

Kingston Township

News

May 2011

Chairman's Chat – By Bill Shively

Hello everyone! I hope this cool, wet weather pattern will break soon. If April showers bring May flowers, they should be abundant this year!

The trustees have decided to purchase a new lawnmower and trailer and turn the lawncare over to Township Road Superintendent Doug Crowl. Doug will be in charge of mowing, trimming, and clean up of all the township's properties. We hope to save taxpayer dollars in the long run and improve the care and appearance of the cemeteries.

Road resurfacing and construction projects will be starting throughout the county. Both state routes 521 and 656 are being resurfaced this year. The township's roads have held up well. We'll continue our road maintenance schedule this year.

There have been some request to have more information available concerning what the trustees will be discussing at monthly township meetings. The trustees have asked Fiscal Officer Greg Roy to explore the possibility of having a draft agenda of what will be discussed at the next month's meeting on Kingston Township's website one week prior to all township trustees meetings. There may be issues not known at the time of a draft, but this will give you a good idea of what may be discussed at each meeting. Hopefully we will have this up and running soon at www.kingstontwp.org.

I would also like to congratulate Trustee Steve Volpe on being elected Vice President of the Delaware County Township Association for the year 2011.

Stay safe driving in our agriculturally zoned areas and surrounding areas as farmers drive their equipment to fields now in preparation for planting.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (740) 524 2333.

May 3rd Special Election

There will be two county-wide issues on the May 3rd ballot. The Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities is requesting a 2.1 mill, five-year replacement tax levy to operate developmental disabilities programs and services. The Delaware County 911 service is requesting a .45 mill, five-year renewal tax levy to operate the emergency 911 system.

On Election Day, you may cast your ballot at Kilbourne United Methodist Church, 5591 St. Rte. 521, in Kilbourne, 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

If you are unable to vote on May 3, you may request an absentee ballot at www.co.delaware.oh.us or by contacting the Delaware County Board of Elections, 2079 US Hwy 23N, Delaware, OH 43015, 740-833-2080, or e-mail: boe@co.delaware.oh.us. Absentee ballot request forms must be received no later than 12:00 noon, Saturday, April 30 and completed ballots must be postmarked by May 2nd.

Delaware County has moved its Absentee Voting Center to a new location in the southern part of the county where the majority of voters reside. The new Center at 149 E. Orange Rd., in Lewis Center, 43035 is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4

p.m. Ohio law prohibits absentee voting from occurring in multiple locations in the county; therefore, absentee voting WILL NOT occur at the Board of Elections office.

Lewis Retires From Fire District

Rick Lewis recently retired after serving as a volunteer for 40 years with the Porter Kingston Fire District (PKFD). Lewis is currently the longest serving member of PKFD. PKFD Fire Chief Michael Thompson remarked, "Rick answered calls at all hours of the day and night no matter what the emergency was."

Lewis started with the Porter Township Fire Department on April 2, 1971 and retired from the Porter Kingston Fire District on April 7, 2011. A retirement celebration will be planned soon.

Serving with the district has been a family affair for Lewis whose father Ellis, brother Charlie, sister Mardissa, nephew Brad Thorpe, and brothers-in-law Randy Thorpe and John Johnston all have served with the District over the years and nephew Wesley is currently serving. Lewis and his wife live in Olive Green with their three children.

Thank you to Rick Lewis, his family, and all the great volunteers and staff who work so hard to keep us safe!

At the April Fire Board Meeting, replacement and upgrade of Rescue 382 was discussed. Training is in process for fire evolutions, water evolutions for EMS, a Hazmat tech refresher, and a Howell rescue class. Hazmat IQ training is scheduled for June and Hazmat physicals have started.

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

Roads & Cemeteries

Road Superintendent Doug Crowl discussed culvert concerns with the trustees at their April meeting. He also explained that roads need gravel rather than grass berms to allow water to move away from the road. He will be spraying around signs and berms and will be cutting down berms in the near future.

Crowl is working to replace two township road guardrails that were damaged in auto accidents and is working with the insurance companies and county prosecutor on restitution.

He continues to develop plans for a 45' x 90' living memorial garden around the Blue Church Bell in the Blue Church Cemetery. If any scouts, 4-H members, or other community members would like to help with the memorial garden, please contact Crowl at 740-815-8427 or roads@kingstontwp.org.

