

July / Aug / Sept 2011

«First Name»
«Address 1» «Address 2»
«City», «State», «Postal Code»

Perry Township
7125 Sawmill Road
Dublin, OH 43016



Waste Management (614) 833-9111
Road Department (614) 889-8781
Trash • Recycling • Yard Waste

July 2011						
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Trash, Recycling, Yard Waste

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Trash & Recycling Only

September 2011						
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Board of Trustees

Chet Chaney
Chairman
Cchaney@perrytp.org

Andrew English
Vice Chairman
Aenglish@perrytp.org

James Roper
Trustee
Jroper@perrytp.org

Fiscal Officer
Michele Elliott
Melliott@perrytp.org

Administrator
Robert Myers
Rmyers@perrytp.org

Police Chief
Robert Oppenheimer
(614) 889-8386

Chief Zoning Officer
Robin Fellure
(614) 889-1211

Road Superintendent
Bryan Shonkwiler
(614) 889-8781

Administrative Office
(614) 889-2669

Board of Trustee Regular Meetings
@ 7:00 p.m.
July 6th & 18th
August 1st & 15th
September 7th & 19th

Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting
@ 7:00 p.m.
2nd Tuesday of each month

Zoning Commission Meeting
@ 7:00 p.m.
3rd Wednesday of each month

Check our website for schedule changes

www.perrytp.org

RESIDENTS PETITION FOR LIMITED HOME RULE

A group of residents have initiated a campaign hoping to change how Perry Township is governed. Enough signatures were collected during the recent petition drive to place the issue on the November 8th ballot.

Information obtained from the committee's website states that township governments are generally only authorized to perform certain services that are expressly set forth in Ohio law.

While Limited Home Rule will not change the basic services (i.e. Police, Road, trash and recycling), Limited Home Rule gives townships greater flexibility such as the ability to:

- ♦ promote and control economic development
- ♦ provide services, such as water and sewer (which the township is not currently authorized under Ohio law to provide)
- ♦ exercise greater influence over the quality of utility and emergency services
- ♦ provide the township with additional authority to attract and encourage economic development

To learn more, go to the Perry Township Home Rule Committee's website: www.perryhomerule.com.

APARTMENT COMPLEX DEVELOPMENT STOPPED

A few months ago, a local development company, Preferred Living, proposed building an apartment complex at the northwest corner of Snouffer Road and Smokey Row. The proposal involved the establishment of an inexpensively constructed development comprised of 270 apartment units.

There were projections that such a densely populated development would add to an already traffic congested and accident ridden area. We were sensitive to the possibility of increased traffic flow through McVey Blvd which is often used as a short cut for commuters. This issue and its potential negative impact to our community quickly came to the forefront of Board discussions.

The township engaged a consultant to coordinate opposition to this project and craft a message that was conveyed to the City of Columbus City Council, Zoning Department, and Division of Planning.

After meetings with The Far Northwest Coalition and with several members of Columbus City Council, we were able to apply sufficient pressure on the developer to block this widely opposed development. To date, Preferred Living is no longer in contract with

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BROOKSIDE HOLDS JULY 4th CELEBRATION

The Brookside Civic Association hosted its annual Independence Day celebration on Saturday evening, June 25th. Thanks to Vicki Thompson, chairperson, and other trustees and residents for making the evening event successful.

The group opted to forego the usual daytime parade and bike decorating contest and instead organized an evening event which included grilled burgers, hotdogs, and a potluck complete with delicious side dishes and frozen treats.

Shortly after the flag raising by the Perry Township Police Color Guard, the festivities began. Boys and girls alike enjoyed games, crafts, and had a chance to see one of the Worthington Fire Department's ladder trucks up close and personal.

Children also enjoyed bouncing through a giant castle and watching a clown make balloon animals for them to take home. The Police Department was on hand with the Kid-Print van.

The evening ended with adults and kids playing Bingo and winning some neat prizes donated by area residents and businesses. A great time was had by all.

Don't forget to purchase a garage sale permit!



Call Zoning Dept. @ (614) 889-1211

GET CONNECTED WITH FACEBOOK

Check us out on Facebook! Get the latest news on current events, community get-togethers, and other important information throughout the year.

In 2008 the Board of Trustees and Fiscal Officer determined that there was a need to increase communication between local residents, business owners and your Township Officials, Department Heads and staff.



