New Beginnings...

...and New Missions
An employee of the Verdin Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, installs new hands to the giant clock on the east side of the Allen County Courthouse in May. New clock hands were installed on all four sides as part of an upgrade of the timing system.
Board of Commissioners’ Message

We are pleased to present the 2011 Allen County Annual Report. This report is intended to inform citizens of Allen County about the accomplishments of County government during the past year.

For much of our community, its families and businesses, this past year has been challenging. Slow economic growth and continuing unemployment have placed a tremendous strain on our efforts to provide essential government services and the many quality of life services we have come to enjoy.

Just as families and individuals have had to reassess spending and priorities, Allen County has had to as well. Your elected officials and county staff have worked hard to identify ways to cut costs and increase efficiency with minimal service impacts. Our commitment to excellent service and fiscal responsibility is a source of pride for our employees and we look forward to serving you in the coming year.

We are encouraged to see our local economy expanding. Announcements from companies such as BF Goodrich, Greatbatch Medical, SDI LaFarga and General Mills have resulted in many new jobs and financial investments in our community.

As we begin a new year, our county must be focused on working to grow our economy, protect our infrastructure investments and to preserve the high quality of life our residents enjoy.

Sincerely,

The Board of Commissioners

The three member Allen County Board of Commissioners serves as both the executive and legislative branches of County government. While they are required to reside within their specific geographic districts, the County Commissioners are elected at-large by all Allen County voters.

As the executive branch of County government, the Commissioners may approve policies affecting 1,350 full-time county employees and another 400 part-time employees.

As the legislative branch, the Commissioners pass ordinances that primarily affect unincorporated areas (outside a city or town) of the county.

The Commissioners’ duties include:
* Receive bids for projects and services and sign contracts.
* Authorize all claims on county budgets.
* Decision-making authority over planning and zoning in the county.
* Supervise construction and maintenance of county roads and bridge structures.
* Issue bonds or approve lease-purchase agreements to borrow money for the county.
* Serve as the Drainage Board, which oversees the legal drainage system in the county.
* Operates and maintains all County facilities, including the historic Allen County Courthouse.
Allen County Council

The Allen County Council is comprised of seven members, four elected from districts and three elected at-large. Council serves as the County’s fiscal body. Members of Council must reside within the county and the district from which they were elected, if applicable.

Council sets and approves the County’s annual property tax levy.

County Council is responsible for establishing an annual budget for County Government. Council is also responsible for appropriating funds for the operation of County Government.

2011 Council Members:
Kevin M. Howell, Dist. 1
Thomas A. Harris, Dist. 2
Darren E. Vogt, Dist. 3
Larry L. Brown, Dist. 4
Robert A. Armstrong, At-Large
Roy A. Buskirk, At-Large
Paul G. Moss, At-Large

Budget & Financial Management
Information Provided by the Allen County Auditor’s Office

Allen County’s 2011 Budget was approximately $154,604,481 including $87,058,482 for the General Fund Budget. An additional $4,504,619 of Rainy Day Funding was budgeted to for the General Operating Budget. The County Budget is generally funded through property tax revenue; however many other funding sources are used to fund County operations. Other common forms of tax revenue include income, excise, and gasoline taxes. Other non-tax revenue sources include Fee-for-Service revenue, investment income, and grants, etc. The chart below shows the revenue sources and the percent by which they fund the General operations of Allen County.

The chart on page 5 shows the County General Fund Budget. The County’s budget provides a map for County Council and taxpayers that identifies the operating costs considered essential to the successful operation of the County for a given period. The policies and procedures established by the County Commissioners and County Council support the identified trends and needs of the County. Law Enforcement and the Judicial Branch of government make up approximately 66% of General Fund expenses and another 34% is used for general government services and operations combined.
### General Govt. Services
- County Bldg Dept: 1,366,547
- Park & Recreation: 507,628
- Co-op Extension Serv: 317,591
- Plan Commission: 1,763,345
- NIRCC: 901,869
- Surveyor: 919,640
- Drainage Board: 600
- * Co Wide Expenses: 215,948
- Employee Health Ins: 604,520
- **TOTAL**: 6,597,688

