



**Family Fun Movie Night at the  
Firehouse**

**Friday August 12th @ Dusk**

**Board of Trustees**

- ◆ Ron Chapman, Chairman
- ◆ Jack Rausch, Vice Chairman
- ◆ Don McCreary

**SPRING CLEAN UP SATURDAY MAY 7TH**

Spring Clean Up is set for Saturday, May 7th beginning at 7:00 a.m. and running until 5:00 p.m. at the Allen Township Community Complex. Due to landfill regulations, we are unable to accept the following items: tires, batteries, appliances containing Freon, rolls of fence wire, wood & yard debris. Metal drums must have both ends removed. If you have paint cans, the can must either be empty or

the paint dried.

If you have items we are unable to take during Spring or Fall Clean Up,

Union Recyclers normally holds a Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day in the Spring. Please keep an eye out on the local paper for a date or contact Union Recyclers at 642-7283.

**Fall clean up is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th.**

As always, Township residents are encouraged to take advantage of this service. Twice a year you are provided an opportunity to get rid of old, broke or just unwanted items. There are usually extra hands at the Township to help unload your vehicle or trailer. You are not limited on how many items you can bring and if you need to make extra trips...well that is fine!!

Upcoming Dates

Township Meetings

\*meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

May 2

June 6

July 5

August 1

September 6

October 3

November 7

December 5

**Community Day Saturday September 17th**

Mark your calendars for a day of fun for the whole family. Community Day is set for Saturday September 17th.

Last year the day ended with popcorn and a movie. We were a little worried about a few sprinkles, but it cleared

up just in time and the movie was a success!

Plans will start forming for Community Day this year, and with the way the past few years have went, you can still count on good food, good people and good community fellowship. If you

want to help with the event, please give the Township a call!

Once we have more details finalized, we will publish them in the next newsletter!!

**Walking, Running, Biking...OH MY!!**

We are finally seeing signs of Spring. The grass is getting greener, the daffodils are blooming and the trees are starting to bud. Another sign of Spring and the warmer temperatures is the increase in people running, walking and riding bikes.

The Board of Trustees want to remind everyone to be safe, if you must use the roadway. They also want to remind residents there is a half mile walking path at the Township park. If you haven't taken advantage of the path, it is no longer a gravel path, it is paved. There is also a "resting" place half way around the path, just in case you need to take a break.

However, if you wish to walk or run on the roadways, here are a few tips to help keep you safe:

- Wear light, bright or reflective clothes. Refrain from wearing dark

clothes, especially during dusk or dark.

- Carry a few items with you, such as a cell phone, a small flashlight and even an I.D.
- Walk facing traffic and don't assume that all drivers see you.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Although bikes are not allowed on the walking path, here are a few safety tips to help keep you safe while taking a bike ride:

- Motorists must remember that a bike is a vehicle on the road, so obey traffic laws.
- Make sure your bike fits you and adjust as necessary.

- Ride with the traffic and use hand signals to let other drivers know you are turning. Be predictable.
- When biking with others and there is traffic, ride single file.
- Use lights/taillights if you ride in the evening. Wear reflective clothing.
- Always be ready to use your brakes.
- Ignore dogs chasing you or try to yell a firm "no". If you can't seem to get away from the dog, dismount from your bike with the bike between you and the dog.
- Wear a helmet.

**LOCK UP!!**

If you have been following the Sheriff's reports, you know there is an overall increase in home break ins during the daytime.

One of the schemes the burglars use is they will pull into your driveway and knock on the door. If you answer, they ask you if you have seen their dog. If you are not home, they will proceed to break into your resi-

dence. Among items being taken are flat screen televisions, jewelry, gaming systems, items that are portable and of value. Report any strange activity to the Union County Sheriff's Office.

If you believe you have been approached in a suspicious manner, get as much detail as possible. Vehicle description, plate

info., how many people, description of the person or persons. The more information the better.

In the meantime, make sure your home is secured. Lock all of your doors and windows before leaving the house. Always keep an eye out for your neighbors and ask them to do the same for you.

## GRASSROOTS GOVERNMENT

House Bill 153, Senate Bill 125, Senate Bill 5, House Bill 66....these are some of bills that the State of Ohio have worked on, passed or are in the works into being passed and they are bills that affect local governments such as Allen Township.

