

## In Your Corner

A quarterly newsletter  
brought to you  
by the Law Offices of  
Regas & Haag, LTD.

FALL 2010

## Good News!

### prescription assistance

Following is a list of websites  
and phone numbers for  
prescription assistance:

**RxOutreach.com**  
800.769.3880

**FreeMedicineFoundation.com**  
573.996.3333

**Pparx.org** (*Partnership for  
Prescription Assistance*)  
888.477.2669

**RxAssist.org**  
401.729.3284

**RxHope.com**  
877.267.0517

**FreeMedicinesOnline.com**  
225.931.2653

**Xubex.com**  
866.699.8239

**Free Medicine Program**  
800.921.0072

**Glaxo Smith Kline**  
866.265.6491 or 888.825.5249

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Regas & Haag, LTD.  
3969 Convenience Circle NW  
Suite 101  
Canton, Ohio 44718  
Phone: 330.649.9102  
Toll Free: 800.520.2200  
[www.bulldogattorneys.com](http://www.bulldogattorneys.com)

## Social Security is Adding Two New Ohio Hearing Offices

Social Security is adding two new hearing offices in Ohio.

Although these offices will not be fully operational until March 1, 2011, it is the hope that Ohioans will see a shorter wait time.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer: Thousands of people in Ohio waiting for hearings on their Social Security disability cases -- some for more than a year -- should see that wait shortened by months after two new hearing offices open in Ohio on August 16.

The two new local hearing centers, in Akron and Toledo, will bring a total of 119 new jobs to the state and increase the number of hearing offices in Ohio from four to six. The ultimate goal is to reduce the average wait -- at all offices -- to 270 days by 2013, Social Security Commissioner Michael Astrue said in a telephone interview this week. "The cavalry is coming over the hill," Astrue said. "This is very good news from a backlog point of view, but it's also very important to have realistic expectations."

The centers will begin hearing cases by the end of August, Astrue said. But it will take months for them to get up to speed as new judges complete training and staff gets settled. "You'll start to see some real contributions after about three months," Astrue said. "And that will increase steadily for the next nine months or so." When the two new offices are fully staffed, Ohio will have 65 administrative law judges hearing disability cases across the state, 22 more than it has now.

Of the 147 offices in the United States, Columbus was dead last with an average wait time of 632 days, according to July data provided by the Social Security Administration. Cleveland was in 137th place with a delay of 549 days.

*Suchetka, Diane. "Two New Disability Hearing Offices to Open in Ohio This Month to Address the State's Backlog | Cleveland.com." Cleveland Plain Dealer 09 Aug. 2010. Cleveland OH Local News, Breaking News, Sports & Weather - Cleveland.com. Web. 03 Sept. 2010. <[http://www.cleveland.com/healthfit/index.ssf/2010/08/two\\_new\\_disability\\_hearing\\_off.html](http://www.cleveland.com/healthfit/index.ssf/2010/08/two_new_disability_hearing_off.html)>.*



## welcome, Elise Hargett!

Elise Hargett is the newest member of the Regas and Haag staff. She joined the office in June 2010 and is the Legal Assistant to the firm's attorneys.

Elise is a graduate of the Victory Academy in Little Rock, Arkansas. She finds her new job very satisfying as it is challenging and keeps her very busy. She also enjoys working with the attorneys and the clients.

## Giant Eagle offers free diabetes drugs & advice

Giant Eagle Pharmacy is now the first in Northeast Ohio to offer free diabetes drugs. Customers with valid prescriptions and the Giant Eagle Advantage Card can get 30 to 90 day supplies of the Type 2 diabetes drugs. The program is extensive and will be built around loyalty cards. Dietitians will offer store tours and teach customers what to buy and how foods affect their medications. Pharmacists have been trained to answer more questions about diabetes care as well. The diabetes programs builds upon the company's other wellness programs, such as free antibiotics, flu shots, \$4 and \$10 generic drugs and in-store FastCare clinics.

## The Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB) is a web-based computer program designed to link low and moderate-income Ohioans with access to work supports, such as tax credits and public benefits.

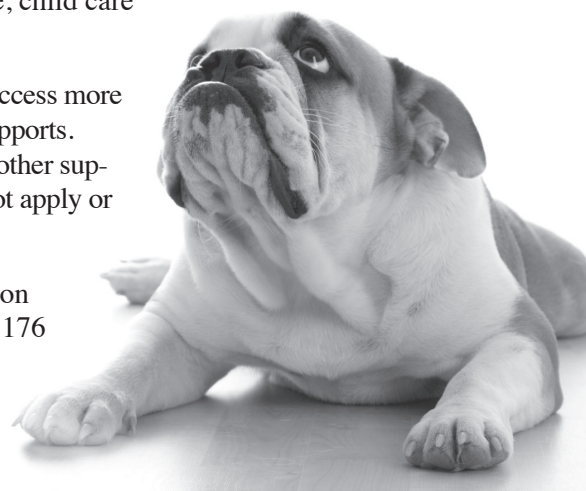
Trained counselors staff the OBB sites in all 88 of Ohio's counties. Eligible Ohioans can work with the counselors to prepare and file federal and state income tax returns for free.

