

PLAIN TOWNSHIP NEWS

ISSUE 2

FALL 2007



Pamela S. Bossart, Trustee
Louis P. Giavasis, Trustee
Albert P. Leno II, Trustee
Claude W. Shriver II,
Fiscal Officer

Trick or Treat
October 28
3:00–5:00 p.m.

Township Meetings

Board of Trustees
2nd and 4th Tuesdays
of the month - 7:00 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals
1st Wednesday
of the month - 7:00 pm

Zoning Commission
Wednesday in 2nd full week
of the month - 7:00 pm

In this Issue...

- * Police Levy
- * Bicentennial
- * Fire Safety
- * Recycling
- * Historical Society
- * Zoning
- * Home Rule Resolutions
- * Road Reminders
- * Fiscal Information
- * Park Programs

A Message from the Board of Trustees

On November 6, 2007, the Plain Township Board of Trustees is seeking a 2.25 mill renewal of the current police levy, which is due to expire. Passage of this levy will result in **no new taxes** for Plain Township residents.

The Stark County Sheriff's Office currently has a contract with Plain Township, in which the Sheriff's Office provides deputies and a detective assigned exclusively to Plain Township. The Sheriff's Office provides a wide range of services, including patrolling Plain Township roads and neighborhoods and conducting investigations of criminal and civil complaints.

The Township also has a police dog, Ollie, who is trained in searching for missing persons, chasing suspects, patrolling and tracking.

Plain Township owns all the equipment used for police services, including the police cruisers. The police levy brings in approximately 1.4 million dollars

a year. This is quite a value in comparison to our neighboring townships, who spend between five and seven million dollars a year on police services.

The Board of Trustees understands the economic burdens township taxpayers are facing, and the fact that there are numerous tax issues on the ballot. However, without the passage of this levy,

Plain Township will be without policing services when the current contract expires on December 31, 2007.

The cost of this levy for the owner of a \$100,000 home for tax purposes is \$56.92 a year. Please contact the Stark County Auditor's office at **330-451-7357** if you have any questions in regards to the market value for tax purposes of your property.

Pamela S. Bossart
Louis P. Giavasis
Albert P. Leno II

**Renewal of the current
police levy will result in
no new taxes for
township residents.**

Bicentennial Committee Members Needed

Plain Township will reach its 200th year in 2009, and we need your help to plan the celebration of our past, present and future! Plain Township was created March 16, 1809. The Trustees want our bicentennial to truly be a community celebration. We are asking residents and representatives of area businesses and organizations to volunteer to serve on a Bicentennial Committee to decide how to celebrate this important milestone.

Please call the Plain Township Administration office at **330-492-4689** if you would like to volunteer to serve on the Bicentennial Committee.

Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC)

ACBC helps child burn victims and their families by providing the following:

- * special protective clothing not covered by insurance
- * non-medical items such as pets and toys lost in fires
- * bicycles that help children exercise their injured bodies
- * transportation to out-patient treatments

Many special events for child burn victims are also funded by ACBC. Your contribution of aluminum cans at the Fire Stations is greatly appreciated.



their chimneys should be inspected and cleaned prior to the start of every heating season.

- * Always use alternate sources of heat (such as portable and kerosene heaters and wood-burning stoves) with extreme caution and according to their instructions.
- * Install at least one carbon monoxide alarm near sleeping areas.

* Install working smoke alarms on every level of your home and inside each sleeping area to alert you and your family in the event of a fire.

Fireplaces/Wood Stoves:

- * Allow enough clearance between a wood burning stove and combustible materials such as walls, floors and ceilings.
- * Use a fireplace screen to prevent any sparks from reaching out and igniting nearby objects.

Heating Safety

The State Fire Marshal's Office has provided the following reminders of basic fire safety rules for home heating:

- * Have a qualified professional check your home's heating system annually. Furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves and

House Numbering Order Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Number on sign: _____

Direction of numbers on sign:

Horizontal _____

Vertical _____

Proceeds benefit the Plain Township Fire/ Medics Association

- * Never leave a fire burning unattended in the fireplace.

For Portable Space Heaters

- * When buying a space heater, look for a control feature that automatically shuts off the power if the heater falls over.
- * Never leave a heater on when you are not in the room or when you go to sleep.

