

# Licking County Health Department

History of the TB Sanitarium and LCHD

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner

The Licking  
county TB  
Sanitarium  
Home to the  
Licking County  
Health  
Department



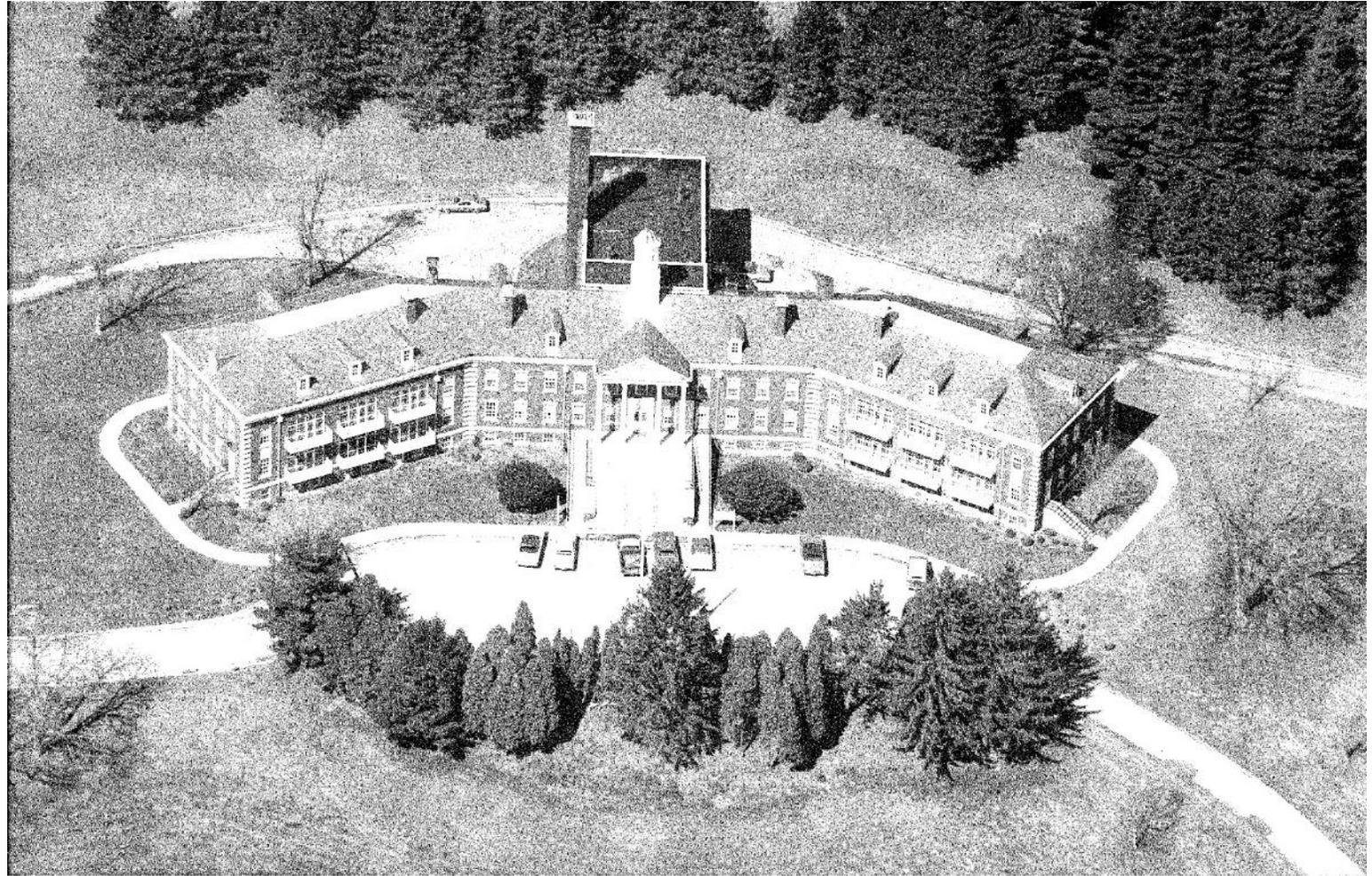
# History

- For most of recorded human history, Tuberculosis (TB) has been responsible for illness and death. Caused by the Mycobacterium tuberculosis bacteria, TB spread easily among populations, and isolation of patients from the public was an important public health benefit of sanitariums. These facilities emphasized clean living environments and access to open air for patients. In the 1950's antibiotics capable of battling TB became available, changing the way TB patients were treated and dramatically improving outcomes.
- In 1928, the Licking County commissioners voted to construct a tuberculosis sanitarium at the cost of \$250,000 on land purchased from Frank Fluhart on Price Road.

The Licking County TB Sanitarium was constructed in 1931-32 to house the county's Tuberculosis patients.