Ohioans may also check potential eligibility for other work support benefits, such as health care coverage, home energy assistance, child care subsidies, and food stamps.

The OBB has helped more than 78,000 Ohioans access more than \$265 million in tax credits and other work supports. Even so, more than \$1.7 billion in tax credits and other supports go unclaimed by eligible Ohioans who do not apply or are unaware of these supports.



The OBB information hotline is 800.648.1176 or go online at [obb.ohio.gov](http://obb.ohio.gov).



## Fake Internet Drugs May be Dangerous

### Prescription Medications Purchased Over Internet Pose Major Health Risks

Buyer beware if purchasing prescription meds online. The internet may offer anonymity but the risks of counterfeit internet drugs are growing. People may be wasting their time, money, health, and even their lives by purchasing medications from lucrative illicit drug markets. Fake drugs are most commonly linked to erectile dysfunction, but the danger isn't limited to just that.

The purity of the medication and the proper dosage are two concerns of internet drug purchases. For more information on this, go to [drugs.com](http://drugs.com) and click on FDA Consumer Updates.





**NeedyMeds.org is a website with a mission of helping people who cannot afford medicine or health care costs.** It does not provide medicine or financial support, only information free of charge and anonymously.

To find out more, go online to NeedyMeds.org. The drug discount card may provide great value to individuals struggling to afford prescription drugs. The average savings is around 50%, compared to the cash price of drugs. The savings are up to 80%, it's accepted at over 60,000 pharmacies, and anyone can use it regardless of income, insurance status, age, or residency.

## Chronic-Fatigue Virus Disputed in Recent Studies

According to a June 30, 2010 article in The Wall Street Journal, the CDC estimates between one million and four million people in the U.S. have chronic-fatigue syndrome. This syndrome is characterized by debilitating fatigue and chronic pain. Some recent studies suggested a potential link between the syndrome and the virus, XMRV. Unfortunately, the results of these studies were contradictory. One group found a link to the virus and the other group did not.

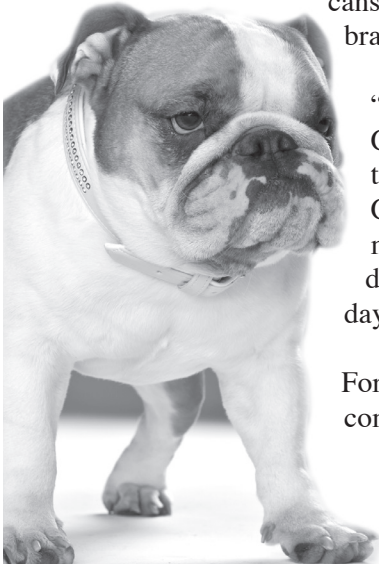
For more information about the study, go online to [www.bulldogattorneys.com](http://www.bulldogattorneys.com) and click on September 2010 Newsletter.

## 38 New Compassionate Allowance Conditions Added by Social Security

Earlier this year, thirty-eight conditions were added to the list of Compassionate Allowances – the first expansion since the original list of 50 conditions was announced in late 2008. The expansion will speed benefits to thousands of Americans with disabilities. The new conditions range from adult brain disorders to rare diseases that primarily affect children.

“The addition of these new conditions expands the scope of Compassionate Allowances to a broader subgroup of conditions like early-onset Alzheimer’s disease,” Social Security Commissioner Michael Astrue said. “The expansion... means tens of thousands of Americans with devastating disabilities will now get approved for benefits in a matter of days rather than months and years.”

For a list of the new conditions, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances).



## Low-cost medical providers IN STARK COUNTY

**Aultman Family Practice**  
2600 7th Street SW  
Canton OH 44710  
330.363.6211

**Mercy Ambulatory Care Center**  
1320 Mercy Drive NW  
Canton OH 44708  
330.489.1065

**Coleman Professional Services**  
400 West Tuscarawas Street  
Suite 200  
Canton OH 44702  
330.438.2400

**Community Services of Stark County**  
625 Cleveland Avenue NW  
Canton OH 44702  
330.438.2400

**Phoenix Rising Behavioral Healthcare**  
1930 Fremont Place SW  
Canton OH 44706  
330.455.5950

**Trillium Family Solutions**  
624 Market Avenue North  
Canton OH 44702  
330.454.7066

**Canton Community Clinic**  
2725 Lincoln Street East  
Canton OH 44707  
330.454.2000

**Total Living Center**  
2221 Ninth Street SW  
Canton OH 44706  
330.455.3663

**Western Stark Medical Clinic**  
820 Amherst Road NE  
Massillon OH 44646  
330.834.1546

**Veterans Administration Clinic**  
Community-Based Outpatient Clinic  
733 Market Avenue South  
Canton OH 44702  
330.489.4600

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### **Internet Access Available at Local Libraries**

If you do not have access  
to the internet from home,  
visit your local library.  
It's available for free!



## **Canton Free Clinic NOW OPEN**

The Canton Health and Wellness Free Clinic is now open at 903 12th Street NW. The clinic provides general medical services for children from five years of age through adults. No appointment is necessary, but your photo ID is required. Hours are every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. You must be at or below 200% poverty income guidance to qualify for free services.