Recycling

Self-service recycling is available for Stark County residents every day from dawn to dusk at the following three Plain Township sites:

- * Diamond Park, 2782 Diamond NE (west parking lot)
- * Taft & Day School grounds (on Salway NW)
- * K-Mart, 3801 Harmont NE

Separate recyclables as follows; bins are provided for each:

- * Newspapers/magazines
- * Plastics (#1 & #2)/glass
- * Food boxes
- * Aluminum/steel
- * Flat corrugated cardboard



For more information on this program or on how to dispose of other items, please call 1-800-678-9839.

911

House Numbers Available

Being able to find your residence or business is critical to aiding safety professionals in responding to an emergency. Residents can obtain signs with a blue metal background and large reflective numbers to aid in locating addresses.

To order, send the order form and a \$14 check to:

Plain Township Paramedics,
3625 Middlebranch NE, Canton, OH 44705. Please call 330-492-4089 with any questions.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Private:

Student to age 18 \$5

Individual \$10

Family \$20

Patron \$50

Sustaining \$100

Contributing \$250

Donor \$500

Life Time \$1000 (one payment)



Business:

Non-Profit \$25

Bus/Patron \$50

Bus/Sustaining \$100

Bus/Contributing \$250

Bus/Donor \$500

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Class of Membership: _____

Make check payable to:

Plain Township
Historical Society

Please remit to:

Ruby Bair, Treasurer
1525 Applegrove St. NE
Canton, OH 44721

Historical Society

The Plain Township Historical Society is looking for old abstracts on homes, farms, or buildings in Plain Township to be saved in our historical library. Please call Judy at 330-492-3566 or Tom at 330-494-6187 with this information.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 7:00 p.m. at the Plain Township, 2600 Easton St. NE. The meetings and programs are open to the public.

Oil Recycling Just Makes Sense

Did You Know?

- ★ Just one gallon of used oil can contaminate one million gallons of water.
- ★ If you recycle just two gallons of used oil, it can generate enough electricity to run the average household for almost twenty-four hours. Also, used oil can be re-refined into base stock for lubricating oil.

Things To Know

- ★ Recycling used oil allows us to continue to enjoy what many of us take for granted every day—clean water.
- ★ Used oils can be reprocessed into fuel that can be used in furnaces for heat; or in power plants to generate electricity for homes, schools, and businesses.

Recycled used oil probably touches your life every day—without you even knowing it. We all benefit from recycling used motor oil. From augmenting our oil supplies and helping to generate heat, to protecting the environment—recycling oil just makes good sense.

For More Information:

Go to: www.timetorecycle.org, click on **Hazardous Waste**, and type in your zip code.

For information on dumping during normal business hours, contact the Road Department at **330-492-3423**. After hours, contact the Health Department at **330-493-9904**.

Local Drop-Off Sites:

Advanced Auto Parts

2314 Columbus Road NE
Canton, OH 44705
(330) 588-8813

AutoZone

4213 Cleveland Avenue NW
Canton, OH 44709
(330) 492-8531

Jiffy Lube

141 Applegrove Street NE
Canton, OH 44721
(330) 494-8397

WalMart Tire & Lube Center

3200 Atlantic Blvd. NE
Canton, OH 44705
(330) 489-9185

WalMart Tire & Lube Center

4572 Mega Street NW
Canton, OH 44720
(330) 305-0238



Fall Yard Debris

With the Fall season upon us, the Zoning Department has begun receiving phone calls regarding leaves. Please be advised that there are no zoning regulations regarding leaves and/or leaf clean up.

Plain Township provides two yard waste recycling drop-off sites (locations, dates and times for these sites are provided on page 8 of this newsletter). If you know of a Plain Township resident needing assistance, why not lend a helping hand or call a local church or charitable organization for volunteers?



Board Positions Available

The Trustees are accepting letters of intent from persons interested in filling expiring terms for the Board of Zoning Appeals

and Zoning Commission. One position to each Board will be appointed for a five (5) year term beginning January 2008.

Interested persons must be legal residents of Plain Township and must be able to devote up to three (3) evenings per month to hear variance, conditional use, or rezoning requests. Zoning knowledge is preferred but not required.

