



BATH TOWNSHIP QUARTERLY

FALL 2011

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 3

County Council Splits Bath Representation in Two

Recently, Summit County Council under emergency legislation approved redistricting at the county level. The chief author of the redistricting plan was Summit County Council Member District 2 Representative John Schmidt, a former deputy director of the Board of Elections. Under the new plan, Bath Township would be split between District 5, which covers Copley, Fairlawn, and part of Akron, and District 4, which covers Cuyahoga Falls and other areas of Akron.

The township opposed the redrawing of the lines and dividing the representation of the township at the county level. That objection was not honored in spite of the County Charter provision which states that areas be kept whole “giving preference in the order named townships, municipalities, and city wards and precincts.” The Board of Trustees felt that districts with a commonality of interest should be created in view of the fact that we share fire, police, radio systems, and other services with the communities to the north and south of Bath Township. The township offered an alternative plan to keep the representation whole while meeting the county charter provisions. Council did not take the modified plan into consideration. Presenting this in the emergency form of legislation in front of County Council will not allow the citizens of Bath Township to petition this issue to be placed on the ballot.

The impact of this legislation will dilute Bath’s representation by reducing the pool of 10,000 residents in one district to 5000 in each of two districts where they are out-numbered by residents who are from communities with dissimilar forms of government. ❁

Renewal Levy for Township Roads

On November 8th, Bath Township residents will be voting on a 5 year, 1.4 mill renewal road levy. The levy, which replaces the one expiring in 2012, will be placed on the ballot as Issue 4. This is not an additional tax. Road projects are paid for from the voter approved road levy. Every dollar generated by this levy will fund snow and ice control and maintenance of roads and ditches.

In total, road maintenance is funded through two levies (a continuing levy and the five year levy which expires next year), along with small amounts from the gas and motor vehicle license taxes. Together, they generate sufficient funding to pay for maintenance of the 62.335 miles of township roads. To put the levy in financial perspective, for each property tax dollar you pay, Bath Township receives approximately 25 cents. Five cents from that quarter goes to township roads.

The township’s maintenance schedule for roadways involves an annual inspection followed by a five-year projection of future needs. The budget is based on a combination of future needs, a careful analysis of previous expenditure patterns, and estimates of future costs. Operation and maintenance costs include snow and ice control, storm damage emergency clean-up, road replacement and repair, roadside drainage, culvert replacement, crack sealing, roadside mowing, safety signage, vehicle purchase, maintenance and repair, and salaries and benefits of service department employees.

The outcome of this renewal levy will affect many aspects of our residents’ lives. Good roads and aggressive snow and ice removal affect everyone’s convenience and safety. While property values are dependent on many things, homes in areas with good roads have higher values. Please contact the township at 330-666-4007 or wsnow@bathtownship.org if you would like further information. ❁



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Service Department

The number one "commandment" for good roads is to get the water away from the road. Maintaining a good surface drainage system is the best way to lessen road damage from water. Bath Township Service Department employees have been tested by "Mother Nature" this year in keeping the water flowing to the ditches instead of collecting on the pavement or in the shoulder berm.

Through August, Service Department employees completed 130 resident request activities involving storm sewer and catch basin repairs, culvert replacement, erosion, and road wash-out issues. Pothole patching is on-going all season. Water settling into the pavement through cracks or poor base construction causes even the most recent pavements to "fail" with the Ohio freeze/thaw pattern. Roadways wear out from the top but fall apart from the bottom.

In 2011 the township and county utilized a "regional" approach to county road maintenance by using a cooperative program with other townships and cities. The Summit County Engineer's Office is responsible for engineering, competitive bidding, scheduling and inspection of paving projects throughout the county. Through this program, they were able to combine projects for more cost effective use of equipment, materials, and personnel rather than handling each project separately.

Township road conditions were reviewed and rated under a new program in 2010 and the severe cases compiled into six different types of maintenance paving to be done in 2011. Below are the township roads which received maintenance this year.

