

TRUSTEE NEWS

TRUSTEES

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RESIGNATION

Mrs. Barbara Shaheen, Trustee submitted her letter of regretful resignation, due to circumstances beyond her control, effective March 8, 2009. Barb was a faithful public servant for twelve years. An appreciation ceremony was conducted at the April 2, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. An engraved crystal cube was presented to her from Washington Township.

WELCOME

We would like to welcome newly appointed Trustee, Mr. Ken Kay. At our March 19, 2009 Regular Meeting Ken was appointed to fulfill Mrs. Shaheen's term that will end December 31, 2009. Ken is an experienced Trustee, he served on the Board from 1999 to 2004. Welcome back Ken.

REAL STATE TAXES

A special meeting was held March 24, 2009, this meeting was held at the fire station. All the trustees were present and the meeting was posted in THE POINT SHORELAND JOURNAL. The main purpose of this meeting was for the residents to speak and ask questions of the Lucas County Auditor's Office. Anita Lopez, County Auditor, was present and answered questions and concerns of our residents. If you were unable to attend, a question was presented about the homestead exemption. If you are 65 years of age or older you may qualify for this reduction in taxes. Law has changed and IT IS NOT based on income any longer. It is based on age alone. To see if you qualify call the Lucas County Auditor's Office at 419.213.4336 or 419.213.4406. E-mail www.co.lucas.oh.us or write to Anita Lopez, Lucas County Auditor, One Government Center Suite 600, Toledo, Ohio 43604-2255. This exemption applies to disabled persons as well as senior citizens.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Washington Township Trustee Denise Rex has graduated from the Ohio Township Association Leadership Academy. The Ohio Township Association Leadership Academy is joint effort between the Ohio Township Association, the Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs (CPMRA) at Miami University and OSU Extension: Office of Community Development. It is designed for elected officials from township governments, professional administrative staff, and for appointed individuals who serve on township communities, commissions, board or task forces. The purpose of the Academy is to provide useful programs that will enhance the leadership and decision making skills of the township leadership team. Congratulations Denise!





PARK/ROAD DEPARTMENT



GOOD-BYE WINTER 08/09

The Washington Township Road Department thanks and commends township residents for remembering to move vehicles off the roadways during snow storms. This allows for safer more efficient snow removal. It was also noted that when clearing driveways, fewer residents were putting the snow back into the streets. This too, is much appreciated, it is safety and cost effective as we are not going back over roads that we already cleared.

Last year's salt shortage led to a significant price increase per ton for salt this winter. In an effort to extend our salt supply, the use of a mixture of 9 wash stone, mason sand, and salt was implemented. This mixture helps keep the salt on the roadways and prevents the salt from going into the waterways after it melts the ice. We are also looking into the possibility of brine making equipment. By using a brine mix, it would extend our salt supply even more.

FLOODING

On Wednesday February 11, 2009 the entire region received over four inches of rain. Both pump stations became overloaded and had to be manually operated by Lucas County personnel. We met with the Lucas County staff to discuss this matter, hoping to work on a solution to the problem. I was informed only county employees are allowed to operate the pump stations, township employees can only call in the problem to the county but cannot turn on the pumps. On February 12, 2009 the pump systems went back to automatic. It took two days of constant pumping to lower the water level in the sewers. The flooding was not isolated to just Washington Township but to the entire city and the county. On

March 11, 2009 we received another five plus inches of rain. We immediately called out Lucas County to man the pumps and set up the high volume portable pumps, but flooding still occurred. The Road Department asked Lucas County to assist in cleaning out sanitary sewers and storm sewers. Alternative Plumbing was hired to clean out storm sewers in many areas of the township. To do your part to reduce sewer backup, please do not rake leaves or sweep/blow grass clippings in the street. Rain water washes these items right down into our sewer system causing unfortunate flooding and sewer backups. During recent sewer clean-up, items found included a car jack, leaves, grass clippings, cans, bottles and miscellaneous debris which all contribute to flooding. We will continue to maintain the storm sewers on a regular basis. The storm sewers and pipes located near the 2700 block of Shoreland will be replaced this summer; this will reduce flooding on Shoreland Avenue.