Since that time, a website was launched and this newsletter was developed. Shortly thereafter, an E-Broadcast system was implemented to share emergency and vital information. Each of these mediums allow us to inform residents of all ages.

That said, we also needed a form of communication that would allow us to instantaneously pass on all types of information to members of our community. Facebook is the perfect vehicle.

We invite you to be a part of this new social network!

PERRY TOWNSHIP INTERN GRADUATES

Rachael Mains is one of two students who participated in the newly established High School Internship program in 2010. Since last summer she has returned to assist with a variety of projects. She recently completed a Worthington Kilbourne Senior school / work program here at the township.

Rachael - a Brookside resident - graduated with honors from WKHS and will continue her education at Wittenberg College in Springfield, OH

Rachael is well known for her quick wit, carefree and friendly attitude. We have all enjoyed working with her and wish her only the very best in future endeavors.



THE 2011 BLOSSOM TOUR OF THE HILLS



Anyone who made it to the 2010 Blossom Tour can tell you that it was great fun to travel around the Hills and visit some of the fabulous gardens tucked in all around the neighborhood. From professionally landscaped eye-catchers to blooming marvels created by master gardeners, there was something for everyone.

This year will be no exception. Save the date, **Sunday, July 10, 1-5 pm**. The Worthington Hills Garden Club will present eight special gardens for those looking for design inspiration, horticultural ideas, or just an afternoon of enjoying lovely creations. In keeping with the Garden Club's strong commitment to sharing the bounty of our neighborhood, all proceeds from the Blossom Tour will again be applied to landscaping of new homes built by Habitat for Humanity in Columbus. Last year we donated \$750.

Tour tickets cost \$10 on the day of the tour. Advance purchase tickets cost \$7 and can be obtained as instructed below. Children under age 12 are free.

Come see how imagination and passion can transform any space into a little Eden!

For more information contact Maria Gordon, Blossom Tour Chairperson, by phone **(614) 436-5626** or e-mail mhgordon@columbus.rr.com.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Contact the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) at **8-1-1** or **1-800-362-2764** before you dig.

By law, everyone **MUST** contact the Ohio Utilities Protection Service at least 48 hours; but, no more than 10 working days (excluding weekends and legal holidays) before ANY digging project

The OUPS acts as a communication link between utility companies and individuals planning any digging activity.

To learn more go to www.oups.org



HENDERSON HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION BLOCK PARTY COMING IN AUGUST

CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

Brookside

President: Tom Francis
(614) 659-9324
<http://brookside-estates.uc>

Henderson Heights

President: Helen Ware
(614) 207-7036

Worthington Hills

President: Jim Hilz
(614) 614-854-9258
www.worthingtonhills.org

CHIEF'S REPORT

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- Always obey traffic signals and signs.
- Maintain control of your bike by keeping both hands on the handle bar
- Stay alert of changing weather conditions and slick roads
- Wear reflective clothing at night.
- All bikes must be equipped with a light on the front and rear
- Wearing sunglasses and safety glasses are a great way to protect your eyes if you or a car whips up dirt, pebbles, rocks. Sunglasses also reduce glare.
- Never carry another person on your bicycle

And **ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET!**

Remember that a bicycle is a vehicle. Bicyclists share a complex traffic environment with other larger forms of transportation.



One thing is for certain, in a clash between a bicycle and a motor vehicle the bicycle rider loses every time.

APARTMENT DEVELOPMENT

Continued from page 1

the property owner and the development has been stopped.

Ensuring the safety of our residents is a responsibility we take very seriously. The Board of Trustees has also taken the lead by meeting with the property owner in an effort to determine the most appropriate type of development for the area. We are confident that the needs of the community will be met.

YOU CAN CONTROL THE MOSQUITO POPULATION

Mosquitoes are an all too familiar summer nuisance. They are not only annoying, but they present a potential health risk as transmitters of diseases such as encephalitis and West Nile virus. Mosquitoes require standing water for their young to hatch and develop. Once eggs are laid, a new crop of mosquitoes can hatch, grow and emerge from the water as adults in as little as one week. Eliminating potential breeding sites around your home can go a long way to reduce the mosquito population. Many mosquitoes stay very close to their juvenile habitat when they emerge as adults, and the females look for hosts to bite nearby. Eliminating mosquito habitats around your home can prevent bites, reduce your risk of disease and make your summer evenings more enjoyable.