Letters of intent should be accompanied by a resume and may be mailed to the Zoning Director, 2600 Easton Street NE, Canton, Ohio 44721 or dropped off in person between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Letters of intent will be accepted until Monday December 3, 2007.



Zoning Certificate of Conformance

For all commercial property owners and/or tenants - A Certificate of Conformance Permit is required prior to anyone occupying a building in a Business, Office, or Industrial District.

A new permit is required for any change in business use, change of ownership, or change of tenant.

You can pick up an application at the Plain Township Zoning Department. Any and all Township businesses must have this Certificate hanging on their wall. If your business does not have one, please contact us as soon as possible.

Home Rule Resolutions

In 1991, Plain Township became a home rule township. The home rule designation allows the township to exercise limited powers of self-government and limited police powers.

Plain Township has several home rule resolutions on various subjects, including animal regulations, park rules, and obstructions in the right-of-way.

All of these home rule resolutions can be read in their entirety on our website:

www.plaintownship.com
under the heading **Our Township and Home Rule.**

All home rule resolutions are enforced by the Stark County Sheriff's Office, **330-430-3800.**

Adult Community CPR

The Plain Township Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with the Plain Township Fire Department, is offering Adult Community CPR training to residents ages 18 and older.

You will learn the basic skills necessary to perform CPR, assist a choking victim, and proper use of an Automatic External Defibrillator or AED. This class will be taught by a member of the Fire Department.



The class will be conducted on the indoor field at Diamond Sports Complex on **Sunday, October 14, 2007 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Diamond Sports Complex is located at 2782 Diamond St. N.E.

There is no cost for this class. To ensure a successful class, we are requiring a minimum of 10 participants.

Plain Township Paving 2007

Our 2007 Plain Township Paving and Road Repair Project and Gutter Replacement Program is now complete. Approximately eleven miles of roadway were repaved and one mile of curb and gutter was completed. We would like to thank our residents for their patience with any inconvenience that may have occurred.

Storm Sewer Projects

The Board of Trustees recently passed a resolution to go forward with the Brookhaven Storm Sewer Project to help relieve flooding in the area. Construction will begin soon.

In September, bids should also be going out for the 30th Street Storm Sewer Project. We hope



to complete the project this year to help the residents with flooding issues.

Sight Obstructions

Please trim back your trees, bushes, hedges, etc. that can cause a sight problem for drivers as the courts have determined that there may be a joint liability between the owner and the governmental agency for hazards in the right-of-way.

Right-of-Way Obstructions

Please remember that trash cans, and portable or permanent basketball hoops cannot be placed in the road right-of-way. According to ORC Section 3767.15, no obstruction can be placed in the right-of-way.



Prevent Drainage Problems

Please remember not to rake leaves, grass clippings, or other debris into storm sewers, ditches or streets. Keeping storm sewers and ditches clean will help reduce drainage problems. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Please also remember that it is illegal to dump oil, antifreeze, herbicides, pesticides or other hazardous products into ditches, culverts or catch basins. All violators will be prosecuted. If you see dumping taking place, please report it to the Stark County Health Department at 330-493-9904.

From the Fiscal Officer:

The Plain Township Trustees will be submitting their budget request to the Stark County Budget Commission for the fiscal year 2008 in September.

The proposed budget of \$18,304,100 is a 2% increase over 2007. In the General Fund, monies are budgeted for Plain Township's share of the Applegrove widening project and several storm sewer projects which will help eliminate water problems in the Township. Income from estate taxes will again be used to pay down the loan on the Schneider Park property that was purchased in 2006. A total of \$1,726,031 is needed in the Police District Fund to continue our current contract service with the Stark County Sheriff's Department for 2008. With the passage of the Road levy, funds will be available to add additional streets for paving in 2008. The Fire Department is continuing its plan to upgrade equipment and services to the residents of Plain Township. The Parks Department began planning new programs in 2007 for area residents and will continue in 2008, bringing attention to our wonderful facilities at Alpine Park and Diamond Park. In 2008, plans will be started for the development of the new park area on Schneider Street.

