

# Munson Township NEWS NOTES

Geauga County, Ohio

Volume XXI Issue 2 October 2019

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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(Newsletter Editor)

## **Inside this Issue**

Scenic River Trail	1
Zoning Office	2
Scholarship Program	2
Notables Remembered	2
Cemetery	2
Road Department	3
Baseball Dugouts	3
Munson Fire Department	4
Community Day Picnic	5
Upcoming Events	5
Meetings and Events	6
Contact Information	6



## **Scenic River Retreat**

### **Joint Efforts, Cooperation & Getting Things Done!**

Constructing a 1.1 mile trail in a Township park takes the joint effort and cooperation of many individuals to get the job done. As with all projects of this type, there are many steps to the process that go on behind the scenes of which residents may not be aware. The Township's Park & Recreation Board, along with the Township Trustees, try to get the community involved and this project certainly did.

The initial trail was built by the Boy Scouts as Eagle Scout projects. The trail worked well, but better stream crossings and bridge construction were needed to attract more visitors to the park and trail.

To initiate the trail renovation, research into environmental and historical matters had to be completed and important issues addressed. Because of the proximity of the Fowler's Mill Historic District and the low-lying wetland acres that make up the Scenic River Retreat, the Township was required by the Ohio History Connection (formerly the Ohio Historical Society) to conduct an archeological survey. The wetland issue had to be addressed with the Army Corps of Engineers. The Western Reserve Land Conservancy assisted the Township in making changes to the route for the trail and advised on further improvements.

After receiving the appropriate approvals, the Township hired Sumner Creeks Contracting to construct the trail improvements. The construction began in the later part of July and was completed in August.

As one can see, there were many moving parts, but even more cooperation was needed to get this project off the ground. Funding requirements led to more joint efforts. The trail improvements were underwritten by a state "Nature Works" matching grant, and through the cooperation and involvement of the Foundation of Geauga Parks who provided the funding for the match to the Township. Munson Township is deeply grateful to the Foundation of Geauga Parks for the matching grant, the first awarded to a Township park from the foundation.

The Scenic River Retreat Trail embodies the true spirit of community cooperation. The Township is grateful for the trail improvements and would truly like to thank the all the parties involved in this project.

To celebrate, the Township hosted a Guided Trail Hike open house on October 5<sup>th</sup>.



## **Road & Bridge 2.1 Mill Renewal Levy**

for the purpose of the general construction, reconstruction,  
resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads and bridges

**which generates \$130,674.00**

## From the Zoning Office



We realize that not all business owners may be aware of certain zoning regulations in the Township. In particular, Section 1201 which reads as follows:

*No person shall change any use of land, a building, or a structure, nor locate, relocate, erect, construct, reconstruct, enlarge or structurally alter any building or structure within Munson Township without first obtaining a Zoning Certificate. No Zoning Certificate shall be issued unless the plans for the proposed building or structure or use of land fully comply with the provisions of this Resolution, unless the Zoning Inspector receives a written order from the Board of Zoning Appeals deciding an appeal, a variance or conditional use.*

To clarify, when a new business is established or there is a change of use of any building or structures, the owner or new tenant must apply for a zoning certificate. The purpose of this is to ensure that the new business or change of use is permitted and in compliance with zoning, signage and the County Building Department. All of which in turn, ensures the health, safety and welfare of the Township.

Please do not hesitate to call with any questions or for clarification on any of the above. The Zoning Office hours are from 9:00am to 3:00pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or by appointment.

## Scholarship Program

Munson Township is offering a minimum of two scholarships for the 2020-21 school year. The Township's Scholarship Program was established in 2005. Proceeds from our Community Day Picnic, Flea Markets and any scholarship-specified donations fund this program. Any Munson resident that will be a graduating senior in 2020 is eligible to apply. Applications will be available late October and can be obtained from your school's guidance department, Munson Township's office between 9am-3pm weekdays or download at [www.munsontwp.com](http://www.munsontwp.com).

## Munson Notables Remembered

Munson resident Sophie Horvath was instrumental in helping identify and honor senior Munson residents who either through their public or private lives contributed to Munson's rich heritage. Township Trustees and staff held several gatherings at the Notre Dame Provincial Center from 2003 through 2011 honoring the Notables. We are sad to say that Sophie passed away in September. She served on the Township's Board of Zoning Appeals and wrote a column called *Munson News* for the *Geauga County Maple Leaf* for several years.

Unfortunately, many of our past Notables are no longer with us. The following is a complete list of those honored over the years: Ruth Hawkins, Helen Stewart, Roger Emmons, Richard Ruth, Charlie Poutasse, Joseph & Betty Koelliker, Sister Mary Dorotheus Wise, Sister Margaret Hess, Bruce Ward, Louise Alexander, Bill Herrington, George Edgar, Bernard & Catherine Taylor, Fred & Betty Klatka, Walter & Gloria Leagan, Bill Gullo, Roy Williams, Sophie Horvath, George Collins, and Jack Schinness.