# TB Sanitorium in the 1960s



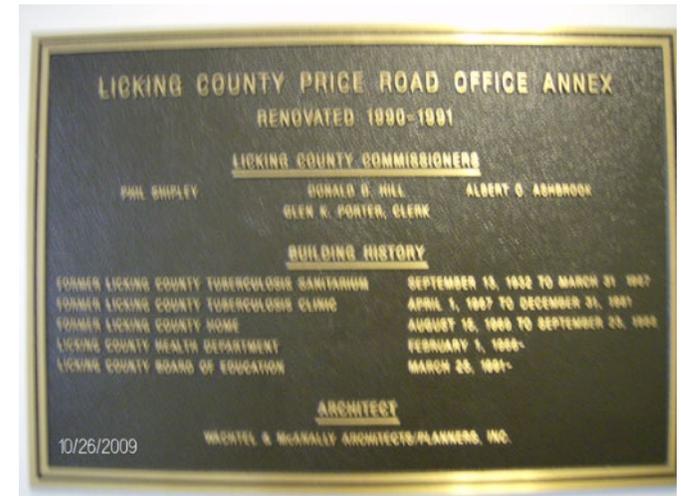
# Time of Transition

- Following the discovery of effective antibiotic treatments for TB, the population residing in the facility declined, until the TB hospital was eventually closed in 1967. At that time the Tuberculosis Board transferred the building and grounds to the Board of Commissioners. The TB Clinic, however, continued to be housed here and became part of the Health Department in 1982.
- The Licking County Health Department moved into the east wing of the sanitarium in 1966 after spending time housed in Granville and Utica.
- From 1969 to 1988 the building also housed the County Home.



# A Turning Point

- The Commissioner's put the "County Home" building and grounds up for auction in 1989. The 62 acres of land on the south side of Turner Rd. were sold, however, there were no adequate bids on the property that included the building.
- The Commissioners decided to renovate the building, and in 1990 renovation of the building began, finishing in 1991. The TB and county home rooms were converted to offices, the wiring, lighting, and finishes were updated, and the coal fired boiler was replaced with gas furnaces and A/C units.



# New Tenants Arrive

- In 1991 the County Board of Education (now the Educational Service Center) moved into offices on the 3rd floor where they remained until 2013 when they relocated to the old Roosevelt School.
- In 1994 the Newark Building Code Department moved into the Price Rd. Annex, followed by the Newark City Health Department in October of 1994.

The Coshocton, Fairfield, Licking, and Perry (CFLP) Solid Waste District moved into the building in 1991 and continue to rent space on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

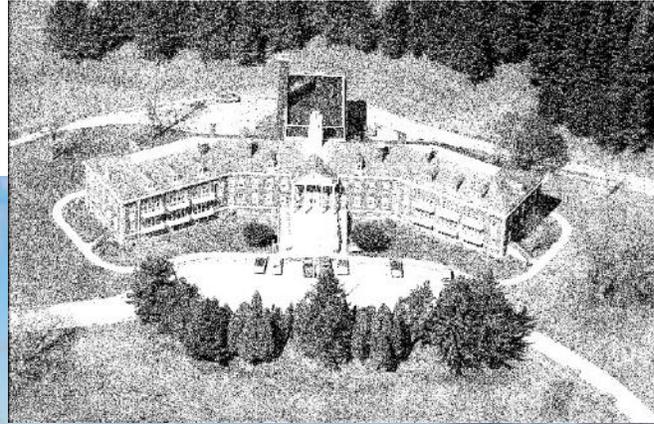


# The Health Department

- The Licking County Health Department's programs and staffing have grown significantly since moving to the facility in 1966 with 11 employees.
- The Licking County and Newark City health departments merged in 2008, creating one combined health district, serving all of Licking County. In 2019 the Health Department has 70 employees, serving over 170,000 residents.
- The Health Department took ownership of the building from the County Commissioners in 2014.



LCHD address maintenance issues and enhances the facility and grounds.



LCHD is dedicated to the care of this historic building, allowing it to continue its mission of protecting public health for Licking County residents





