



2008 IN RETROSPECT, LOOKING FORWARD TO 2009

LAST YEAR PROVED TO BE ANOTHER eventful and exciting year for Sugar Creek Township. As your Township Trustees, we remain committed to working alongside our Fiscal Officer and Administration to ensure our staff is providing you the highest level of services for your tax dollar. "Keeping our feet to the fire" is how we describe our focus on spending.

This past year saw the completion of the addition to our Administrative Offices and Roads and Services Building. Operations were moved into this new space in August allowing for greater coordination between departments. A well-attended Open House was held in October, where we were able to acquaint many of you with the new facilities. The

Community Meeting Room, designed as meeting space for the Trustees and various boards and committees, as well as for multi-purpose use by our business partners and community organizations, has seen a steady increase in use. We invite all local organizations to take advantage of this wonderful community amenity!

We saw brilliant examples of our community's strength in the face of adversity during the aftermath of the September 14th windstorm. Neighbors came together to help neighbors and Township

Staff members were available to assist with debris removal and to help meet basic needs. We were proud and thankful for the professionalism and care displayed by our Fire and Police Departments, our Roads and Services Department, and our Administrative Staff during this trying time.

The failure of the Fire Levy in November led us to make difficult choices, including the nighttime closure of Station 71, and cuts in



personnel. We met numerous times with our Fiscal Officer, Administrator, and Fire Chief to come up with a funding option that will allow us to continue to provide the level of services you have come to expect, but also one that you will be able to support in these tough economic times. We recently voted unanimously to place a 1.3 mil **FIRE LEVY REPLACEMENT** on the May 5th ballot for your consideration. Failure of this replacement levy will inevitably result in more significant cuts in staffing, jeopardizing our ability to maintain the quality of services we

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Special Points of Interest:

- *Community Outreach offers many services to residents. Having a block party this year? We can assist you with ensuring a safe and successful event. Contact Linda Lotspaih at 848-3479.*
- *For information on community events go to www.sugarcreektownship.com.*

SRTS: Collaborative Efforts Pay Off

What started as a discussion between Township and School District Officials in mid-2007, has grown into a coordinated approach by numerous community partners. Members of the local Safe Routes to School collaborative include Sugarcreek Township, the City of Bellbrook, the Sugarcreek Local School District, the Sugarcreek Township Open Space Advisory Committee, the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Township Park District, community members, parents and students. The SRTS initiative received a boost in December when the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) approved an application to fund the development of our School Travel Plan (STP). The STP will look at barriers that our children face in walking and biking to school and propose solutions to ad-

dress these barriers with the goal of increasing the number of students engaging in active transportation.

As part of the completion of the STP, parents of students in grades K-8 may expect to see a Parent Survey come home with their children next month. Please take the time to complete and return this survey to your child's school. We will also be talking with students and parents at the Sugar Maple Festival. Please visit our booth for more information on SRTS! Questions? Contact us at 848-8426 or killkelly@sugarcreektownship.com.



Looking Forward to 2009

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have come to expect.

We continue to push for the completion of the Clio Road extension. This project remains a top priority in 2009 and the collaborative effort of various Greene County agencies should help to start construction in the near future.

A public meeting was held in September at the Community Center for the Bellbrook-Spring Valley Bikepath Connector. This project involves construction of a paved, multi-use bike path that will connect Sugarcreek Township and the City of Bellbrook at Sackett-Wright Park to the Little Miami Scenic Trail at the Village of Spring Valley. Many area residents attended this meeting to learn more about the project. A project fact sheet may be obtained at www.co.greene.oh.us/parks/pdf/Fact%20Sheet.pdf.

We learned at the end of 2008, that we were awarded a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation for the completion of our School Travel Plan, an integral part of our Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. This grant represents the work of many local partners including the City of Bellbrook, the Sugarcreek Local School District, the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Township Park District, and the Sugarcreek Township Open Space Advisory Committee, as well as many community members, parents and students. This is a shining example of what we can accomplish when we work together!

Last year saw the promotion of Police Sergeant James Deaton to Lieutenant with the Sugarcreek Township Police Department. We are thankful for Lieutenant Deaton's leadership.

