

Lake Township Newsletter

Edition No. 68

October 2007

Township Offices

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Hartville, Ohio
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Board of Trustees

John Arnold
Ellis Erb
Galen Stoll

Township Fiscal Officer

Ben Sommers

A Note From Your Fiscal Officer



Ben Sommers

After our Township Administrator retired earlier this year, our Trustees decided not to fill that position, and instead asked me to direct the day-to-day operation of the Township. I'd like to thank our staff members who have helped me accomplish our goals. Our operation is running very smoothly, thanks to their excellent cooperation. If you have any questions about our township operations or budgets, please feel free to call me.

Township Fire Levy on General Election Ballot

Lake Township Trustees have placed a one-mill, five-year replacement fire levy on the November 6 General Election ballot. If approved, the levy will generate \$588,559 for fire protection and emergency medical service for Lake Township residents provided by contracts with our three private fire companies: Hartville, Uniontown and Greentown.

This levy, which will replace the current one-mill levy at current valuation, will cost the owner of a typical \$100,000 home about \$30.00 per year.

To see the cost of the levy for your property, visit the Stark County Auditor's Web site (www.auditor.co.stark.oh.us). Click on Tax Estimator and follow the prompts.

Only voters in the unincorporated area of the township, outside the Village of Hartville, will vote on this levy. The Village has its own fire and EMS levy.



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Lake Township Trustees

Lake Township Trustees meet every second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M. All meetings are held at the Lake Township Hall, 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville. All meetings are open to the public. The meeting hall is handicapped-accessible. Lake Township office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.



Ellis Erb



John Arnold



Galen Stoll

Your TAXES At Work

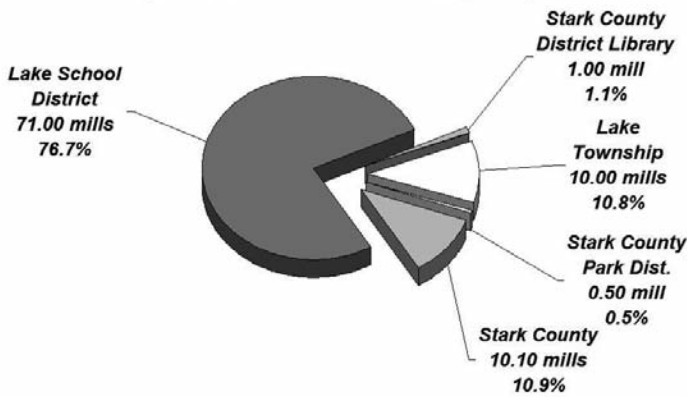
Ever wonder where your tax dollars go? As you can see from these charts, most of your tax dollar goes to our local schools. Lake Township receives about 10 percent of your property tax. Moreover, before local governments such as Lake Township receive their funds, Stark County holds back money for the General Health District, Auditor's fees and various other fees. (Charts represent taxes paid in the unincorporated area of Lake Township, as of August 2007).

If you live in:

LAKE TOWNSHIP LAKE SCHOOLS - NO UPD

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE - 92.6 MILLS

(Your PROPERTY TAX BILL is SPLIT like this:)

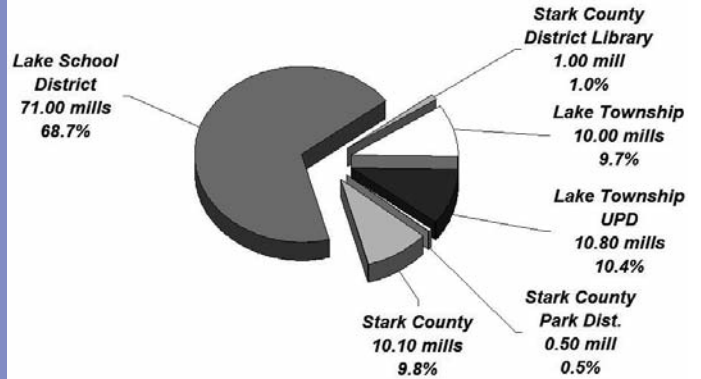


If you live in:

LAKE TOWNSHIP LAKE SCHOOLS - UPD

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE - 103.4 MILLS

(Your PROPERTY TAX BILL is SPLIT like this:)

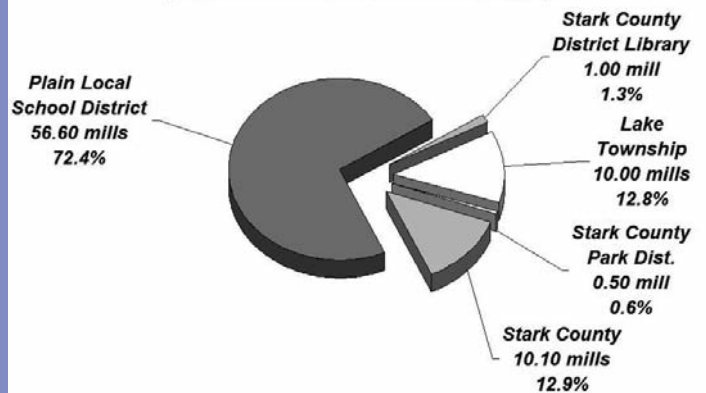


If you live in:

LAKE TOWNSHIP PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE - 78.20 MILLS

(Your PROPERTY TAX BILL is SPLIT like this:)

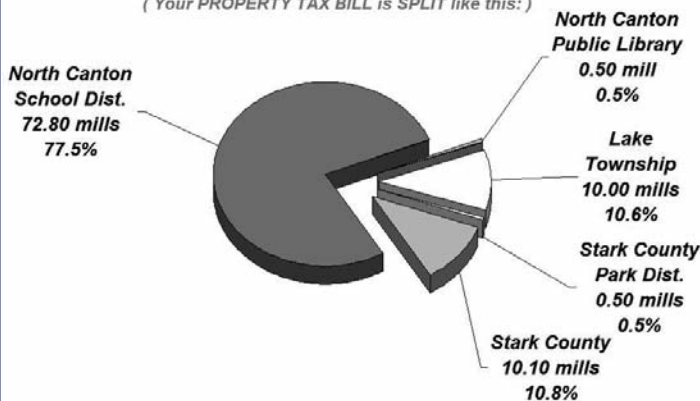


If you live in:

LAKE TOWNSHIP NORTH CANTON SCHOOLS

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE - 93.9 MILLS

(Your PROPERTY TAX BILL is SPLIT like this:)



From Your Road Superintendent

By Rick Criss

It's fall, and you know what that means: soon it will be snow time. Please remember to keep your trash cans back off the road, so our snowplows don't hit them.



Rick Criss

When more than two inches of snow falls, please be aware that Lake Township has a snow parking ban. You'll hear about it on the radio. Even if the parking ban isn't in effect, please park in your driveway, out of the way of our snowplows. On the road, please remember to stay back well behind our snowplows.

Fall means school has started. Students have been spray-painting a lot of our signs. Hey, kids! Don't do that! Those signs cost anywhere from \$45 to \$64 each. If you see anyone vandalizing our road signs, please call the Road Department or the Stark County Sheriff. If you are in the Uniontown Police District, call the police.

As always, I'm always available to answer your questions, address your concerns, or give you a tour of our Service Garage at 1499 Midway St.



Meet Our Fire Service

Lake Township Trustee has said many times, "We have the finest fire service in Stark County." Lake Township enjoys professional fire and emergency protection from three private fire companies: Hartville, Uniontown and Greentown. They have the township divided into service areas. Residents don't have to worry about which one to call, though. A call to "911" will bring the right one. All of the fire companies have mutual-aid agreements with one another, and with neighboring communities. That's why equipment from more than one fire company is sometimes seen at some emergency scenes.

First-response EMS service is provided by each of the fire companies. All three have fully-trained EMT's and paramedics on duty around the clock.

It's important to remember that the firefighters and paramedics are not employees of local government. They are our neighbors, and many of them are volunteers. All three fire companies have paid staff to man the stations when the volunteers are working at their career jobs.