For senior citizens, disabled person and surviving spouses who own their homes, we would like to make sure you are aware of the expanded homestead exemption available to you on your real estate taxes. The expanded program provides an exemption from real property taxes on the first \$25,000 of an eligible taxpayer's homestead. Prior to 2007, there were income limits but Governor Strickland removed these limits for 2007 and after. Please contact the Homestead Office of the Stark County Auditor at 330-451-7323 or 330-451-7949 for more information. The form is available on the Stark County Auditor's website: www.auditor.co.stark.oh.us. Depending on your taxing district, your savings can be anywhere from \$100 to \$400 per year. The deadline each year to file this form is October 1.

Claude "Skip" Shriver II, Plain Township Fiscal Officer
Jo Ellen Reikowski, Finance Director



Indoor Soccer

Both recreational and competitive indoor soccer leagues are offered at the Diamond Community Park, 2782 Diamond St. NE. Visit the Parks Department's page on Plain Township's website: www.plaintownship.com for league fees and registration forms, or call 330-499-0000 for more information.



Competitive League

Competitive indoor soccer begins on November 4, 2007. This league is for skilled players in the following divisions: U-10, U-12, U-14, High School Boys, High School Girls, Adult CO-ED and Open Men's. The registration deadline is October 26, 2007.

Recreational Soccer

The recreational league also begins November 4. Players in first through sixth grades may participate. The goal is to expose kids to the game of soccer in a safe and fun environment.

Parents and guardians may volunteer to coach a team and receive your child's registration for free! Register upstairs at the Diamond Sports Complex from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on October 6 and 13.

Kidz Kickin' It

Looking for a new and exciting sport for your little ones? Kidz Kickin' It, for children ages three and older, is just the program for you! Join Dianna Wright on Friday mornings at the Diamond Community Indoor Sports Complex to learn the basics of kickball and teamwork.

When: Fridays, September 28 - November 2, 2007, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Where: Diamond Sports Complex

Fee: \$12.00 per child

Free Preschool Program

Are you looking for a way to help your little ones better understand what is going on in the big world around them? Join Dianna Wright for a series of classes that bring the grown-up world to a preschool level. The children will learn from six special guests about how everyone must work together for the community, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, bankers, teachers and nurses.

When: Tuesdays, November 6 - December 11, 2007, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Where: Diamond Sports Complex

Fee: There is no cost for this program



Walking Club

Come enjoy a walk on the field inside Diamond Sports Complex. Walk fast, slow or however you wish. Twelve laps around the indoor field equal one mile. For an even tougher challenge, walk upstairs to the Mezzanine, then across and down to equal one lap. To help keep the field clean, please bring separate walking shoes that can be worn while inside.

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 2 - December 13, 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Where: Diamond Sports Complex

Fee: There is no cost for this program

Cake Decorating

Welcome to the world of cake decorating! You and the whole family can express your creativity and make a proud contribution to holiday festivities, picnics, or just dinner! In four short weeks, you will learn how to decorate cupcakes, cookies and favors. You will be required to bring a cake each week and we will provide all the necessary tools and supplies to make each treat as beautiful as it is tasty.

When: Wednesdays, November 28 - December 19, 2007, 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Where: Diamond Community Room

Fee: \$35.00 per individual or family (includes all tools and supplies)



To register for Park Programs, please call 330-499-0000 or visit our website: www.plaintownship.com

Informational Classes for Seniors

The following information classes will be offered this fall at the Diamond Community Park. All classes are free, with the exception of Senior Citizen Self Defense.

Identity Theft Protection

Instructor Greg Hockenberry received the Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist Certificate from the Institute of Fraud Risk Management, one of the first and best Identity Theft courses available in the U.S. Come learn how to protect yourself from Identity Theft!
Thursday, October 4, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and from 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.



