

# LAKE TOWNSHIP *Newsletter*



**EDITION NO. 81 — SPRING 2014**

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

## Lake Schools Complex Annexed to Hartville

Earlier this year, the Lake Local Board of Education agreed to annex the Lake High School/Middle School complex at Market Ave. and Lake Center St. to the Village of Hartville. Lake Township Trustees were party to the annexation agreement because of the change of responsibility for road maintenance and police service. The Hartville Street Department now maintains the roads around the school property, and the Hartville Police Department provides police service.

## Lake Township Trustees

Lake Township Trustees meet every second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M. All meetings are held at the Lake Township Hall, 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville. All meetings are open to the public. The meeting hall is handicapped-accessible.

**Lake Township office hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Telephone: 330.877.9479.



Ellis Erb



John Arnold



Galen Stoll

## RECYCLE PROGRAM WILL TAKE YOUR OLD APPLIANCES & SCRAP METAL

Lake Township Trustees have expanded the Township's Recycle program to accept appliances and all scrap metals. These items are accepted inside the gate at the Service Garage complex on Midway St., Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. A sign indicates the proper area. More information is available at the Township office (330.877.9479).

## IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Clean-up for Township residents, from Tuesday, June 3, through Friday, June 6, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. every day and Saturday, June 7, from 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Containers will be located at the Recycle Center near the Lake Township Service Garage complex at 1499 Midway Street. Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles.

This service is for Lake Township residents only. Identification may be checked. Township businesses will be allowed to dispose of no more than one truckload during the program. For more information, call 330.877.9479.

In addition to all of the items accepted at the year-round programs, the following will be accepted during Spring Cleanup: household debris, automotive batteries, and tires (no rims, limit of 12 per household or business). No garbage, no railroad or landscaping ties, no hazardous waste, and no paint can be accepted.



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## President's Corner

The much-anticipated spring of 2014 has finally arrived, and nobody is any happier than the Lake Township Road Department. The Department did an excellent job of keeping the 139 miles of Lake Township roads safe to travel on this year. New this winter was the de-icing of roads which helped the Road Department battle the storms. This application helped the township save time and material.

Once again this spring the township will be holding a Spring Clean-up. This is an opportunity for residents to dispose of non-hazardous, unwanted items at no charge. The dates and times of the spring clean-up are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

It is truly an honor to serve the residents of Lake Township. All of our elected officials are striving to make Lake Township one of the greatest places to live and raise a family. We wish all of you a safe and happy spring and summer.

*Galen Stoll*

## From Your Zoning Administrator



Dear Neighbors,

After our long, cold winter, it will soon be time to get the swimming pools up and running. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), roughly 280 drowning deaths of children younger than five (5) years old occur each year in swimming pools.

Inflatable pools have become more and more popular, and often fall outside of code requirements. Please be conscious of this and provide a barrier or remove the ladder to deter access to these pools. In Lake Township all in-ground pools require a permit, and all above-ground pools exceeding forty-eight (48) inches in depth and one hundred (100) square feet of surface area require a permit. Permit applications are available on-line at our Web site: [www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com), or at the Township offices at 12360 Market Ave. North, Hartville, OH 44632. Have a safe summer!

*Stephen Lacey*



## A Message from your Fiscal Officer

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

There have been a lot of changes in the Fiscal Department in the last six months. My assistant, Christy Bresson, retired from Lake Township on October 31. I feel blessed that I had her dedication and knowledge available to me for the years we worked together. We certainly wish her much happiness in her retirement. We also welcomed a new part-time employee, Karen Pouliot, to our department at the end of October. Karen, who has a degree in accounting, was able to walk in and adapt to an atmosphere of change. She is learning quickly about the crazy world of government accounting.

Another big change in the Fiscal Department was our software system. On November 1 we moved to the "Uniform Accounting Network" system. This system, known as UAN, is made available through the State Auditor's office. This was a major change for us. We had been on an alphanumeric system, and now everything uses numeric account codes. My assistant, Sandy Smith, and I spent a few days in classes learning all about the new system. Then we spent many hours transferring information and changing account numbers. The process went amazingly smoothly. UAN provides us with a great support system and gives us capabilities the old software was lacking. We are able to enter information more efficiently, and we are excited about the wealth of information we are able to obtain easily. This information is very helpful in our long-term financial planning. Given all the cuts I have talked about in the past, this is essential in keeping Lake Township financially stable.

As I start my eleventh year as your Fiscal Officer, I am excited about where we are and where we are headed. It is important to me and my staff to make sure all of your tax dollars are working to benefit the residents of Lake Township.

*Ben Sommers*

### Check Out Our Web Site:

[www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com) It has lots of information about Lake Township!



