

PLAIN TOWNSHIP NEWS

ISSUE 1

SPRING 2005



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



Meeting Times

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

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- Yard Waste Drop-off
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- Recycling Information

A Message from the Board of Trustees

The Plain Township Board of Trustees recently adopted changes to minimum lot size requirements in several residential zoning districts. The zoning amendment was adopted following extensive public hearings and becomes effective on March 10. However, any lots of record within a 90-day period following the adoption will be “grandfathered” to allow the final recording of those developments now in the review process.

The recent increase in lot sizes is only one part of an ongoing effort to upgrade zoning regulations in Plain Township. Implementation of many of the recommendations in the Township’s Comprehensive Mini Master Plan, adopted several years ago following extensive input from residents, has already been completed. An appointed Zoning Resolution and Review Committee has been working for over a year and is expected to finalize a draft of additional recommendations to present to the Trustees in

the near future. The Board will subsequently schedule public hearings and provide an opportunity for citizens to learn more about possible changes and make comments.

Some of the changes being discussed by the Review Committee include further upgrade to regulations for planned unit development (PUD) and other multifamily residential districts; updating the Zoning Resolution to conform to changes in State Law; and updating sign and parking regulations.

Some of the Committee’s recommendations have already been adopted by the Trustees, including “buffer-yard” requirements to provide protection for residential properties from non-residential uses and stricter requirements for mining operations.

Pamela S. Bossart
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Yard Waste Drop-off

The yard waste drop-off at Fire Station #4 (2855 Easton St. NE) will reopen on March 21. The site will be open Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. No plastic bags are accepted, and yard waste must be unloaded and unbagged by residents.

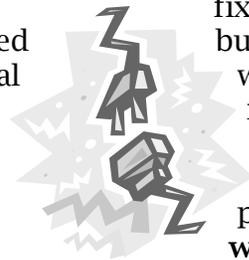
Electrical Hazards



Summertime increases the demand for electricity and raises the risk of fire in homes with older or damaged wiring systems. Since electricity is uniquely unforgiving and can cause serious injuries or death, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) are joining together to encourage consumers to protect their homes from electrical problems.

This summer, CPSC and ESFI are encouraging homeowners to:

- 1) have an electrical inspection conducted for homes 40 years and older, for homes 10 years and older with major renovations or new appliances added, or that have been resold;
- 2) learn the potential hazards posed by aluminum wiring systems and contact CPSC if your home is among the two million built with aluminum wiring between the late 1960s and early 1970s; and
- 3) consider installing arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) in place of ordinary circuit breakers, especially if your home is over 40 years old. AFCIs are new technology designed to prevent electrical fires by sensing unseen electrical arcing. AFCIs are particularly important where wiring may have degraded with age.



It is important for homeowners to understand the severity of an electrical wiring fire, as it often begins behind a wall, in a basement or in the attic where the fire can spread throughout the home before setting off the smoke alarm or becoming evident to the occupants. This reduces the amount of time available to escape a burning building.

Below are additional safety tips to help homeowners create the safest home possible:

- Make sure smoke alarms are installed on every floor outside sleeping areas and in every bedroom, and are in good working order.
- Look for telltale signs of electrical problems such as dimming of lights, frequent circuit breaker trips or blown fuses.
- Ask a qualified electrician if your home would benefit from AFCI protection, especially during inspections of older homes or upgrades to electrical systems.
- Limit the use of extension cords, particularly cords used to power room air conditioners.
- Use light bulbs that are the proper wattage for the fixture - higher wattage bulbs can degrade the wires in and around the fixture.

For more safety tips and information, please visit: www.electrical-safety.org

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 form below and a \$14 check to: **Plain Township Paramedics**, 3625 Middlebranch NE, Canton, OH 44705.

Please call Fire and Rescue at **330-492-4089** with any questions.



Poison Prevention

National Poison Prevention Week, this year held March 20 through 26, is alerting a new generation of parents that each year there are approxi-

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

(Continued from page 2)

mately 30 deaths and nearly 1,000,000 incidents in which children under 5 are exposed to potential poisons.

The Poison Prevention Week Council believes that almost every child poisoning could be prevented. Here are the basic poison prevention tips that every person should check during National Poison Prevention Week:

1. Keep all chemicals and medicines locked up and out of sight.
2. Use child-resistant packaging properly by closing the container securely after each use or choosing child-resistant blister cards, which do not need to be re-secured.
3. Call **800-222-1222** immediately in case of poisoning. Keep on hand a bottle of ipecac syrup but use it only if the poison center instructs you to induce vomiting.
4. When products are in use, never let young children out of your sight, even if you must take them along when answering the phone or doorbell.
5. Keep items in original containers.
6. Leave the original labels on all products, and read the label before using.
7. Do not put decorative lamps and candles that contain lamp oil where children can reach them. Lamp oil can be very toxic if ingested by young children.
8. Always leave the light on when giving or taking



medicine. Check the dosage every time.