## Cemetery Rules & Regulations

Recently many decorations and plantings have taken place at the Township Cemeteries that are not permitted. Please check our website for our Cemetery Rules and Regulations. If you are unsure of what is permitted, please do not hesitate to call the Township. We take pride in maintaining our cemeteries while also allowing residents some freedom to honor their loved ones. Your attention to the rules are greatly appreciated.



24/7

### Operation Empty Medicine Cabinet

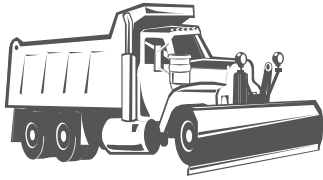
**Geauga County Sheriff's Office  
12450 Merritt Rd., Chardon**

It is important to clean out your medicine cabinet and dispose of expired and/or unused pills.

You can discard them in the drop-box located in the lobby at the Sheriff's office.

**Pills Only • No Liquids Are Accepted**

## A Change In the Guard



### Off the Road and Back to the Farm

Thank You to the residents of Munson Township for the privilege to serve you as your Road Superintendent and Maintenance Supervisor for the past 20+ years. I have made many great friends and memories over the years but now I'm on to my next adventure (retirement).

Sincerely,  
Jim Teichman (Big Jim)

### Welcome Kirk Walker

Kirk and his wife Denise built their home in Munson in 1988 on his grandparents farm that they settled on in 1924. They have three grown sons, Kirk Jr., Cody and Logan along with 2 grandchildren.

Kirk has always been involved with the community through coaching baseball, hunters education and 4H. He looks forward to serving Munson Township for many years to come.

## New Baseball Field Dugouts

The upgrade of baseball and softball facilities continued at Munson Township Park this past spring. This year, the existing wooden structures at the varsity baseball field were demolished and replaced with larger concrete dugouts. The new dugouts also included secure space to store field preparation equipment.

Chardon resident Stewart Landies led this effort for the second year in a row. He was supported by a host of generous donors (listed below). Started in March, the work was completed in time for use by Chardon High School boy's baseball team in early April.

Future plans include the installation of Chardon High School logos and outfield windscreens.

#### List of donors:

William E. and Mary F. Conway  
Covia/Best Sands  
Russo and Sons  
NDC Corsillo Plumbing  
Residence Artists

**Munson Township thanks all involved with the funding and construction of this project.**  
**Thank you!**

## Road Department



Helpful information to help us get through the seasons ahead.

**LEAVES** - Leaves from residents' yards should not be raked or blown into the roadside ditch. Leaves plug the culverts, stopping the flow of water that leads to erosion and washouts of road edge berms, driveways, and sometimes roadways. The alternative is to compost the leaves and use the compost for flower beds and gardens next year.

**DRIVEWAYS** - New concrete or asphalt driveways are a great way to improve your property. If they are improperly installed, these driveway surfaces, especially at the adjoining road surface, in relation to finished height, may lead to many problems such as: water not pitched to flow to the ditch line and out into the road or berm, therefore causing a build-up in colder weather; and driveway ending height above the road edge may cause damage to snowplows and to the surface itself.

**SNOW REMOVAL** - Though prohibited by Ohio law, the practice of pushing snow across the roadway or out into the road and cul-de-sacs causing a hazard, still is a common practice by some. Please contact the responsible party at your residence and ask that this practice not continue.

**DID YOU KNOW...** Leaving a computer on all day can cost about 21 cents per day, or about \$75 per year. Unplug electronics and appliances when not in use – a task made easier by using multiple-outlet strips, which can turn everything off with the flip of a switch.



## Message From the Fire Department ...



### Live Fire Burn Training

It has been nearly 25 years since the Munson Fire Department has hosted a Live Fire Burn Training. There were twenty personnel from Munson who participated in the event. The Chardon Fire Department participated with six personnel and brought a reserve engine for the drill in case it was needed. The Hambden Fire Department participated with four personnel and brought a backup engine to establish a draft site at the neighboring retention pond at Munson Industrial Plaza. Instructors were able to simulate over fifty fires for this prepared scenario. Thankfully there were

no injuries, no damage to any equipment and everyone had positive feedback and good spirits.

Everyone involved benefited from this training experience. It took a lot of dedication to pull off this event. It is very important to train together; we work together through mutual aid and auto aid quite regularly. Munson Fire Department ended the day with a family picnic that was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Covia/Best Sand for their permission and donation of the structure for our training. Businesses like this help to make small communities what they are today.

### Issue # 13

**is a Fire Department renewal levy for Fire and EMS operations, the levy is 1.75 mills and generates \$398,902.**

### ADDRESS SIGNS

**It is critical that your address be visible from the street so that fire/EMS can locate your home in an emergency. Signs are available to order at the Munson Fire Department for a minimal cost.**

**Please call 440-286-6797 or email [d.roche@munsonfire.org](mailto:d.roche@munsonfire.org)**

### **When Purchasing Portable Space Heaters:**

- 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, and do not leave children or pets unattended around any heating source. Unplug the heater when you are not using it.
- Don't use an extension cord with an electric portable heater. The current to the heater could melt the cord and cause a fire.
- Don't plug more than one heating device into an outlet.
- Never use electric heaters near water - as in your bathroom or near a water heater.