## LAKE TOWNSHIP OFFERS E-WASTE RECYCLING

Lake Township has an E-waste recycling program for residents and small business owners. Items that can be accepted include fluorescent bulbs and ballasts, batteries (not car batteries), computers and monitors, cell phones, telephones, game consoles, MP3 players, circuit boards, computer parts and cables, compact disks, DVD's, floppy disks, small television sets (19-inch or smaller), video equipment, microwave ovens, radio and audio equipment, other small electronic items, and small appliances.

The local recycling company that collects the items recently advised the township that disassembled television sets cannot be accepted. Because of the nature of the components, disassembled sets are considered hazardous waste.

The E-waste recycling program is primarily intended for household recycling, but also supports smaller local businesses that have small quantities of these items to recycle.

Acceptable E-waste items may be taken to the Township Hall, 12360 Market Ave. North, Mondays through Fridays, from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles. More information is available at the Township office (330.877.9479) and on the Township Web site ([www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)).

## MUD AND DEBRIS ON ROAD POLICY

Reminder to Contractors and Township Residents:

The Board of Lake Township Trustees requests that you maintain construction sites and other properties in a proper manner so that you do not track mud and other debris onto the public streets. If mud and debris is tracked onto the street, please clean the street promptly.

Debris includes, among other items, unnatural accumulations of snow and ice (such as being pushed onto the public streets from private parking lots, driveways, and roads). Contractors will need either to pile the snow on private property or load it and haul it away.

If it becomes necessary for the Township to clean the street, you will be invoiced at the rate of \$50.00 an hour per piece of equipment with an operator. Additional employees required for the clean-up will be invoiced at an hourly rate based on current salary plus fringe benefits.

If you have any questions about the Mud and Debris on Road Policy, please call the Lake Township Road Superintendent at 330.877.9479.

## NEW RECYCLE CENTER



*Members of Boy Scout Troop 45 help out at the Recycle Center on Saturday mornings.*

The new Lake Township Recycle Center has been open for a year. It's on Midway St., on the east side of the Township Service Garage. It is fenced and gated. Hours are 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. weekdays, and 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on weekends.

There's a second Recycle Center location in the southeast corner of the flea market parking lot at the Hartville Market Place, 1289 Edison St. This location can also be accessed from the entrance on Market Ave. North. The Recycle Program accepts newspapers, magazines and junk mail, as well as corrugated cardboard and food boxes, glass bottles, plastics (#1 and #2), and steel or aluminum cans (please rinse and remove lids). You can leave your yard waste, including brush, grass clippings, leaves, branches, and stumps. We DO NOT accept business waste, plastic bags, treated lumber, railroad ties, or anything with nails.

Lake Township Trustees, in recognition of the environmental benefit of recycling and yard-waste collection programs, have provided these sites as a convenience for township residents' use. Both the Midway St. Service Complex and the Hartville Market Place are in the jurisdiction of the Uniontown Police Department. More information about the Yard Waste and Recycle Programs is available at the Township Office (330.877.9479), on the Township Web site ([www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)), and on the Stark-Wayne-Tuscarawas Joint Solid Waste District Web site ([www.timetorecycle.org](http://www.timetorecycle.org)).

## Who's Responsible for the Roads?

When reporting a problem involving a roadway, including removal of dead animals, it is important to know which governmental entity is responsible for the maintenance and repair of that road.

To report problems on State Routes 43 and 619 in Lake Township, call the Canton office of the Ohio Department of Transportation (330.452.0365).

The Stark County Engineer (330.477.6781) maintains Cleveland Ave., State St., Smith-Kramer St., Middlebranch Ave., Congress Lake Ave., Swamp St., Duquette Ave., the east leg of Pontius St. north of Quail Hollow State Park and Market Ave. south of Lake Center St.

Maintenance of Pontius St. from Cleveland Ave. to Mogadore Ave. is shared between Springfield Township (330.733.3213) and Lake Township (330.877.9479). Maintenance of Pontius St. from Mogadore Ave. to Market Ave. is shared between Portage County (1.330.296.6411) and Lake Township.

Plain Township (330.492.3423) maintains Mt. Pleasant St. from Market Ave. to Middlebranch Ave.

Maintenance of Aultman Avenue is shared between the City of Green (330.896.6607) and Lake Township.

The Village of Hartville Street Department (330.877.3006) is responsible for maintenance of King Church Ave. from Camelia St. south to Lake Center St., Lake Center from King Church east to Market Ave., and Market from Lake Center north to State Rt. 619, as well as all other streets within the village.

Lake Township maintains the 138.648 miles of all remaining dedicated streets in the township.



