

The Washington Township News

Fall 2000

Issue: Two

Editor: Debra Kolasinski

September 1, 2000

Trustee News

Who to Call:

Trustees

Ken Kay
726-6621

Camille Hammer
726-6621

Barb Shaheen
726-6621

Clerk

Becky Bodette
726-6621

Secretary

Judy Guerrero

Katie Loney (Mondays &
Vacation Coverage)

726-6621

Fire Chief

George Green, Sr.
726-2453

Police Chief

Duane Spain
726-0478

Road Superintendent

Glen McIntosh
726-6908

Zoning Inspector

Tony Cochenour
726-6621

Every year the road superintendent and Trustees meet with the Lucas County Engineers (LCE) to discuss the Township's road projects. Currently, the LCE are doing a research project on handicap accessible sidewalks. The Township is being checked for areas that do not have such sidewalks, with the possibility of replacements coming.

The Township is on a five year capital improvement plan for our roads. If we submit a five year plan, we are eligible to apply for grants that will pay for all or part of the project. The following is a tentative schedule: 2000 Capri, Holiday, Jasik—maintenance; 2001 Round-ing River, Shallowford, Raintree, Waterpoint Court, Coveview, Woodfox, Redfox, and Point Pleasant; 2002 Northshore, Capshore, Randon, Capshore, Holiday—catch basins; 2003 Bah-iamar, Rosemar, Windamar, Villamar, Vistamar, Viramar, Terramar, Brendamar—catch basins and overlay; 2004 Hammond, Pageland, Patriot, Fortune, Brophy—maintenance. These projects are tentative, with final approval coming from the LCE evaluations.

We would like to update you on a long-standing issue, a traffic light at Alexis and Raintree Village. A study was conducted in 1995 by the City of Toledo. At that time, only one of the many conditions required, was met. Recently, the City was contacted about doing another survey due to the increase in businesses and traffic. The City's response was that a new survey could be done but if a light could be justified the installation, maintenance, and utilities to run the light would be the responsibility of Raintree Village as it is private prop-erty. So basically, the survey can be done, but all expenses for the light would be Raintree Village's responsibility. LCE did suggest that the park (at the park's expense) make Pro-gress Street a thru-fare from Enterprise to the park.

Lastly, the Township is in the process of getting bids for street sweeping of our roads.

As always, if you have any questions or comments about the Newsletter, its contents, or the Township itself, please contact any of the Trustees at 726-6621 or stop in at a Township meeting held the first and third Monday of every month.

Where the Roads Lead

From the highways and byways of the Wash-ington Township road department: The road project on Jasik, Capri, and North Shore is 40% completed as of August 1, 2000. It should be completed on schedule.



Our leaf program will start November 1, 2000. Please rake your leaves to the curb, not in the street, and not close to parked cars. Also, please keep twigs and small branches out of the piles and keep an eye out for kids dropping

matches in the dry leaf piles. There are five zones in the Township. Although we don't have a schedule, we will try to collect leaves in every zone once per week. We will be using our dump truck and a tow behind leaf vacuum. Please bear with us during this first year!

Here are the zones: #1 Alexis Place, #2 Shoreland Proper, #3 Northpoint-Creekside, #4 Raintree Subdivision, and #5 Shoreland Heights.

Where There's Smoke, There's Fire !!

This past spring the members of the Washington Township Volunteer Fire Department conducted a coin card fundraiser to raise funds to purchase personal alert safety alarms for the protection of its firefighters. As you know, firefighting is one of the most hazardous professions in all the world, and everyday new equipment is introduced to try and make this hazardous job more safe for firefighters, but unfortunately this new and improved safety equipment comes with a big cost. But thanks to the generous support and donations by the residents, the fire department raised \$4,600 to put toward the purchase of these alarms. The fire department purchased 12 alarms, one for each breathing unit we wear when going into a toxic smoke filled environment. These alarms transmit an audible alarm within 18 seconds if a firefighter were to go

down and become unconscious. These alarms can also be set off manually if a firefighter were to become trapped. Heat sensing units were also purchased for all the personal alarms. These units detect high heat levels and warn a firefighter to exit the area immediately. With full turnout gear on, it is sometimes difficult for a firefighter to feel dangerous heat levels and could be caught



in a flash fire. These units will prevent that from happening. These purchases were made possible by the gracious support of the community. The volunteer firefighters would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the residents.

Smoke Alarm Notice: Most fatal fires occur at night when we are most vulnerable. Seconds make the difference between getting out safely or dying.

Studies have proven that smoke alarms greatly increase your chance of survival.

The fire department recommends that home owners and landlords install and maintain smoke alarms on every level of the home. Smoke alarms should be tested every month, either by using the test button or introducing real smoke, from a candle or cigarette. They also should be vacuumed every six months.



Battery operated alarms should have their battery replaced at least once a year. An easy reminder is "when you change your clock, change your smoke alarm battery". Most smoke detector manufacturers recommend that the smoke detector unit itself be replaced every ten years.

Fire Drills: "The Great Escape" Fire Prevention Week October 8—14. For the second consecutive year, the fire department, in cooperation with the NFPA, KIDDE Safety, Proctor & Gamble, fire departments, schools and communities across the US and Canada—is organizing a unified North American fire drill, "The Great Escape" as the centerpiece of Fire Prevention Week.

In late September, schools and fire departments will hand out "The Great Escape" planning grids and encourage children and their families to make home escape plans. Then on Oct. 11, the fire department and participating fire stations across North America will sound the outside warning siren at 7 pm as a signal for every household to conduct a home fire drill. It will be the perfect opportunity for every family to practice their escape plans. The fire department plans on having an open house fire safety day at the fire station sometime in late Sept. where all families can visit the station and view the equipment used by the firefighters. Further information will be printed in the Point and Shoreland Journal.