### Law Enforcement and Judicial
- Sheriff: 10,734,179
- Confinement Center: 10,724,696
- Coroner: 564,300
- Prosecutor: 4,241,748
- Work Release: 901,546
- Police Pension: 1,951,009
- Employee Health Ins: 6,432,706
- Circuit Court: 1,757,536
- Public Defender: 2,157,406
- Superior Court: 5,761,027
- Clerk of Courts: 2,982,766
- Youth Services: 1,351,261
- Wood Youth Center: 9,223,176
- * Co Wide Expenses: 1,990,470
- **TOTAL**: 60,773,826

### Operations, Commissioners, etc.
- County Commissioners: 2,044,176
- Human Resources: 476,585
- County Services: 1,573,998
- Data Processing: 1,259,339
- Bldg. Maintenance: 3,585,484
- Emergency Prep.: 174,129
- County Council: 4,705,997
- Voter Registration: 344,667
- Election Board: 835,287
- * Co Wide Expenses: 620,266
- ARC & Mental Health: 2,653,738
- Employee Health Ins: 612,269
- **TOTAL**: 18,885,935

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**TOTAL 2011 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET**

- Rainy Day Funding: 4,504,619
- County General Funding: 87,058,482
- Total Operating Budget: **91,563,101**

* Unemployment, Workers Comp, Data Contract, Liability Insurance, County Attorney Salaries.
A New Headquarters for Local Government...

On June 27, 2011, Mayor Tom Henry and the Allen County Board of Commissioners cut the ceremonial ribbon officially opening Citizens Square — the new home of city and county government — to the public.

The 220,000-square-foot building located at 200 East Berry Street was originally constructed for the Fort Wayne department store Wolf & Dessauer. In the 1990s, Lincoln Financial fully renovated the building for office space for the insurance company and to serve as the Lincoln Museum, which closed in 2008. In the mid-2000s, the building served as the temporary location of the Allen County Public Library’s downtown branch during the library’s expansion construction.

In June 2009, Mayor Henry announced the city’s intention to purchase the building and move its offices and departments which were located in the City-County Building. Following a year of negotiating, the County and City reached an agreement concerning plans for co-location at the two facilities.

Citizens Square houses all of the City offices that once occupied the City-County Building, plus Neighborhood Code Enforcement. From County government, Citizens Square houses the offices from the City-County Building, with the exception of the Assessor, Treasurer, Auditor, Recorder, Veterans Services, Election Board and Voter Registration. The County Building Department and County Highway Department relocated to Citizens Square as well.

"Through the effort that began in the summer of 2009, the City and the County have found a way to locate similar types of operations by one another making business easier for citizens to conduct with local government," said Commissioner Nelson Peters. "We can now provide our residents with more of a one stop shop and allow them to conduct business in one location."

“We can now provide our residents with more of a one stop shop and allow them to conduct business in one location.”

Nelson Peters
Allen County Commissioner

The Fort Wayne-Allen County Health Department was one of the first to box up supplies in preparation for the move to its new offices at Citizens Square.
In April 2011, with much of the renovation work completed, the City began the process of moving its 40 various departments into 200 East Berry. Then in late May, County government started relocating its departments to Citizens Square. The entire process was finished in mid-July.

As the renovation work to Citizens Square was concluding, attention turned to the City-County Building and its future. Under the terms of the co-location agreement, the County would be renovating the 40-year-old building at 1 East Main Street to serve as the future home of City and County public safety offices. In addition to the County offices which would remain in the building, the City of Fort Wayne Police Department would be moving downtown from its Creighton Avenue location, and the Fort Wayne Fire Department’s administrative offices would be relocating from Wallace Street. The Allen County Sheriff will also have some its offices in the building.

In March 2011, the Board of Commissioners awarded $4.2 million in bids for City-County Building renovations and asbestos abatement. Including management and consulting fees and other costs associated with the projects, the total cost of the CCB renovation and asbestos abatement stood at approximately $4.8 million. The renovation is expected to be finished sometime in the spring of 2012.

The new name that will adorn the renovated City-County Building will include a tribute to one of Allen County’s most recognized elected leaders. The Board of Commissioners decided to rename the facility in honor of Edwin J. Rousseau, whose career in Allen County and Fort Wayne politics spanned 40 years and included terms as a city councilman, county councilman and county commissioner. Rousseau died in 2009 following a lengthy battle with cancer at the age of 76.

As part of the City-County Building renovation work, the escalators which connected the first and second floors of the building were to be removed.

