

Kingston Township

News

July 2011

Chairman's Chat – By Bill Shively

Happy Fourth of July Everyone! Let's hope the weather clears up, at least long enough for all the outdoor activities and fireworks displays.

The deeds have been filed for the land donation from the Northstar developers to Kingston Township. They misspelled Kingston on the deed. Once the deeds are corrected, they will be re-filed.

The Trustees have asked for a new traffic study to be done on Wilson Rd. We hope the new study will improve the safety and lower the speed limit.

At the June Trustees meeting, the trustees appointed Rick Giffin to the zoning board. Rick served as the alternate to the Kingston Township Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals before his appointment. Welcome Rick!

Doug Crowl is working on improving the surface drainage at Stark Cemetery and is making plans for a new salt storage facility at the township maintenance building.

I would like to thank the Sheets and Seitz families for making repairs to the Blue Church memorial at the cemetery. The late William E. Sheets built the memorial after the church was lost to fire.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 740-272-3668. Please DRIVE SAFELY!

Township Hall Beautification

The Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society recently donated ten daylily plants to beautify the front of the Kingston Township Hall. The daylilies were planted on May 13 ahead of several days of scattered rain showers which should help them get quickly established. A special thanks goes to township resident Donna Kowalczyk for coordinating the donation and delivering the plants. The daylilies should bloom within the next month so stop and enjoy Moonlit Masquerade, Jack Sprat, Twilite Madana, and others.

The American Hemerocallis Society will hold their National Convention in Columbus during July 2012. As part of the event, participants will have an opportunity to visit member gardens in Franklin and Delaware County via bus tour. Two stops on the tour in Delaware County will include the Kingston Township gardens of Donna Kowalczyk on Twig-Hupp and Cynthia Osman on Kilbourne Road.



Giffin Appointed to Zoning Commission

At their June meeting, the Kingston Township Trustees appointed Rick Giffin to the Kingston Township Zoning Commission through August 2013. Giffin replaces Bill Steinhoff who resigned upon moving out of the township. Giffin, a retired Colum-

bus School teacher, had served as an alternate on the Board of Zoning Appeals for several years before being appointed as the alternate on the Zoning Commission in April 2010.

Zoning Commission Vacancy

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one position on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The appointment will fill the Alternate position with an existing term that expires in August 2015. Interested Kingston Township residents should submit a letter of interest along with a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to Friday, July 1, 2011.

The Zoning Commission meets on a bi-monthly basis and deals with matters related to the Kingston Township Zoning Resolution, Zoning District Map, the Kingston Township Comprehensive Plan, and other duties as defined within Chapter 519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 5, 2011, 7 p.m. at the Kingston Township Hall. Applicants must be present to be considered for the position. Please contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 with questions.

A letter of interest and resume may be submitted by mail or e-mail to Kingston Township Hall, 9899 State Route 521, Sunbury, Ohio 43074 or zoning@kingstontwp.org.



Zoning News

Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) Chairman Jim Martin passed away recently after an extended battle with cancer. Martin, a charter member of the BZA, was chairman since the beginning of the board. He assisted in writing the original zoning code and master plan and was a passionate supporter of the township's zoning code. He had served the township for more than a decade. We offer our condolences to his family and friends and a huge thanks for his service to the township.

The NorthStar land donation of 169.7 acres to the township has been recorded at the Delaware County Recorder's Office. The trustees will add the land to its insurance. One hundred additional acres will be deeded to the township in 2018.

The Zoning Commission's next meeting will be August 17. One zoning permit was issued for an accessory structure on Beacom Rd. A letter was sent regarding an unpermitted structure on N. Galena Rd. An inquiry was received about developing a common access drive on Blue Church Rd.

A letter was sent requesting clean up of an illegal trash dump at a Blue Church Rd. residence. At their May meeting, trustees voted to declare the property a nuisance. If the nuisance is not corrected, the trustees can have the property cleaned up at the owner's expense.

The Zoning Office staff presented recommendations to increase some zoning fees to the trustees for their consideration. No action was taken.

The trustees approved disposal of obsolete computer equipment at Ohio Mulch.

High Grass

The trustees discussed high grass issues during their June meeting. They have dealt with numerous complaints during the past year. Discussion was held about the difference between allowing areas to grow naturally and high grass. The trustees decided to investigate complaints only and agreed on a process. When a complaint is received, it will be investigated. If necessary, the property will be declared a nuisance. Then a certified letter will be sent to the property owner requesting that the grass be mowed. If the situation is not corrected, the township will have the property mowed and the bill will be sent to the property owner.

