Court
Bruce Hoisington	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
James Holtvluwer	Board of Commissioners
Suzanne Kennedy	County Clerk
Elizabeth Lange	Register of Deeds
Malorie Langford	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Daniel Lewkowski	Sheriff's Office
Matthew Lowe	Community Mental Health
David Macias	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Margaret Mitten	Community Mental Health
Laura Mousseau	Human Resources
McCauley O'Connor	Sheriff's Office

John Ortman	Sheriff's Office
Paula Parker	Sheriff's Office
Jason Quinn	Sheriff's Office
Mary Beth Rokisky	Register of Deeds
Tabitha Rowley	Parks & Recreation
Kyle Schuitema	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Bradley Slagh	County Treasurer
Michael Stock	Michigan Works!/CAA
Stephanie Stoddard	Prosecutor's Office
Matthew Twa	Facilities Maintenance
Katherine VanSweden	Michigan Works!/CAA
Bethany Vukusic	Community Mental Health
Marie Waalkes	Human Resources
Elizabeth Wiersema	District Court (Probation)
Christine Williams	District Court
Susan Young	Equalization
Craig Zysk	Equalization
<b>10 Year Recipients</b>	
Heather Alberda	Public Health
Stephanie Ash	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Craig Brondyke	Community Mental Health
Kerri Cannata	Sheriff's Office
Linda Cashman	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Teresa Conrad	Drain Commissioner's Office
Wende Cook	Community Mental Health

Laura Deal	Fiscal Services
Jeremy Derksen	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Frank Dobroc	Sheriff's Office
Brent Ferris	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Susan Flynn	District Court
Jennifer French	District Court
Veronica Garcia	Community Mental Health
Michelle Gerard	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Karen Glockzin	District Court
Joan Gordillo	District Court (Probation)
Michael Gregory	Circuit Court (Juvenile Detention)
Kristen Grissom	Fiscal Services
Christopher Harwood	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Kelli Headley	Fiscal Services
Paul Heidel	Public Health
Kimberly Hewitt	Community Mental Health
Soonja Hixon	Prosecutor's Office
Nancy Hoffmeyer	Sheriff's Office
Deb Kay-Hayford	Michigan Works!/CAA
Jennifer King	Community Mental Health
Paula Kretschmer	Circuit Court (Juvenile Services)
Ann Mapes	County Clerk
Lesley Morano	Prosecutor's Office
Tim Mounghoun	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Eugene Murin	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)

Susan O'Connor	District Court
Jeremy Osbun	Sheriff's Office
Jeffrey Roffey	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Paul Sachs	Planning & Performance Improvement
Mandi Schebor	Community Mental Health
Amanda Sheffield	Probate Court
Eric Smith	Sheriff's Office
Wendy Solis	District Court
Barb Sychowski	Community Mental Health
Michael VandenBosch	Sheriff's Office
Michael Vander Laan	Sheriff's Office
Flora Varga	Fiscal Services
Roger Willard	Sheriff's Office
Peter Zeedyk	Circuit Court
<b>15 Year Recipients</b>	
Brian Buter	Sheriff's Office
Barbara Cherry	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
David Colvin	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Albert Cortez	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Bill Cousins	Sheriff's Office
Mary Dykstra	Prosecutor's Office
Ray Gress	Sheriff's Office
Jennifer Gustafson	Prosecutor's Office
Harold Harper	Information Technology
Hank Hawley	Circuit Court

Jeffrey Holden	Facilities Maintenance
Kay Holden	County Treasurer
Ryan Huizenga	Sheriff's Office
Suzanne Kampenga	Fiscal Services
Barry Kantz	District Court
Mark Knudsen	Planning & Performance Improvement
Michelle Kriger	Circuit Court (Juvenile Detention)
Brian Langerak	Sheriff's Office
Sheryl Mascorro	Community Mental Health
Robert Melamed	County Clerk
Michael Petroelje	Sheriff's Office
Michael Roelofs	Sheriff's Office
Keith Rolfe	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Roger Rycenga	Board of Commissioners
Lee Sandoval	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Matthew Schmid	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Douglas Sherman	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Karen Sloothaak	Public Health
Vicki South	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Jami Speet	District Court
Heather Stille	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Dennis Swartout	Board of Commissioners
Margaret Underwood	County Clerk
Johanna Wallace	Probate Court
Jeanne Waterway	District Court



**20 Year Recipients**

Bob Alward	Circuit Court (Juvenile Detention)
Jeffrey Bewalda	Circuit Court
Nicole Bierema	Circuit Court (Juvenile Services)
Mary Derksen	Community Mental Health
Rita Huron	Public Health
Elisabeth McNeil	Public Health
Steven Namenye	Information Technology
Charly Nienhuis	Public Health
Jack Seinen	Sheriff's Office
David Vanderploeg	Sheriff's Office
Sally Vukits	Community Mental Health
Dennis Wright	Sheriff's Office

**25 Year Recipients**

Steven Baar	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Barbara Berghuis	Community Mental Health
Dennis Boeve	Sheriff's Office
Sandra Boven	Public Health
Linda Brown	Drain Commission
Patricia Ellis	District Court
Karen Flowerday	Public Health
Maria Guffey	Community Mental Health
Bob Matyas	Community Mental Health
Andrea Mendoza	District Court (Probation)
John Scholtz	Parks & Recreation

Debbie Walker-Zattlin	Community Mental Health
Kathy Winston	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Julie Yoas	Public Health
Troy Young	Equalization

**30 Year Recipients**

Mary Cushman	Public Health
Tanja Kelly	Circuit Court

**35 Year Recipients**

Ronald Frantz	Prosecutor's Office
Jill Jessup	Circuit Court
Lynn Simpson	Circuit Court

**40 Year Recipient**

Gary Scholten	Register of Deeds
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**Retirees**

Maggie Boeck	Public Health
Dennis Boeve	Sheriff's Office (Corrections)
Rita Dyke	District Court/ROD
Deb Fett	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Barbara Fix	Public Health
Sally Gelderloos	Facilities Maintenance
Susan Hornacek	Circuit Court (Juvenile Detention)
Jill Jessup	Circuit Court
Brian Johnson	Equalization
Mary Jones	Community Mental Health
Barry Kantz	District Court

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Tanja Kelly	Circuit Court
Keith Koeman	Sheriff's Office
Mark Krouse	Information Technology
Kathy Kuck	Human Resources
Geoffrey Maskow	Community Mental Health
Bob Matyas	Community Mental Health
Tom Miller	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Char Modak	Community Mental Health
Laurel Parrott	Fiscal Services
Gary Scholten	Register of Deeds
Kevin Swick	Sheriff's Office
Sherry Vanbemmelen	Circuit Court (Friend of the Court)
Sally Vukits	Community Mental Health
Marie Waalkes	Human Resources