Understanding Long Term Care Choices

Dianna Wright has been working in the financial industry for ten years, has her State of Ohio Life, Health, and Annuities license and specializes in Medicare Supplement plans and Long Term Care policies. It's her goal to help seniors find out about any assistance they qualify for and help them get it!
Thursday October 11, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and from 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

Senior Citizen Self Defense

Sergeant Chad Cunningham is a team leader on the University of Akron's Special Responses Team and educates the community by providing safety and security presentations on a wide variety of topics. He has helped many senior citizens and would be happy to assist you as well!
Thursday October 18, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and from 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.
Cost: \$5.00 per participant; minimum: 10 participants

Undiscovered Benefits



A representative from the Area Agency on Aging will share many options available to both our older adults and their caregivers! There are so many programs out there that can help; however, knowing where to find them and understanding them can be a challenge.
Thursday October 25, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and from 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

Understanding Medicare

Scott Heather has been working in the insurance industry for 17 years. He is a Certified Senior Advisor as well as a Chartered Senior Financial Planner. He will explain Medicare in a way that makes it easy to understand. It is his goal to help seniors find out about any assistance they qualify for and help them get it.
Thursday November 1, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and from 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

To register for Park Programs, please call 330-499-0000 or visit our website: www.plaintownship.com

Park Reservations

Please note: There have been some important changes to the reservation policies for the two outdoor shelters at Alpine Park and the Diamond Community Room. Current policies for reservations include the following:

Alpine Park Shelters

Dates available for reservation:

Up to one year in advance

Cost to Township residents: None

Cost to non-residents: \$25.00 per day, per shelter

Diamond Community Room

Dates available for reservation:

Currently: All dates in 2007

On December 1, 2007: December 1, 2007 – April 1, 2008

On January 1, 2008: All dates in 2008

Cost to Township residents: \$25.00 refundable deposit

Cost to non-residents: \$25.00 refundable deposit, plus \$50.00 per day (not refundable)

Call 330-492-4689 to make reservations for Alpine or Diamond.

Contact List

Elected Officials

Trustees 330-492-4689
 Fiscal Officer/Finance 330-493-1366
 County Commissioners 330-451-7371

Fire and Rescue

Fire Administration 330-492-4089
 Emergency Calls 911

History

Historical Society 330-494-6187

Parks/Recreation

Township Parks 330-499-0000
 Diamond Comm. Rm. 330-492-4689
 Shelters (Alpine Park) 330-492-4689
 Community Soccer 330-499-2222
www.communitysoccerclub.com
 Holly Hills Baseball 330-493-6010
 Plain Local Baseball 330-218-3234
 Plain Local Softball 330-244-0862
 Midget Football 330-966-2475
www.plainlocalfootball.org

Police

Stark County Sheriff 330-430-3800

Real Estate Records

County Auditor 330-451-7334

Recycling

Stark Co. Recycling 330-451-7808
 Solid Waste District 1-800-678-9839

Road/Storm Sewer Maintenance

County Roads 330-477-6781
 State Roads 330-452-0365
 Township Roads 330-492-3423
 I-77 Project 1-866-ROADWISE

Schools

Canton City 330-438-2500
 North Canton 330-497-5600
 Plain Local Admin. 330-492-3500
 Plain Bus Garage 330-492-1918

Sanitary Sewers

Sanitary Engineering 330-451-2303

Septic Systems/Water Wells

County Health Dept. 330-493-9904

Voter Registration/Information

Board of Elections 330-451-8683

Water Service

Canton Water 330-489-3315
 North Canton Water 330-499-4801

Zoning/Building Permits

Township Zoning 330-492-4686
 County Building 330-451-1770

PLAIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

2600 Easton Street NE, Canton, OH 44721-2655

PRSR STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT #277
 CANTON, OH

Administration: 330-492-4689
Finance: 330-493-1366
Fire/Rescue: 330-492-4089
Parks/Rec: 330-499-0000

Road: 330-492-3423
Sheriff: 330-430-3800
Zoning: 330-492-4686

E-mail: general@plaintownship.com or
 visit our website for an e-mail directory
 Website: www.plaintownship.com

Leaf and Yard Waste Recycling

Unassisted yard waste drop-offs are available at two locations. Leaves, branches and other yard waste are accepted and may be loose or in paper bags. Please, no plastic bags.

Fire Station #4, 2855 Easton St. NE

- ★ Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- ★ Open Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays through Oct. 14.
- ★ Open seven days a week Oct. 15 through Dec. 1
- ★ Closed for Thanksgiving Nov. 22 through 25
- ★ Open Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays after Dec. 1

Warstler Brothers Landscaping, 4125 Salway Ave. NW

- ★ Summer hours will continue throughout the fall season
- ★ Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- ★ Open Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- ★ Closed for Thanksgiving Nov. 22 through 25

