



Williamsburg Township Newsletter

Ohio

www.williamsburgtownship.org

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

FALL / WINTER 2023-2024

Bari Henning
Trustee
724-2994

Gary Jordan
Trustee
724-5315

Guy Bainum
Trustee
724-6553

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

Significant improvements have been achieved in the Williamsburg Township Emergency Services Department. The average response time for fire related runs for the last several months has been approximately 4.5 minutes. Early 2022, the response time was 8 minutes, Monday through Friday during the day and 13 minutes on nights and weekends. These larger response times were due to not being fully staffed, full time. **Again, thank you for supporting the 2022 levy for the Emergency Services!** Numerous other metrics are measured each month to track our ability to serve and identify opportunity to improve. The past several years mutual aid was heavily relied upon from adjacent departments. Today we have the ability to effectively respond to our community, while offering more mutual aid to adjacent communities, when requested. Whether it is putting out fires, delivering babies on the side of the road on State Route 32, or building relationships within the community, much work has been accomplished. Due to the support the community gave on the 2022 levy, we were able to make significant changes. Leading the change has been Chief Jason McCarthy. In leadership, we lead people and manage things. The Chief is proficient in both skillsets. Chief McCarthy has led the march in securing a \$147,000.00 Community Development Block Grant, with the financial assistance of Fiscal Officer Doug Leferson, to upgrade the antiquated Emergency Services Building. **As stated in the last newsletter, we want to show the community that the investment of a levy will result in a safer community that is built on the foundation for the future. In a team effort, we will endeavor to obtain the results needed to reflect a strong return on your investment through the levy and maintain a vision to grow the best service that you deserve!**

Due to the age of one of our two ambulances, it has required an increased amount of money to keep properly in service, Chief McCarthy has prepared a preliminary build specification for a new Horton Emergency Vehicle. The Williamsburg Township Trustees have appropriated \$340,878.00 for a new ambulance. Due to a two-year backlog in orders, we anticipate the delivery of this vehicle in late summer of 2025. This proactive approach keeps us from a reactive situation.

After managing challenges, obstacles, setbacks and a lot of perseverance, The Commons of East Fork roads have been resurfaced. West Fork Ridge Drive, Rhodes Drive, East Fork Hills Drive, and East Fork Valley Drive has received a full depth repair, resurfaced, to include curb repair that would allow better water shed. Our Maintenance team was significantly involved and supported by the Clermont County Engineers Department. Jeremy Evans, Clermont County Engineer, contributed significant effort to this project and we are grateful for his dedication and support. Jeremy has been the Clermont County Engineer since 2019. As stated in the Spring/Summer 2023 newsletter, Doug Leferson, Williamsburg Township Fiscal Officer's creative strategy, effectively utilized resources and implemented funds wisely, allowed us to move forward with this task. Williamsburg Township Maintenance Supervisor Brian Tatman and his department have done an excellent job working through this monumental initiative all the way through to completion. Job well done!

Currently there are numerous projects managed simultaneously, we remain prudent with the community tax base dollars. While preparing and completing the paving of The Commons of East Fork, the largest issue brought up amongst residents was the speeding in this residential area. We are asking that drivers take notice of their speed and watch for the children in this community. Please be aware that the Clermont County Sheriffs Department will be increasing their patrols concerning this issue. Also, please do not park in the cul-de-sacs. These areas need to be clear in case the emergency vehicles need to access your home to aid in emergency services.

Next year, 2024, Hennings Mill Road will receive a full depth repair and resurface. The Clermont County Engineer's Office has indicated that the bridge on this road has been tentatively schedule to be replaced in 2025.

Congratulations to Captain Jason Pollitt, Williamsburg Township Emergency Services who has been awarded the Myron L. George Distinguished Service Award. This award comes from the Ohio State Firefighters' Association. He has served in numerous positions of leadership on the Ohio State Firefighters' Association Board and received the award for the years of dedicated service to the Fire Departments in the State of Ohio. Captain Pollitt joined Williamsburg Township Emergency Services as a cadet in September of 1991, became a volunteer firefighter in 1995, volunteered on the life squad in 1997, and was added as fulltime in 2007.

