



KINGSTON NEWS

3RD QUARTER, AUGUST 2017

Chairman's Chat

By Bill Shively, Trustees Chairman

Hello everyone! Ohio State Buckeye Football is just weeks away from kickoff. Let's hope they can bring home a national championship this season.

Kingston Township will have an issue on the November ballot asking residents if they think the Trustees should spend more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to construct a new Township Hall. If passed, the Trustees plan to construct a new hall on the Township's land on Carter's Corner Road. **THIS IS NOT A NEW TAX OR TAX INCREASE.** The Trustees are asking for your approval to proceed with the building.

The cost to build a commercial type structure adequate for Township needs will be around three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000). The project will provide ample parking, bring us up to date on the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and provide a place for local events, meetings like 4H and voting. Nationwide Realty Investors will construct a new entrance roadway, parking, trails and a park including a shelter house with flush toilets. They will also provide for temporary, on-site sanitary treatment until the Township Hall and shelter house can be connected to the Northstar Sewer Plant in the future. The funds to construct the hall will come from Township farmland rent and a low interest loan from the USDA Rural Development Program. The current Township Hall is in need of many repairs and simply not adequate for what we will need in the near future. The ballot issue is a yes or no decision for each voter. For more information about the ballot issue, please contact any of the Trustees.

The Ohio Department of Transportation will host a public meeting on the proposed roundabout they plan to build on State Route 61 at the intersection with State Route 656 and Wilson Road. You will

find more information about the public meeting below in the newsletter.

The Trustees and representatives from the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District will host a resident meeting to discuss watershed issues involving a proposed ditch petition for the Todd Street Road area of Kingston Township. **The meeting will be held at the Kilbourne United Methodist Church on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 7:00pm.**

Now that the Township has a new snow plow truck and salt spreader, the Trustees plan to sell our International dump truck and Galion road grader. These items will be advertised for sale, and bids will likely be opened at the October 3, 2017 Monthly Trustees Meeting. If anyone has questions or is interested in bidding on the items, please contact Road Superintendent Doug Crawl.

Wilson Road is scheduled to reopen at the end of this month; however, we are hearing that the reopening could be pushed back by one or two weeks into September. It will be nice to have the road open again. The improvements will be noticeable and will enhance public safety.

The Trustees have reapplied for funding to rebuild Blue Church Road from State Route 521 north to the turnaround by Interstate 71. Hopefully the project will be selected for funding this time. The Trustees have received a grant to replace road signs on curves and at intersections. This is great news. This will put the Township in compliance with the new sign reflection requirements and make the roads safer.

On August 1, 2017, the Trustees voted to accept changes, recommended by the Zoning Commission, to the Zoning Resolution which will become effective on September 1, 2017. If you have questions regarding the changes, please contact the Zoning Office.

I would like to wish all Delaware County Fair 4H and FFA participants' good luck with their projects this year! Also, I look forward to seeing all of you at the Kilbourne Festival on August 19th. I will be passing out candy from our International 300 tractor in the parade. If you have a question or concern, please contact me at 740-524-2333.

NEW TOWNSHIP HALL ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

Our Kingston Township Hall is in a very sad state. There is no running potable water, septic system is inadequate and difficult to maintain. There are structural issues in the floor, roof, and in the addition. The square footage of the building and parking are inadequate for any meeting of substantial size. Even the Board of Elections will no longer allow us to vote there. The cost of renovations with necessary upgrades and land acquisition exceeds the cost of a conservative (but very functional) new building on land given to the Township by the Northstar developer.

Three years ago, Kingston Township placed a bond issue on the ballot to build a somewhat lavish and spacious Township Hall. This issue failed. In discussing this we heard that the Township does need a new hall, but nothing this fancy or expensive. Our new plan is a much simpler concept. It is a metal office building (like a Morton Building) of approximately 2,000 to 2,300 square feet. This building is far less expensive and will not require a bond issue. **No new taxes, no tax increase!**

This November you will see a referendum on the ballot for a new Township Hall. This is NOT a bond issue. We can pay for this project with the rental income we are now getting from the farm land we received from Northstar. We have the land. A substantial amount of infrastructure will be performed by Nationwide Realty Investors, at no cost to the Township. This includes the access road, bike paths, sewage treatment, etc. Additionally, they will build a very nice picnic shelter with running water and restrooms. These actions are only required by the developer if we build a new Township Hall. We do nothing, they do nothing.