Each of the fire companies is a separate, licensed, private, non-profit Ohio corporation which provides service under contracts with Lake Township, financed by revenues from tax levies. The fire companies do some fund-raising of their own, as well as applying for grants for training and similar purposes. All three companies own and maintain their own buildings and equipment.

The Hartville Volunteer Fire Department, formally incorporated in 1935, has served the Hartville area since 1900. They serve the eastern half of Lake Township. The Uniontown Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1947, and the Greentown Volunteer Fire Department in 1949. Together, our three fire companies have served this community for a combined total of more than 200 years. Some years ago, Lake Township Trustees said of the fire departments, "The fire-fighting companies...have saved countless lives, protected property and saved taxpayers substantial dollars...These hundreds of fine men and women have...literally put their lives and well-being on the line for all residents of Lake Township."



Applications for Board of Zoning Appeals

Lake Township is accepting applications for a position on the Board of Zoning Appeals for a five-year term beginning November 10. Residents of the unincorporated area of Lake Township who are interested in service on this Board may pick up an application at the Township office during business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM).

Candidates must be able to attend at least one meeting per month.

The purpose of the Board of Zoning Appeals is to hear appeals of decisions of the Zoning Administrator, requests for variances, and requests for conditional use permits. Members are paid \$35.00 per meeting.

For more information, call the Township Zoning Department (330) 877-9479.

General Election is Nov. 6

All Lake Township voters will vote on one Township Trustee and the Fiscal Officer in the General Election on Tuesday, November 6.

Township voters outside the Village of Hartville will see a one-mill, five-year replacement fire levy on the ballot.

Voters in the Village will vote on the Mayor, the Clerk-Treasurer, and two Council positions.

Two seats on the Lake Local Board of Education will be on the ballot, but no levy this time.

Township voters in the North Canton City Schools district will vote on two Board of Education positions, but no levy.

In the Plain Local Schools district, there will be two Board of Education positions on the ballot, and a 5.5-mill, five-year levy for current expenses.

On the ballot county-wide is the renewal of the 0.1-mill, five-year levy for 9-1-1 service and the 0.5-mill, five-year replacement levy for the Stark County Park District.



New Zoning Districts

Lake Township Trustees recently approved the Zoning Commission's recommendation to add two new districts to the Zoning Resolution: Planned Mixed Use District and Planned Research and Technology District.

The Planned Mixed Use District (PMU) will allow a mixture of land uses that may include housing, retail, offices, commercial services and civic uses to create economic and social vitality. Similar districts in other communities have been shown to develop compact commercial and mixed use areas that are safe, comfortable and attractive to pedestrians, and to provide flexibility in the design of new development and re-development of older areas.

The Planned Research and Technology District (PRT) will provide an environment conducive to the development and expansion of business and institutions using advanced research facilities. The PRT District will provide an area that can be part of an overall regional economic development strategy, by providing employment opportunities and protection for neighborhood residential areas.

If you have any questions about these new districts, please call Zoning Administrator Steve Lacey at (330) 877-9479.



Steve Lacey

Lake Township on Track to Meet EPA Requirements

Lake Township is working to meet EPA requirements for storm water runoff and water pollution problems. Homeowners can help in this effort.

Save water by washing your car using a bucket instead of a hose.

Reduce pollution by using biodegradable soap.

Keep the water out of waterways by washing your car on your lawn or over gravel.

Clean up spilled oil or automobile maintenance fluids right away. These chemicals are deadly to fish and animals.

Conserve water by watering lawns and gardens early in the day.

Make sure your lawn sprinkler waters only the grass, not the sidewalk or the driveway.

Clean your driveway with a broom, not your garden hose.

Mulch your planting beds.

Cover your swimming pool when you're not using it to reduce evaporation and keep it clean.