...And a New Mission for Its Former Home
Economic Development

Information provided by the Allen County Department of Planning Services Economic Development Division

BF Goodrich

In January 2011, the Allen County Council approved a Statement of Benefits for BF Goodrich Tire Manufacturing Company, which is located on US Highway 24 East. The company submitted an application for $5 million in real improvements, which is an addition of a 7,500 square foot building to their existing 1.9 million sq. ft. facility. They also planned an additional investment in equipment upgrades that will range from $50 to $75 million over the next five years. All improvements are scheduled to be completed by 2015. Along with the investments, BFG will hire an additional 35 full time employees.

Greatbatch Medical

Greatbatch Medical (Precimed, Inc.) is in the process of building an 80,000 square foot medical manufacturing and research and development facility. The new building is located just south of US 30 on Kroemer Road. Total investment in the real estate is $11 million while the investment in manufacturing and information technology equipment is just over $5.2 million. The facility is scheduled to be up and running in May 2012. The company will be responsible for manufacturing orthopedic instruments and implants. They will bring 175 jobs to Allen County, with annual salaries projected at more than $8 million.

SDI LaFarga

Steel Dynamics and LaFarga Group (Barcelona, Spain) announced a joint venture in April. Presently they are in the process of constructing an 85,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility east of New Haven on Ryan and Dawkins Roads. The project will utilize various grades of recycled copper scrap and its primary raw material in the production of a higher margin copper wire rod. The investment includes more than $39 million in the building and the new advanced manufacturing technology equipment. SDI LaFarga will also bring 35 new full time jobs to the county. Annual salaries will be more than $2.3 million. Construction is scheduled to be completed at the end of April 2012 with all hiring done by 2013.

General Mills

Rockefeller Group is in the process of constructing the largest concrete job in the nation here in Allen County with the new addition of the General Mills 1.5 million square foot distribution center. The investment in real property alone is more than $34 million. This building is double the size of the current 750,000 square foot facility General Mills has been leasing. This project will add an additional 65 full time positions to the existing 78 jobs. The new building is located just north of the Nestle facility on Bluffton Road. The new center should be operational by August 2012.

QuikCut, Inc.

QuikCut, established just outside of New Haven on Allen Martin Drive, is one of Northeast Indiana’s largest steel fabricators. In May 2011, the latest investment of $345,000 included adding more equipment and renovating two more buildings that were purchased. As a result of the continued growth, QuikCut has created 25 additional jobs with annual salaries of close to $1 million.

Great Dane / Vera Bradley

This is the first of two separate projects for Vera Bradley in 2011. Vera Bradley invested $1 million to renovate the former Baekgaard building, located just off I-69 across from General Motors. Renovations are complete and Vera Bradley is using this 39,000 square foot facility to house their product design team. The building will employ 70-75 people which will open up hiring in the Vera Bradley facility across the road. Because of the expansion, Vera Bradley estimates 101 new hires.
R3 Composites

R3 Composites is located right outside the town of Grabill on Roth Road. R3 invested $355,000 to renovate the former Meridian building. New equipment is also being installed to produce composite automotive components, bathroom fixtures and rail road ties. Special tooling and information technology equipment will also be installed. The total investment in equipment is just over $4 million. R3 estimates a total of 400 new jobs over the next three years, which is approximately $15 million in annual salaries once all jobs are filled.

Long Term Care

Long Term Care Investments will be constructing a 100 bed skilled nursing care facility on 7.4 acres of land close to the Parkview North Hospital, just off Dupont Road. At the completion of the project, it will immediately bring 103 new full time and 20 part time positions to Allen County. Estimated annual salaries are more than $3 million.

Trivector Manufacturing

Trivector Manufacturing will invest $900,000 in a 2,000 ton compression molding press. This press was installed at R3 Composites on Roth Road. Installing the equipment resulted in nine new jobs at the facility outside of Grabill.

Hercules Machine

Hercules Machinery Corp is located in New Haven on New Haven Avenue. This company has been around since 1964 and has continued to expand and install new equipment to keep up with demand. Hercules invested $225,000 in building a new machine center and installing manufacturing, logistical distribution, and IT equipment. This new investment helps to maintain the 23 full time positions and stay competitive.

Gator Cases

Located in the town of Grabill, Gator Cases manufactures cases for instruments. By investing $354,000 in a new rotational molding press, they will be able to double their full time positions from 23 current employees to 48.

Maxim Medical

Maxim Medical is located just inside the county boundary on US 33. This company service and installs surgical lights, equipment managers, and video system upgrades in healthcare facilities nationwide. They invested almost $60,000 in improvements to their facility.