Cemetery rules for "green" burials were discussed at the trustees meeting, too.



A meeting will be scheduled with surrounding townships to develop a boundary road agreement for shared road maintenance as required by state law.

Delaware County is updating their radio system which makes our radio unable to communicate with theirs in the future. The trustees decided to purchase a new radio.

After reviewing various options, the trustees opted to replace the Blue Church Road bridge with a wider bridge. Straightening the road will not occur because land acquisition and other aspects of the project were too expensive. The bridge is planned for replacement in 2013.

The trustees discussed the mowing contract for 2011. The trustees have priced purchasing equipment to handle mowing themselves. At their April meeting, they decided to spend up to \$7,000 on a 50'-54' mower. The mower must be smaller to maneuver around headstones in the township's two cemeteries. They also decided to spend up to \$1,200 on a small utility trailer. Road Superintendent Doug Crowl will mow at the township hall, maintenance building, and both cemeteries.

Trash Confusion

There were a few issues with trash collection last month due to changes in drivers and routes. Residents are reminded to have your trash and recycling at the curb by 6 a.m. on Fridays. If you have questions or concerns, contact Big-O Refuse at 1-888-924-BIGO (2446) or e-mail them at service@bigorefuse.com. If your issues are not resolved by Big-O, contact a trustee at the numbers and e-mails listed in this newsletter.

Big-O picks up co-mingled recycling in trash trucks. This does not mean your recycling is going to the landfill. It is taken to Big-O's facility where it is mechanically sorted. Recycle your aluminum, glass, magazines, junk mail, newspapers, paper, cardboard, and plastics (#1-#7).

Trash Facts from Big-O

Bottled water costs between \$1 and \$4 per gallon, and 90 percent of the cost is in the bottle, lid, and label. It takes more than 1.5 million barrels of oil to manufacture a year's supply of bottled water. That's enough oil to fuel 100,000 cars.

"Think Locally and Act Globally." Please recycle!

Big-O Scholarships

Big-O Refuse is offering scholarships to high school seniors in their service areas. Seniors can pick up application forms at their Big Walnut or Buckeye Valley guidance offices. Don't miss this great opportunity! Hurry, because applications are due back to your guidance counselor by April 30th. Good luck!

Zoning Report

The Robert Weiler Company filed a rezoning application fee for the Pastures at Blue Church development. The property has been rezoned to Planned Residential District effective March 25th according to the lawsuit settlement agreement. Per the agreement, the rezoning is not subject to referendum.

The NorthStar development land donation to the township is moving along as well. The deed documents are being reviewed by the Delaware County Engineer's Office.

Steve Mazzi, superintendent, and Jim Hildreth, Board of Education member, from the Big Walnut Schools met with the Zoning Commission to open communications about development and how it affects the schools.

Central Ohio Symphony Concert

Join the Central Ohio Symphony for its April Concert on Saturday April 30 at 8 p.m. in Ohio Wesleyan's Gray Chapel. The concert will feature Ohio composer Deborah Netanel's

Sounds of an Ancient City based on her impressions of Jerusalem; Beethoven's monumental Emperor piano concerto with Ohio guest artist Judit Bach; and, the Romantic period variations written by Brahms based on a theme by Joseph Haydn. Contact the symphony for tickets at (740) 362-1799 or (888) 999-2676. You can also e-mail them at mail@centralohiosymphony.org or visit their web site at www.centralohiosymphony.org.

13th Annual Chamber Community Expo

"A Business, Health, Civic & School Showcase"
Thursday, April 28, 5- 8 p.m.
Big Walnut High School

The Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce is again hosting its annual Chamber Community Expo. The event includes business, health and civic organizations, and school groups. The Chamber partners with Big Walnut Schools to host this great community event. Come learn about what your community has to offer.

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Sign up today to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Contact kingstonnews@embarqmail.com. Ask your neighbors if they are receiving the newsletter. If not, e-mail them one and encourage them to sign up so everyone is informed about local decisions and events that affect us all.

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.

Trustees Meeting (1st Tuesday) May 3
Special Election (6:30 AM-7:30 PM) May 3
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) May 6
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) May 13
Zoning Commission (3rd Wednesday) May 18
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) May 20, 27

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@rrohio.com; <http://www.PKFD.org>

ROADS & CEMETERIES

Doug Crowl, 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