Here are a few simple suggestions that can make a big difference in controlling the mosquito population in your own back yard:

- ◆ Empty, remove, cover or turn over any container that has the potential to hold water.
- ◆ Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.
- ◆ Make sure gutters and downspouts are free of blockage and are properly draining.
- ◆ Change the water in wading pools weekly and store indoors when not in use.
- ◆ Properly dispose of old tires.
- ◆ Empty planters that hold water twice each week.
- ◆ Empty bird baths twice weekly.
- ◆ Empty your pets watering dishes daily.
- ◆ Use sand to plug holes in trees where water can collect.
- ◆ Drain or fill low areas on your property that hold water for more than three days.
- ◆ Remind or help neighbors to eliminate breeding sites on their property.

If you have questions, want to complete a service request or need additional information about mosquitoes, call Franklin County Public Health's Mosquito Bite Line at **(614) 525-BITE (2483)** and leave a message; your call will be returned. Or, visit www.myfcph.org.

Follow us on Facebook (Franklin County Public Health) and/or Twitter (FC_PublicHealth) to receive notifications regarding mosquitoes or mosquito spraying as it is scheduled.

BROOKSIDE VOLUNTEERS SPRUCE UP ENTRANCES

The Brookside neighborhood has the advantage of being tucked away from the busy city life. Streets are lined with a canopy of beautiful trees. If it weren't for the entrance signs, many folks wouldn't even know our community is here.

A few volunteers have been working to renovate two of the southern entrances. Several hours of planning, thousands of dollars, and a great deal of good old fashioned hard work went into beautifying each area. The entrance at Brookside West was completed last year. And, just a few short weeks ago, the final touches were put on the entrance at 161/McVey Blvd.

As you can see, the results are impressive. These entrances are in essence the welcome mat to the community. Keeping up with the maintenance of Brookside can be a lot of work and everyone benefits.



Home owners are well aware of the time and effort required to maintain their home and property. Imagine being responsible for the upkeep of the shared property and planning of community events for the families of over 400 home owners. Now imagine if no one volunteered for the job! No hog roasts, Easter Egg hunts, or 4th of July get-togethers.

The small core of volunteers who oversee these types of projects would welcome your help. So get involved by contacting the Brookside Civic Association President, Tom Francis by calling **(614) 975-3504**.



2011 HIGH SCHOOL INTERN PROGRAM BEGINS

Clay Thompson and Max Oyer have been chosen as this year's interns. Both young men are honor students who are going into their Senior year at Worthington Kilbourne High School.

Max was recognized as being the only high school student to be accepted as a delegate during an official City of Worthington exchange to sister city, Sayama, Japan. Clay is an Eagle Scout who will be attending Buckeye Boys State this summer where he will have a hands-on experience in the operation of government.

Max and Clay were chosen in part because of the extraordinary letters of recommendation we received from their teachers and peers. They will work in each department over a 6-weeks time period during the summer months.

TOWNSHIP SURVEY RESULTS COMPLETE

A few weeks ago, a survey was posted on the township's website and we received 258 responses from area residents.

Community members were asked to rate the performance of their Elected Officials, Police, Zoning, Road, and Administrative staff as well as the quality of communications, outreach efforts, and quality of life. We received almost 40 pages of individual comments.

The idea for this survey came from a strategic planning session back in the fall of 2010. Although we were pleased to see so many positive comments and results, the community also provided specific areas in which we need to improve.

Public meetings will be scheduled with local civics and the community. We will prepare a plan to address areas of concern and implement changes later this year.

To view the survey results please go to our website - www.perrytwp.org - and click on "Links". If you would like a hard copy of the results please contact Beth Beatty by calling **(614) 889-2669**.

ELECTED OFFICIAL'S REPORT

*By Trustees Chet Chaney, James Roper, Andy English
And Fiscal Officer Michele Elliott*

Since our last newsletter, a township survey was distributed to community residents and business owners. The survey was well received and the feedback will assist us as we move into Stage 2 of the strategic planning process. We will be hosting open discussions later this year and encourage community members to participate. For now, the survey results can be found on our website - www.perrytwp.org - and click on "**Links**."