Vera Bradley

The second project for Vera Bradley in 2011 is the expansion of their current warehouse, just off of I69, with an additional 200,000 square feet. Cost of the expansion is estimated at $15 million with another $7.5 million in equipment installation. Vera Bradley will be adding conveyors, walk back modules, pallets, packaging equipment, and IT equipment. This project will add another 124 full time positions at the warehouse with annual salaries projected to be almost $4 million.

AVI Foodsystems

AVI will be leasing an 18,000 sq. foot building on Wayne Haven in New Haven from Cedar Creek Investments. AVI also made a $90,000 equipment investment. AVI distributes packaged food and also caters. They will bring 71 jobs to the city of New Haven.

Continental Diamond Tool

CDT manufactures diamond and CBN grinding tools and has been apart of the community since 1973. More demand for the tools has caused the $600,000 investment of expanding the facilities by another 15,000 square feet and the $500,000 equipment purchase. The completed project will be responsible for 7 new full time positions and additional annual income of $231,000.
Highway Department

In 2011, work continued on Allen County’s largest infrastructure project, the Maplecrest Road Extension. The project will extend Maplecrest from SR 930 at Adams Center Road to Lake Avenue. The highway is 1.5 miles in length and consists of new four-lane concrete pavement with curb and gutters, storm sewers, a multi-use trail, traffic signal modifications and four bridges. The project is scheduled to be completed in late November 2012.

Construction bids were received March 7, 2011, for the complete reconstruction of Diebold Road from SR 1 (Dupont Road) to Union Chapel Road. The work consists of vertical realignment, new HMA pavement section with curb and gutters, storm sewers, a multi-use trail, traffic signal installation and modifications and new bridge replacement at the Ely Run. Scheduled completion date for this project is May 1, 2012.

Construction bids were received April 26, 2011, for new horizontal route re-alignment of the Woodburn/Webster Roads. The work consists of new HMA pavement section with open surface drainage ditches and a retention pond for surface water. The project was completed and accepted by the Allen County Highway Department on September 16, 2011, ahead of the scheduled completion date of May 1, 2012.

The Bostick Road Bridge over the St. Mary’s River was completed and accepted on December 1, 2011 and consists of new three span concrete bridge construction. The completion of this bridge project reopens Bostick Road to thru traffic after being closed since April 2004.

Construction on the Spring Street Bridge over the Norfolk & Southern Railway began in 2011. The project consists of bridge widening and rehabilitation to accommodate left turn movement at Leesburg Road and sidewalks. In addition to the bridge work a new traffic signal will be installed at Spring Street and Leesburg Road. The scheduled completion date for this project is August 18, 2012.

Construction also began in 2011 on the Dawkins Road Bridge over Litzenburg Drain. The project consists of a new concrete single span bridge replacement. The scheduled completion date for this project is June 1, 2012.

The St. Joseph Center Road Bridge over the St. Joseph River is also currently under construction. The project consists of bridge widening and rehabilitation to accommodate a multi-use trail across the structure. The scheduled completion date for this project is August 3, 2012.

The Towpath Trail was officially opened on Sept. 30. The trail spans 5.5 miles between the Lutheran Hospital campus and Rockhill Park, where it links to the Rivergreenway and downtown Fort Wayne. The trail follows the historic Wabash & Erie Canal corridor and weaves through beautiful neighborhoods, scenic marshlands and areas of commerce. The new two-acre trailhead features public art sculptures, interpretive signage, and outdoor classroom space for neighboring Eagle Marsh.

2011 Highway Stats

Conversions:
- 7 Miles
- $678,546

Reseals:
- 34 Miles
- $673,746

Reclamations:
- 2 Miles
- $92,000
Building Department

In 2011, the Allen County Building Department performed more than 38,250 inspections for nearly 20,000 permits that were issued for new construction, renovation and remodel projects and additions to commercial and residential properties. In total, the department generated almost $1.56 million for the County general fund.

As the economy slowly recovers, commercial activity is taking the lead. Allen County saw a number of major projects begin in 2011 including the General Mills Warehouse (largest construction project in the country during 2011), the new SDI/Lafarga steel mill in New Haven, and the Harrison in downtown Fort Wayne. While construction began to wind down at Parkview North’s main hospital building toward the end of 2011, new medical office buildings and Manchester College’s Pharmacy School building were started at the Parkview campus during 2011 keeping construction work active at this north Fort Wayne site.