**Dan Kamerer**

## **A Note From The Road Superintendent:**

I think we can all agree that this past winter season has been a long and challenging one. We would like to thank all township residents for their patience during this winter season. Our road crew worked long hours battling the ice and snow to keep our township roads open, and we sincerely appreciate the thank-you notes and encouraging phone calls.

Paving season is just around the corner. We have begun the process of inspecting our roads to determine the amount of damage that has occurred due to frost and heaving. Once a list has been generated and reviewed, the Board of Trustees will make the final decision as to which roads will be resurfaced.

With the nice weather upon us, I wanted to include some FAQ's just in case you were wondering:

Q: I want to fill in the ditch in front of my house, what do I do?

A: It is illegal to fill in your ditch line with dirt, leaves, and/or other debris or obstacles. It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain the tile.

Q: There may be a break in one of the drainage systems in my yard. Who needs to check it out?

A: The Road Department may be able to assist in investigating the possible break; however, it is the property owner's responsibility to repair the drainage system.

Q: What is a storm detention?

A: Storm detention is the holding back of rainwater in the conveyance system and then releasing it at a slow rate into the storm drain. Important things to remember:

\* Keep leaves and grass clippings out of gutters, storm drains, ditches, ponds, and catch basins.

\* Remove leaves from catch inlets to avoid local flooding.

\* Do not dispose of yard waste/debris into water quality facilities, detention ponds or anything conveying water

Q: What does it mean when something is in the right-of-way?

A: Right-of-way means land reserved, or to be used for a street, alley, walkway, drainage facility, or other public purpose. Right-of-way is normally 25 feet from the center of the roadway, or 10 feet from the edge of pavement.

Q: If my sprinkler system is installed in the right-of-way and becomes damaged, who is responsible for the repair?

A: The property owner is responsible for any improvement that they have installed in the right-of-way such as a sprinkler system, landscaping, etc. Remember, no obstructions such as decorative rock, wall, or basketball hoop, which pose a danger to the traveling public, are allowed in the right-of-way.

*Daniel R. Kamerer*



**Harold Britt**

## **FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:**

As the temperature increases, so does the traffic on the roadways. The roads are going to be filled with other drivers, motorcycles, bicycles and pedestrians. With this increase in traffic, we must be more attentive to others on the roadway. Here are some helpful safety tips for those of us who bicycle or exercise on the roadways. Following these simple tips will increase our chances of having a safe and fun summer.

### **Tips for Safer Cycling:**

- Wear your helmet. Following this simple rule reduces your risk of serious injury by as much as 85 percent.
- One person per bike. Riding with unsecured passengers puts you at risk for injury to yourself and others.
- Ride on the right side of the road, never against traffic. Otherwise, you are at risk for an accident.
- Plan ahead if you will ride in a group. Agree on the route ahead of time. Have a plan on what you will do if separated by traffic.
- If you will be riding in an unfamiliar area, check out local laws and rules first.
- Avoid busy roads and peak traffic times on your route.
- Maintain the bikes in your household. Keep chains clean and lubricated, and periodically inspect brake pads.

### **Tips for Walking and Running:**

- Consider what you are wearing. Choose clothes that drivers can easily see. Light or bright colors, reflective material, and flashing lights are your best choices.
- If you have a choice about where you walk, choose a route with sidewalks or a shoulder to give yourself space away from traffic.
- If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic.
- Important things to carry with you are water, your driver's license or ID, and a cell phone.
- Always look for cars before crossing a street or stepping off a curb.
- Use crosswalks and follow traffic signals when crossing at street lights.
- Be predictable.
- Before stepping in front of a car, make eye contact with the driver. Make sure the driver sees you. Plan on stopping, and have time to stop.
- Even if you have the right of way, walk like drivers do not know the rules.

*Chief Harold Britt*

## PARKS IN LAKE TOWNSHIP

Now that spring is here, everyone is looking forward to summertime. Did you know? Lake Township operates the **Lake Township Community Park**, located behind the Lake High School Stadium. The Park has a half-mile walking trail, for use by walkers and joggers only. (No bicycles or skaters, please!) The park also has a playground, picnic tables and restrooms. The park closes every day at dusk. The Uniontown Police Department patrols our Park.

Residents enjoy other community parks, private parks and recreation areas in the township. **Quail Hollow State Park**, located in the northeast section of our Township, is devoted to the recreational study and appreciation of Ohio's cultural and natural history. Administered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Quail Hollow has trails ideal for hiking, jogging, and cross-county skiing, including several interpretive nature trails for exploring the park's unique natural habitats. More information is available on the Quail Hollow Web site: <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/quailhollow>.