Check Out Our Web Site:

www.laketwpstarkco.com

It has lots of information about Lake Township





President's Corner by Ellis Erb



For many years, your Board of Lake Township Trustees has received many complaints about the police service in the large part of the township outside the Uniontown Police District. Currently, the Uniontown Police Department serves a nine-square-mile area in the northwest corner of the township. All of the rest of the unincorporated area of the township is patrolled by Stark County Sheriff's deputies as part of their coverage of the entire county, more than five hundred square miles. Lake Township is the only township in the state of Ohio that has a police district for only part of the township. The Village of Hartville has its own police department.

We've recently heard quite a few complaints about noisy ATV's annoying residents in the southern part of the township. We encourage you to call the Stark County Sheriff with these complaints. It might take a while for them to

respond, but your calls will build a record, so that when they do come, they'll know what has been going on. Sheriff's deputies have already made some arrests and a property owner has pressed charges.

Your current Trustees are working with State Senator Kirk Schuring and our township attorney, Charlie Hall, to see if there is anything more we can do to improve police service in this large area of our township.

We will continue to look into possibilities for improved police service. We hope you understand that it does have a price. In the meantime, if you live outside the Uniontown Police District or outside the Village of Hartville, please call the Sheriff when you have a complaint. If they don't get calls, they won't know that anything is wrong.

From the Uniontown Police Department



Now that it's getting dark earlier, be aware that burglaries increase at this time of year. Most burglaries

occur between 5:30 and 8:00 P.M. Protect your home by placing lights on timers during these hours to make it appear that someone is at home.

If you observe anything unusual or have any safety concerns, call us at (330) 699-6444 day or night.

Parents of teenagers: did you know that if you're having problems with your teenage son or daughter, you can have their driver's license or learner's permit revoked? [Ohio Revised Code 4507.07(C)] A teenage driver faced with the possibility of losing his or her driving privileges may think twice about that defiant behavior.

Chief Don Hensley
Uniontown Police Department

You Can Bring Us Your Yard Waste But no trash Please!

The yard waste drop off site is located behind the Recycle Center at 1505 Midway St., next to the Lake Township Service Garage. It's open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Lake Township residents may drop off grass clippings, leaves, shrubs, tree limbs, and stumps. We cannot accept business waste, plastic bags, or treated lumber. No household trash or discards, please! If you bring your leaves in plastic bags, please be prepared to empty the bags and take them away with you.

More information about the Yard Waste Program and the Recycle Program is available at the Township Office (330-877-9479).

Recycle Your Cell Phones

Did you know? You can recycle your old cell phone through Lake Township. Phones may be dropped off during business hours at the Township Office (12360 Market Avenue North), the Service Garage (1499 Midway St.), or the Uniontown Police Station (2930 Edison St. NW).



From The Fire Prevention Officer

By Danille Kemp

Greetings to all residents and business owners from the Lake Township Fire Prevention Office!

In this newsletter, I will talk briefly about fire safety in the home. The three areas that this article will touch upon are smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the home, fire extinguishers in the home, and family **EDITH (Exit Drills In The Home)** drills.

Every home should have working smoke detectors on every level of your home. Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed in utility rooms containing gas-fired appliances and in hallways leading to bedrooms. Smoke and carbon

monoxide detectors will alert your family to the presence of these two killers well before they reach deadly levels. This early warning will give your family time to exit the home.



Danille Kemp

Every home should have at least one fire extinguisher. Generally speaking, a fire extinguisher with a rating of 2-A:10-B:C will be sufficient for home use. Access to a fire extinguisher, along with familiarity with its operation, will give your family the opportunity to

extinguish a fire in your home before it gets out of control.

Finally, please develop and practice **EDITH** drills for your family. Practicing **EDITH** drills with your family will give everyone the knowledge of what to do in the event of a detector activation or fire in your home.

Please contact me if you would like information concerning any of the above topics. I am always available to answer your questions concerning fire safety.

Thank you!

Lake Township Mission Statement



The mission of Lake Township is to provide quality service to our citizens/customers in order to lead, support and facilitate the efficient and effective operation of township government.

Local Postal Patron
(ECRWSS)

LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
12360 Market Avenue North
Hartsville, Ohio 44632