- ♦Asphalt Crack Sealing: **Arbour Green, Aspenwood, Autumn Leaves, Darlington, Inner Circle, Mallard Pond, Pin Oak, Robinwood Hills, Sandin, and Wye Rd.**
- ♦Milling and Filling of Asphalt Paving: **Maple Leaf Hill, Olentagy (non-concrete portion), Reserve, and Raintree.**
- ♦Chip and Seal Paving: **Aegean, Knollwood, and Lakeview**
- ♦Sealcoat: **Bittersweet, Big Spruce, Briar Hill Drive and Spur, Cliff Spur, Clouse, Derrwood, Fairway, Fox Chase, Green, Harvest, Heather Hills, Idlebrook, Lakeview, Montrose, Ranchwood Spur, Retreat, Rolling View, Springercrest, Tee, and Woodhaven.**
- ♦Rejuvenation (Prior to crack sealing): **Arbour Green, Autumn Leaves, Darlington, and Mallard Pond.**
- ♦Concrete Work: **Foxwood, Sun Valley, North Fork, and Olentagy.✻**



Curb and sidewalk replacement on Sun Valley and a surface repair on Bittersweet



Township Auction

Bath Township will hold its biannual auction of unused items on October 20, 2011 at the Bath Township Service Department at 4:00 p.m.

Severe Weather Causes Damage

This past summer Bath Township has once again experienced some extreme rain and flooding events. Both township services and residents alike have been faced with many challenges. Property loss due to flooding can be devastating unless the homeowner has proper insurance coverage. Following the devastation of hurricane Andrew, coverage for loss due to ground water is not automatically included in insurance coverage for a water loss. Water coming into a house from an outside source is defined as ground water. Homeowners need to review the specifics of their coverage in order to insure they are protected to the level they desire.✻

Bonnebrook Road Update

Bonnebrook Road has been closed since July 19th because of a culvert wash out. The Summit County Engineer has developed plans to rebuild the culvert. Neighboring property owners have been supportive and cooperative, allowing for the reconstruction to start while discussions are ongoing for additional right of way acquisition to make room for the culvert improvements.

The Board of Trustees held a special meeting on Sept 26th to place the project out to bid. Bid opening will be on October 13th at 10:00 a.m. It is hoped that Bonnebrook Road will be reopened by the end of the year.✻

QUARTERLY

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An official newsletter published by the Bath Township Board of Trustees as a service to Bath Township residents under the authority of the Ohio Revised Code, Section 9.03

Office Telephone: 330-666-4007 Fax: 330-666-0305

www.bathtownship.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Elaina E. Goodrich Trustee	James N. Nelson Trustee
Becky Corbett Trustee	Sharon A. Troike Fiscal Officer
William E. Snow, Township Administrator	

Meeting Dates for Board of Trustees:

Monday, October 3, 2011	7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 17, 2011	4:00 p.m.
Monday, November 7, 2011	7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 21, 2011	4:00 p.m.
Monday, December 5, 2011	7:00 p.m.
Monday, December 19, 2011	4:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 29, 2011	1:00 p.m.

Township Events

A Victorian Christmas in Bath Township

October 2, 2011 ~ February 29, 2012
Monday and Wednesday mornings 9:00-11:30
Sunday afternoons 1:00-4:00
Free Admission

Bath Township Museum has decked the hall of the Historic Bath Town Hall for Christmas. This exhibit includes seven trees decorated with Victorian (1850-1900) themes, authentic tree ornaments displayed in glass cases, and vintage costumes displayed on seventeen mannequins. Replica and handmade Victorian ornaments will be on sale during the exhibit.

Scenes within the hall include the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Englebeck, Bath Township residents at the turn of the twentieth century; caroling around the Eckart pump organ; reading of "T'was the Night Before Christmas;" Saint Nicholas with his sack of presents; and the return home in time for Christmas of Pvt. Wilber Alexander, 14th US Infantry, veteran of the Spanish American War.