The Uniontown Lions Club operates the **Uniontown Community Park**, occupying twenty-five wooded acres at the end of Apollo St., off Cleveland Ave. in Uniontown. The park has a playground, an outdoor gazebo, an open picnic shelter seating 36, outdoor picnic areas, horseshoe pits, a volleyball court and a fishing pond. The All Veterans Memorial was added in 2005. Their Community Center, seating 250 people, is a favorite place for wedding receptions, dances, parties, and meetings. Reservations may be made with the Lions Club (330.699.1290).

The **Greentown Community Park**, supported by the Greentown Civic Association, is located northwest of the Greentown Square. The park has a playground, basketball courts, baseball fields, tennis court and a horseshoe pit. A building is also available for public use. The Stark County Park District operates the **David Fichtner Outdoor Education Center**



on Market Ave. north of State Rt. 619. This 13-acre education facility includes wooded hiking trails, a fishing pond, a waterfowl viewing blind, and a wetland with a boardwalk. Butterfly watchers enjoy a gently rolling trail that is home to 19 species of butterflies including monarchs, viceroys, tiger swallowtails, and red admirals. Song birds, waterfowl, rabbits, fox, and white-tailed deer can be seen near the wetlands and adjoining woodlands.

**Clearwater Park**, located on State Rt. 619 at Hoover Ave., is a privately-owned recreational park that has a swimming pool, basketball courts, campgrounds, game room, picnic areas and a pavilion available for rental.

The Village of Hartville operates **Memorial Park**, on Lincoln St. across the street from the elementary school complex. There is a children's playground and a half-mile walking path. The park closes at dusk. Reservations for the picnic pavilions may be made with the Village office (330.877.9222).

## MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

**Saves You Money:** Regular maintenance fees of \$250 to \$300 every three to four years is a bargain, compared to the cost of repairing or replacing a malfunctioning system, which can cost between \$3,000 and \$7,000 for a conventional system. The frequency of pumping required for your system depends on how many people live in your home and the size of the system.

**Protects Your Property Value:** An unusable septic system or one in disrepair will lower your property value, not to mention pose a potentially costly legal liability.

**Keeps You and Your Neighbors Healthy:** Household wastewater is loaded with disease-causing bacteria and viruses, as well as high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. If a septic system is well-maintained and working properly, it will remove most of these pollutants. Insufficiently treated sewage from septic systems can cause groundwater contamination, which can spread disease in humans and animals. Improperly treated sewage also poses the risk of contaminating nearby surface waters, significantly increasing the chance of swimmers contracting a variety of infectious diseases, from eye and ear infections to acute gastrointestinal illness and hepatitis.

**Protects the Environment:** More than four billion gallons of wastewater is dispersed below the ground's surface every day. That's a lot of water! Groundwater contaminated by poorly or untreated household wastewater doesn't just pose dangers to drinking water—it poses dangers to the environment. Malfunctioning septic systems release bacteria, viruses and chemicals toxic to local waterways. When these pollutants are released into the ground, they eventually enter streams, rivers, lakes and more, harming local ecosystems by killing native plants, fish and shellfish.

For more information, please see the Septic Smart program at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency web site: [www.epa.gov/septicmart](http://www.epa.gov/septicmart).

## FROM YOUR FIRE PREVENTION SERVICE

Spring is here! If you didn't replace the batteries in your smoke detectors when we changed to Daylight Savings Time, please do so now. Fire alarm systems with hard-wired power usually also have battery backup. These batteries must also be replaced.

Carbon monoxide detectors come in both battery-operated and plug-in power plants. If you have battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors in your home, remember to replace the batteries. Plug-in carbon monoxide detectors also have battery backup, and that battery also must be replaced. A note about carbon monoxide detectors: carbon monoxide will mix evenly in air, which means if vapors occur, they will accumulate evenly throughout a space. Therefore, locating detectors high and/or low in a space will detect the presence of vapors and sound the alarm.

When applying new mulch, be careful of where you discard smoking materials. Also, new mulch may have a high moisture content, which can generate heat after it is applied and decomposition begins. Watch how closely mulch is applied near wooden structures.

As we begin another season of mowing, trimming, and cutting around the house, remember to handle gasoline and flammable sprays carefully. Store these items in locations where the vapors or spills cannot cause a fire.

Please remember that open burning for waste disposal is illegal in Lake Township. Please bring your grass clippings and trimmings to the Recycle Center for disposal.

Have a safe and happy summer!



# LAKE TOWNSHIP

## *Mission Statement*

The mission of Lake Township is to provide quality service to our citizens/customers in order to lead, support and facilitate the efficient and effective operation of township government.

Local Postal Customer  
(ECRWSS)



LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
12360 Market Avenue North  
Hartsville, Ohio 44632

