



Williamsburg Township Newsletter

Ohio

www.williamsburgtownship.org

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

SPRING / SUMMER 2021

Bari Henning
Trustee
724-2994

Gary Jordan
Trustee
724-5315

Guy Bainum
Trustee
724-6553

Gregory W. Carson
Fiscal Officer
724-8333

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 *****

On Thursday, March 18, 2021, the Board of Health, remotely, delivered a comprehensive review of Clermont County Public Health's accomplishments in 2020 and direction for the future. We are fortunate to have team led by Julianne Nesbit, Clermont County Health Commissioner, who passionately addresses the community health needs. This team has been instrumental in making sure anyone who wishes to get a vaccine for COVID19 may do so. If you need support in scheduling on-line or have limited internet access, call them at 513-735-8500; office hours are from 8:30am through 4:30pm. Their website can be located at www.ccphohio.org.

Purina started construction at South Afton Industrial Park last fall and their determination has not been impeded! Purina is well on its way to making some of the world's most trusted and popular pet food brands at the company's new facility in our community. Driving by Purina's property, it is difficult not to peek over at the construction to see the continuous progression of the project. The walls are going up, the floors are being poured, and an image of what is to come is beginning to appear. To date Arch Materials has supplied approximately 350,000 tons of stone to this project. That converts to roughly 15,000 truckloads of gravel. As this project takes shape, it is obvious that the amount of skilled trades at the site has already created significant economic development.

With all of that excitement building, Nestlé Purina has made another purchase of 84 acres of land, to add to their commitment to build in the area. Construction will continue into 2023, with steel emerging and building construction beginning to ramp up this summer and into the fall.

This factory will be one of Purina's most technologically advanced, utilizing robotics and innovative digital tools to connect employees and produce its pet food recipes. To support employee training and career progression, the factory will feature one of the first Nestlé Purina Training Universities. To receive alerts and updates when jobs become available, visit purinajobs.com/OH.

As Design Within Reach and Nestle Purina add value of quality businesses to the South Afton Industrial Park, it adds excitement to the potential secondary economic growth, that is anticipated. At the April 12, 2021 Williamsburg Township Trustees meeting Chad Shaffer Government and Community Relations Manager Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky and Rhonda Whitaker Hurtt Vice President, Community Relations & Economic Development Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky met with us by Microsoft Teams. These business leaders strategically rolled out what Duke Energy's participation has been to commit the gas and electric that would be needed to sustain a development such as Nestle Purina. Duke Energy has been a key business partner making sure the resources would be available for a project of this magnitude. They further indicated during the meeting that the needed gas and electric resources would be available for the anticipated secondary economic growth that is anticipated for the area, as well. Obviously, Duke Energy has been a great business partner to the South Afton Industrial Park initiative.

Williamsburg Township nominee for the 2021 Clermont County Salute is Tom Lefker! It was Mr. Lefker's visionary leadership that was the catalyst initiating the necessary change to create the Williamsburg Junior Athletic Association (WJAA). It was his dream that all youth could sign up and play on a sports team. After three years of meetings, it was decided in October of 1980, that knothole baseball, girls' softball and basketball would be incorporated into and become the WJAA. Much work was put into locating land to build a park to call home. Mr. Lefker was able to coordinate a land donation from Mr. Harold Flannery (CECOS), which resulted in 24 acres dedicated to the WJAA. The donation of the land officially took place on February 6, 1982. Ron Oester of the Cincinnati Reds presented Mr. Lefker and the WJAA officers the deed to the property. What started out small and eventually grew to 17 teams, in the first couple of years, has now grown into Williamsburg's Field of Dreams, thanks to Mr. Tom Lefker's leadership. Many fundraisers kept registration fees low, giving a child the opportunity to play youth sports regardless of family financial ability. In 1982 WJAA added soccer and has grown into what serves the community today with youth sports through many volunteers and leaders. For all the leaders, coaches, and volunteers that supported WJAA being formed or participated in making it into what it is today Mr. Lefker is grateful and on behalf of a community, we are as well.

In addition to what Mr. Lefker accomplished with WJAA, he also dedicated time by serving as President of WJAA for 10 years while coaching both baseball and basketball, serving as Committee Chair for Cub Scout Pack 84, he served on the Williamsburg Board of Education and is an active member of the Williamsburg Village Planning Commission. Obviously, it takes a community to raise a child, and Mr. Tom Lefker led that march for WJAA. If your child participated in WJAA sports, Mr. Lefker played a significant role in driving that meaningful change and opportunity for the children of Williamsburg community! For all that you have accomplished for the sports youth program, Williamsburg Township Salutes you for your leadership and vision!

COVID19 pandemic has created a hardship on many individuals in the community. No matter what created the circumstances, the Williamsburg Community Mission is there for you, and is in its 32nd year of providing for the needy of our community. This vision was started in 1989 by then the First Presbyterian minister Dr. Rita Lou Clark who felt a need to provide for our fellow residents in times of distress. The mission was developed by a group of women from various churches, which serve our community, and was placed in the

- Continued From Page 1 -

Williamsburg Methodist Church, as they had the physical space to dedicate to this opportunity. That is where the Community Mission/ Food Pantry thrives and continues today.

