

Williamsburg Township Newsletter

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

SPRING / SUMMER 2013

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

The 20th Annual Clermont County Salute to Leaders was held on Tuesday, March 12th, 2013 at the Eastgate Holiday Inn. Marion G. Croswell was honored as the 2013 Williamsburg Township Award recipient. Mrs. Croswell was recognized for being involved as well as giving back to the community. She is a 10 year member of the Board of Directors of the Clermont County YMCA, a 36+ year member of the Board of Directors of the Clermont County Public Library, a Vision Award Winner of the Motorcoach Association, the Honorary Chairperson of the Clermont County Hospital Capital Fundraising Campaign, and Deacon of the Williamsburg First United Presbyterian Church. Her name is proudly displayed on the front of the Williamsburg Library, which indicates her involvement and support to our community. Congratulations Marion Croswell and thank you for supporting your community.

Duke Energy has announced that they will be applying the grid upgrades in our area over the next several months. Basically, they will be going to remote-read meters, so they will no longer have meter readers walking through the area. The work will primarily be done by subcontractors and the schedule is tentatively:

March 6th Lewis Tree begins removing vegetation from around meter boxes and switch stations (in process).

April 15th Boland begins installing "nodes" on meters and boxes.

May 28h Grid One begins installing new remote-read meters.

Once the new meter is installed at a residence, it will be physically read by a person the first month, thereafter, the meter will be remote read daily. Duke Energy's intent is to do the same to the gas meters starting in December 2013. The Williamsburg Township Trustees encourage you to make the sub-contractor identify themselves if they are on your property.

There have been numerous break-ins and thefts in Clermont County over the last several years. Williamsburg Township has not been an exception to this unfortunate situation. The Clermont County Sheriff's department has done a commendable job protecting our area; however, this crime is often associated with drug abuse and completely unpredictable. We recommend creating a neighborhood watch and considering having the Clermont County Sheriff's Department perform a watch on your property if you're on vacation. Details on this service can be viewed on their website, which can be located at www.clermontsheriff.org. On the right hand side of their home page, toward the bottom, is the link to submit a vacation watch request. The Sheriff's site is also accessible through the Williamsburg Township website, which is located at www.williamsburgtownship.org, open the link to "Law Enforcement."

Township Junk Day will be held on June 13-15th. On Thursday 13th and Friday 14th the hours will be from 8 am to 8 pm. On Saturday June 15th, the hours will be from 8 am to 4 pm. There will not be a Fall Township Junk Day collection this year, due to being prudent with the taxpayer's money during these challenging times. Take advantage of the June event which will be held at the Williamsburg Township Maintenance Department, by the cemetery. For more information, the Maintenance Department may be reached at 513-724-1110.

Recently, the Williamsburg Township Trustees and Fiscal Officer had the opportunity to introduce ourselves to Congressman Wenstrup's Aide, Rachael Christian. We shared a lot of detailed information concerning demographics of Williamsburg Township and our desire to develop the 32 corridor. Information on a potential venture was also shared. The discussion led to the need to create a better tax base to support our school system. A request was made to meet with the Congressman in the near future.

What is the Homestead Exemption?

With the passing of House Bill 119, the State legislature expanded the Homestead Exemption Program. This program provides a reduction in property taxes, for all senior citizens and permanently disabled homeowners. The following information is from the Clermont County Auditor's website, which is a great resource to research this topic in detail. Full details of the Homestead Exemption Program may be accessed on the Auditors website by going to www.clermontauditor.org.

What is the Homestead Exemption? The homestead exemption provides a reduction in property taxes to any senior or disabled citizen, regardless of income, on the dwelling that is that individual's principal place of residence and up to one acre of land of which an eligible individual is an owner. The reduction is equal to the taxes that would otherwise be charged on up to \$25,000 of the market value of an eligible taxpayer's homestead.

Qualifications for the Homestead Exemption for Real Property: To receive the homestead exemption you must be (1) at least 65 years of age during the year you first file, or be determined to have been permanently and totally disabled (see definition at right), or be a surviving spouse (see definition at right), and (2) own and have occupied your home as your principal place of residence on Jan. 1 of the year in which you file the application. A person only has one principal place of residence; your principal place of residence determines, among other things, where you are registered to vote and where you declare residency for income tax purposes. You may be required to present evidence of age. If the property is being purchased under a land contract, is owned by a life estate or by a trust, or the applicant is the mortgagor of the property, you may be required to provide copies of any contracts, trust agreements, mortgages or other documents that identify the applicant's eligible ownership interest in the home.



News from your Emergency Services



It is the mission of Williamsburg Township Emergency Services to provide the highest level of life and property safety through the extension of Fire Prevention, Fire Suppression, Medical Rescue and Public Education Services, consistent with the prudent Utilization of public funds. We continue to send out random surveys from emergency calls we make in the community, we have appreciated the feedback as to how we may better serve you our customers. It's our goal to continue to provide the highest quality of service that you have come to expect.

Help us find you; The Cadets on our department are doing a fund raiser for summer camp. They are selling reflective address signs to aid in finding the correct address when we respond for an emergency. The cost of these signs are \$15, call the Station to order 724-7744 or 724-7382.

We will also be glad to check blood pressures and blood sugar levels for any township resident. Just stop by during normal business hours 8:00 am - 6:00 pm.

We now are offering baby sitting first aid CPR classes; these classes are designed for teenagers who may be baby sitting this summer. We are still offering CPR classes as well; both of these classes are free to township residents, just call the station to schedule a class.

