

Williamsburg Township Newsletter

P.O. Box 499, Williamsburg, Ohio 45176-0499

SPRING / SUMMER 2017

Bari Henning
Trustee
724-2994

Gary Jordan
Trustee
724-5315

Guy Bainum
Trustee
724-6553

Gregory W. Carson
Fiscal Officer
724-8333

www.williamsburgtownship.org

Township Trustee Meetings ~ 2nd & 4th Monday 7:00 PM at Township Hall, located on Alexander Ln.

Williamsburg Township Newsletter can be seen at Williamsburgtownship.org

Village of Williamsburg Newsletter can be seen at Williamsburgohio.org

From The Trustees

Here's what's happening at South Afton Commerce Park, a 242 acre business park being built at SR 32 and Half Acre Road in Williamsburg Township! The first phase of infrastructure is nearing completion. This includes nearly 2,000 linear feet of roadway, 5,800 linear feet of sanitary force main, and 1,700 linear feet of gravity sewer. The county is making progress on extending rail into the site, and they are working on a preferred alignment with Norfolk Southern. A wetlands study has been completed. There will soon be a second "for sale" sign on the site: the first one had led to several inquiries. Interested in finding out more about Clermont's largest industrial park? Details can be found at www.SouthAfton.com.

WHY "SOUTH AFTON"?

This site is very close to the historical unincorporated area of Afton, which was centered at the intersection of Half Acre Road and Old SR 32. The CIC Board of Trustees considered a variety of names for this business park, and South Afton Commerce Park (SACP) was the ultimate choice for several reasons: First, it is easy to say and reflects the advanced manufacturing industries that exist today, as opposed to something like "Clermont County SR 32 Industrial Park." Also, it honors a historic place in the community which the CIC felt was important to do, and provides an instant geographic reference for people in the community.

The CIC understands that the historical center of "Afton" is actually south of the site. However, there could never be a geographically accurate industrial park called "South Afton," because East Fork State Park lies directly south of that intersection. The CIC took the liberty of moving the north/south divide of "Afton" to SR 32, because they hope someday there will be a "North Afton Commerce Park" developed nearby when SACP is built out! This part of Clermont County holds the future for large-scale industrial growth, and Clermont County is working every day to improve the SR 32 corridor to ensure businesses can locate and thrive in this area. The CIC hopes local historians will oblige its movement of Afton and will appreciate knowing the name will live on for decades to come!

The project, guided by the Clermont County Commissioner and the Clermont County Economic Development Department, is progressing at a steady pace as a business ready site for manufacturers. The property was purchased on February 1, 2016 and will lead to good paying jobs, new property tax revenue to support our local school district, township services, and countywide services. In April 2017, Williamsburg Township Trustee, Gary Jordan, was extended and accepted an opportunity to sit on the CIC, Inc. Board with the Clermont County Commissioners and Clermont County Economic Development team.

Recently, the Clermont County Trustees Association met at the Clermont County Public Health Department. After our regular order of business, the Clermont County Trustees adjourn, and a Clermont County District Advisory Council Meeting was held. This meeting is always an eye opener on the added value this department gives to our communities. You can access their site through clermonthelthdistrict.org. This significant group has a lot to offer, such as, immunizations for international travel, women infants and children (WIC), tobacco cessation counseling, birth and death certificates, to name a few services. They also provide support and direction concerning the heroin and drug epidemic, which our country is facing. More can be found on their website. Take the time to review their site to become familiar to the wide variety of services they provide. Larry Cadwallader, Williamsburg Township resident, is an active board member of this group.

The 2016 winter was very light which lessened the damage to our roads and the amount of salt to put down for safety. Early spring has taken a more aggressive approach causing damage to residence homes and property. One tornado was verified to have touched down causing damage to a residence home, as well. In all accounts, our Williamsburg Emergency Services was there providing services, often with a personal touch. We are grateful and proud of our team that provides us this support everyday, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week! Our Williamsburg Township Emergency Services continues to make Williamsburg a great place to raise a family and their team is our community treasure. Thank you.

Knowing that, often in our lives, certain individuals come along that makes a very significant impact on what we do. It is even more difficult to put the right words together for recognition. Recently, Williamsburg Emergency Services, had a fireman retire that served us for 38 years, in our community. Charles Wilson, better known as Chip grew up in Williamsburg. He is the son of Bill and Gladys Wilson and brother of Joanne and Jamie. He is a fine individual from a great family. Growing up in "Burg," he enjoyed eating hamburgers at Charlie and Joe's Poolroom or just hanging out at the football game enjoying burgers and a cold Pepsi. He is a constant in our community and a home town boy!