**Fire Department Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The station is staffed 24/7 to assist you.**

## Community Day Picnic



**A BIG THANK YOU**  
goes out to the many local businesses and individuals who donated to our raffles. We raised over \$2,800 for our scholarship fund.

322 Tavern • Advanced Auto Parts • Alpine Valley • Alvord's Yard & Garden Equipment • Anytime Fitness • Andy Bushman-Trustee • Auto Zone Chardon • Aqua Doc Lake & Pond Management • Avanti Salon • Bass Lake Taverne & Inn • Buckeye Chocolates • Centerra Country Store & Co-Op • Cheng's China House Restaurant • Cold Nose Companions • D.S. Cakes & Sweets Café • Fowlers Milling Company • Geauga TV (GTV) • Guido's Restaurant • Guy's Pizza • Heather Hill • Ianiro's Bakery & Imports • Junction Auto Family • Lake County Captains • Mayfield Sand Ridge Golf Club • Mitzi Coso (Marci's Hair on the Square) • Dan McCaskey-Re/Max Traditions • Jim McCaskey-Trustee • Trustee • Irene McMullen-Trustee • NOPEC • Marybeth O'Neill-Keller Williams of Greater Cleveland • Payne & Payne Builders • Petersen & Petersen • Lenore Pikus • Playground World • Rising Sun Automotive • Royle Insurance Agency • Sage's Apples • The Carpet Company • The Scerbo Family • Frank Tercek • Sport Rack • TNT Tanning • Judy Toth • University Hospitals • YMCA-Geauga Campus

## Upcoming Events

### Halloween at the Fire Station



The Fire Department is gearing up for their annual Halloween Celebration to be held on

Thursday, October 31, from 6:00pm until 8:00pm at the Munson Fire Station. This family-friendly event is free to Munson residents and will include an obstacle course and inflatable bouncy houses for kids to play in plus candy and refreshments. Please join us for an evening of fun.

### Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus

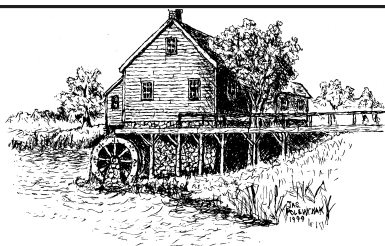
Mark your calendars for Munson Township's Annual Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at Munson Township Hall, 12210 Auburn Road.

Boy Scout Troop 91 will serve pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. Adults \$6, Children ages 4 to 12 \$4, Children under 3 are free. Pictures with Santa will be available for only \$10 per family with the proceeds going to Troop 91. Sign-up forms can be picked up at the town hall or downloaded at [munson-twp.com](http://munson-twp.com)



### Indoor Flea Market

Mark your calendars for Munson Township's Indoor Flea Market on March 21, 2020 from 9am to 2pm at the Munson Town Hall & Fire Station Bay, 12210 Auburn Road. Come and browse for that special treasure you have been searching for. Contact the Township office at 440.286.9255 with any questions. Registration forms will be available at Town Hall or at [munson-twp.com](http://munson-twp.com) in January.



**MUNSON TOWNSHIP  
NEWS NOTES**  
12210 Auburn Road  
Chardon OH 44024-9454

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**Munson Township Resident at:**

**M U N S O N   T O W N S H I P  
N E W S   N O T E S**

12210 Auburn Road  
Chardon OH 44024-9454

Phone: 440-286-9255

Fax: 440-286-1180

[munson@munsontwp.com](mailto:munson@munsontwp.com)

[www.munsontwp.com](http://www.munsontwp.com)

**Office Hours: Weekdays 9am - 3pm**

**To reach the Trustees or Fiscal Officer:**

**Andy Bushman - Trustee**      440-669-2483  
[abushman@munsontwp.com](mailto:abushman@munsontwp.com)

**Irene McMullen - Trustee**      440-286-9255  
[imcmullen@munsontwp.com](mailto:imcmullen@munsontwp.com)

**Jim McCaskey - Chair**      216-789-1436  
[jmccaskey@munsontwp.com](mailto:jmccaskey@munsontwp.com)

**Judy Toth - Fiscal Officer**      440-286-9312  
[jtoth@munsontwp.com](mailto:jtoth@munsontwp.com)

**Meetings**

**Trustees**

second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

**Zoning Commission**

check website

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

third Thursday at 6:30 pm (as needed)

**Park Board**

second Monday at 6:15 pm

**Events**

**Trick-or-Treat**

Thursday, October 31st • 6 - 8pm

**Halloween Celebration at the Fire Station**

Thursday, October 31st • Munson Fire Station 6 - 8pm

**Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus**

At Munson the Town Hall Community Room  
Saturday, December 7th • Reservation Required

For more information:  
call **440-286-9255** or go to **[www.munsontwp.com](http://www.munsontwp.com)**