We continue to work on revisions to our Zoning Resolution.

Public hearings on the draft Zoning Resolution are upcoming and we invite everyone to be involved in the process. Go to www.sugarcreektownship.com for updates. We look forward to the completion of this project mid-2009.

This year is set to be another productive year for all of us in Sugarcreek Township! We all need to be attentive to the study work of the Merger Commission. The Township will be responding to all requests for information.

We hope that you will continue to keep the lines of communication open as we strive to be responsive to your suggestions, questions, and concerns. We are proud to serve our community and look forward to a productive and successful 2009!

Your Trustees

Mike Pittman

Nadine Daugherty

Dick King

An Open Letter to Residents



Dear Residents,

The last few months have been a difficult period for the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department. While the last two decades have been full of challenges, nothing has impacted our ability to respond to your call for help as much as our current financial situation. As our population blossomed 50% since 1990 and as the I-675 corridor developed, **we met the challenge.** In fact, we not only met the challenge, but also **exceeded all expectations by achieving an ISO 2 rating** - one of only seven in the entire state of Ohio! And we did it by staying within a tight budget and utilizing all sources of income and grants available to us in order to stretch your tax dollar. *The main foundation of meeting these challenges has been the consistent support of you and your neighbors in our community!* That's why I'm concerned now. Twice we've gone to the polls asking for your support for the replacement of out-dated levies. Twice the community has said "NO."

We now have slipped backwards to an ISO 4 rating due to staffing cuts and station distribution. Our ability to respond to critical calls with

the proper equipment and staffing has been impacted. Our response times have lengthened.

As your Chief, I have been working with your Board of Trustees, Fiscal Officer, and Administrator to re-think the problem and to find a proposal that hopefully you can support. After much discussion, thought and careful consideration, the Fire/EMS Levy that we are now proposing is the **replacement** of a 1.3 mill levy from 1985. The replacement cost to you is approximately \$39.81 per \$100,000.00 of your tax valuation, **minus** what you are currently paying for this Fire/EMS levy. On my home the net increase is approximately \$31.41 per \$100,000.00 or \$5.56 per month. You may review your tax information on the Greene County Auditor's Office website at www.co.greene.oh.us/ and then click the tab Auditor; Real Estate Information; Tax Dispersal/Levies.

Passage of the levy replacement on May 5th, will provide the funding to reopen Station 71 for around-the-clock operations and continue the replacement schedules of equipment, apparatus and Fire/EMS personal protection gear for our Firefighters and Paramedics. It will also stop the need to make any further cuts to the Fire Department, cuts that have already impacted our ability to respond to your call for help. **Please help us bring the men**

DID YOU KNOW?

The area annexed to Centerville is still paying property taxes for the Fire/EMS service we provide.

The Sugarcreek Township Fire Department and the Bellbrook Fire Department work together in common responses and resource sharing. We also have a Regional Mutual Aid Pact with all surrounding Fire Departments in our area.

and women of the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department back on duty so we may serve you with the highest-quality EMS care and Fire/Rescue Services.

I know times are tight, but please think about the return on your investment as you consider this replacement levy. Please feel free to call me at 848-7344 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Randall J. Pavlak, Fire Chief



- The Sugarcreek Township Board of Trustees is seeking residents interested in serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). The BZA hears and decides appeals, authorizes variances and conditional uses, and interprets the Sugarcreek Township Zoning Map. The BZA meets at 7 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month. Interested Citizens are encouraged to submit a letter of interest and resume to: Cara KillKelley, Zoning Compliance Officer, 2090 Ferry Road, Bellbrook, Ohio 45305.
- Do you want to leave your footprints for future generations of Sugarcreek Township? Volunteer now! The Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) has two-year term openings for energetic, make-it-happen people who are committed to keeping Sugarcreek Township a great place to live. To apply, please send a letter describing why you would like to be a member and what skills, interests and/or experiences you can share to: OSAC, 2090 Ferry Road, Bellbrook, Ohio 45305.

Falls Among Older Adults: An Overview

Taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov.

HOW BIG IS THE PROBLEM?