After pursuing a grant for approximately 18 months, money from the Clermont County Land Grant has been secured to complete the demolition of the Concord Church building on Twin Bridges Road. Due to disrepair, this building will be removed by early December. In 2024, the land will be improved and a pavilion will be constructed for residents when visiting the cemetery or for the purpose of funerals. The final improvement will include a sign to acknowledge the history of the site.

We are working with the Clermont County Prosecutors Office on securing the full legal rights to the Clover Cemetery. The Clover Cemetery is located on State Route 133 at the corners of Bass Road and Clover Road. This initiative should be complete by year end and will conclude our efforts to protect the rights and sanctity of all of our cemeteries in Williamsburg Township.

As we state in every fall newsletter, winter is just around the corner. Just a reminder, when the condition of roads and highways within Clermont County has become impaired as the result of snow or ice, a snow advisory may be declared and conveyed to all electronic and print media within the Greater Cincinnati area. In Clermont County snow emergencies are used sparingly, and only when roadway conditions are treacherous throughout the entire county. There are three levels of snow advisories. This information can be viewed at www.clermontsheriff.org. Our goal is to keep everyone safe and our township roads clear.

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Friday, November 11, 2023 was Veteran's Day, brought to you by our national treasure, the veterans. Freedom is not free. Take the time to say thank you to a veteran and reflect the appreciation veterans deserve. We appreciate the active duty service members and veterans for their service and the freedom we have each day! We must always keep in our memory those who died in action protecting our freedom! Keep them in our hearts and protect their sacrifice. **Flying the American Flag is always a tremendous way to reflect American Pridel Some gave all, and all veterans contributed to what we enjoy. Proper display of the American Flag can be viewed at the American Legion site, <https://www.aflag.com>. Let us define our community and leave a great legacy. Happy Veteran's Day!**

The Williamsburg Emergency Mission Community Food Pantry is supported by several churches in the Williamsburg area. It is operated out of the Williamsburg United Methodist Church. For hours of operation call 513-724-0085. This collaboration operates year-round in support on those who may need a helping hand. Please consider supporting the Williamsburg Emergency Mission Community Food Pantry through a monetary or food donation.

Just a reminder, please take time to support the businesses in Williamsburg Township and the Village of Williamsburg. It is an incredible way to invest on our community and support the growth as we face into our changing future.

It has been a tough and challenging year in so many ways, for most of us. As we face into 2024, we wish you all the Blessings for Thanksgiving and God's Grace during the Christmas Holidays! Be safe, stay strong, and remain well, as a community.

Go Wildcats!!!

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

Respectfully,
Guy Bainum
Trustee

Bari Henning
Trustee

Gary Jordan
Trustee

News from your Emergency Services

As the sunrise shines across the prevalent fall foliage, we are quickly reminded of the changing of seasons and the colder weather ahead. The changing of the leaves and the impending cooler weather inevitably means we will need to prepare our homes for the winter. Remember to have your furnaces and fireplaces checked. Have your chimneys and exhaust vents checked and cleaned. Make sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and change those batteries! I want to take quick second to talk about carbon monoxide, also known as CO. Carbon monoxide is colorless, odorless toxic flammable gas formed by incomplete combustion of carbon. It results from incomplete oxidation of carbon in combustion. **What can produce carbon monoxide in your home?** The incomplete burning of any material containing carbon, such as gasoline, natural gas, oil, kerosene, propane, charcoal, or wood, produces the poisonous gas. One of the most common sources of exposure in the home is the gas or kerosene-powered heaters, faulty gas or oil furnaces, and vehicles running in the garage. **How is carbon monoxide harmful?** Carbon monoxide is harmful when breathed because it displaces oxygen in the blood and deprives the heart, brain, and other vital organs of oxygen. Large amounts of CO can overcome you in minutes without warning causing you to lose consciousness and suffocate. **How can you tell if there is carbon monoxide in your house?** A carbon monoxide detector is a must for any home and just as important as a smoke detector. CO detectors should be placed near all bedrooms; they are the only way you will know if carbon monoxide is affecting the air quality in your home, and can help prevent serious illness and even death. Please share this safety information with your family and friends.

Working together to create a safer community is our goal.

