

Munson Township

NEWS NOTES

Geauga County, Ohio

Volume XXVI Issue 2 October 2024

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Community Day Picnic and Scholarships Go Together

Despite the rainy weather, the picnic was a huge success and everyone had a wonderful time. Residents took a ride on the vintage Rocket Car from Euclid Beach; Rick Smith Jr. dazzled his audience with magic; kids had fun with the water balloon toss, bubble gum blowing, pie eating contest, and more; while the Brown Barn Tavern served a fabulous lunch to hungry event-goers with iScream ice cream for dessert. Through games and the Chinese Auction, \$500 Grand Prize Raffle (lucky winner was Jim Fisher), the Gift Card Board and 50/50 Raffle, we were able to raise approximately \$5,000 for our scholarship fund.



The Munson Township Scholarship Program was established by the Township Trustees in 2005 with a Resolution for the formation of the Munson Scholarship Fund. The first scholarships were awarded in 2007. Proceeds from Munson's Community Day Picnic and Flea Markets as well as any outside scholarship-specified donations are designated for funding of the scholarship program. These scholarships are made possible by donations from area businesses and the support of many Munson residents. To date, we have awarded 228 scholarships.

It is the intent of Munson Township to award a minimum of two scholarships per year. The purpose for these scholarships is to reward deserving students who have displayed above average levels of academic achievement or demonstrated outstanding citizenship. Munson Township reserves the right at their absolute discretion not to award the scholarship(s) in any given year.

Thanks to our donors and volunteers for making this possible:

**A Kid at Art for the Heart • Alvord's Yard & Garden • Amato Family
Auto Zone - Chardon • Avanti Salon • Brown Barn Tavern
Buckeye Chocolates • Cebular Family • Centerra Country Store
Cold Nose Companions • Covia - Best Sand • Farley Country Store
Fenell Orthodontics • Geauga TV (GTV) • Guido's Restaurant
Ianiro's Bakery & Imports • Junction Auto • KT Custom Logos
Marci's Hair on the Square - Mitzi Coso • Diane Malko
Bill & Chris Manning • Dan McCaskey - Re/Max Traditions
Middlefield Banking Company • Marybeth O'Neill - Keller Williams
Patterson Fruit Farm • Payne & Payne Builders • Pleasant Valley Golf
Course • Preston Superstore • Roediger Chiropractic • Sage's Apples
Salty-Salt Cave • Sport Rack • Waste Management • YMCA**

Halloween Drive-Thru at Fire Station

The Fire Department is gearing up for their annual Halloween Celebration to be held on Thursday, October 31, from 6 to 8pm at the Munson Fire Station. This is a family-friendly event for

Munson residents. Drive through the scary Fire Station bay with your children and get a sweet treat. This is a great alternative to Trick-or-Treating. Please join us for an evening of fun!



Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus



Mark your calendars for Munson Township's Boy Scout Troop 91 Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at Munson Township Hall, 12210 Auburn Road.

The Boy Scouts will serve pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. Adults \$9, children ages 4 to 12 \$6, children under 3 are

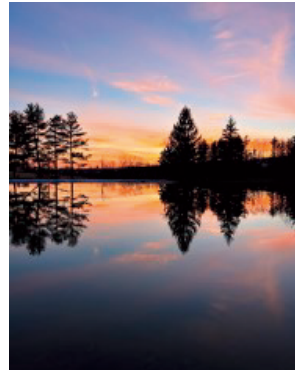
free. Pictures with Santa will be available for only \$10 per family with the proceeds going to Troop 91. Sign-up forms can be picked up at the Town Hall or downloaded at munsontwp.com

Scholarship Opportunities

Munson Township is offering a minimum of two scholarships for the 2025-26 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 who will be a graduating senior in 2025 is eligible to apply. Applications are available now and can be obtained from your school's guidance department, Munson Township's office or at munsontwp.com.

The Ohio Township Association is also offering a Scholarship Program. They will be awarding up to five high school seniors \$1,500 each for their future education. More information ohiotownships.org.