When Chip graduated from Williamsburg High School in 1972, he had a passion to help people, so it was no surprise to that he joined Williamsburg Fire Department. When the tone dropped, he was up and headed toward the Fire Department. He was not intimidated by the dangers that would lie ahead, whether it was a burning house, cutting a car apart to save someone or cutting trees up after a bad storm. Trustee Guy Bainum, knows Chip well and states, "He is like a gentle giant to our Emergency Services that adults and children have come to adore. A wise man once said, you can not do a lot about the length of your life, but you can about its width and depth. Chip has done a lot about life's width and depth!"

Chip will be dearly missed at Williamsburg Township Emergency Services. The Williamsburg Township Trustees, wishes Chip, God's Blessing, on behalf on our Community! If you see Chip out in our community, make sure you thank him for his 38 years of volunteering to keep our community safe. Job well done and enjoy retirement Chip!!!

Chip Wilson adds his name to a list of individuals who made a legacy of serving through volunteering. Williamsburg Township employs two fulltime firemen during the daytime hours Monday through Friday. Over 50 volunteers are available to assist our community 24 hours seven days a week. Individuals interested in being part of this team can contact Chief Wiedemann at 724-7744.

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Mr. & Mrs. Phil Boyd were chosen as the Williamsburg Township recipients to the 24th Annual Salute the Leaders this year! Phil & Mary Boyd were born and raised in Williamsburg, Ohio and are Williamsburg High School graduates. Mr. & Mrs. Boyd have been married 68 years, raising two beautiful daughters, which are graduates of Williamsburg High School, as well. They also have three grandchildren and two great grandchildren, who they enjoy spending time with.

Over the last 68 years, Mary worked in various clerical positions, while raising two girls. She worked at Goshen Middle School as a secretary, Williamsburg Elementary as the principal's secretary and in the Williamsburg's School Treasurers office. Mary worked in the school system for 20 plus years and enjoyed working with the children and public. Phil worked hauling fuel oil for customers in Clermont and Brown County for many years. He managed the Ashland Oil Bulk Plant in Williamsburg along with Mary who kept the books. After he retired, Phil worked in the Williamsburg Elementary School Maintenance Department. The students of Williamsburg Local Schools truly appreciated and loved both Mr. & Mrs. Boyd. Many still tell stories of fond memories they created!

Mr. & Mrs. Boyd have both worked and served for the Board of Elections in Williamsburg. Both are active in the Williamsburg United Methodist Church, and have been members all their lives. Both have served on various boards, held offices, and were council members of Williamsburg United Methodist Church.

Phil belongs to Clermont Social Masonic Lodge #29, where he is a 50 year member and still actively attends meetings and events. Mary & Phil are members of Celestine Chapter # 185 Order of the Eastern Star where they are 50 year members and were given the honor of life members. They both have held many offices in the order and have remained very active. Mr. & Mrs. Boyd have been retired for at least 20 years; however, remain very busy serving their community and giving back ... leading forward!

It takes a family, church, and community to raise our children, which both have actively participated in. Please join the community of Williamsburg Township in honoring Phil & Mary Boyd, true servants, leading, and immolating character and integrity to our community! On behalf of the community of Williamsburg Township, we Salute you! Job well done!

Williamsburg Township Junk Days have been set for June 8-10, 2017. The hours will be June 8th from 8am-8pm, June 9th from 8am-8pm, and June 10th from 8am-4pm. The collection point will again be the Williamsburg Township Maintenance Department Building. There will be only one Junk Day event set for the township for 2017. For information concerning this event, please call 724-1110. The Williamsburg Township Maintenance Department Building is located at the end of North 8th Street. Tires will not be accepted at this event.

Williamsburg Township Junk Days Spring Clean-up Dates June 8th, 9th & 10th



NEWS
FROM
YOUR



EMERGENCY SERVICES

It's that time of year when severe weather is a possibility and with the severe weather that we've experienced so far this year, we would like to remind the residence that the Firehouse is NOT a "safe shelter". The township and village are meeting to discuss locations for a "safe shelter" for the residence if severe weather was immanent. As soon as a location is designated we will post this information on the township and village websites.

The department would like to congratulate Charles "Chip" Wilson on his retirement. Chip has been a member of the Fire Department for 38 years. The department would like to thank him for his time, dedication and many sleepless nights serving the township and village.

I would like to thank the members and the community for their continued support.

Congratulations to this years graduating class, Best of Luck Class of 2017!

Wishing everyone a safe spring and summer.