- More than one third of adults ages 65 and older fall each year in the United States.
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury and death. They are also the most common cause of non-fatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma.
- In 2005, 15,800 people ages 65 and older died from injuries related to unintentional falls. Nearly 1.8 million people ages 65 and older were treated in emergency departments for non-fatal injuries from falls and more than 433,000 of these patients were hospitalized.
- The rates of fall-related deaths among older adults rose significantly over the past decade.

What outcomes are linked to falls?

- 20% - 30% of people who fall suffer moderate to severe injuries such as bruises, hip fractures or head traumas. These injuries can make it hard to get around and limit independent living. They also can increase the risk of early death.
- Falls are the most common cause of traumatic brain injuries (TBIs). In 2000, TBIs accounted for 46% of fatal falls among older adults.
- Most fractures among older adults are caused by falls.
- The most common fractures are of the spine, hip, forearm, leg, ankle, pelvis, upper arm, and hand.
- Many people who fall, even those who are not injured, develop a fear of falling. This fear may cause them to limit their activities, leading to reduced mobility and physical fitness, and increase their actual risk of falling.
- In 2000, direct medical costs totaled

\$179 million for fatal falls and \$19 billion for nonfatal fall injuries.

Who is at risk?

- Men are more likely to die from a fall. After adjusting for age, the fall fatality rate in 2004 was 49% higher for men than for women.
- Women are 67% more likely than men to have a non-fatal fall injury.
- Rates of fall-related fractures among older adults are more than twice as high for women as for men.
- In 2003, about 72% of older adults admitted to the hospital for hip fractures were women.
- The risk of being seriously injured in a fall increases with age. In 2001, the rates of fall injuries for adults ages 85 and older were four to five times that of adults ages 65 to 74.
- Nearly 85% of deaths from falls in 2004 were among people ages 75 and older.
- People ages 75 and older who fall are four to five times more likely to be admitted to a long-term care facility for a year or longer.
- There is little difference in fatal fall rates between whites and blacks from ages 65 to 74.
- After age 75, white men have the highest fatality rates, followed by white women, black men, and black women.
- White women have significantly higher rates of fall-related hip fractures than black women.

How can older adults prevent falls?

Older adults can take several steps to protect their independence and reduce their risk of falling. They can:

- Exercise regularly; exercise programs like Tai Chi that increase strength and improve balance are especially good.
- Ask their doctor or pharmacist to review their medicines (both prescription and over-the-counter) to reduce side effects and interactions.



- Have their eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year.
- Improve the lighting in their home.
- Reduce hazards in their home that can lead to falls.

As you can see from the above information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, falls are major concerns.

The Sugarcreek Township Fire Department responded to 94 incidents involving falls, fractures and dislocations during 2008. This number landed in the top third percent of calls responded to by your Fire Department. Paramedics evaluate many factors when treating patients. Our personnel are very familiar with each area hospital's capabilities. Personnel will make suggestions as to the best facility for your family member to be transported. For more information regarding falls and fall prevention, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov.

Please be careful out there and should you experience a fall or other emergency, dial 9-1-1 for assistance. We will be there for you!

Joann Zimmerman, Captain, Public Education Bureau, Sugarcreek Township Fire Department



Thank You Bellbrook Lions!



The Lions Club has graciously donated \$600.00 to purchase "Multi-Hook Fire-fighting Tools" (New York Roof Hooks).

The multi-hook fire-fighting tool is the most versatile hook used in fire service today. It has a multitude of uses from opening ceilings, walls, floors, moldings and casings to the rapid removal of wood, lath and plaster, tin and sheet metal, plasterboard, fiberboard and drywall. This gives us the ability to rapidly find hid-

den fires within a structure and to extricate victims quickly. Salvage and overhaul can also be completed in half the time. This reduces firefighter fatigue and requires less resources. The hooks feature super strength fiberglass poles and stainless steel wear sleeves. The hooks are electrically non-conductive, breaking strength of over 110,000 PSI. Manganese bronze heads add strength and durability, decreasing the possibility of sparks in explosive atmospheres.