Photo Contest Winner



In the March newsletter, we asked residents to submit a photo promoting the beauty of Munson Township Parks. The photos were on display at the Community Day Picnic for residents to vote on their favorite. Munson Township resident Cody Heidnik took this picture at Scenic River Retreat on Mayfield Road. He is the winner of a \$100 Gift Card.

Congratulations Cody!

Township Cemeteries

Restoration - Restoration and cleaning of memorial monuments at both Fowlers Mill and Maple Hill cemeteries has been completed. What has been an ongoing project since 2016 came to a finish in July when Stonehugger Restoration completed their final repair of granite headstones at Maple Hill Cemetery (located at the corner of Auburn, Butternut and Cedar Roads). If you have not witnessed their work, take a drive through the older sections of both cemeteries. The transformation is remarkable.

Grave Purchases & Fees - Munson Township residents may purchase graves at the residential rate for their immediate family, defined as parents, spouse, spouse's parents and children. A single grave fee is \$400 for residents; \$1,200 for non-residents. A grave is permitted to contain one full burial and one cremains or two cremains alone.

Decoration Regulations - The Township does allow some decorations at the grave sites. However, please remember that no glass jars, vases or shepherd's hooks are allowed. Any decorative items will be removed at the discretion of the Township as well as any flowers that fade.

Reflective Address Signs & Lock Boxes

The Fire Department offers reflective address signs to residents for a \$10 donation. These signs can be horizontal, vertical, single-sided, or double-sided, displaying your address. They also assist in locating specific properties in times of need. Ask about residential lock boxes offered at no cost. These boxes allow emergency access without causing damage when seconds count - **Call 440-286-6797**.

Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste



12685 Merritt Rd.
Chardon
startrecycling.com

Electronics, Appliances & Household Hazardous Waste & Foam

Friday's ONLY- 10am-3pm

WINTER HOURS: November 1 - April 30

Geauga County residents can now recycle clean and empty foam polystyrene packaging including meat trays, cups, take-out containers, egg cartons, as well as transport packaging used to protect TVs and other valuables during shipping.

No Foam Peanuts

Foam will be collected at Collection Facilities ONLY – NOT at any recycling drop-off sites!

Foam polystyrene products should be prepared just like other recyclables, empty and clean. Remember recycle the package, not the food.

Recycling Facility Open Year- round

Did you know... We don't accept plastic chairs, yogurt cups, or strawberry containers?

Putting unacceptable items in our bins can increase our costs and potentially close recycling sites. What we can accept in our drop-off site recycling bins can change with recycling markets and as technology improves. Always check the labels on the bins before recycling.

The next Shred Event is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 9am to Noon

Call or visit our website for more info
startrecycling.com
1-800-707-2673

Road Department



Thank You Residents, for our new trucks!

Leaf Raking

Please **DO NOT** rake or blow leaves into the road-side ditches. Leaves plug culverts, stopping the flow of water, which leads to erosion and wash-outs 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.

Snow Removal

Pushing snow across the roadway or out into the road and cul-de-sacs causes a hazard and is prohibited by Ohio law. Please contact the responsible party at your residence and make them aware.

Keep Mailbox Clear

Residents must keep the area around the mailbox clear of snow or any other obstacles, like trash cans and other vehicles. The mail carrier needs to get in, and then out, without leaving the vehicle or backing up. Postal employees make every reasonable effort to deliver mail in difficult weather conditions.

Winterize Your Wheels

If you regularly venture out into heavy snow, consider swapping your traditional tires for a set of snow tires, which feature treads with large gaps that help improve traction. To preserve the tread on snow tires, wait until daytime temperatures are consistently 50° Fahrenheit or below to install them.

Hydroplaning is a major hazard - When a layer of water forms between the road and tires, your vehicle can lose contact with the road, which can lead to loss of control and serious accidents.

- Avoid cruise control
- Keep your distance
- Inspect your tires
- Wear your seat belt
- Adjust your speed
- Use your lights correctly



Message From the Fire Chief...