We would also like to reflect over the past year within the Emergency Services. We are always and forever grateful for the support we received during last year's election and the passing of our crucial emergency services levy. With the levy secured we increased our on station staffing from a 2-person team to a 4-person team. This change in staffing has significantly lowered our fire call response times. Our biggest decrease in times is nights and weekends where we were recording average monthly response times of 12 to 13 minutes and we have reduced these times to approximately 4.5 minutes on average. We have thoroughly enjoyed being involved in the local community events, parades, and school functions. When we think about the wildcat way of being "respectful, responsible, and safe." These are words we strive to uphold within our community. Lastly as we bring this reflection of the past year to an end, I would like to celebrate some of our successful endeavors. We have received a generous donation to replace our heart monitor and add an additional monitor to be used on emergency scenes. This donation was over \$125,000. We have also been rewarded a community block grant for \$147,000. This grant secured funding to upgrade the electrical systems in our station and to install a larger generator that will allow us to maintain continual power at the station during a power outage. We have received over \$10,000 in grant money from the State Fire Marshal's Office to replace failing equipment related to our hand-held radios. Our department is pushing forward to be the best we can be for our amazing community.

Samuel Goldwyn once said, "The harder I work, the luckier I get." We are working diligently to be our best. From our community outreach, to our emergency responses, to securing funds from all opportunities that present themselves. We are working to continue to have a positive impact in and on this great community. We continue to appreciate your support in our mission as we continue to build our department. The best is yet to come. Please stay safe over the winter months and enjoy time with your friends and family. Our community is great!

Your Fire Chief,
Jason McCarthy

Williamsburg Township Emergency Services
jmccarthy@williamsburgtownship.org

Williamsburg Township Zoning Office

Roads
This year Williamsburg Township repaired and repaved The Commons of East Fork. We were able to do this thru a grant, loan and the regular blacktopping budget for this year. It was a great effort to be able to do this large project. The maintenance department will also be out installing new street signs and removing the graffiti off of the other road signs. Williamsburg Maintenance department has been out repairing and patching other roads over the last several weeks. Just a reminder with colder temperatures coming bridges and overpasses freeze before the roadways. If you are behind a salt truck this winter please don't follow to closely and when passing them, please give them plenty of room.

Cemetery
The maintenance department is still mowing, trimming and mulching leaves. We will also be installing the last of the 2023 foundations for headstones and will not install anymore until spring time. 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.

Zoning
The Zoning office is open by appointment only by calling 513-724-5529. A zoning permit is required for any structure thru the township. Then you have to go to Clermont County Permit Central to get permits thru the County. When applying for a zoning permit you need a site plan of where the structure will be on your property and how far it is from your property lines. If you have any questions please contact the Zoning Administrator. Zoning has been enforced since 1966 in Williamsburg Township.

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

Harmony Hill

The James E. Lefferson Pavilion, the newest structure at Harmony Hill Museum Complex, was dedicated on September 10, 2023; a day proclaimed by Mayor Lefker as James E. Lefferson Day. The pavilion was dedicated in recognition of Jim Lefferson's many contributions to the founding and early years of the Harmony Hill Association.



Doug Lefferson, Jim's son, shared some thoughts from the members of the family which was well represented at the event. Lifetime members of Harmony Hill were also recognized and commissioner Dave Painter shared his congratulations on the completion of the pavilion. The pavilion was built with grant money, monetary contributions, and labor under the direction of Grant Career Center's Construction Technology instructor, Kenny Carter and Placement Coorinator Chad Graybill. The pavilion will be a great asset to Harmony Hill's many programs, including the third graders' annual Pioneer Day.

The celebration also included recognition of Major General William Lytle's 253rd birthday which included refreshments and an enjoyable concert by the Williamsburg Community Band.

The Williamsburg area is full of interesting historical events that can be shared at the museum, dairy house, and land office. The Harmony Hill Board members appreciate your support and hope to have you visit the Harmony Hill Museum Complex on the first Saturday of each month from 1-4 pm.

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 on e:
___ 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.

Christmas Walk

Friday
Dec. 1, 2023
5^{pm} - 9^{pm}

Trains of Old Williamsburg



From Williamsburg Township

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



BULK RATE
U.S. Postage Paid
Williamsburg, Ohio 45176
Permit # 56

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P.O. Box 499
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Keeping you informed.