The Building Department has had online access to project activity (by permit holders) available for several years, but one of the new features added during 2011 was the option of applying for and purchasing permits online with credit cards or contractor trust accounts. The development of online access to project status information began for as many as 17 city and county departments in 2011 and should be completed in approximately 18 months.

The Building Department continues to assist in the operation of the Allen County Community Development Corporation (ACCDC) which handles many of the tax-reverted properties that do not sell at the annual tax sale. The ACCDC accepted 485 properties in 2011 increasing the total property inventory to 1,329 vacant or abandoned properties. During 2011 the ACCDC staff was able to sell 505 of these properties, getting them back on the tax roles and into the ownership of responsible parties. This program has provided an opportunity in these difficult economic times for many families to become homeowners who otherwise would not have been able to obtain the necessary financing through traditional avenues.

Streamlining Land-Use Permitting

Accelerating their joint efforts to make Fort Wayne and Allen County the best place to start and grow a business, elected leaders in 2011 outlined plans to streamline the land-use permitting process for large-scale developments and projects.

The changes are targeted toward projects with an investment of $5 million or larger. Based upon numbers spanning 2008 through 2010, the new plan will affect about 8 percent of all permits issued, accounting for over $300 million of annual investment or approximately 65 percent of local development spending.

The proposed land-use permitting plan includes the following components to be developed:

- Process Innovation and Technology Improvements
- Customer Service Enhancements
- Legislative Streamlining
- “Best Place to Start & Grow a Business” Assurance Program

The complete realization of the plan will bring seven County departments and 12 City departments under the new permitting umbrella.

“The improvements to this process will have an enormous impact on both the businesses we retain, as well as the jobs we seek to attract.”

Nelson Peters
Allen County Commissioner
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

Total attendance and usage of the facility at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum both increased in 2011.

Total attendance increased 2.02% from 2010, for a total of 1.13 million visitors. It was the 21st consecutive year that the facility welcomed more than a million guests through its doors.

Additionally, use of the facility increased 7.9% in 2011 from the year before, for a total of 1,405 events.

Economic impact of the facility, a measure of dollars contributed to the local economy, reached nearly $100 million again. At the end of the year, the Coliseum finished in the black, by more than $65,000.

“Many arenas throughout the country lost money and I am proud to report that we did well despite a difficult economy and we are self-supporting,” said Executive Vice President and General Manager Brown. “For 2012, the outlook is great and the number of bookings is trending up.”

Allen County Parks Department

The Allen County Parks Department's mission is to establish and manage a permanent park system incorporating conservation, education, outdoor values, and nature preservation, and to provide recreational opportunities for the people of Allen County within this structure. The department currently oversees four parks totaling approximately 897.5 acres — including the largest contiguous forest in the county — with 390 acres in dedicated nature preserves.

In 2011, total recorded attendance at Allen County Parks was 40,896, an increase of 6.7%. Staff salaries are the only expense covered by the taxpayers of Allen County. All operating expenses are derived from entry and program fees. Despite the budget remaining the same as in 2010, the department was able to maintain services. Entry fees and most program fees have remained the same for decades. Through careful management of revenues and expenses, the department operated in the black again this past year.

Some of the department’s highlights in 2011 included:

- Summer Day Camps at both Metea and Fox Island
- Started Allen County Trailblazer Hiking program
- Facility rentals at both parks held their own despite current economic situation at 210 rentals
- SolFest 2011
- Participated in 2011 Great Tree Canopy planting 15 trees at Metea Park
- Held the second Nature’s Christmas event at Metea
Allen County Election Board

The Allen County Election Board was presented the 2011 Stars and Stripes award for its website www.acimap.us/aceb by the National Association of Election Officials. The website, developed through partnerships with the Allen County Commissioners, Treasurer’s Office and GIS Department, delivers voter election information including sample ballots and voting locations using a geographical interface.

Improved Election Day operations and outstanding service recognition were the incentives to create a Pollworker Advisory Board in 2011. Advisory Board meetings also provided the Election Board with critical feedback regarding pollworker training and recruiting.

The 2010 Census required state and local election district changes in 2011. At the local level, the Election Board used the 2010 census numbers to redraw Allen County precincts to comply with new state legislative and census tract boundaries. The new precinct maps provided necessary information critical for Allen County Commissioners and County Council to redraw their election districts in 2011.