Several weeks ago we were notified that a developer was in contract negotiations with the owner of the property located at Smokey Row and Snouffer Road. After reviewing their plans, it was clear that the development was not a good fit for that area. Area residents from Perry Township and neighboring communities expressed concern over increased traffic issues. We teamed up with area civic associations in Columbus, Worthington, and Perry Township and were able to stop the development.

The State Budget cuts have been a concern for many in local government. Entities big and small are being asked to do more with less. Soon after the budget proposals were released, the fiscal office began analyzing what affect the reductions would have on Perry Township. Fortunately, our township has a strong financial base and while the revenue reductions will have an impact, a game plan is already being prepared to deal with those deficits without affecting the services township residents and business owners enjoy.

With summer finally here, many of you will be vacationing. Please contact the township's Police Department to set up a house check by calling **(614) 339-0240** or visit our website - www.perrytwp.org, click on the **Police Tab** and choose "**House Checks**."

CHIEF ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

By Robin Fellure

The welcome of summer also means the onslaught of projects around the house.

Many residents of Perry Township have been very busy working on interior and exterior projects. The Zoning Department would like you to know that if you have questions about zoning or building permits please call us and we will be more than willing to help answer your questions.

It is important to make sure that you are in compliance with any project that you are doing. Also remember zoning permits are required for: Garage Sales, Pod's, Dumpsters, Contractor Signs and Driveway Replacements or Expansions, Sheds and fences to name a few.

To download a form go to our website - www.perrytwp.org - Click on the **Zoning** tab and on the right side of the screen you will find a link to many of the forms you will need for various projects.

Please remember that we are often off site inspecting properties. If you need to meet with me or Zoning Inspector, John Hewitt contact our office to set up an appointment. Our phone number is **(614) 889-1211**.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you and we hope that all of your projects get completed!

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

By Chief Robert Oppenheimer

Ohio bicyclists often do not realize that they are required to follow the same rules and laws as vehicle motorists. For example, bike riders of all ages must ride with traffic on one-way streets, come to a complete stop at stop signs, ride on the right side of the road, and yield to pedestrians.

Bicyclists may think that it is safer to ride on the left hand side of the road in order to "see traffic coming". However, crash statistics show that **wrong way riding has about 3½ times the risk** as riding on the right! Pedestrians walk facing traffic so they can sidestep off the road if necessary. But you cannot sidestep on a bike.

Just like motorcyclists and automobile drivers, bicyclist must follow Ohio's rules of the road. The Ohio Revised Code is an excellent resource for anyone who is unsure of these rules. O.R.C. Section 4511.25(A) is a general rule that applies to all vehicles, including bicycles. Other sections of the code related to bike riding are 4511.52, 4511.01 to 4511.78, 4511.99, and 4513.01 to 4513.37. These laws are applicable whenever a bicycle is operated upon any highway or upon any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. It is important to keep in mind that a bicyclist can be cited, ticketed, and/or summoned by a law enforcement officer for a violation in the same manner as the operator of a motor vehicle.

Here's a few suggestions to keep you and your family safe:

- When you ride on streets, always ride with traffic and stay close to the curb.
- Always be alert— watch out for potholes, parked cars, sewer grates, loose gravel, etc.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

By Bryan Shonkwiler

Despite all of the rain, the Road Department has gotten quite a bit accomplished. We collected over 250 cubic yards (47 tons) of chips during the spring brush chipping. We also trimmed the trees encroaching the roadways, patched potholes and gutter pans, repaired or replaced several road signs, addressed several drainage issues and completed many equipment and building maintenance projects. And, just like you, we are trying to stay ahead of the grass at the Complex, cemetery and right of ways.

Now we all look forward to a busy and exciting summer. The Road Department will continue to make repairs to the storm sewer system, install and repair ditch tiles, maintain our equipment and buildings, and make small repairs to the roads. We will also continue to mow the complex, cemetery and right-of-ways.

The big construction project for the Township, this year, will be the removal and replacement of a large section of curb and gutter on Clubview Blvd. South. The bids for the 2011 County/Township road construction have just been opened and awarded. The preconstruction meeting will take place within the next couple of weeks. At that time, we will have a better idea of when construction will begin. I do not expect anything to start before mid to late August. We will pass on information as soon as we have it.

Please be safe and enjoy the summer.