ALEXIS PLACE UPDATE

The Sanitary Sewer project for Alexis Place is complete. If you have questions about hooking up to the sewer system please give us a call.

SPRING 09 PROJECTS

The annual street crack sealing program begins soon. With the extreme cold weather we had during the winter, old cracks in the pavement opened up and new cracks were created. By filling in these cracks with rubberized filler it helps to prevent potholes from forming.

We have been out collecting leaves left over from the fall pickup. If you have leaf piles and we have yet to pick them up, please contact us.

SHORELAND PARK SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES JUNE 15 TO JULY 31, 2009

Supervised activities will include games, crafts, and bingo. Children must be seven years old and be able to work on crafts independently or an adult must stay and help them. A permission slip is required. This summer's hours will be Monday thru Friday from 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m. Supervised activities will not occur on June 25 & June 26, or July 6th.

SHORELAND PARK

We have updated the security camera system, we now have six cameras in use. This has helped us identify the persons that have done some illegal activities, such as dumping, vandalizing the equipment and such. One of our projects for the park will be a drainage system and re-grading areas in the park to help eliminate flooding after heavy rains. We will be looking to apply for a grant to possibly put a walking path around the perimeter of the park which is approximately a half mile. We are going to try some environmentally safe product on the parking lot that will keep the traffic and wind dust down.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Shoreland Park is looking into purchasing a structure that is designed for the two to five year olds. This will include: small slides, lookout tubes, steps, and the like.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY

All park equipment goes under an inspection process through out every calendar year. Anything found needing attention is repaired or replaced. Please use the equipment as it was meant, this will help prevent bodily injury.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A QUARTER CENTURY OF SERVICE

The Washington Township Police Department has something to celebrate, Officer Duane "Butch" Spain's 25 years of distinguished service to the township and community. Butch is a lifelong township resident. Congratulations and thank you for the years of service.

BUMPTY BUMPTY BUMP!

Yep! That is the sound of your automobile traveling down Alexis Road, Benore Road, Summit Street and even some side streets when you are hitting potholes. If you encounter any of these pot holes please call 419.936.BUMP for city streets or call 419.726.6908 for township streets.

SPRING TIME AND SPORTS

Can you believe it, SPRING has finally arrived! Baseball season and other outdoor sporting events will soon be taking place at Shoreland School and Shoreland Park. We encourage everyone to closely observe the "NO PARKING" signs posted around the Shoreland Park neighborhood, and the "ONE WAY" traffic flow around Shoreland School. Every year the Township Police receive many complaints regarding parking and traffic traveling the wrong way on East Harbor Drive behind Shoreland School. We do not want to cause embarrassment or take away from your athlete and the spirit of things, by stopping the game to announce that a vehicle needs to be moved or issue a citation in front of everyone.

As these complaints are recorded, and in several cases last year citations issued, the Township Trustees may start to consider not allowing League sporting events to take place in the future. Please be aware that both Traffic and Parking Enforcement will be actively followed.

THOSE WHO HOST-LOSE THE MOST

We have all heard this saying countless times over the years regarding Graduation and Birthday parties. While we congratulate those in the spotlight, the Township Police will be actively looking at parties for underage consumption and possession of alcohol, as well as impaired driving. The host of the party can be charged with a variety of criminal charges, as well as opening themselves up to civil liability if someone gets hurt, or worse. This also includes anything that happens after your guests have left the party intoxicated!

We encourage residents to call the police if you should see juveniles out late at night roaming the streets or if you see large groups that appear to be loitering around the neighborhood. Please call 9-1-1 and let an officer determine if they are legitimate to be in the area or if they are up to no good. The police department would like to be more proactive in prevention, than having to be called to a home the following day on a theft or criminal damage report in which juveniles were seen roaming the streets the night before, but no one bothered to call the police.