In October we will hold a special meeting on this topic. We will have some concept drawings. We will be happy to explain in detail all aspects of this project. Meanwhile I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to call or email me at your convenience. My phone is 740-965-1802, and my email is svolpe@kingstontwp.org. Thanks, Steve Volpe, Trustee.

KILBOURNE POST OFFICE TO CLOSE PERMANENTLY

The Kilbourne Post Office will permanently close on Friday, August 18, 2017. According to information posted, there will be a future community meeting to discuss mail options.

KILBOURNE FESTIVAL 2017

**The 200th Anniversary of the settling of
Kilbourne, OH - Kilbourne Festival, August 19,
2017**

We hope you are all planning to celebrate the 21st annual Kilbourne Festival, August 19, 2017. We will also be commemorating the 200th year of the settling of Kilbourne, OH (aka Eden) at the same time. We would encourage everyone to dress in period costume of 1817 for this occasion. Our Grand Marshalls, Bob and Mary (Thurston) Fleming are representative of the history of this community in that Mary's ancestor, Daniel Greene Thurston was the first permanent settler in the Kilbourne/Brown Twp area and the Fleming family has helped to shape our history as well.

If you have any old pictures of Kilbourne and Brown TWP that we could copy for a display please contact Jean Hightower, 740-815-7464 or jean1946@frontier.com. We would like to have the pictures soon. The day will be filled with our usual activities including a parade, breakfast, lunch, games and vendors. To register for the Cornhole Tournament on August 19, call 740-816-0879. The festivities all begin at 8:00AM with breakfast and ends at 3:00PM with the drawing of names for the vendor raffle. For vendor spaces contact Violet at vmlc1952@yahoo.com.

Cliff (C Dee's Lil Store) will be scheduling his annual horseshoe tournament for sometime in the fall. To register for the tournament call 740-524-3191. If you would like to participate or volunteer for the Festival that supports the Good Samaritan Fund serving Brown, Oxford, Kingston & Peru Townships, please call 740-524-6041 or www.kilbourneumc.com and leave a detailed message.

ZONING REPORT

Permits--For the period May through July, seventeen (17) permits were approved by the Zoning Office including:

- 6 Accessory Structures
- 3 Room Additions
- 3 Decks
- 1 Solar Panel
- 1 New Home
- 1 Lot Split
- 2 Agricultural Exemption Affidavits

Please remember to contact the Zoning Office before starting construction of any new structures or improvement/expansion of an existing structure.

Zoning Resolution Update—The Kingston Township Board of Trustees held a Public Hearing on August 1st regarding Text Amendments to the Zoning Resolution. The amendments were unanimously approved by the Trustees and will become effective on September 1, 2017.

Filbert Reappointed—



Tom Filbert

On July 5, 2017, the Kingston Township Trustees reappointed Tom Filbert to serve another five year term on the Zoning Commission. Filbert currently serves as Chairman for the Board. The Trustees thank Tom for his willingness to continue to serve our Township!

ROADS & CEMETERIES

Wilson Road Closure--Wilson Road closed to through traffic for 100 days starting Monday, April 3, 2017. The closure permits roadway replacement and widening of the final section of Wilson Road adjacent to Northstar by Trucco Construction for Nationwide Realty Investors. Wilson Road is closed west of Carter's Corners on the east end and the intersection of North Galena Road and Wilson Road on the west end except for local traffic. **Wilson Road is scheduled to reopen on Thursday, August 31, 2017 if the required work is completed.** Any questions regarding the matter should be directed to Randy Rice with Trucco at 740-417-9010.

State Route 61/521 Roundabout--The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has approved a project to modify the intersection of State Route 61 and State Route 656/Wilson Road. Having looked at several design alternatives to improve sight distances and move traffic through the intersection safely, they have decided that the best option is to construct a roundabout. Their target date for construction is reportedly 2020. Funding for the project will come from an Ohio Public Works Commission grant with the local match coming from the Delaware County Engineer and Kingston Township. As residents well know, this is a very unsafe intersection which has produced a number of vehicular accidents with injuries and deaths. Questions regarding the project should be directed to ODOT District 6 in Delaware at 740-833-8000.