GOVERNMENT GRANTS

The Munson Fire Department was recently awarded a grant of \$95,238 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This award, along with additional grant money received by Munson Township under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), was used to purchase state-of-the-art Life Pack 35 Cardiac Monitors. These monitors represent the latest in technology with respect to Cardiac Monitoring Systems. Through the use of these grants and this purchase, Munson Fire is the first fire department in Northeast Ohio to deploy this technology. The new Life Pack 35 Cardiac Monitors will replace the Department's existing monitors that were nearing the end of their life cycle. With an estimated life span and support cycle of 15 years, the new Cardiac Monitors will serve Munson Township Residents and surrounding communities for many years to come.

In addition, the Munson Fire Department also recently received a grant from the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) in the amount of \$3,583.58. These funds will be used to replace critical medical and specialized equipment for sports-related injuries. The source of these funds at the State level comes from seatbelt fines and tickets.

As a standard practice, the Munson Fire Department continuously seeks out all State, Federal, and Fire Service grant opportunities that are available. This ensures that the best possible services can be provided to Munson Township Residents while responsibly managing overall operational costs.

Thank you Munson Residents for your continued support.



Scan this code to view a short video on the new Life Pack 35 Cardiac Monitors.

Munson Fire Department: 2024 Lifeline EMS Silver Award Winner

Munson Fire Department was recently recognized by the American Heart Association for its commitment to quality care for heart attacks and strokes in Munson Township. The 2024 Lifeline EMS Silver achievement award recognizes pre-hospital providers that have demonstrated a proven dedication to ensuring access to best practices and life-saving care.



CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES!



Emergency Supply Checklist

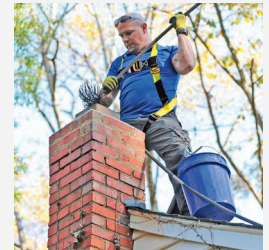
Consider keeping a list of your medications and dosages on a small card with you. Customize your kits to meet your family's needs and the season.

- Water, 1 gallon per person per day (plus water to flush your toilet)
- Food, non-perishable, easy to prepare
- Can Opener
- Medications and medical items
- Flashlight or battery-powered lanterns
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Multi-purpose tool
- Cell phone with chargers
- Extra cash

Chimney Fires

A chimney fire can be a frightening and dangerous experience. A chimney fire may produce loud crackling, rumbling or roaring noises and a red hot stove pipe. These fires can spread to the building itself, causing serious loss and endangering the lives of your family.

Chimney fires are caused when creosote, a normal by-product of burning wood, collects on the inside of the chimney and is ignited.



Have you CLEANED your Chimney this year?

Munson Fire Department Mission Statement:

To provide the most technologically-advanced fire and emergency services with the highest trained professionals and to deliver that service to our customers with loyalty and compassion.

The Munson Township Fire Department is staffed 24/7 to assist you.
Non-Emergency • 440-286-6797
fireprevention@munsonfire.org

Zoning Department

Z O N I N G RESOLUTION

In 2023, OTARMA (Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority) conducted a Risk Control visit at the Township. Part of that visit included a recommendation that all zoning resolutions should be reviewed at least once every five years to ensure the text continues to be applicable to the Township's growth and changes. Zoning resolutions should protect health, safety, and welfare. Not doing so could be considered a potential liability risk for the Township.

Upon notification, the Zoning Department and the Zoning Commission began reviewing the entire contents of the Munson Township Zoning Resolution. With the assistance of the County Planning Commission and Prosecutor's Office, the amendment process is almost complete. Shortly after the first of the new year, pending Trustee approval, the Zoning Resolution will be reprinted in its entirety and available both online and in print. Revisions have been made to Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 12. These revisions include changes, corrections, clarifications and consistency, updating of language, eliminating contradictory information and general updates in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code which governs Township zoning.

Fiscal Office

Munson residents may recall that the Township received a total disbursement of \$698,691.46 of federal funding from ARPA, the American Rescue Plan Act in 2021 and



in 2022 in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The Munson Trustees have been careful and deliberate in deciding how to allocate the funds for spending priorities. In the summer of 2023, they assigned \$133,784 to pay for the reconstruction and resurfacing of Sherman Road, a project with a total cost of \$1,063,363.