Youth Services Center

The Youth Services Center had 489 admissions for the year 2011, four more than the previous year. However, this is far from YSC’s record year of 2008 when it had 1,044 admissions. YSC continues to adjust to major changes occurring in the child care and juvenile justice systems at the state level. The center was able to reduce its budget expenditures for the eighth year in a row by practicing good government techniques ensuring responsible spending. State government is working on a new contracting process that will result in still more changes for the industry as it tries to impact state spending in a positive way. YSC has been able to maintain its quality programming through these difficult financial times and meet expectations in the community providing emergency shelter care. The full-time staff of 27 remain dedicated and working hard to meet the challenges in the ever-changing environment of state licensed residential care.

Allen County Juvenile Center

The Allen County Juvenile Center received a certificate of “Full Compliance” by the Indiana Department of Corrections. As required by 210 IAC 6, an inspection of the juvenile detention standards was conducted in July of 2011. To obtain such a certificate, the facility must be in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and at least 90% of the recommended standards. The inspection included a review of all 302 mandatory and recommended standards, a tour of the facility and interviews with detention staff and residents. The juveniles interviewed offered no instances of abuse and no complaints about conditions. Staff were well versed in policy and procedure and offered support for the administration.
Strategic Spending Initiative

In 2011, the Allen County Board of Commissioners announced a new strategic spending initiative designed to help county government address the economic realities of the future.

Under the initiative, the Board of Commissioners’ departments will be charged with identifying services they provide which are discretionary — services which are offered for the benefit of county residents, but which government is not obligated to perform. The Commissioners will then engage both the public and affected customers through a series of meetings in discussing the future of those discretionary services.

In addition, the Commissioners intend to find ways to put more energy and effort toward the core services which are required by law or statute. The Board will examine how these services can be performed better, faster and cheaper than they are now.

“For many citizens of Allen County, cutting back on spending has become the ‘new normal,’” said Commissioner Therese Brown. “Families and individuals alike are having to look at their budgets and prioritize what’s most important to them. The Board of Commissioners believes that the government of Allen County is no different.”

The Commissioners hope to have work on the initiative completed and a plan in place by July of 2012.

Public Information & Accessibility

When it comes to providing information on its website, no county in Indiana does it better than Allen County. In 2011, the pro-transparency organization Sunshine Review gave Allen County’s website a grade of A-minus — the highest grade of any county in the state — after analyzing the site on November 10. The only other A-minus awarded in the state was to the city of Indianapolis’ website. Sunshine Review analysts used a 10-point transparency checklist to assign a grade based upon the proactive disclosure of financial data, contact information, lobbying activity and a number of other items.

A new way to stay plugged into Allen County government while you’re on the go debuted in 2011. The latest news, events, maps and services from the County became available right on a person’s iOS or Android-powered mobile device through a revolutionary mobile app called YouTown. YouTown offers the ability to sort and filter publications so you can get customized Allen County information that’s relevant to your lifestyle. The app is free to download and County government incurred no cost to provide this service.

A new way of bringing County government directly to residents was also introduced in 2011. “County Night Out” featured an open-house format designed to allow citizens the opportunity to meet the Board of Commissioners and other elected officeholders face-to-face and obtain information about programs and services offered by various County departments. The first three events were held in Harlan, Monroeville and Huntertown and the format will continue to be used in 2012.
Purdue Extension Service of Allen County

The Purdue Extension Service provides essential services to the residents of Allen County to transform their lives and livelihoods through research-based education. Sustainability became a priority in 2011. Some of the highlights included:

- 124 youth participated in the 4-session workshop series of ‘Captain Cash’ at seven elementary schools to learn basic money management.
- Master Gardeners responded to 6500 phone calls and e-mails and diagnosed 640 samples to answer gardening questions.
- 145 High School students participated in the Allen County Youth Summit that focused on community service opportunities and how to make a difference.
- 406 individuals attended ‘Where Does Your Money Go?’ workshops to learn basic money management skills.
- 103 rural producers attended workshops to maintain their Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification license.
- 202 soil tests were taken to the lab for consumers and education provided to understand the analysis.
- Allen County Extension Homemakers awarded a $500 scholarship, donated 500+ items to community agencies, delivered 296 pounds of food to Community Harvest Food Bank Senior Pak program and raised $592.50 from the Allen County fair pie auction for the fairgrounds building fund.
- 72 Junior Leaders donated their time for Anthony Wayne Hope House, Allen County Fairgrounds Country Christmas, and military families while learning life skills.
- 138 area landscape and turf business owners and employees increased their knowledge on current sustainable applications, developments, and industry standards.
- 249 4-H volunteer leaders worked with 899 youth from age 3 through 12th grade assisting them to complete projects and develop life skills.

