

MUNSON TOWNSHIP



News Notes

Volume XI Issue 2 November 2010

GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO

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 1-800-292-9284 (electric)
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www.nopecinfo.org

A Busy Summer in Munson ...

Fowlers Mill Golf Course

By now most residents are aware of the proposal that was presented and discussed in the township concerning Fowlers Mill Golf Course, but we offer here a quick recap of the project and the proposal.

Last winter, the community learned that Fowlers Mill Golf Course had been sold to a local investment group that had significant experience in residential development in the area. In late spring, the Munson trustees were approached by and engaged in a discussion with the new owners of the golf course and environmental funding consultant Chris Knopf to explore the township's interest in acquiring a portion of golf course property as part of a project in which the golf course lands would be acquired by Geauga Park District through the Environmental Protection Agency's Water Resources Restoration Sponsor Program. Munson Township would be able to purchase the golf clubhouse building and 13 acres of land for \$400,000.00.

The project was of interest to the trustees because the clubhouse building is a very attractive building that offered an exceptional, cost-effective way to address the long-term facilities needs for the community. The project offered Munson the opportunity to acquire the golf course clubhouse for use as a civic center. The WRRSP funding that would allow for restoration of over a mile of the river corridor on the

property and allow the Park District to acquire 450 acres of land, assured the preservation in perpetuity of the surrounding uplands as natural areas and green space, eliminating the potential for development of the property into subdivisions in the future. The land-protection component of the package was in clear alignment with Munson's long-term land use plan goals. The Munson Trustees agreed to participate in the project through the purchase of the clubhouse.

A nomination (application) for the competitive WRRSP program was submitted by the May deadline, with Munson's role limited to the purchase of the clubhouse building and 13 acres of land. A few weeks later the Geauga Park District Commissioners decided to back out of the project and withdraw from the nomination. With the fate of the project hanging in the balance, the Munson trustees were asked if they would be interested in assuming the applicant position in order to keep the project alive. Because of the exceptional value the project offered for Munson, the trustees decided to take over the applicant position. The Fowlers Mill project remained in the competitive pool of proposals, was evaluated along with all the other proposed projects, and in mid-July the trustees learned that the Fowlers Mill project scored well and was ranked first. The Fowlers Mill project could be funded, with public support.

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Fowlers Mill Golf Course ...

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The Munson Trustees announced the proposed project at the July 27 meeting, and invited resident feedback. A public hearing held at Notre Dame Provincial Center on August 11 allowed Munson residents and a wide array of non-resident members of the golf community from around the region to comment on the proposal, and a majority made statements that left a strong impression that they cherished the golf course more than the potential benefits that the project offered the community.

State Senator Tim Grendell, an attendee at the public hearing, offered to use his office to facilitate a gathering of the stakeholders in an effort to fashion a compromise proposal. Several meetings were held and the aggressive negotiations led to an alternative project proposal and revised nomination. The revised project would allow the golf business to continue to operate, provided for restoration of the river corridor, and assured that the uplands would be preserved if/when the golf course operation ever ended.

A second public hearing to consider the revised proposal was held at the Munson Town Hall on September 13, and was met with broader support by those in attendance. The trustees voted to support the revised proposal, and the revised nomination was submitted to the EPA the next day. A few days later, officials at Ohio EPA contacted Munson Township to inform the trustees that they had decided to kill the nomination. They stated that they felt there was not enough time remaining in the current funding cycle to complete the required legal and design work before the December, 2010, deadline to release the WRRSP funding, and they suggested the township reapply for the 2011 funding cycle.

The course owners have since indicated that they will not participate in a re-application for the project in the coming year. The trustees consider this matter closed, and will not re-enter into discussions regarding Fowlers Mill Golf Course.

Scenic River Retreat ...

Did you know? Fishing at the lake at Scenic River Retreat Park, 10900 Mayfield Road, is always open to Munson residents. You do not need a fishing license to stop by and enjoy our well-stocked lake; however, we do ask that you catch and release only, please! Also, watch for information on the Third Annual [Munson Township Fishing Contest](#) which will be held in Spring 2011. Anglers of all ages are invited to join the Munson Park and Recreation Board for a day of fishing fun at the Scenic River Retreat Park.