At the inception, the Mission criteria is to serve those residents of the Williamsburg community whose children attend Williamsburg Schools, or attend one of the churches in the consortium. The Mission is affiliated with the Freestore/Foodbank where it usually receives an order on a monthly basis. The bulk of the resources comes from generous donations from donors, the annual Hunger Walk donations, food drives from various organizations, such as the Boys Scouts, various school groups, and churches. Volunteers staff the Mission, and it is open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am through 12noon. Besides the food, the Mission may provide rent, utilities, and gas voucher assistance, after clients meet certain requirements. The Williamsburg Community Mission can be reached at 724-0085.

Whether one needs help due to the hardships COVID19 has brought on, a returning client, or someone new in the community looking to gain footing, the Williamsburg Community Mission is there to help. Those in need must show a driver license and a dated bill or mail reflecting your current address.

The Mission is overseen by a board of representatives from various churches. Those individuals are Tracy Engel of Trinity Fellowship, Juanita Ely of Clear Mountain, Tom Kuntz of St. Ann, Rita Abrams and Tommy Faulkner of the United Methodist, Cheryl Hess, Susan Burgess, Kay Kuntz, and Lola Irvin of the First Presbyterian Church. Congratulations to Kay Spencer of the First Presbyterian Church, who recently retired from the board having served since the beginning of the Mission service. Job well done Kay Spencer! These leaders play a significant role in our community and reflect the true meaning of service. From the Community of Williamsburg, simply Thank you. We are grateful. There are many reasons why we live in a great community, and these individuals quietly make a significant difference, every day, for those in need. On behalf of our community, thank you for standing in the gap, we are grateful!

Williamsburg Township Junk Days have been set for June 10 - 12, 2021. The intent is to move forward with this event. Instructions on spacing/intervals will be given, as you enter the area. The hours will be Thursday, June 10 from 8am-8pm, Friday, June 11 from 8am-8pm, and Saturday, June 12 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 2021. For information concerning this event, please call Brian Tatman at 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 randomly places a radar sign on various roads, to obviously bring awareness of a driver's speed. The radar sign is continuously moved to various locations. It is an effort to bring awareness to safety, for everyone on the road. As school year comes to an end, please remind all new drivers to drive safe, and commit to safety. Please exercise safety as the State, County, and Township road crews are out working on the roads. Make a conscience effort to keep an eye out for our children and youth, as they enjoy a break from school this summer.

The Trustees have sent Governor DeWine a letter concerning State Route 32, more specifically at the intersections of McKeever and Dela Palma Road, and the safety hazard due to increased traffic. Please pay close attention to these areas and bring awareness to all first-time drivers.

Williamsburg Township Emergency Services and Williamsburg Township Maintenance Department continue to keep our community safe and makes a dedicated effort to do this daily! Our Emergency Medical Technicians, paramedics, and volunteer numbers are down, due to various reasons. This is the trend in most Emergency Departments in the surrounding area. Some of this is due to COVID19, while others are looking for employment with full time benefits. Williamsburg Township Emergency services are looking for Emergency Medical Technicians, paramedics, and volunteers. Interested individuals may call Chief Wiedemann for more details about employment or volunteering opportunities at 513-724-7744 or email him at kwiedemann@williamsburgtownship.org. It is important to remember to support our local businesses, in this very difficult time for them. Be safe, stay strong, and remain well, as a community.

During the February 8, 2021 Williamsburg Township Trustees meeting, Courtney Fulks Agriculture Inspection Manager and Phil Baldauf, ALB Program Director U.S. Department of Agriculture met with us by Microsoft Teams. Officials and contractors from the Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program, managed by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), are inspecting trees in the southern portion of Williamsburg Township. Officials will attempt to speak with residents prior to surveying trees on private properties. Officials are dressed in highly visible vests and ODA or USDA uniforms and they will provide identification if asked. Contract surveyors are also dressed in logoed attire and will provide identification if asked. Please help by allowing access to your property to inspect trees. If you have any questions or concerns, or if you happen to see signs of the beetle damage, please contact the eradication program at 513-381-7180 and/or visit www.asianlonghornedbeetle.com.

On January 20, 2021 Doris Smith passed away. She was the first employee of Williamsburg Township and was a pioneer in driving the needs of a community, concerning community service. She had retired in 2008. Her dedication and passion for the community she lived in was tremendous and she made Williamsburg Township a better place to live. Doris Smith's legacy will be one of community. Several of her family members are dedicated to Emergency Services. We are grateful for her many years of service and dedication.

Congratulations graduating Seniors! The 2021 graduating class are champions in the classroom and on the sports field. As a community, we are so proud of your achievements! As in the past, Williamsburg Schools has provided you with an excellent education, from the very best teachers, and have been prepared for the next exciting chapter in your life. Spread your wings and become the leadership for our future. Congratulations on your accomplishments and God's Blessing and Grace! Go Wildcats!!!

