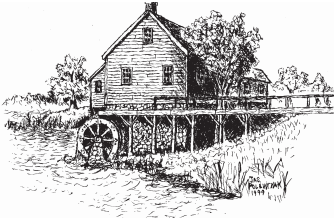


MUNSON TOWNSHIP



News Notes

Volume XV Issue I March 2014

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Visit Your Parks

As the weather warms, we hope that you will take the opportunity to explore nature up close by visiting one of YOUR parks.

Munson Township Park 12641 Bass Lake Road

In 1995, the Munson Township Trustees purchased 29 acres for a township recreational park. The park was dedicated in 2001. It includes two large pavilions with picnic tables, three little league ball fields, a major league field, a football/soccer field, two tennis courts, a basketball court, two sand volleyball courts, two small playgrounds, a horseshoe pit, and a Vita Course. The township allows Chardon High School's Varsity Baseball team to use the major league field as its home field. A restroom facility was added in 2003. Nets are removed and restroom facilities are closed from Oct. 31 to Mar 31.

Nero Nature Preserve 12150 Bean Road

In December 1999, the Munson Trustees received a grant to purchase 165 acres of park land from the Nero family. The 165 acres is a mixture of woods, wetlands, hills and open space. The land is protected by a conservation easement held by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy. In 2002, a gravel roadway, parking lot

and utility connections were installed. Area scout troops constructed park benches and wooden trail sections, and the Western Reserve Land Conservancy lent its expertise in plotting walking trails. Two small picnic shelters were erected in 2006. Picnic tables are available. As with all Munson Township parks, **NO** ATVs or other motorized vehicles or hunting are allowed.

Scenic River Retreat 10900 Mayfield Road

In 2005, the township purchased a beautiful tract of land from the Klatka family on Mayfield Road near Alpine Valley, overlooking Fowlers Mill. Like Nero Preserve, this land is also protected by a conservation easement held by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, which makes it available for passive park purposes such as hiking and picnicking. Pavilions were erected in 2006. The park was opened to the public in June 2009. The lower pavilion has grills, picnic tables and restrooms. The park features two rain gardens, which absorb runoff from the pavilion roof and parking lot and purify it through a natural filtration process. Fishing at the lake is catch and release only.

The township also maintains two ball fields and a new playground is in the works at the township administrative center at 12210 Auburn Road.

Interesting Munson Fact...

In the spring of 1821, the inhabitants of this township petitioned the County Commissioners for a change of the name of the township from Burlington to Munson, after a town in Massachusetts, Monson, from which one of the first settlers had come.

Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District Collection Events ...

Not to be confused with Munson's Rubbish Days, the Solid Waste Management District has several collection events scheduled for Geauga County. **All collection events will be located at the Geauga County Engineer's Yard, 12665 Merritt Road (off Route 44) in Chardon.**

Appliance Collection Saturday, May 3 9 am to Noon

This is for washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, and other similar household appliances. **No computers, televisions, e-waste or microwaves will be accepted.** Free freon removal. Workers will be available to help unload vehicles.

Document Destruction Saturday, June 21 9 am to Noon

Perfect time to shred up your old tax records and important documents no longer needed. Limit 4 banker boxes.

E-Waste Collection Saturday, July 26 9 am to Noon

Electronic equipment such as computers, printers, cell phones, etc. **NO televisions** will be accepted. There is a fee for computer monitors.

Household Hazardous Waste Saturday, September 20 9 am to Noon

Acceptable household waste: paint, oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, gasoline, cleaners, art supplies, wood strippers, degreasers, pesticides, etc. Not accepted: televisions, smoke detectors, acetylene tanks, medical waste, or electronic equipment (E-waste).

Check Geauga Trumbull's website www.startrecycling.com under "events" for a more extensive list. **All collections are for residents only, no commercial businesses. If you have questions, contact Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District office.**

Residents are reminded to list Munson Township as your place of residence when renewing your drivers license. Otherwise the motor vehicle license tax revenues will be given to the community in your address.



Residents have most likely noticed the different mixed recycling containers at the drop-off facility for recycling at the Vetter Ball Field parking lot behind of the fire station.

Mixed Recycling - The following items may be recycled: clear, green and brown glass, plastic, aluminum and bi-metal cans, and clean aluminum foil and foil pans. Plastic **must** have a small triangular symbol with the numbers 1 through 7 in the center. Without the number, the recycling facility cannot determine the type of plastic and therefore cannot process it. Exceptions are the plastic bags from grocery and retail stores, which do not need to have the printed triangle. **Tarps, laundry baskets, garden hose, lawn furniture, large plastic toys, and plastic pots and buckets are NOT recyclable** unless there is a triangular symbol. Glass is restricted to bottles and jars – no plate glass windows, no corning ware, no drinking glasses, no mirrors, and no canning jars. Also not recyclable: any expanded polystyrene foam, aluminum gutters, window frames or cooking pans. Recyclables should be rinsed clean with lids and caps left on, and should be separated from garbage. **Do not leave bags on the ground.**

Paper Recycling - Cardboard, newspapers, magazines, office paper, mail, phonebooks and paperback books (**no hardback books**) can now be commingled in the yellow and green receptacles. Always flatten cardboard and **never leave items on the ground.** Shredded paper must be bagged in a see-through bag - handlers will discard a bag if they cannot see the contents. No pizza boxes or waxed containers. Remove and discard all packing materials.