# Habitat restoration project - 2016

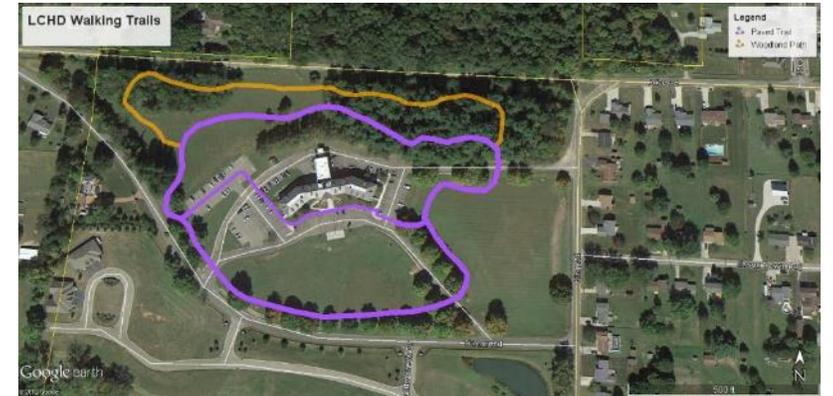
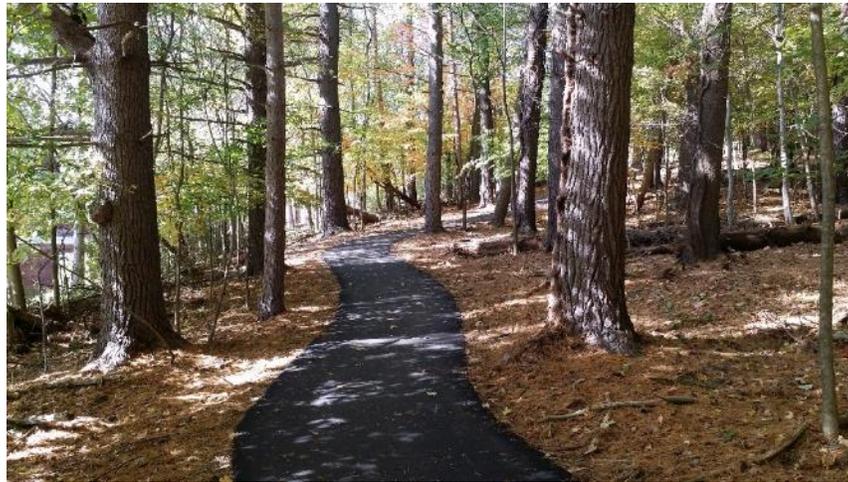


# Clinic Renovation – 2015-16

- Major renovation of the north wing clinic area to better serve clients and improve efficiency.



# Walking Trail .5 mile paved path - 2016



New employee  
breakroom -  
2016



Pollinator  
Learning  
Garden – 2017  
Ohio EPA  
OEEF grant



# Playground 2017

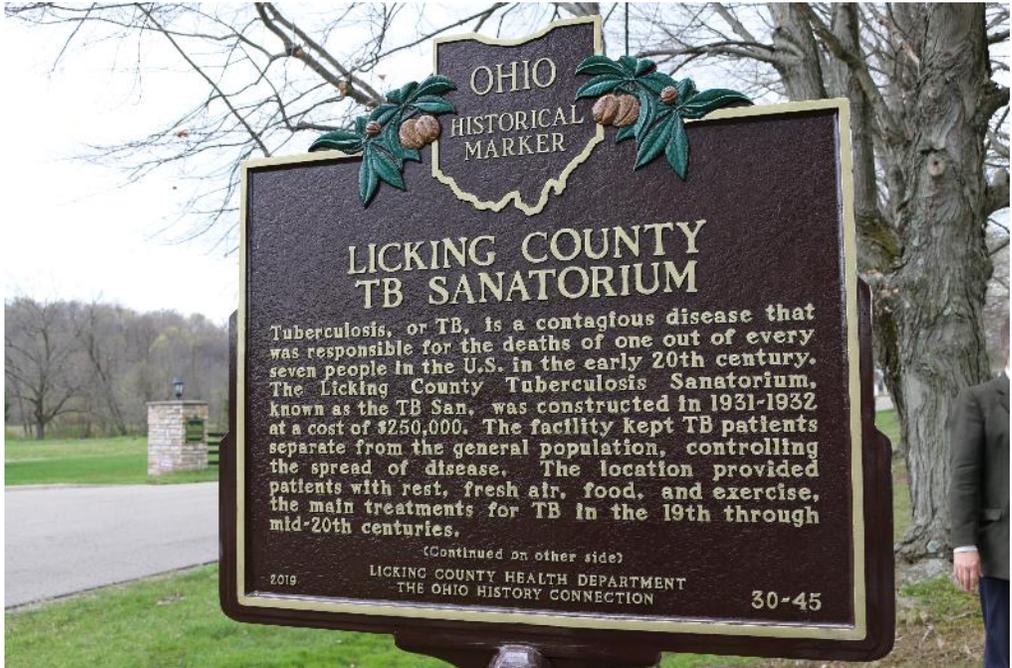


Kaboom – Dr. Pepper grant covered approximately 50% of cost.

2018  
New garage  
and  
replacement of  
66 original  
1931  
windows



# 2019 Historical Marker Dedication



# Future plans

- Connection to TJ Evans trail on Goosepond Dr.





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