



**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
PROBATE / JUVENILE DIVISION
GEAUGA COUNTY**

TIMOTHY J. GRENDALL – JUDGE

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December 12, 2013

Dear Editor:

The majority of the Geauga County Park Board recently voted not to renew the contract of the current Executive Director effective December 31, 2013. This legally authorized action has met with some public resistance and has generated unfortunate personal rancor between some members of the Park Board. The past two weeks have witnessed several threats and some personal animosity.

As the appointing authority for the Park Board, I believe that the focus of the process should be solely on the maintenance of our excellent County Parks and not someone's or some group's individual agenda. To that end, I want to focus on the future of the Park District through a fresh, new Board of Directors. I have asked the two current Board Members with remaining terms to cooperate with this decision, and they have kindly agreed to do so by voluntarily leaving the Park Board on December 31, 2013.

I will be soliciting letters of interest and resumes from Geauga County residents with an interest in serving on the Park Board. These should be submitted to the Probate Court by 4:30 P.M. on January 2, 2014.

I appreciate the voluntary services and commitment provided by Park Board Commissioners Jim Patterson, Mike Petruziello, and Nick Fischbach. I also appreciate their cooperation and understanding as we move forward to continue to place the priority where it needs to be placed - on our great Geauga County Parks.

I look forward to a new year, with a new Park Board, and a new Executive Director, working together to protect our county's natural resources, while providing premier outdoor recreational opportunities for Geauga County residents.

Sincerely,

Tim Grendall
Judge