The fire department is currently participating in a county wide smoke detector assistance program. If you know of a needy family in Washington Township who is in need of a smoke detector, they can be obtained free of charge at the fire station.

If you need to contact the WTFD for any reason, you may do so by calling our non-emergency number 726-2453 and for emergencies dial 911. The WTFD may also be contacted via email at WTFD730@aol.com.

Do you have what it takes?

Are you ready to be challenged? The Washington Township Fire Department is seeking the best of the best. Our department has a proud tradition, rigorous requirements, and excellence as its benchmark.

If you feel you would like to become a member of our team and serve as a volunteer firefighter/EMT, contact the WTFD at 726-2453 or visit the station on any Wednesday evening from 7—9 pm. *You must live within the Point Place/Shoreland Community.

To Protect and Serve.....

Chief Duane Spain and the Washington Township Police Department are pleased to announce that Sgt. Christopher Kaiser has been promoted to Deputy Chief, and Officers Kenneth Bowman and Harry Thoman have been promoted to Sergeant.

We would like you to meet our newest auxiliary officers: Diana Kekes, Searl Roscoe, Raymond Espinosa, Todd Mocniak, and last but not least Craig Matthews. Also, Paul LaPlante and Kevin Smith have been promoted to regular patrol officers, congratulations!

We would like to welcome back Mary Conley.

A sad goodbye: Sgt. James Sedlar has hung up his gun belt after more than 17 years of service to the residents of Washington Township. Jim has been promoted to Fire Chief for the Village of Ottawa Hills. We would like to thank Sgt. Sedlar for his tireless service and wish him the best of luck at Ottawa Hills!!



Can we find you? In an emergency, time is a luxury that neither you or the responding officers have. Please take a moment and check the outside of your home or business to see if your address is visible. Several homes and businesses in the Township do not have visible numbers on the outside. This not only helps us find your homes, but it could also help your neighbors. Certain types of responses call for the officers to park down the street from the

location where help is needed. Please make a small investment for safety, and display your address!

Dial 911 for the Police! If you need us for any reason, dial 911, not the office phone number. The telephone number for the police station is for informational use only or to leave a message for a particular officer. Generally, you will get a recorded message when you call our office, and it may take several hours before anyone checks the machine. Remember, dial 911 when you need us!!



Hungry for a job? You've seen COPS! You watch NYPD Blue! How about a career in law enforcement? The Washington Township Police Department is accepting applications for Auxiliary Police Officers. All new hires start as Auxiliary officers, while working your way into a paid position. Minimum requirements are: must be at least 21 years of age, high school graduate or GED, a U.S. Citizen, and no felony convictions. Contact Sgt. Ken Bowman at 726-0478 for further information. Washington Township is an equal opportunity employer.

Need a copy of a report? Contact Sgt. Harry Thoman at 726-0478 if you need to obtain copies of any police report or accident report. You will need to include your name, date, time, and location of offense or accident.

Zoning

We have a new zoning text in the Township now, with a few changes. Here are just a few: New dish antennas in excess of 39.38 inches in diameter need a zoning permit. One big change is our blight or blighting factors; what this entails is outdoor storage of lumber, bricks, woodpiles, and concrete. The storage of junk, trash, rubbish, or refuse is not permitted. Grass, groundcover plantings, shrubs or trees shall be maintained, trimmed and kept in good repair.



There have been a lot of questions on sheds, yes you do need a permit to put one up. First of all no sheds are permitted in front or side yards. They may be located in the rear yard provided such are set back at least three feet from the side lot lines and six feet from the rear lot lines.

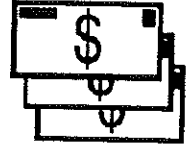
On fences, planting material and similar screening devices can be no higher than 42" in front yards fronting on the public street. These same screening devices up to six ft. in height are permitted in the remaining yards.



Just a reminder on parking and storing of boats, recreational vehicles, and utility equipment. Parking or storing of such vehicles in any residential district for longer than 72 hours shall be prohibited outside of permitted locations.

Clerk's Office

Our year to date balance as of August 8, 2000 is \$902,297.48. The general fund has \$182,658.33, roads \$532,060.21, street lighting \$35,586.43, police \$86,897.13, fire \$55,867.88, and permanent improvements \$9,227.50.



Our Township Hall has received a fresh coat of paint on the inside, new carpeting, and new chairs. The basement storm shelter at Township Hall has been cleaned, painted, a new ceiling installed, and also a new sink. The Board is working on specifications for improvements to the outside of the Township Hall. They are considering sandblasting and tuck pointing, or painting, or siding it.

On June 5, 2000 the Board of Trustees completed and approved a policies and procedures manual for everyone that serves at the pleasure of the Board. I believe that this is the first time that the Township has had one manual that covers all departments and zoning boards.

The auction on July 22, 2000 was a success. We deposited \$3,956.50 into the permanent improvement fund from the proceeds.

When there is no electricity, you can't count on all the sirens in the county working. Only the ones with backup power. If you are on life support and your status is that it is medically necessary that you have electricity, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, notify your electric company. The number to contact Toledo Edison is 1-800-447-3333. The Edison has to be able to verify your status with your doctor.

The Point and Shoreland Journal is available at the Township Hall. Thanks to the generosity of the Journal for dropping it off for our residents that do not receive it.

When you get your license plates, make it known that you are a Washington Township resident. This insures that the Township receives the revenue and you get your plates for less money than the City of Toledo residents.

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