9. Avoid taking medicine in front of children. Refer to medicine as “medicine,” not “candy.”
10. Clean out the medicine cabinet periodically and safely dispose of unneeded or outdated medicine.

For a free packet of poison prevention publications, visit: www.poisonprevention.org

Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC)

ACBC was started in 1985. The program’s goal was to provide funding to help burn-ed children and their families emotionally and physically re-turn to normal lives. ACBC has grown to include dozens of programs in cities throughout the United States. In 1986, the Stark/Summit ACBC program was started and is one of the most successful in the nation.

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 home fires
 - bicycles that help children exercise their injured bodies
 - transportation to outpatient treatments
- Many special events and programs for child burn victims are also funded by ACBC:
- annual holiday party
 - summer burn camp
 - fire safety education

programs that help prevent future tragedies



- plus an annual weekend outing for adult burn patients who have been treated at the Akron Regional

Burn Center.

Through your donations of aluminum cans and fund-raising events, we are able to

Clean Water—Everybody’s Business

Ten Things You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution:

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks and roads
- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard
- Compost your yard waste
- Avoid pesticides; learn about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Direct downspouts away from paved sources
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
- Check car for leaks, and recycle motor oil
- Pick up after your pet
- Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly

For more information, visit: www.epa.gov/nps

- We have been working very hard at finalizing the plans for the new storm sewer system on Bellview between Market and Marelis. If everything goes right from here, construction may start in Spring 2005.
- We wish to thank all township residents for their patience during this long winter snow and ice season. About 4,500 tons of salt were used while performing our jobs, keeping all 167.5 miles of township roads safe. We appreciate all the "thank you" notes and phone calls.
- The severe weather has taken a toll on the roads. Road crews are patching potholes as quickly as we are made aware of them. If you see a pothole on a township-maintained road, please call 330-492-3423.
- We will begin evaluation of roads and concrete gutters for paving and replace-



- ment. If concrete gutters are to be replaced, a letter will be sent to residents stating approximate time of construction and phone numbers to report problems during construction.
- The road crew will be sweeping all township streets beginning the second week of March, if the weather allows.
 - Yard repairs from snow-plow damage will begin the last week of April when topsoil becomes available.
- Asphalt curb repair will start in June.

2004 Year End Report

During 2004, the Road Department crew completed 5,092 work order requests for services such as patching, street sweeping, catch basin repairs, curb repairs, drainage, vactoring, roadside mowing, snowplowing and deicing of township roads.

The Road Department also completed the following work:

- paved 13.1 miles of roads
- replaced 4,934 feet of concrete curb and gutter
- striped 23 miles of center-line markings and 39 miles of edge line markings
- crack sealed approximately 3.72 miles of road
- installed, repaired or replaced 6,699 feet of culvert pipe
- installed 72 new catch basins
- repaired 205 existing catch basins
- repaired, replaced and installed 5,300 feet of asphalt curb
- repaired or replaced 305 street signs



Road Maintenance

Following is a list of some roads maintained by entities other than Plain Township.

STREET	FROM	TO	MAINTAINED BY	PHONE
38TH ST NW	CLEVELAND	ORCHARDALE	CANTON	330-489-3030
38TH ST NW	ORCHARDALE	WHIPPLE	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
44TH ST	CLEVELAND	PLAIN CENTER	CANTON	330-489-3030
55TH ST	LINDFORD NE	SR 43	CANTON	330-489-3030
55TH ST	MIDDLEBRANCH	HARMONT	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
APPLEGROVE	MARKET	N CANTON LTS	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
BENTLER	EASTON	COLUMBUS	NIMISHILLEN TWP	330-875-7275
COLUMBUS RD	US 62	NIMISHILLEN TWP	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
DIAMOND ST	MIDDLEBRANCH	MARKET	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
EASTHILL	FRAZER	MAIN ST	NORTH CANTON	330-499-1528
EASTON	NIMISHILLEN TWP	MARKET	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
HARMONT	55TH ST	COLUMBUS	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
MARTINDALE RD	MIDDLEBRANCH	30TH NE	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
MIDDLEBRANCH	US 62	LAKE TWP	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781
MT PLEASANT	CLEVELAND	MARKET	LAKE TWP	330-877-9479
MT PLEASANT	CLEVELAND	PITTSBURG	LAKE TWP	330-877-9479
SR 43 (MARKET)	CANTON CTY LTS	MT PLEASANT	ODOT	330-452-0365
WERNER CH	MIDDLEBRANCH	STATE ST	STARK COUNTY	330-477-6781

Healthy Ohioans Fitness Walk—May 19th at Noon

Plain Township Parks & Recreation, in partnership with the Governor’s Advisory Council on Physical Fitness, Wellness and Sports, would like to invite all community members to join us in Ohio’s first statewide “Healthy Ohioans Fitness Walk.”