IDENTITY THEFT

An invisible perpetrator, thousands of dollars lost, no one is safe. Identity Theft is the fastest growing crime in the WORLD! More times than not the victim and the perpetrator never see each other, and unfortunately we as victims may even be aiding the criminal. We offer some quick tips to help protect you. When talking on the cell phone in public places lower your voice, especially when talking about personal information. If the connection is so bad that you must yell or talk louder than you would in church or the library you may want to make that call later, you just never know who is listening. Invest in a paper shredder, this is a relatively inexpensive way to shred unwanted paper items such as old bank statements, credit card offers, and other personal information items. The internet is the most often used tool for cyber crimes. E-mails containing offers and urgent messages to "update" your account information abounds. Remember, any personal information needed by banking or credit institutions is conducted over the telephone or personal appearance in the office and is NOT sent out via e-mail. The I.R.S NEVER sends out information requests. Learn more by visiting www.usdoj.gov and enter the fraud section. You can also gain additional information by using a search engine to find "Identity Theft Protection." We encourage everyone to diligently look over bank and credit card statements; if you believe you have been victimized contact us immediately. Lastly, please feel free to call our police office at any time on identity theft or any other crime. 419. 726.0478

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

2008 FUNDS	1/1/2008 BALANCE	2008 RECEIPTS	2008 EXPENDED	12/31/2008 BALANCE
General	\$82,479.35	\$243,378.99	\$145,842.21	\$180,016.13
Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$4,433.21	\$4,057.05	\$6,523.37	\$1,966.89
Gasoline Tax	\$99,136.38	\$92,891.20	\$89,717.54	\$102,310.04
Road and Bridge	\$57,544.51	\$85,522.72	\$106,144.07	\$36,923.16
Special Levy Police	\$54,382.06	\$498,828.23	\$534,796.99	\$18,413.30
Special Levy Fire	\$113,195.79	\$354,248.65	\$354,073.82	\$113,370.62
Special Levy Road	\$69,772.71	\$51,596.63	\$106,517.67	\$14,851.67
Special Levy Park	\$28,996.23	\$52,028.84	\$48,987.54	\$32,037.53
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$58,375.05	\$9,738.69	\$367.25	\$67,746.49
Law Enforcement Trust	\$20,389.99	\$35,680.01	\$2,291.80	\$53,778.20
Enforcement and Education	\$7,497.90	\$385.00	\$262.08	\$7,620.82
Special Revenue Lighting	\$18,800.44	\$20,973.78	\$21,206.74	\$18,567.48
Permanent Improvement	\$16,846.95	\$-	\$-	\$16,846.95
TOTAL	\$631,850.57	\$1,449,329.79	\$1,416,731.08	\$664,449.28

The township is invested with STAR Ohio, State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio. STAR's risk-averse policies make it a dependable government investment pool.

Please make sure your vehicles are registered under Washington Township, not the city.

Remember the tornado sirens do not sound when the electricity is out.

Information is available at the Township Hall; financial reports, **THE POINT SHORELAND JOURNAL**, dog laws, recycling, maps, township meeting minutes and other items of interest.

A notary is available at the Township Hall, call to make arrangements if you require this service.

Tangible Personal Property Taxes will end August of 2011.

If you live and work in Washington Township you are not subject to the City of Toledo's 2.25% tax.

Township Government continues to be threatened with "regional" or "uniform" types of governing systems. Thank you for supporting "Township Government" in the State of Ohio.

The Auditor of State's auditors visit Washington Township every other year and audit two years of Township business. They test 100% of the receipts. There have never been findings for recovery on my work. We have not lost or are we missing any money.



During this past cold weather season your Fire Department has responded to many calls for Carbon Monoxide. Although the popularity of carbon monoxide (CO) alarms has been growing in recent years, it cannot be assumed that everyone is familiar with the hazards of carbon monoxide poisoning in the home. Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide. The dangers of CO exposure depend on a number of variables, but it is important to know that a person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time. We are trying to make you aware of this killer. Your best protection is the use of a properly installed CO Detector. If you do not already have one, now would be a great time to protect yourself and your family.