We hope that residents, once informed, will be more conscientious about what they bring to the site.

E - Waste • Recycle Your Appliances

We are pleased to host a recycling container for computer equipment and electronics. The container is located in the same area as plastic and newspaper recycling bins.

This program is provided as a community service for Munson Township residents at no charge. 100% of the equipment is recycled with nothing entering the landfills. All material is recycled in the continental United States; no material winds up offshore.

Acceptable items include anything electronic, computers and their counterparts, monitors, microwaves, stereos, toasters, blenders, stoves, refrigerators, etc. Basically anything that you plug in to operate is acceptable.

Televisions are no longer accepted

Munson Rubbish Day

Bring your large items and boxes of accumulated rubbish to the **Vetter Ball Field Parking Lot** located behind the Munson Fire Station, located at 12200 Auburn Road.

Saturday, April 26
7am to 1pm

(no Friday drop off this year) Items NOT accepted: construction remodeling debris, liquids, paint or other hazardous materials, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage. Reduce wood or pipe to six foot lengths. We can no longer accept televisions, computer monitors or other small appliances with electronic components. Consolidate all small materials in strong boxes or containers. We will accept unbroken car batteries, lawn mowers, and tires off the rim - 4 per load. Call the Township if you have a junk auto or truck to dispose of 440-286-9255.

Recyclable items such as cardboard and newspaper will not be accepted. Munson Residents only. Identification may be requested.

Senior Assistance for Rubbish Days

The Geauga County Department on Aging and Munson Road Department will join forces to aid seniors by picking up and transporting their trash to the rubbish day dumpsters on April 21, 22 and 23, 2014, prior to the scheduled rubbish days.

To qualify, you must be 60 years of age or older and live in Munson Township. Only 10 household items will be accepted per home.

To receive assistance, you must call the Department on Aging at 440-279-2130 to register. Have the following information ready: senior's name, address, phone number, last 4 digits of social security number, birth date and a list of the items to be picked up.

The township will be divided into three sections, one (possibly more) to be serviced each day. Make sure your items are set out by Sunday, April 20th, so that you do not miss your scheduled pick-up. The Senior must also be home to sign a release for the items when they are picked up.

To prevent possible bed bug transferal, mattresses **MUST** be wrapped in plastic and taped securely or they will not be taken.

Progress at Town Hall

The Town Hall construction project is complete! Thank you, everyone, for your patience and suggestions that have helped us along the way. The first bout of cold weather and snow convinced us of the prudence of making an investment in additional insulation for the Fire Department roof, which we are investigating. Thank you again to Enzoco, the contractor (owned by Munson residents) and the subcontractors for all of your efforts in making this project a success, coming in under budget and on time. The Township is now concentrating on fixing up the grounds around the renovations. Our Park & Recreation Board is working on plans for a new playground and the Road Department is working on some simple landscaping around the building. Please stop and take a look anytime, and put our May 17th Open House on your calendar.

Community Room Update

The new community room at the Town hall is available to rent for family reunions, meetings, bridal or baby showers, graduation parties, etc. Call the township to reserve a date. Forms may be picked up at the town hall between 9am and 3pm Monday through Friday; or can be downloaded from our website at www.munsontwp.com.



Message From the Fire Chief ...

With Spring right around the corner, I am sure that many residents are glad to see the end is in sight of a very long and cold winter. Here at the fire station we are always anxious to see the signs of spring since the winter elements add many challenges to our jobs whether it be fire fighting or EMS calls. Of course with the end of winter, spring cleaning will begin. I would like to again remind any residents that may need to burn yard debris to please stop by the fire station and pick up a burn permit. These permits are free, list the guidelines for burning and are good for a 15 day period. As always, we like to remind everyone to be responsible whenever you start a fire. Another very important reminder is to change the batteries in all smoke and CO detectors at the same time you change your clocks for Daylight Savings. It is a proven fact that smoke detectors do help to save lives. The Munson Fire Department does have smoke detectors on hand for any Senior Citizen residents that may need them. If help is needed getting them installed, we can do that also. Other services offered by the Fire Department is the Knox Box which allows easy access into a home of the elderly or disabled if they are unable to get to the door. Residents can also purchase the Green Reflective address signs that we recommend to be placed at the end of all driveways so that emergency responders can locate your address easily. These signs can be purchased for \$10.00 at the fire station. If interested in any of the above items, please call us for more information at 440-286-6797 during regular business hours.

Munson Fire Department responded to a total of 1072 calls in 2013 and have already responded to 90 calls in January 2014. We are also very proud to announce that two more of our firefighters have passed the state registry and are now State Certified Paramedics. This brings the department total to 24 Paramedics on staff. Congratulations to these young men. Their dedication and hard work have paid off.