The fitness walk will take place at Diamond Community Park at 2782 Diamond St. NE, at noon on Thursday, May 19, 2005. The challenge to all Ohioans is to collectively walk one million miles this day! Let’s do our part as a community and participate in a 20-minute, one-mile walk, to help reach this goal! If you cannot make it at noon, walk any time during the day! Or, if you cannot join us at Diamond Park, but would still like to participate in this event, please log on to:

www.healthyohioans.org and click on the “Healthy Ohioans Fitness Walk” link. For more information on our local event, please contact Sam Tuttle, Parks & Recreation Manager at **330-499-0000**.



Community Soccer

The Community Soccer season will begin Saturday, April 16. Anyone registering after March 6 will be put on a waiting list for the league. For more information, contact Community Soccer Club at **330-499-2222** or, on the web: **www.communitysoccerclub.com**

2005 Park Reservations

Reservations for the Diamond Community Room and the outdoor shelters at Alpine Park are currently being taken for 2005 dates.



Diamond Community Room is located at the Diamond Community Park, 2782 Diamond St. NE, and has a maximum capacity of 46.

There are six round tables with chairs, a microwave, refrigerator, and sink. There is a refundable \$25.00 deposit for using the room.

Alpine Park, located at Alpine and Pinetree NE, has two outdoor shelters which seat around 50 each. Call **330-492-4689** to make reservations for either park.

Clerk’s Corner

330-493-1366

Financial Report

Plain Township’s financial report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2004 has been filed with the Auditor of the State of Ohio. Copies may be requested by contacting the Plain Township Clerk’s office at **330-493-1366**.

The following is a comparison of the total operating receipts, expenditures, ending cash balances and encumbrances for the years 2003 and 2004:

	<u>Calendar Year 2003</u>	<u>Calendar Year 2004</u>
Total Receipts	\$8,697,581.57	\$ 10,013,806.30
Total Expenditures	7,393,845.98	8,451,695.29
Ending Cash Balance	4,303,115.98	5,609,594.90
Reserve for Encumbrances	621,942.36	419,680.69

For the year 2005, the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources certified for Plain Township totals \$14,882,632.21 and was appropriated as follows:

General Fund	\$2,166,077.07
Road Department	3,261,492.86
Fire Department	6,654,754.92
Ambulance & EMS Fund	404,796.19
Parks Department	235,700.52
Police Department	1,471,850.66
Zoning Department	69,763.41
Internal Service Fund - Medical Insurance	547,704.43
Fiduciary Funds	27,342.15
Special Assessments - Street Lighting	30,000.00
Underground Storage Tank Liability Fund	11,000.00
Cemetery Fund	2,150.00

Claude “Skip” Shriver II, Plain Township Clerk
Jo Ellen Reikowski, Finance Director

Phone List

Elected Officials	
Twp. Trustees	330-492-4689
Twp. Clerk/Finance	330-493-1366
County Commissioners	330-451-7371
Fire and Rescue	
Fire Administration	330-492-4089
Emergency Calls	911
Health Issues	
County Health Dept.	330-493-9904
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	330-494-8250
Holly Hills Softball	330-493-8441
Plain Loc. Baseball	330-218-3234
Plain Loc. Softball	330-477-9500
Midget Football	330-966-2475
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	330-451-2370

PLAIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

2600 Easton Street NE, Canton, OH 44721-2655

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

Administration:	330-492-4689	Planning:	330-492-4689
Finance/Clerk:	330-493-1366	Road:	330-492-3423
Fire/Rescue:	330-492-4089	Sheriff:	330-430-3800
Parks/Rec:	330-499-0000	Zoning:	330-492-4686

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

Recycling Information

Two self-service recycling sites in Plain Township are open seven days a week, dawn to dusk, located at:

- Diamond Park, 2782 Diamond NE (west parking lot)
- Taft & Day School grounds (located on Salway NW)

The recycling bins are labeled as follows, and recyclables should be sorted accordingly:

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

Please call Stark County Recycling at **330-451-7808** with any questions. For information on disposal of items not included in this program, please call the Joint Solid Waste Management District at **1-800-678-9839**.