Water rescues are just a part of the emergency response service we provide. You may have seen a few stories on the news. So now some of our news - We have recently put into service a new trailer that will allow us to carry all of the equipment necessary to support our operations for water and ice rescue. This is why it is called our Special Operations Support Unit. We have determined in our regular reviews of our methods, that to operate more efficiently, the acquisition of this trailer was necessary. We are always trying to improve our techniques and operate as efficiently and safely as possible. This change was developed as an improvement to our protocols and had come to light through our constant evaluations of our standard operating guidelines.

Winter is Over! Warm weather is on its way, and that is a great time for relaxing with friends while enjoying a small recreational fire in the evening. But before you do, it is important to check the fire code for what, where, and when you can burn. Barbecues and burning pits are governed by limitations set forth in the fire code. The full text of the fire code for open burning in Washington Township can be viewed at the Fire Department's website at www.wtfd.net. Some of the important points to remember are that fires can only be conducted in a commercially prepared burning device such as an outdoor fireplace, chimnea, barbecue grill, etc. OR – fires conducted in an open fire pit, which is surrounded by a 12" non-combustible fire stop of stone, brick or block. Fires are to be placed a minimum of ten (10) feet from any structure or decking and a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from any roadway. All fires shall be attended at all times during burning until completely extinguished. Adequate firefighting equipment shall be on-site for extinguishing purposes. If at any time a fire creates a threat to public health, a nuisance, or a fire hazard; the burning shall be extinguished. Remember - the burning of residential or agricultural waste is strictly prohibited.



The Washington Township Firefighter's Summerfest is just around the corner. There will be a few changes this year, but the most noticeable is that we have reduced the event to only one day. This year the celebration will be held on **Saturday, June 27th** from Noon to 12:00 a.m. midnight. We will still feature live bands, beer, plenty of food, and lots of entertaining rides for the kids, and do not miss our fireworks at 10:00 p.m. Sponsored and conducted by the Washington Township. Firefighters at Shoreland Park, Summerfest is Family Friendly. The main focus of Summerfest is to facilitate an event that supports the Fire Department while providing a venue that brings the residents of our community together. Please support your firefighters. The funds we generate, will help our firefighters receive additional training and equipment that we utilize to defend and protect the residents of our township. We take pride in our department and our services, and your help is greatly appreciated. You are invited! Come on down to Shoreland Park and enjoy this festive event.

The WTFD is a 100% Volunteer department. Our authorized roster strength is 42 personnel. This includes the Fire Chief, 3 Assistant Chiefs, 6 Captains, 2 Dispatchers and 30 Firefighters. All Firefighters are trained to be an Ohio Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician. Many members have extensive additional training and certifications in advanced firefighting, hazardous materials, rescue operations and EMS. Our Firefighter/EMT's are required to attend weekly training sessions to keep skills and information up to date with the latest advances in firefighting tactics and EMS protocols. The WTFD prides itself on being a progressive department that also holds true to the greatest traditions of the fire service.



Help Wanted: Washington Township Fire & Rescue is seeking dedicated men and women who are willing to serve their community as a Firefighter/EMT. No experience is necessary, we provide all training. - - - Help us to Protect your dreams ... VOLUNTEER !

ZONING INFORMATION

Some things that require permits:

- Pools must have a fence with a gate that is locked
- Sheds, gazebos, structures, and additions all have to be a number of feet off the lot lines
- Fences and fence replacement have height restrictions

Violations are issued for:

- Brush, lawn debris, doors, tires, and junk piles
- Houses, garages, fences, sheds, that need paint, holes repaired or rust removed
- Tall grass, weeds, and not trimming fence area
- Road right of way obstructions, including, blocking the view at road intersections
- Parking and storing that does not meet set back requirements

Issued 2008:

Permits	36
Warnings	112
Violations	100
Stop Work	2

Thank you for your continued interest in preserving; property values, safety and pride in our township.