I would also like to remind township residents again about our vehicles being much larger than normal. So we are requesting you who have tree branches near their driveways please trim them back to give us clearance for our vehicles, not only Fire Trucks need this room but the Life Squads also require more clearance than cars. Our vehicles can suffer a lot of damage to the paint, lights, and mirrors and sometimes we are unable to get close to the residence, which may cause delays in getting the assistance that you have requested.

Also as a reminder the way the Severe Weather and Outdoor All Hazards Notification (Tornado Sirens) will be activated.

NEW PROCEDURES / ACTIVATION CRITERIA

A. TIME CRITICAL (IMMINENT DANGER FROM SEVERE WEATHER)

- TORNADO WARNING FOR CLERMONT COUNTY.
- TORNADO WARNING FOR AN ADJACENT COUNTY THAT COULD AFFECT CLERMONT COUNTY.
- REPORT OF OR A TORNADO OR FUNNEL CLOUD SIGHTING

Upon confirmation of an actual sighting of a tornado with a public safety official from the jurisdiction making the report, the warning sirens will be activated on a county-wide basis.

New: Civilian Fire Injuries in Residential Buildings (2009-2011)

Annually from 2009 to 2011, an estimated 13,250 civilian fire injuries resulted from 360,900 residential building fires. Of the total residential building fires, 8,100 of them resulted in injuries. Someone was injured in a residential building fire every 40 minutes.

(continued on page 3)

*(Continued from page 2)***Findings from this report:**

- Seventy-six percent of all civilian fire injuries occurred as a result of fires in residential buildings.
- Residential building fires resulting in injuries occurred most frequently in the late afternoon and early evening hours.
- January had the highest incidence of residential building fires resulting in injuries (11 percent).
- "Cooking" (30 percent) was the primary cause for residential building fires that resulted in injuries.
- Thirty-four percent of civilian fire injuries in residential buildings resulted from trying to control a fire followed by attempting to escape (25 percent).
- Seventy-nine percent of injuries resulting from residential building fires involved smoke inhalation and thermal burns.
- The leading human factor contributing to injuries in residential building fires was being "asleep" (56 percent).
- Bedrooms (35 percent) were the leading specific location where civilian injuries occurred in residential building fires.

Chief Ken Wylie

Williamsburg Township Road and Cemetery

Just a reminder Clean Up Days are June 13, 14 and 15 this year. There will not be a Fall Clean up in October. Some items that we can not accept are batteries, paint that is still in liquid form, propane tanks, and any item that may have refrigerant in it.

The Township is going to repave Cain Run Road this year. We will be getting a better price for repaving by joining Clermont County and several other Townships in the bidding process. We will also be replacing several of the pipes that run under the road before it is repaved. We hope to have it all done by the end of the summer. We will start mowing the roads after Memorial Day. We used 50 tons of salt this past winter on clearing the roads.

Mowing season has started and I want to remind everyone that any decorations on the ground in the Cemetery will be picked up and discarded. We will not remove any flowers that are on the stones. We still have grave spaces available for purchase. You can call the office at 724-1110 to make an appointment to purchase them. Prices are \$250.00 for a resident and \$650.00 for nonresident.

Williamsburg Township Zoning Office

Article 7 Signs

The purpose of this section is to regulate and control signs in order to: promote the reasonable, orderly and effective display of signs, protect property values, preserve and enhance the physical appearance and scenic beauty of the Township, promote traffic safety and prevent visual clutter and blight. The Resolution covers General Provisions, Temporary Signs, Exempt Signs, Prohibited Signs and Displays, Non Conforming Signs, Classifications of Signs, Functional Signs and Permitted Sign Area, Relocating Signs, Alterations or Enlargement of Signs, Misrepresentation of Information, Penalties, Signs Permitted in Individual Zoning Districts, Definition of Sign Area, Permitted Sign Area for Freestanding, and Monument and Walls Signs.

If you want to put up a sign call the Zoning Office at 513-724-5529 for the information you will need for your particular sign.

THE JOHN HUNT MORGAN TRAIL COMMEMORATION

Plans are being finalized for the ceremonial dedication in Williamsburg of an interpretive marker on the John Hunt Morgan Trail. The unveiling will take place in the area of St. Rt. 133 and St. Rt. 276 where Morgan and his 2500 mounted men entered the Village 150 years ago on July 13th, 1863. The unveiling will be held on Sunday, July 14th at 1:30 PM followed by a special program to take place at Harmony Hill, 299 South Third Street. The events are being planned by the Harmony Hill Association, Village Officials, the Clermont County Historical Society, the Clermont County Civil War Commemoration Committee and Michael Craft of the Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

The Trail is a statewide project featuring a driving tour that is approximately 561 miles long passing through 17 Ohio Counties, allowing motorists to retrace the path taken by Confederate General John Hunt Morgan during his great raid of 1863. He stayed the night of July 13th in Williamsburg after a non-stop 35 hour, ninety mile ride from Indiana. He left on the 14th, burning the "Old Covered Bridge". The Raiders fought, burned and looted their way heading east across Southern Ohio in search of a place to cross the Ohio River back to "friendly" territory.

Williamsburg Township Junk Days

**Spring Clean-up
Dates**
June 13th, 14th & 15th



*Details
inside
newsletter*

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

June in Olde Williamsburgh

**May 31st &
June 1st, 2nd**

* 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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P.O. Box 499
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