In 2024, the Trustees allocated \$265,970 toward the purchase of two new trucks (cab and chassis) for the Road Department, and another \$195,562 to outfit each truck with a dump box, snowplow, salt spreader, and necessary hydraulic packages, for a total of \$461,532.

In July the Trustees allocated \$20,000 of ARPA funds for the purchase of new fire hose to replace aging fire hoses on all Munson Fire Department trucks. And in August, they approved the purchase of critical life-saving equipment for Munson Fire Department, including two Life Pac 45 advanced cardiac monitors, two Lucas mechanical chest compression devices, Blitz portable master-stream firefighting nozzles, TNT battery-electric ram vehicle extraction equipment, and fire-tanker truck braking system equipment. The Trustees allocated \$73,487.35 of ARPA funds for these purchases.

At this time, there remains \$23,272 in the American Rescue Plan Act account available for spending.

Your Beautiful Parks

Munson Township Parks are widely used by many offering trails, picnic areas, sport venues and pavilions to rent for parties for a reasonable rate. A big thank you to the service department for cleaning up the parks and trails after the damaging early August storm.

Scenic River Retreat has a new dock on the pond, and it has had a lot of use this year. The Park & Recreation Board has requested an extension to the dock so residents can fish further out in the water. Remember, it is catch and release only. The Board continues to investigate the possibility of a boardwalk on Auburn Road connecting it to Scenic River Retreat, making it a north entrance to the park.

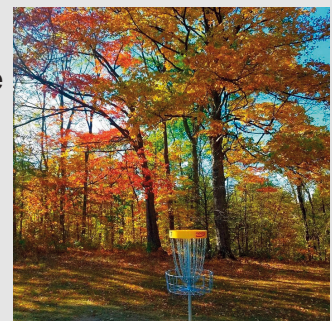
The Board, along with volunteers, have been busy establishing a 9-hole disc golf course at Nero Nature Preserve. The Township intends to have the disc golf course ready for play in spring 2025.

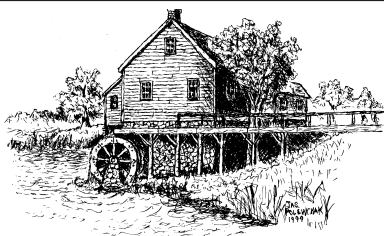
Munson Township Park
12641 Bass Lake Road

Nero Nature Preserve
12150 Bean Road

Scenic River Retreat
10900 Mayfield Road

Town Hall Park
12210 Auburn Road





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

Munson Township Resident at:

**MUNSON TOWNSHIP
NEWS NOTES**

12210 Auburn Road
Chardon OH 44024-9454

Phone: 440-286-9255

Fax: 440-286-1180

munson@munsontwp.com

www.munsontwp.com

Office Hours: Weekdays 9am - 4pm

To reach the Trustees or Fiscal Officer:

Andy Bushman - Trustee 440-669-2483
abushman@munsontwp.com

Jim McCaskey - Trustee 216-789-1436
jmccaskey@munsontwp.com

Nate McDonald - Trustee 216-973-9990
nmcdonald@munsontwp.com

Todd Ray - Fiscal Officer 440-286-9312
rray@munsontwp.com

Fire Department Non-Emergency
440-286-6797

Power Outage -The Illuminating Co.
1-888-544-4877

MEETINGS

Trustees

second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Zoning Commission

second Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

third Wednesday at 6:30 pm (as needed)

Park Board

second Monday at 6:15 pm

Check munsontwp.com for the monthly meeting schedule.

EVENTS

October 31 • Trick-or-Treat in Munson
6 to 8 pm

October 31 • Drive-Thru Halloween
6 - 8 pm • Fire Department 12200 Auburn Road

December 7 • Breakfast with Santa
Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road

March 22, 2025 • Indoor Flea Market
Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road

April 19, 2025 • Easter Egg Hunt
12641 Bass Lake Road