Our Community is a tremendous place to live and an incredible place to raise a Family!

Respectfully,

Guy Bainum

Bari Henning

Gary Jordan

Zoning, Roads and Cemetery

Roads

Junk Days are June 10 and 11 from 8 am to 8pm and June 12 from 8 am to 4 pm. We cannot take anything with refrigerant in it, tires or any liquids. This past winter the Township used approximately 100 tons of salt to clear the road ways for safe travel. Clermont County Engineer invited the Township to take part in their blacktopping bids this year. This summer the Township is having McKeever Schoolhouse Road, Ellis Road, Alexander Lane and Story Road paved. Going in with the County on blacktopping saves the Township money. It gets us better pricing for the project.

Cemetery

It is mowing season again, so any decorations placed on the grass will be removed and discarded. We still have plenty of graves spaces available. If you need a grave space please call the Maintenance office to make an appointment at 513-724-1110. Just a reminder Shephard Hooks are not allowed in the Cemetery.

Zoning

The Zoning office is open by appointment only by calling 513-724-5529.

Section 409: General Property Maintenance Requirements Yards:

1. All yards and lots shall be kept free of overgrown grasses, debris, junk, junk vehicles and other materials that may cause a fire, health, or safety hazard, or general unsightliness.
2. NO owner or person in control of parcel, dwelling, business, building or premises shall allow grass, weeds, noxious weeds, brush or similar vegetation to remain on the premises at such a height and density as to constitute harborage, actual or potential, for rodents or vermin.
 - a. For the purpose of this section, a height of twelve (12) inches constitute a potential hazard.
 - b. The forgoing shall not apply to premises or part thereof on which such growth may be reasonably demonstrated to be for agricultural, horticultural, or natural prairie or wooded areas.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Brian Tatman
 Williamsburg Township
 Zoning, Roads & Cemetery Supervisor
 btatman@williamsburgtownship.org
 Office 513-724-1110

Harmony Hill

Spring is a time of regrowth and exploration and this may be the perfect time for you to discover the hidden gems of our own township and country. Many attractions can provide fascinating information of historical relevance and a sense of appreciation for those who settled this area over 200 years ago. One such attraction is the **Harmony Hill Dairy House and Museum, 299 Third St., Williamsburg, OH 45176**. Visiting the museum, a person can learn the history of Williamsburg and Major William Lytle, the "Father of Clermont County", and view the Lytle Dairy House, which is the oldest structure in Clermont County. Also, housed in the museum are examples of locally manufactured items; vintage photographs; military uniforms; a life-sized statue of William Lytle sculpted by a local resident, Tim Reynolds; a life-sized statue of a Native American Shawnee Indian which belongs to the Grassy Run Association; WWII items; many editions of the former town newspaper, The Williamsburg Times. Larger items, which are displayed in the Carriage House, include a workable weaving loom, vintage sewing machines, and various farm implements.

Visitors are welcome to Harmony Hill Dairy House and Museum free of charge the first Saturday of each month during the hours of 1- 4 pm and other times by appointment.

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 _____

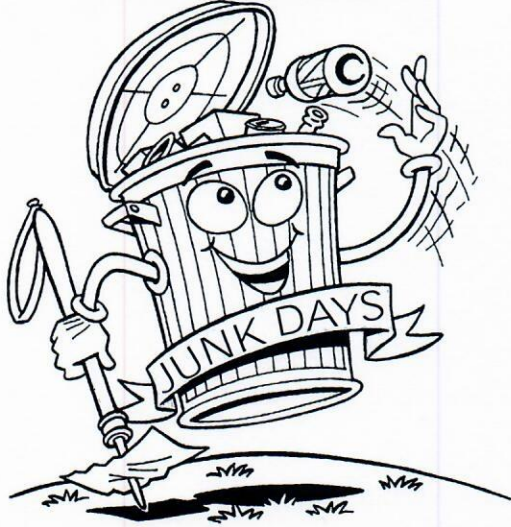
Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Membership _____ Donation _____

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 10th, 11th & 12th**
Details inside newsletter



**NEWS FROM
YOUR
EMERGENCY
SERVICES**



The Williamsburg Township Emergency Services would like to Congratulate the graduating Class of 2021!!

We want to wish each graduate a bright and successful adventure in the next chapter of their lives.

We would like to remember one of our longtime members, Doris Smith, Passed on Jan 20 2021. She was a member from 1980 until her retirement in 2008. She will be missed.

Williamsburg Township Emergency Services is looking for qualified individuals with Firefighter/Medic and Firefighter/Advanced EMT certification. If you're interested in part-time position and have the certification please stop by the firehouse at 915 West Main St to pick up an application or contact Chief Wiedemann @ 513-724-7744.

Thank you for your services,

Kevin Wiedemann

Chief

Williamsburg Township Emergency Services

Station: 513-724-7744

Fax: 513-724-1134

Kwiedemann@williamsburgtownship.org

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Keeping you informed.

Williamsburg Township Newsletter
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