## **OXFORD TOWNSHIP**

# <u>Messenger</u>

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Fall, 2016

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## FROM THE TRUSTEES

#### Road Work:

Repaving of Wood Road between Ransom and Patten Tract Roads was completed by the composite crews from Oxford, Groton, Margaretta, and Townsend Townships. We truly appreciate the outstanding working relationship we have with these townships and personnel. Once again, Wensink Seed Farms provided a generous donation of asphalt to complete work on Wood Road. The remainder of work on this section of Wood Road was completed under budget (thanks to the donation) and it was decided to use the remaining budgeted funds on the worse sections of Wood Road west of Patten Tract. This was work planned for next year. Huber Road was chip sealed in July as part of the work submitted with Erie County Highway Department contracted resurfacing program.

#### Park Work:

A grant was applied for and received from Erie MetroParks for the replacement of railroad ties around the playground equipment that retains the river gravel. Trex, timber like material, was purchased to replace the railroad ties and stainless steel clamping material for the Trex was fabricated locally. Funds received from Erie MetroParks were in the amount of \$1,518.99; total cost of the project for material was \$2,344.99, not including township labor and volunteers for installation.

The baseball field was improved, specifically the infield. The sod for the infield was removed and replaced with a standard mixture of clay and sand used for infields. The 200 ton infield dirt mixture was provided by a very generous private donation from Larren Wikel (Erie Blacktop-Erie Group). The only cost to the Township was for hauling, roughly \$900! A team of volunteers and trustees laid out the infield and spread the dirt. Volunteers included: Scott Didion, Brian Smith, Dave Kelley, and Matt



Parker with bulldozer. A sod cutter was lent to us from Margaretta Township. It is the Trustees intent that this field be available and more useful for some of the local little league teams sponsored within township, as well as for other events and picnics.

Continued next page

## FROM THE TRUSTEES CONTINUED

#### Township Building:

The 25 year old tile and carpeting in the township building are being replaced with new flooring in a light gray, tan, and white wood grain pattern. Total cost about \$10,000. The parking lot asphalt was resealed and striped late summer.

#### Turnpike Fire Services:



During negotiations for contracts for fire service with Groton, we determined that the Turnpike had no uniform policy for reimbursement for fire service on the turnpike. Groton and Milan had to cover the Turnpike both east and westbound in our township. Even though there was no access from Oxford Township, we were expected to pay the costs of any fire service. This led to difficulty in determining an appropriate cost for a contract. We had discussions with Turnpike officials, but were unable to come to any conclusions on how, who or how much to charge as the Turnpike had no set policy. It was known that some entities were getting some payments from the Turnpike, but many were not. We sent a letter to State Senator Randy Gardner, and State Representative Steve Arndt explaining the situation. These two officials quickly approached Turnpike officials and as a result, the Turnpike is rolling out a uniform reimbursement policy based on FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) recommended rates. This should help Groton and Oxford Townships, as well as all other entities along the Turnpike, better control their fire services budget. A big thanks to Senator Gardner and Representative Arndt for championing our cause!

#### Summary:

Once again we thank the residents of the Township for passing the fire levy! The fire levy passage has freed up monies from the General Fund and Road Funds to continue our road program, and to make necessary maintenance improvements at the park and township building. Also we thank the people and residents noted above that helped on various projects. Also we thank Gary Roe for assistance in tree trimming and Tom Weilnau for ditch mowing with his boom mower. The teamwork demonstrated by donations and volunteer labor demonstrate that this is a community that takes pride in itself and has people that care for each other. It is pleasure for us to serve you!

Jim, Scott, Mike

## FROM GROTON TOWNSHIP FIRE CHIEF KERRY JETT AND GROTON AND OXFORD TWP. TRUSTEES:

Firefighters wanted! Please consider joining the Groton Twp. Fire Department. Applicants must pass a physical, background check and drug test, which is paid for by Groton Twp. Fire Dept. Also, must complete 36 hrs. of state training along with having to maintain 54 hrs. of training every 3 years to remain certified. You can get your 54 hrs. of training in order to keep your certification on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. of each month on Station at Groton. Contact Chief Jett at grotontownship@earthlink.net or call 419-656-1247 if you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter.

# <u>Rural Hot Home Delivered Meals – From Serving Our</u> <u>Seniors</u>

Rural Hot Home Delivered Meals is designed to address nutritional risk in the rural population of senior citizens. Monday through Friday, a hot, home-delivered meal is taken to the home of an Erie County resident, age 60+, living in a rural area of Erie County. The meal delivery trucks are equipped with a refrigerator and an oven. The trucks are staffed by volunteers who drop off meals to a redistribution point, where other volunteers, driving their own cars, deliver to any neighborhood in a rural township, or village.



The Rural Hot Home Delivered Meal Program is a collaborative effort between Serving Our Seniors and the Erie County Senior Center. Rather than Serving Our Seniors having its own kitchen and hiring its own kitchen manager and staff, Serving Our Seniors formed a partnership with the Erie County Senior Center. The Erie County Senior Center has a multi-purpose center, a kitchen and existing staff who serve lunch Monday through Friday at their facility and deliver meals to the homes of senior citizens living in the Sandusky/Perkins area. Serving Our Senior Center with Home Delivered Meal Trucks including the related repairs and maintenance of these vehicles.

To learn more about services provided by Serving Our Seniors see http://www.servingourseniors.org, or call Serving Our Seniors: 419-624-1856 or 800-564-1856.



Groton Township Hall 9414 Portland Road, Castalia

Donation: Adults: \$8; Children 12 & under: \$4 3 yrs and under: Free

(The Groton Township Fire Department is the responding fire department for Oxford Township!)

## CALL BEFORE OPEN BURNING!

Before doing an open burn on your property, you must call your local fire prevention officer (see list to the first page) to avoid the possibility of a hefty fine. Recently, a resident did an open burn without calling it in. Someone reported the fire, and the resulting fire call cost the Township \$1000. If the burn had been called in, the fire department would have checked with the resident before responding. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH DAMAGE, NEGLIGENCE, OR EXTINGUISHMENT DUE TO A FIRE THAT HAS GOTTEN OUT OF CONTROL, OR THAT MUST BE **EXTINGUISHED DUE TO VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE!** 

> Mark your calendars for April 1, 2017 Groton Township Fire Department Spaghetti Dinner

#### **OXFORD TOWNSHIP**

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### **PUBLIC WELCOME!**

The Trustees meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Oxford Township Complex.

Zoning Office hours currently are every Tuesday, 7 pm to 8 pm.