The familiar horse-drawn Davis sleigh will be on display inside the museum. ❁



HALLOWEEN

Halloween Trick or Treat will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday, October 30, 2011 for the neighborhoods. The Fire Department will hold its annual Halloween Open House from 6-8 p.m. Refreshments will be served and there will be games for the children. ❁



Wye Road Bridge Lighting



Bath Residents are invited to kick off the holiday season with hot chocolate, cookies, and activities while joining Frosty, Rudolph, and Santa at the Bath Business Association's annual lighting of the Wye Road Bridge on Friday, November 25th at 5:30 p.m. ❁

QR to Bath Community Events

Although Quick Response codes (QR codes) were created in 1994, their popularity and usage have grown immensely in the last few years. It is another version of a bar code which, when the smart phone points at it using a barcode app, takes the user directly to a particular Website. To the right is the QR code for the Community Events Calendar located on the Bath Township Website which gives a listing of township events as well as those sponsored by local non-profits. ❁



Police Updates

Two Bath Police Department members were recognized this summer for their significant contributions to the safety of our community. Detective Daniel Lance and Officer Vito Sinopoli received accolades from two different venues for two separate investigations.

Detective Lance was the focus of a front page article of the Sunday Plain Dealer in July. The Plain Dealer Special Report detailed the investigative efforts by Detective Lance in unraveling a multi-state organized retail theft ring. The investigation began with the routine follow-up of a retail theft from the Lowes store in Montrose. Chasing down one lead led to the discovery of an extensive network of criminals being directed by a prison inmate in Fort Dix, New Jersey. The case eventually reached the highest levels of the United States Department of Justice for approval. The Justice Department provided assistance inside the walls of the federal prison. The investigation culminated with the arrest of over a dozen individuals responsible for the theft of one million dollars worth of property.

Officer Sinopoli received the 2011 "Lt. Ed Duvall Jr. Summit County Detective of the Year Award." This award honors the memory of the late Lt. Duval who, while at the Akron Police Department, was relentless in his investigation of child abuse. Officer Sinopoli was honored for his tenacity, commitment, and integrity in serving the families and children of Summit County. Two critical investigations involved fathers assaulting their daughters. Bath Police Department members now recognize those individuals who have been sexually assaulted not as victims but as survivors, due to the influential work by Officer Sinopoli.

These Bath Township police officers have served the community well. ❁



The Bath Police Department honored the memory of those lost on September 11, 2001 with a float in the Bath Community Day parade.



Bath Fire Department Wants You to Know

Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 6th. More importantly, remember that this is the best time to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors. By replacing the batteries every year at this time, you can be certain that your smoke detector will work if it is needed. It is a small price to pay for good insurance. If you are a senior citizen and need help with changing the batteries, call Bath Fire at 330-666-3738.

Did you know that if CPR is started within 4 minutes of collapse and defibrillation provided within 10 minutes, a person has a 40% chance of surviving a heart attack. Learning CPR and how to use an AED (Automated External Defibrillators) will help you feel comfortable in an emergency situation. The Bath Fire Department has regularly scheduled CPR classes that are open to the public. The classes are 4 hours long and include CPR Certification. The cost is \$15 for Bath Township residents and \$40 for non-residents. Prior registration is a must and class size is limited. Please visit the Fire Department CPR Webpage at www.bathtownship.org for class and contact information. ✿

License Fees Work For Bath

You can help improve roads in Bath Township if you specify that you are a Bath resident when registering a new vehicle or renewing a registration in person with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

If you renew your plates via mail, be sure your renewal application indicates 7765 Bath in the tax district name.

Indicating that you are a Bath resident also helps avoid extra fees that some communities add to registration costs.

Township Recycling Center to Open

Since the addition of the red recycling bins through the township trash hauler, Rumpke, recycling in the township has increased noticeably. Beginning in October, residents will have yet another convenient way to recycle in the township. A new recycle collection center will be located in the Bath Elementary School parking lot. This new, centrally located collection center will allow schools, businesses, and residents who do not have curbside recycling the opportunity to recycle items.



A recycling center has been a common request from Bath residents for quite some time. The township has received grants from the Summit Akron Solid Waste Management Authority for the past three years. This money was saved to the specific purpose of providing a recycling center. No tax or school levy money was used for this project. This central location was chosen with cooperation from the Revere Schools.

Residents should respect the safety and educational atmosphere of Bath School. Please use this recycling center outside of school hours only. ✿

Trash Collection and Holidays

When township trash collection falls on a holiday, it will be delayed by one day for the rest of that week. Example: Thursday, November 24 is Thanksgiving so Thursday's collection will be on Friday and Friday's will be on Saturday that week only. Christmas and New Years Day fall on Sunday so there will be no delay in trash the following week.

Summer holidays: Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day

Winter holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Day