Scenic River has one large pavilion with picnic tables and grills. Electric will be completed for next year's picnic season.



Enjoy the beautiful scenery.



2011 Scholarships

Munson Township is offering two scholarships for graduating seniors. To be eligible, the student must be a Munson Township resident; have a cumulative GPA of 3.0; a 22 ACT or 1000 SAT score; and plan to attend an accredited 2 or 4-year college or university, or a career

or technical education institution in the Fall of 2011. Applications may be obtained from area schools or at the Town Hall, Monday through Friday between 9am and 3pm. Applications are also available on the township website. Applications must be received no later than February 1, 2011.

Message From the Fire Chief

Greetings from the Munson Fire Department! As I write this letter to you, it is hard to believe that fall has arrived and winter is nearing.

First, I would like to thank you, the Munson Township residents, for supporting our Fire Levy Renewal this year. During these hard economic times, it is good to know that our residents support the important needs of the community. We have been very frugal with our operations and have watched our spending carefully. Any time you would like to stop down and visit with the kids, please feel free.

It appeared that all of you that were able to attend our annual Halloween party had a wonderful time. It was a great success and the kids all seemed to enjoy themselves. We believe that this is a very safe alternative for our children to have some Halloween fun, and what better way to meet your neighbors. For all of those who supported us with the event, we thank you.

We would also like to send out a special thanks to the following residents and local businesses for their support in helping to make this event possible:

Andy Bushman, Munson Trustee
 Friel & Associates
 Pineview Lake
 Mayfield Road Drive-in
 ACO Polymer
 Robert & Sophie Horvath
 Geauga Surgical Association
 University Hospitals
 Frank & Mary Samide
 Dan & Irene McMullen, Munson Trustee
 SAM Landscaping, Inc.
 DeBord Plumbing
 Karate Institute
 Junction Auto
 Payne & Payne
 Troop 91
 Martha Adams
 Catholic Charities
 Four Green Fields, Inc.
 Refound Treasures
 Rising Sun Automotive
 Munson Mini Mart

We have received a new ambulance this month to replace our sixteen year old ambulance that was starting to get costly due to repairs. The longevity of an ambulance is about ten years and we are well past its life expectancy. In our efforts to save money, we purchased a demo which was last year's model and saved the Township over \$15,000.

Over the past few months it has been our great pleasure to have so many of our Residents visit the Munson Fire Department, not only to tour the station and view the apparatus, but also to take a few moments to chat with the men and women who serve this community.

As we have already mentioned, winter is just around the corner, so we would like to pass on a few winter safety tips:

Electric Blankets, Heating Pads: Never fold or roll blanket - heat will build up in wires, igniting blanket and rest of bed. Unplug and smooth flat when not in use. Don't leave a heating pad on for more than 30 minutes. Never fall asleep with it on. Set alarm clock to awaken in 30 minutes, if necessary.

Wires, Plugs & Extension Cords: Keep down the number of cords in one outlet, or cord will overheat, causing sparks. Never run cords under rugs, behind radiators or across doorways where they can become worn. Have broken cords, switches making hiccup sounds, and hot plugs professionally repaired. Don't mask problem with electrical tape. Be sure to use proper gauge extension cord - especially with power tools and high wattage appliances.

Portable Space Heaters: Use one with thermostat (not just switch) that shuts off by itself when tipped over. Plug directly into own outlet. Use in area free of combustibles and well ventilated for heat escape. Never leave on overnight.

Clothes Dryers: Never leave synthetic fabrics, plastics, rubber or foam in the dryer for longer than the manufacturers recommended time. Clean lint screen before and after use. Keep area free of combustibles. Dryers must be vented to outside and plugged into own outlet.

Vaporizers: Never leave vaporizer unattended or near combustibles. Keep water level ample. Check that cord at the plug is not too hot. If it is, disconnect immediately. Use in own outlet or with heavy-duty extension cord.

How To Fight Small Electrical Fires: Switch off appliance and pull out plug. Smother fire with blanket or Type C extinguisher. Never try to cool with water because water conducts electricity and can give you an electrical shock.