Veterans Services

The Allen County Veterans’ Service Office is responsible for helping veterans of the armed services, their spouses, dependents and survivors with information and assistance concerning state and federal veterans’ benefits. The VSO offers a full range of services, including assisting veterans and survivors with applications for service connected disability compensation; low-income pension benefits; survivor benefits; military discharges, awards and decorations; VA medical care; home loan guarantees; GI Bill benefits; vocational rehabilitation; discharge upgrades; burial benefits; and property tax abatements.

In 2011, the office recovered $12.5 million in benefits from claims processed for veterans and survivors. In addition, the VSO handled 721 appointments for new claims dealing with matters such as compensation, pension, waivers and appeals. The office also processed 483 claims for veterans’ burial benefits and 270 applications for disabled veterans’ property tax abatements.
Allen County Solid Waste Management District

The Allen County Solid Waste Management District's role is to strengthen the existing infrastructure and provide the education and knowledge necessary to achieve reduction goals.

Residential Battery Recycling Program

The District collected over 21,300 pounds of batteries in Allen County in 2011. Batteries contain heavy metals such as cadmium, zinc, lead and mercury that could potentially pollute our soil and groundwater.

Diversion Credit Program

The District provides financial backing to eligible recycling processors for recycling specific materials from the residential and commercial waste stream. Materials currently receiving support include glass, plastics, steel cans, newspaper, magazines, phone books and mixed paper. A total of 5,800 tons of in-district material was subsidized by the District in 2011.

Electronics Recycling Program

More electronic items were collected by the District last year than any other year recorded. Over 361,000 pounds of material was processed through our Electronics Recycling Partnership Program with OmniSource Corporation.

Recycling Drop-off Locations

Community Recycling opportunities expanded in 2011. In April, the District partnered with the Town of Monroeville in offering a community recycling drop off trailer for residents to place their recyclables in. In addition to the Monroeville trailer, the District offers residents in Leo/Cedarville a Community Recycling trailer as well. Residents can also drop-off their recyclables at any of the five recycling drop-off locations around Allen County.

Mercury Reduction Efforts

Over 37 miles of fluorescent bulbs, or a drive to Churubusco and back, were collected in Allen County in 2011. Since February 1999, the Allen County Solid Waste Management District has formed public/private partnerships to assist in the collection of fluorescent bulbs. Allen County Solid Waste District received national recognition in its mercury reduction efforts from the Environmental Protection Agency. The award recognized the District for exceeding mercury collection goals.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program

The District collected and safely disposed of over 58,700 lbs. of household hazardous waste material in a one day event in 2011. The District’s annual Household Hazardous Waste collection program brought in over 1,000 cars in a 5 ½ hour period. The annual program takes place in the fall and allows residents to properly and safely dispose of their household hazardous waste.

Tire Management Program

Overall, the District was responsible for processing nearly 12,000 tires in 2011. That amount of tires recycled is equivalent to the amount of 17 school buses.

Yard Waste Management Program

Over 7,300 tons of material was brought into the compost sites in 2011. The amount composted is nearly equivalent to 2 million gallons of milk.
Also in 2011...

Human Resources Department
- Risk Management worked hand-in-hand with the Purchasing Department and the Board of Commissioners toward fleet reduction and a corresponding reduction in insurance costs.
- Implemented a County-wide Customer Service Training with ongoing monitoring/feedback and follow up.
- Compensation Specialist hired and tasked with ensuring that County positions are maintained and classified appropriately, as jobs and needs change.

Assessor’s Office
- In 2011, the Allen County Assessor’s Office successfully wrapped up the 2012 Statewide General Reassessment. Assessor staff had to physically inspect over 156,000 parcels in Allen County over the last 2 years. This is the first time that the General Reassessment was completed on time.