The fire department recently applied for the State of Ohio EMS Grant. This grant is available to purchase equipment and or training to EMS agencies in the state of Ohio. The money is generated from fines and enforcement of seat belt laws. In 2013, we were awarded \$ 2,750.00. This money was utilized to replace and update Spinal Immobilization products such as, Backboards, Vacuum Splits and Vacuum Mattresses. Last year, University Hospitals Geauga also donated a Lucas Device to every fire department in Geauga County. These devices cost around \$13,000.00 and perform manual chest compressions for perfect CPR any time and every time they are used. They also free up personnel to perform and intervene with other medical needs and interventions. Munson Fire Department is very grateful to have been the recipient of this device as it is a great benefit to our community.

**** Safety doesn't happen by accident****

Our office hours are Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and as always, our station is staffed 24 hours a day everyday to assist you.

Geauga County Sheriff's Office • Geauga Public Alerts

Sign up for **Geauga Alerts!** In the event of an emergency or severe weather condition, a text message alert will be sent to the phone number provided. To reach the registration page go to the Sheriff's Office page (<http://www.sheriff.co.geauga.oh.us/>) and select "Gauga Public Alerts". The direct url is http://entry.inspironlogistics.com/geauga_county_oh/wens.cfm

Message From the Zoning Inspector

With the construction season right around the corner, be advised that residents are required to get a zoning certificate for any accessory structure such as decks, porches, pole buildings, gazebo's, additions, pools and the list goes on.

The definition of a structure is anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires location on the ground, or attachment to something having location on the ground.

It must conform to section 411 in the Munson Township Zoning Resolution which can be viewed in its entirety at munsontwp.com under the "Documents and Forms" tab.

Residents must remember to take into consideration the location of their septic system and well before plans of any new structure begins.

To be on the safe side, call to find out if a zoning certificate is required for your project. Zoning Inspector, Tim Kearns, is in the office 8am to 3pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Cemetery Decorations



All artificial flowers, decorations and containers in the Munson Cemeteries must be removed by May 1st. Those items remaining will be disposed of to prepare the cemeteries for

Memorial Day and summer mowing. Also, iron plant hooks are no longer permitted in the cemeteries.

Join us at the Maple Hill Cemetery, on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th for a short, but very meaningful ceremony to honor our veterans. The time will be posted on the township web site and in local newspapers.

JUST A NOTE ... Placing a sign at the triangular piece of land on the corner of Wilson Mills and Auburn Roads is Not Permitted. Munson Township maintains that area for our residents. Flowers are planted every year to enhance the beauty of our township.

Township Open House - May 17th

Spring is upon us! As you may have noticed, the renovation of Town Hall was completed on time and under budget. Please come and see the benefit of everyone's hard work. The Township will be having an **OPEN HOUSE on MAY 17 from 9am – 2pm**. Come tour the building, enjoy some refreshments, learn about each of our departments, and take a peek in our new ambulance and truck. A highlight of the event will be the opportunity to obtain **free health screenings from 9am - Noon** (for those 18 years or older), courtesy of The Cleveland Clinic, in connection with our **Healthy Munson** initiative. The free screenings can include total cholesterol, blood sugar, blood pressure & body mass index screenings for any Munson resident, employee or member of a Munson organization, church or business. **Healthy Munson** will feature an event each quarter that will provide the opportunity to get outside or do something to benefit your mind and spirit. If you sign up for screenings, we will send you home with a pedometer, water bottle and information to help you on your journey to better health. We hope to see you on May 17th!

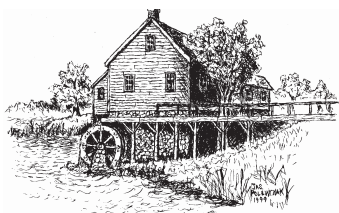


LOCAL LANDMARK is the spacious old Warner Hotel at Fowler's Mills.

Park & Recreation Board Opening

Munson residents interested in serving on the Munson Township Park & Recreation Board, which is a non-compensated public service appointment, are requested to send a letter of interest to the attention to the Munson Township Trustees, 12210 Auburn Rd., Chardon, OH 44024. Letters may also be dropped off at Town Hall weekdays 9am - 3pm.

The Park Board meets monthly and is responsible for the planning and development of the Munson Township parks and for community events.



**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

Phn: 440.286.9255
Fax: 440.286.1180

munson@munsontwp.com

To reach the Trustees or Fiscal Officer:

Irene McMullen 440.796.6825
Chair imcmullen@munsontwp.com

Andy Bushman 440.286.3916
Trustee abushman@munsontwp.com

Jim McCaskey 216.789.1436
Trustee jmccaskey@munsontwp.com

Judy Toth 440.286.9312 / 286.9255
Fiscal Officer jtoth@munsontwp.com

Meetings

Trustees

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

second Tuesday at 6:30 pm

2014 Events

Easter Egg Hunt • Saturday, April, 19

Fishing Derby • Saturday, May 3

**Community Day Picnic • Saturday, August 2
(noon—5pm)**

Outdoor Flea Market • Saturday, September 6

Youth athletic programs that lease the township fields:
www.chardonbaseball.com
Geauga YMCA 440-285-7543