Greasy Pan: Never heat cooking oil and leave room. A flame can ignite spontaneously! Keep combustibles away from stove, especially loose sleeves or scarves. Hot grease can spatter and ignite any paper, cloth, or wood materials nearby.

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Message From the Fire Chief . . .

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Fire In Oven: Avoid letting grease build up in any part of oven. A greasy broiler can catch fire even during pre-heating. If there is too much fat on a piece of meat, the grease can flare up and start a fire.

How to Fight Small Cooking Fires: Shut off stove or oven, smother pan with lid/Type B extinguisher or baking soda. Smother fire in oven by keeping door closed and/or throwing baking soda on food. Never Move Pan. It will fan the fire or spatter grease. Never turn on the exhaust fan or use water. Fan will draw up flames. Let fat cool in oven or else contact with air may make fire flare up again.

Leaking Gas: Never enter an area with a lighted match or cigarette if you smell gas from a pipe, heater or stove. The smallest spark or flame could ignite gas in the air and cause an explosion.

How to Fight Small Gas Fires: Shut off gas supply. Smother with rug, blanket or Type B extinguisher or cool with water. Ventilate the area to let gases out. Call fire department by dialing 9-1-1, always, to have the area pipes checked for further hazards. Then call the gas company. Note: if there is a gas fire, it may be better to let the gas burn rather than extinguish the fire which would let the gas fill the room or house creating the potential for an explosion. Therefore, the primary key is to shut off the gas supply and call the fire department.

Oil Soaked Rags: Dry out by spreading in a well ventilated room so heat can escape, then wash. Never put oily rags in a pile because they can ignite themselves. Store in labeled metal containers sealed with a tight lid.

Fireplace Wood Stoves: Use only dried woods (less smoke, dirt), never flammable liquids. Dispose of cool ashes in lidded metal container. Never leave fire unattended. When burning, keep damper open, keep flammable material away and glass door/screen closed.

Furnaces, Radiators, Water Heaters: Install properly and safely away from walls and ceilings. Never put combustibles on or near units. Keep ducts and filters dust-free by cleaning several times a year with unit shut off.

How to Fight Small Heating Fires: Call the fire department if stove pipe is red or fire is in chimney. For furnaces, radiators, water heaters, immediately shut off. Smother if electrical, only use water/Type A extinguisher if gas fired. Drown fire in fireplace with baking soda, water or Type A extinguisher up chimney.

Well, I think it's time for all of us to relax a little bit and enjoy the rest of our lovely fall! I hope that you will either take a moment to visit, or perhaps we will see you at one of the many annual block parties this spring! As always, we thank you all so very much for your continued support of your Fire Department, and it is a pleasure to serve such a wonderful community!

Community Picnic

Munson's 2010 Community Day Picnic at the Munson Township Park was another rousing success. Over 930 people attended on a beautiful August day. Attendees were treated to a picnic lunch, ice cream, music by the Sidemen under the Emmons pavilion, a magic show by Rick Smith, Jr., our area's renowned illusionist, balloon creations by Swifty the Clown, Euclid Beach rocket car rides, arrival of a UHHS MedEvac Helicopter, Ol' Time Shoot'N Gallery put on by the Buckeye Rangers, and Kids Korner and midway games and activities.

Donations and proceeds from the

dunk tank, raffles, silent auction, and three pay-to-play games raised over \$5,100 for the Munson Township Scholarship Fund. Munson extends a



sincere thank you to the 73 businesses and individuals who donated so generously to the picnic, and to

our dunkees, D.J. Jacobucci of the Munson Fire Department, Doug Robinson, Munson Elementary teacher, Munson Township Trustee Andy Bushman, and Taylor Ross, brave girl! Many thanks to Park Board members, Joe Rosboril, Kristy Bluemmel, Barbara Parkinson, Jon Schroeter, Tim Kearns, Michael Roche, Mark Stukbauer, John Kaczynski, and Bob Marn, to picnic coordinator Paula Frieberthauser, and to over 85 volunteers who assisted the day of the picnic.

The date has been set for our next picnic - Saturday, August 6. Mark your calendars, call your neighbors, and plan to attend.