We receive monthly newsletters from the Ohio Township Association by the title of "Grassroots Clippings". It is named such, because Townships are considered to be the "Grassroots of Government". In being the grassroots, Townships keep funds in the local communities. In these newsletters, the Association keeps our Township abreast of what is going on at the Statehouse and how the laws change and how they impact the day to day operations of the Township.

One of the major changes that has materialized in the past 5-6 years is Senate Bill 66. This was a law passed under the former Governor Taft's term, which majorly changed the ability for local government entities to fund themselves. The basic part of this law was that it did away with TPP (Tangible Personal Property) taxes. If there are businesses within your government jurisdiction, their TPP tax was a large percentage of revenue received. The TPP was used to help residents fund local services. In the same bill, Governor Taft enacted a new tax structure which is called the CAT (Commercial

Activity Tax) tax. The CAT tax is imposed on business sales and is directly paid to the State of Ohio. Recognizing the impact of lost revenue to local governments, the State put a reduction schedule into place to help local governments continue doing business up until around year 2017. At which time, the CAT tax reimbursement to local governments would be totally phased out and the governments would have to find new revenues.

And now we are awaiting the finalization of Governor Kasich's budget, HB 153, in which he has also tackled the distribution of the CAT tax. In initial evaluation, he has written a new formula, which continues a distribution to local governments, which may potentially increase the timeline. The Township has not been provided any official figures of what percentage of funding we may receive and at this stage of the process it is too early to determine the full effect, good or bad.

In the uncertain future the Township is facing, for now the Township is viable. Through the years the Township stewards have carefully appropri-

ated funds and revenue, planned for the future and are prepared to make changes as necessary. The Township is weathering the storm. Unfortunately, the Township realizes it is at the mercy of the decisions made by the State.

As the Township braces for the next wave, the Township is resolved on serving the Allen Township Community to the best of its abilities for as long as the resources and the State will allow. As a Grassroots government, the Township is one of the oldest and simplest forms of government committed to its residents. Rich in heritage, sense of service and the ability to personally and responsibly serve local residents, Allen Township is more than just a "local government".

*If you want to read up on any of the bills that impact local government the Ohio Township Association has a web page at :*

*<http://www.cpmra.muohio.edu/OTAohio/> .*

# Allen Township Gazette

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MARYSVILLE, OH

PERMIT NO. 39

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR FIRE CHIEF.....

Dear Residents:

I have been with the Fire Department since it began in 1992. Doesn't seem that 19 years have gone by! Although along the way we have had some growing pains as a "newer" department, we have always done what is in the best interest for the community in which we serve. We have had phenomenal support from you and the Board of Trustees. We have kept a

balance that has worked through the years. The Trustees have continuously worked at balancing wages versus benefits to provide its staff competitive opportunities. Over the years, with the efforts of the Board of Trustees and the Staff, we have developed a respectful working relationship.

As you may have read earlier in the newsletter or have been watching on the news, you know there are legislative laws coming down the pike. We

are currently studying the tax structure and changes being made by the State of Ohio. These changes can have a significant impact on the financial stability of this Department. The most unpopular bill being enacted is Senate Bill 5. What you may not know, is this bill was written for larger governments, government entities that are much larger than ours, being the intended focus. These types of government are struggling to balance not only their budgets, but their personnel. The leaders of these entities have asked the State to help them gain control through legislative means.

As we have through the years, I would like to ensure you, the Fire Department will continue to be focused on service at an economic level provided by you, the taxpayer. Although we have not been provided official direction

of the impact of Senate Bill 5, upon initial evaluation, it is not going to have a significant impact on our day-to-day operations at our level. The Fire Department will operate as normal, train as normal, be staffed and ready because that is in the best interest for the community in which we serve.

If you want to discuss any aspect of the Fire Department operations, please do not hesitate to knock at my door.

As each year goes by, I enjoy seeing the Residents of the Community in which I serve. I sure hope you come out to Community Day and Movie Night or any gatherings we do as a Community. It is always good to see you and talk with you.

Respectfully,

*Chief Rod Goddard*



Please welcome to our Part Time Staff:  
Josh Campbell