Kevin Wiedemann
Fire Chief

Williamsburg Township Road and Cemetery

Spring time is here, I want to remind everyone that any flowers or decorations left in the grass at the cemetery will be removed for mowing and trimming. If you need to purchase graves please call the office at 513-724-1110 to make an appointment. Junk Days is Thursday June 8, Friday June 9 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday June 10 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Items we do not accept are tires, batteries, anything in liquid form and household trash. If you have large items that you need assistance unloading please stop and ask one of the maintenance guys to help unload your items.

The Township recently purchased a used A Boom mower and tractor for mowing and cutting brush back along the roadways. The Township saved approximately \$50000 buying a good used mower and tractor. The maintenance crew will be out this summer and thru the winter cutting the brush back along all roadways. Be cautious when approaching any equipment working in the roadways.

In early March and early April, we had some bad storms move thru the area. There were trees down and power lines down. Houses that received damage as well. Williamsburg Township Emergency Services and Williamsburg Township Maintenance Department worked quickly together cleaning up and removing the debris from roadways and helping residents any way they could. Both Township departments work very well together.

This past winter was very mild, the township maintenance crew only used about 25 tons of salt. In past years, normal average usage is around 100 tons of salt used.

Williamsburg Township Zoning Office

If a property owner wants to know the zoning district where their property is located, there is a zoning map at the zoning office. Anyone may see the map to get information. On the Real Estate taxes from Clermont County Auditor there is a district designated. That district is how they figure the taxes and not necessarily the zoning district for the property in Williamsburg Township. For instance, the County Auditor may have the property designated residential and in the Township it is zoned Agricultural, Business, or even Industrial.

If anyone would like to see the map or has questions concerning their property you may call the zoning office at 513-724-5529

Harmony Hill

Highland Hall, located at 192 South Third Street in Williamsburg, Ohio, was built in 1846 by T.E.Sinks as a wedding present to his daughter and son-in-law. Questions remain as to when the construction began and when the project was finished. The original bricks were made on site by the workers at the brick factory in Williamsburg. The original site was a farm which included a big barn and outbuildings. The foundation of the barn is still in place. The home has eight rooms two bathrooms, and long hallways, both upstairs and down. There have been several families who have lived in the residence. In 1918, the property was purchased by Francis Washington Walker and his wife, Annabelle Reed Walker, and it remains in that family today. The Acanthus Group (a Cincinnati restoration company founded by Mark Hornbaker) began restoring the home in 2001. This labor of love was completed in 2016. All the floors are original (white oak, poplar, pine), most of the ceiling electric lights date from 1923, and much of the furniture has been there almost 100 years. Although the kitchen has been updated and a bathroom added downstairs, the driving force and the main goal of the home owners and the restoration company was to keep the integrity of the home. Only historic paint colors (Benjamin Moore) were used on the walls, the floors were refinished by hand, and research was done on every aspect of what was needed to keep the home's integrity in tact. In 1932, the home was passed down to F.W. and Annabelle Reed Walker's children including Pauline Walker Stockton, wife of Edgar Stockton, who, in turn passed it to their descendants, including Karen Stockton Cavicchia. Dr. Thomas H. and Karen Stockton Cavicchia are the current homeowners.



HISTORY NOTES above are courtesy of the **HARMONY HILL ASSOCIATION, INC.**

MEMBERSHIP IN THE HARMONY HILL ASSOCIATION ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. TO JOIN, SIMPLY FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION AND SEND TO: Harmony Hill Association, Inc., % Beth Barth, 3905 Elston Hockstock Rd., Batavia, Ohio 45103. We will send you a receipt for tax purposes. Checks should be made payable to Harmony Hill Association, Inc.

Check one:

☐ Lifetime Family Membership - \$100

☐ Annual Family Membership - \$24

☐ Annual Single Adult - \$12

☐ Annual Student (K-12) - \$3

Corporate memberships or donations from individuals are also gladly accepted!

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Street Address _____

Email _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Membership _____ Donation _____

Annual memberships are effective from January 1- December 31.

Visit the Harmony Hill Museum and Clermont County Historical Society Museum the first Saturday of each month from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. at 299 South Third Street, Williamsburg.

Williamsburg Township Junk Days

Spring Clean-up
Dates

June 8th, 9th & 10th



Details
inside
newsletter

The Old High School Grounds
in Williamsburg, Ohio
(513) 724-6107

June in Olde Williamsburgh

June 2nd-3rd-4th, 2017

* Rides * Food * Fireworks * Live Band * & More



For more information & schedule of events, go to
www.williamsburgohio.org

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Keeping you informed.

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