2010 Notable Munson Residents

The Munson Township Trustees were pleased to recognize and honor 2010 notables William Gullo, Roy Williams, and Sophie Horvath on May 25, 2010 at the Notre Dame Educational Center Auditorium.

Resident Sophie Horvath opened the program and County Auditor Frank Gliha, Munson resident and former township trustee, gave a brief biographical sketch of Munson's past notables, Helen Stewart and Ruth Hawkins, honored November 18, 2003, Roger Emmons and Dick Ruth, honored May 25, 2004, Charles Poutasse and Joseph & Betty Koelliker, October 26, 2004, Sister Mary Dorotheus Wise and Sister Margaret Hess, Sisters of Notre Dame, May 24, 2005, Bruce Ward, May 23, 2006, Louise Alexander and Willard "Bill" Herrington, May 22, 2007, George Edgar and Bernard & Catherine Taylor, May 27, 2008, and Fred & Betty Klatka and Walter & Gloria Leagan, May 26, 2009. Several of the former notables were present and were recognized.

Trustees Andy Bushman, Todd Ray, and Irene McMullen introduced the 2010 Notable Munson Residents and shared their personal histories and accomplishments.

William Gullo believes strongly in the positive influence sports have on a youth's character and development. A former sports standout himself, he founded the Chardon Lions Club mini football program in 1976 and has supported that program and other sports programs both financially and as a volunteer coach, for over 25 years. Bill is also known for his big heart and for his willingness to lend a helping hand to a neighbor or friend. Bill and his wife Peggy have a home on Bean Road.

Roy Williams has been pastor of the Fowlers Mill Christian Church since 1970. The church, located on Mayfield Road, was organized in 1839 and built in 1842, and is part of the Fowlers Mill Historic District. In addition to his many pastoral duties, Reverend Williams has taken a keen interest in the history of the township, has led numerous youth missions to assist with housing projects for the poor in several states, and is an active member of an organization of "black" and "white" churches seeking unity among Christians of all races. Blessed with a fine singing voice, he has shared his talent in several choral groups. Pastor Roy and his wife Linda live on Butternut Road.

Sophie Horvath was selected for her volunteer work in several organizations including the Geauga

Council for Arts and Culture, Geauga Arts Network Group, Park District and several area historical societies, and for her sincere concern and interest in the township as a Board of Zoning Appeals member and writer of the weekly Munson column for the *Geauga Maple Leaf*. Sophie was instrumental in initiating the Notable program with former Trustee Frank Gliha and has supported the program since its inception. A talented dancer, Sophie was the director and choreographer of the Clickety Cloggers Show Team and a dance instructor. Sophie and her husband Robert live on Fowlers Mill Road.

Mary Samide, County Commissioner and former Munson Trustee, presented each of the honorees with a resolution of appreciation from the Geauga County Commissioners, and the Trustees presented them with an engraved clock, the award Sophie Horvath originally selected. Each recipient was invited to speak. The awards were followed by refreshments.

A notable must be a living, present or former Munson resident, 65 years or older, whose contributions have helped to shape the character of the Munson community. If you know of a past or present Munson resident that you feel should be honored, please contact the Munson Township office. We also encourage everyone to attend the next notable event, which will take place in May 2011.



Seated (from left) - Betty Koelliker, Roger Emmons, Sister Margaret Hess, Catherine Taylor, Gloria Leagan
Back Row - Irene McMullen, Todd Ray, Pat Bayer, Andy Bushman, Sophie Horvath, Joe Koelliker, Roy Williams, Bill Gullo, Bernard Taylor, Walter Leagan, Frank Gliha.



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Upcoming Meetings & Events

Sat Dec 4 **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
AND MRS. CLAUS**

(Must register to attend - contact the township hall)

Trustees meetings - second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Zoning Commission - third Monday at 7 pm.

Board of Zoning Appeals - third Thursday at 6:30 pm.

Park Board - third Wednesday at 5:30 pm.

Meetings are posted on the township web site, on the sign board in front of the town hall and on G-TV Channel 20, and are sent to the local newspapers for publication.

Contacts for youth athletic programs that lease the township fields:

www.munsonbaseball.com
Geauga YMCA - 440-285-7543