Information Technology Department
- Upgrade and redesign of equipment location in the City/County Data Center in the City-County Building
- Deploy building permits online
- Design and develop a custom eBilling platform that allows the County to email property tax bills rather than mailing them.
- Deploy the new VoIP phone system to the new Citizens Square and existing offices in the City-County Building
- Develop a website that allows individuals running for public office to report campaign contributions and funds with personalized account access

County Objectives in 2012
- Present a compensation/merit program for County employees to the Allen County Council for implementation
- Develop a partnership for optimizing the use of Allen County’s Geographic Information System
- Continue preparation of County-owned property at Lima and Carroll Roads for future use
- Complete automation of the permitting system for development within Allen County
- Explore possibilities for integration with the City of Fort Wayne and Fort Wayne Community Schools in areas such as human resources, employee clinic facilities and health insurance, and purchasing sources
- Enhance the leadership role that the County assumes in local economic development, including an examination of the consolidation of countywide economic development providers
- Complete the move of all County offices into permanent locations
## Connecting to Allen County Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<td>Public Defender</td>
<td>449-7255</td>
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<td>Community Corrections</td>
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<td>Public Information</td>
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<td>Purchasing Department</td>
<td>449-7567</td>
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<td>449-7233</td>
<td>Recorder’s Office</td>
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<td>Election Board</td>
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<td>Safety &amp; Environmental Affairs</td>
<td>449-7265</td>
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<td>Sheriff’s Dept.</td>
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<td>Surveyor’s Office</td>
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<td>Human Resources</td>
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<td>Treasurer’s Office</td>
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<td>Jail</td>
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<td>Veterans Services</td>
<td>449-7861</td>
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<td>Memorial Coliseum</td>
<td>482-9502</td>
<td>Voter Registration</td>
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<td>NIRCC</td>
<td>449-7309</td>
<td>Wayne Township Assessor</td>
<td>449-7173</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>449-3180</td>
<td>Youth Services Center</td>
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Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman (right) discusses issues with Commissioner Therese Brown before speaking with County and City officials during a Sept. 1 visit to Allen County.

State Rep. Kathy Heuer (left) meets with County Assessor Stacey O’Day as part of her day shadowing Allen County officials on Nov. 14.
# 2012 Allen County Elected Officials & Department Heads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioner</th>
<th>Linda K. Bloom</th>
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<tr>
<td>Therese M. Brown</td>
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<td>F. Nelson Peters</td>
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<td>Robert A. Armstrong</td>
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<td>Larry L. Brown</td>
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<td>Roy A. Buskirk</td>
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<td>Thomas A. Harris</td>
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<td>Kevin M. Howell</td>
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<td>Paul A. Moss</td>
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<td>Darren E. Vogt</td>
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<tr>
<th>Assessor</th>
<th>Stacey J. O’Day</th>
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<td>Auditor</td>
<td>Tera K. Klutz</td>
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<td>Clerk of Courts</td>
<td>Lisbeth A. Borgmann</td>
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<td>E. Jon Brandenberger, M.D.</td>
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<td>Prosecuting Attorney</td>
<td>Karen E. Richards</td>
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<td>Recorder</td>
<td>John D. McGauley</td>
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<td>Kenneth C. Fries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveyor</td>
<td>Allan D. Frisinger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Susan L. Orth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Twp. Assessor</td>
<td>Beverly Zuber</td>
</tr>
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| Building Dept. | David Fuller |
| Building Maintenance | Dan Freck |
| County Services | Robert Bolenbaugh |
| Dept. of Health | Deborah McMahan, M.D. |
| Dept. of Planning Services | Kimberly Bowman |
| Election Board | Beth A. Dlug |
| Highway Dept. | William Hartman III |
| Homeland Security | Bernie Beier |
| Human Resources | Cathy Serrano |
| Juvenile Justice Center | Joseph Brita |
| NIRCC | Dan Avery |
| Parks & Recreation | Jefferson D. Baxter |
| Public Defender | Eric Ortiz |
| Purdue Co-op Extension | Michael Talbott |
| Safety & Environment | Anthony G. Burrus |
| Voter Registration | Maye Johnson (D) |
| War Memorial Coliseum | Barry Schust (R) |
| Youth Services Center | Christopher Dunn |

| Circuit Court | Judge Thomas J. Felts |
| Superior Court | Judge David J. Avery |
|               | Judge Nancy E. Boyer |
|               | Judge Wendy W. Davis |
|               | Judge Frances C. Gull |
|               | Judge Daniel G. Heath |
|               | Judge Stanley A. Levine |
|               | Judge Charles F. Pratt |
|               | Judge Stephen M. Sims |
|               | Judge John F. Surbeck, Jr. |