Roads & Cemeteries

Road Superintendent Doug Crawl will submit four Requests for Engineering Assistance to the Delaware County Engineer's Office for Wilson Rd. He will ask them to review all regulatory signs, additional warning and advisory signs, and damaged culverts as well as conduct a speed limit study.

Crawl located five veterans' graves that were never marked and the Veterans of Foreign Wars posted flags for Memorial Day. In Stark Cemetery, Crawl recommended digging a deeper ditch or tiling the swale to promote drainage from two springs in the area that are causing headstones to collapse.

Trustee Dewey Akers and Zoning Inspector Bob Talbott attended a county meeting about a new Interstate 71 interchange. County commissioners paid for a study that detailed how much potential commercial, light industrial, and residential development a new interchange could create. The study did not evaluate what the potential growth and related infrastructure and service costs of this interchange would be. The commissioners indicated they were moving forward with the project but a final location has yet to be determined.

Fireworks

Nearly 11,000 people were treated in U.S. emergency departments for fireworks-related injuries in 2005, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

The perception that some fireworks, such as sparklers, are safe is incorrect. Sparklers were associated with more than half of the estimated injuries among children under age 5 in 2005, CPSC says. Sparklers can burn at more than 1,000°F and set clothes on fire, while firecrackers can injure the hands or face if they explode nearby. Children are often excited and curious around fireworks, and this can increase their chances of being injured.

If you purchase sparklers for children, follow these guidelines from the National Council on Fireworks Safety:

- Obey local laws and use common sense.
- Always read and follow instructions. Always have an adult present.
- Keep burning sparklers away from clothing and flammable objects.
- Use sparklers only outdoors, away from buildings and vehicles.
- Light only one sparkler at a time.
- Alcohol, fireworks, and sparklers do not mix. Be responsible.
- Do not point or throw sparklers at another person.

- Children under the age of 12 should not handle sparklers.
- When finished, place used sparklers in a bucket of water.

Ohio law permits sparklers and other types of novelties. To view lists of permitted materials, view the Ohio State Fire Marshal 2011 Fireworks Redbook at www.com.state.oh.us/fire/FireworksRedbook.aspx. Consumer fireworks may only be sold if they are taken out of Ohio within 48-72 hours of purchase. They are not legal to use in Ohio unless you have a display permit, a minimum \$1,000,000 in insurance, and a state license. For details, visit www.fireworksafety.com/laws.

The U.S. National Fire Protection Association and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention strongly recommend that fireworks be used only by professionals. The safest way to prevent fireworks-related injuries is to leave fireworks displays to trained professionals. Please be respectful of your neighbors, pets, farm animals, and the law. Have a very safe and fun Independence Day!

CPR Classes

Any Porter or Kingston township residents interested in a CPR class may call the Fire Station at 740-524-5050 or e-mail them at PKFD@rroho.com to put your name on a list. When enough people sign up, a class will be scheduled.

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Sign up today to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Contact kingstonnews@embarqmail.com.

Kingston Calendar

Meetings occur at the Township Hall, 9899 St. Rt. 521, (Rt. 521 & Carter's Corner Rd.) unless noted* otherwise. Trash pick up days are Fridays except during holiday weeks.

Zoning Commission Applications Due June 30
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) July 1
Trustees Meeting (1st Tuesday) July 5
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) July 8, 15, 22, 29

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Bill Shively, Ch.: 272-3668, 8760 SR 521, Sunbury
Dewey Akers: 803-1529, dakers@kingstontwp.org
Steve Volpe: 965-1802, svolpe@kingstontwp.org

FISCAL OFFICER

Greg Roy: 524-8591, fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.org

NEWS & INFO

Township Web Site: <http://www.kingstontwp.org>
Newsletter Editor: Jeanna Burrell 965-1914
e-mail: kingstonnews@embarqmail.com

PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

Emergency: 911; **Business: 524-5050**
PKFD@rroho.com; <http://www.PKFD.org>

ROADS & CEMETERIES

Doug Crawl, 740-815-8427 roads@kingstontwp.org

TRASH & RECYCLING

Big-O Refuse: 1- 888-924-BIGO (2446)
e-mail: service@bigorefuse.com
web: <http://www.bigorefuse.com>

ZONING

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