An open house will be held on August 28, 2017 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Porter Kingston Fire District located on Olive Green Road to solicit public comments regarding the proposed project.

Township Awarded \$23,440 Grant For Road Sign Replacement—Kingston Township has been

awarded a grant by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for improved highway signage at intersections and on curves to reduce vehicular crashes. The program is administered by the Ohio Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) within ODOT, and provides funding for signs, posts and mounting hardware. The Township will have one year to erect and certify the sign installation. This is a real win for the Township to be able to improve roadway safety without using local tax dollars.

Late Summer/Early Fall Road Work—The

Trustees have approved several projects for late summer/early fall construction including culvert replacement at Rosecrans and Blayne Roads, Blue Church north of Wilson Road and Clark north of Todd Street Road; grader repaving of several deteriorated spots on the north end of Blue Church Road including the end loop; and roadway right-of-way clearing (encroaching vegetation) using a boom mower throughout the township.

On August 1, 2017, the Trustees voted to resubmit an Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant application for the 2018 funding cycle to repair and widen Blue Church Road from State Route 521 to the northern terminus including improvement of the end loop to accommodate school buses and larger vehicles. The total estimate cost of the project will be \$705,304 with the townships share at \$158,694 and the Delaware County Engineer contributing \$49,371.

With the help of the Delaware County Engineer's Office, emergency culvert replacement was completed in early August on the east end of Wilson Road. The existing culvert traversing the roadway had developed a hole which created a public safety risk. The Trustees acted quickly to replace the culvert including extension of the inlet and outlet ends to further enhance public safety.

Drainage work will be initiated this fall at the Blue Church Cemetery to improve burial conditions and public access in wet weather.

DID YOU KNOW?????????

“F9F6 Cougar Navy Jet Crashes Off N. Galena Road”

A routine training flight out of Port Columbus Airport on October 21, 1955 turned deadly for World War II veteran and pilot Lieutenant Marvin Rook of Charleston (Nitro), West Virginia when his plane exploded in the air and crashed off 3B's & K Road. The crash occurred about 11:30 a.m. Many local residents, who witnessed the damaged plane in the air twisting out of control, were involved in containing the burning wreckage, and searching for the pilot once it was determined that he was not in the wreckage. The pilot reported no problems with the aircraft.

According to local accounts, the wreckage was located on the Charles Walton farm on the Galena-Rome Corners-Ashley Road two and a half miles north of the town of Berkshire. Putting the location in current terms, the crash site was west of North Galena Road, east of 3B's & K Road, north of Berkshire Road and south of State Route 521. The pilot's body was located about 1000 yards to the south. Pieces of the wreckage were found over a several mile path since the plane came apart in the air. No structures were damaged by falling debris and no one was injured on the ground.

World War II veteran and Kilbourne resident Reggie Langford (deceased), age 38 at the time, was the chief observer of the Kilbourne Ground Observation Post for the Civil Air Patrol. Within ten minutes of the crash, he reported the crash to the Air Defense Filter Center in Columbus who then was able to direct the highway patrol and military investigators to the crash site. Crash investigators responded within two hours from Naval Air Stations in Glenview, Illinois and Norfolk, Virginia. Langford and his ten year old son (Reggie Jr. who this writer spoke with recently) visited the crash site but Reggie Jr. was not allowed to go to the area where the pilot came to rest.

At the conclusion of the investigation, it was determined that the pilot attempted to eject from the plane. The canopy over the pilot malfunctioned causing him to hit the canopy as his seat ejected. Investigators believe that the canopy is what killed the pilot and why his parachute did not deploy as he left the aircraft. According to witnesses, the pilot's body was imbedded in the ground.

Many of our current and former residents still remember the day that the Navy jet crashed in Kingston Township, and now you know.

By Dave Stites and Doug Crowl

Information for this article obtained in part from Kingston Township Memories In Its Bicentennial Year, 2013, The Big Walnut Area Historical Society and discussions with Suzanne Allen and Reggie Langford.

PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

Outdoor Warning Siren Test Changed--Based on feedback from stakeholders, Delaware County Emergency Management is changing the outdoor warning sirens test from the first Saturday of month to the first Wednesday. This change was initiated on Wednesday, August 2nd at 12:01pm. Questions may be directed to Delaware County Emergency Management at 740-833-2180.

Donate A Box Fan--The Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, in coordination with People In Need of Delaware County, are asking for donations of new box fans. All donations will be distributed to local community members who need them the most. The fan drive will run until September 15, 2017.

Fans can be dropped off at any Delaware County fire department or fire district, any county EMS substation, or at any county district library branch. Our own Porter-Kingston Fire District on Olive-Green Road is the closest drop off point. If you have any questions, contact the fire district at 740-524-5050.

New Engine 382 Delivered—



Engine 382



On June 9, 2017, new Pierce Velocity Engine 382 was put in full service for the Porter-Kingston Fire District. Pictured above in front of the new engine are (from left to right) are Chief Mike Thompson, Fire Board Fiscal Officer Dan Dimitroff, Kingston Township Trustee Dewey Akers who also serves as the Fire Board Chairman, and Robin Morgan who is the Trustee appointed, citizen representative for Kingston Township. Prior to activation, extensive in-house training was completed by all Fire District personnel including driver and pump training to ensure that the full response capabilities of the engine can be used in emergencies.

HEALTH DISTRICT NEWS

With the wet summer that we are having, mosquitoes are starting to become a problem. The Delaware General Health District encourages residents to take easy steps to reduce the population around their properties.

During the course of the year, multiple opportunities exist to reduce the mosquito population without the use of pesticides. Often, these environmental controls are more effective than pesticide.

Mosquitoes need water to reproduce; therefore most techniques to prevent them are also aimed at preventing the creation of stagnant water. Some common items found to hold water include old tires, children's toys, bird baths and gutters. Tasks such as emptying a bird bath once a week or cleaning gutters to ensure proper flow can help prevent

mosquitoes from reproducing. The Health District also offers free larviciding for those who have bodies of water like ponds on their property.

For more information about mosquitoes and the Health District's efforts visit DelawareHealth.org, call 740-368-1700, or look for the Health District's #MosquitoMonday posts on social media.

From Kelli Kincaid, Program Manager

CALENDAR

Meetings are at the Township Hall, unless noted otherwise. **Trash pickup days are Fridays except during holiday weeks* where Friday service will be performed on Saturday. **Note Change**

Trustees Meetings September 5, 2017
October 3, 2017
November 7, 2017
December 5, 2017

Zoning Commission November 8, 2017, 7 PM

Trash Days August 4, 11, 18 & 25
September 1, 9*, 15, 22, 29
October 6, 13, 20 & 27
November 3, 10, 17 & 25*
December 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

CONTACTS

(740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Bill Shively, 524-2333, 8760 SR 521, Sunbury
Dewey Akers, 803-1529, dakers@kingstontwp.org
Steve Volpe, 965-1802, svolpe@kingstontwp.org

FISCAL OFFICER

Greg Roy: 504-0311,
fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.org

DELAWARE COUNTY EMS

Emergency: 911; Business: 833 www.delcoems.org

NEWS & INFORMATION

Zoning Office Telephone: 524-0290
Township Web Site: www.kingstontwp.org
Office Hours: Thursday, 8a.m. to noon

Please contact the Zoning Office by e-mail at zoning@kingstontwp.org or by phone at 740-524-0290 to be added or removed from the Newsletter Distribution List.

PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

Emergency: 911; Business: 524-5050
Email: PKFD@rrohio.com www.PKFD.org

ROADS & CEMETERIES

Doug Crowl, 815-8427, roads@kingstontwp.org

TRASH & RECYCLING

Waste Management: 866-797-9018
On-line: www.wm.com

ZONING

Robert Talbott: 524-0290, Fax: 524-5304,
zoning@kingstontwp.org

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SERVICE

740-368-1921

DELAWARE COUNTY CODE COMPLIANCE

740-833-2200

DELAWARE GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

740-368-1700