During these tough financial times, donations from local organizations are



critical to improving our Department's equipment. This makes our Firefighters' jobs easier and

allows them to be more efficient and better suited to save lives and property. **Thank you Lions Club!**

Jeff Melton, Captain, Sugarcreek Township Fire Department



Trustees Announce Promotions



The Board of Sugarcreek Township Trustees proudly announces the promotions of Sergeant James K. Deaton to Lieutenant effective

October 20, 2008, and Police Officer Paul E. Guerrero to Sergeant effective February 9, 2009.

Lt. Deaton began his career with the

Sugarcreek Township Police Department in 1996, as a Part-time Patrolman where he showed himself to be an exemplary police officer. He was then promoted in 1999, to Police Sergeant, while demonstrating dedicated, outstanding leadership qualities. Lt. Deaton brings years of experience, valuable training and a proven track record as a supervisor. Join us in congratulating Lt. Deaton on his much earned promotion!

Sgt. Guerrero began his career with

the Sugarcreek Township Police Department in 1994, as a Part-time Patrolman. Through the years Sgt. Guerrero has shown outstanding policing skills, sincere service to the community and a desire to protect and serve the Citizens of Sugarcreek Township. Sgt. Guerrero's years of experience and dedication are a wonderful enhancement to our Department. Join us in congratulating Sgt. Guerrero!



Township Finance 101



Fiscal Officer, Theodore Hodson, says that overall the Township budgets are stable and viable. With the failure of the last two fire levy requests, our fire budget is tight, having been subject to substantial cuts including reductions in personnel and station closures to remain solvent. Township Fire, Police, and

Roads and Services Departments all have budgets that are levy based.

While the Township General Fund is secure, there is no excess in the General Fund that could be used to support levy based funds. Levy based funds cannot be used for purposes other than those approved by the voters. For example, revenue from a police levy cannot be expended to pay for Fire Department costs and vice versa.

The Fiscal Office works closely with the Administrative Offices of the Township to assure sustained financial health. The Fiscal Office will continue to monitor fund balances on a daily basis to ensure that expenditures remain in line with revenues. Questions on Township finances can be directed to Theodore Hodson, Fiscal Officer, at 848-8426.



Help Keep Greene County Green

Greene County Environmental Services provides services to residents that help protect the environment and enhance the natural beauty of Greene County.

- Greene County Environmental Services offers **Yard Waste Recycling Sites** (for residential use only) throughout Greene County. One satellite site is conveniently located at 2021 Ferry Road at the northwest corner of Ferry and Waynesville Roads. The Sugarcreek Township satellite site will reopen on April 6 and be open through December 2, 2009, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 pm to 8 pm. Other sites are located in Beaver Creek Township, Fairborn and Xenia. For directions and operating hours, go to www.greene.oh.us/saneng/EnvServ/. Residents may bring leaves, grass and brush for disposal at no cost. The grass and leaves are donated and used to make topsoil. The brush is ground into untreated mulch and is available free on a self-serve basis (subject to availability) at the Central site in Xenia and at the Fairborn satellite site.



Brush brought to the recycling sites should be no longer than four feet and no greater than four inches in diameter. Plan to arrive ten minutes before closing.

- Greene County Environmental Services has scheduled **2009 Collection Days for Household Hazardous Waste, Scrap Metal, Major Appliances, and Electronics**. This is an excellent opportunity for residents to dispose of hazardous materials at no cost in a way that is safe for the environment. Collection Days will be held at the Recycling Center at 2145 Greene Way Boulevard in Xenia from 9 am to 1 pm on these Saturdays:

April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12.

You may call Greene County Environmental Services at (937) 562-5925 or go to their website, www.greene.oh.us/saneng/EnvServ/ to verify what will not be accepted.



Kids Focus on Fire Safety

We're all used to fire safety messages during October, Fire Safety Month, but fire safety concerns should be a priority 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Mrs. Alice Webb's sixth grade science classes at Bellbrook Middle School have agreed to join with the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department in composing Fire Safety Messages to be used throughout the year on the message boards in front of Fire Station 71, 33 E. Franklin Street and the Public Safety Building, which houses Fire Station 72 at 4398 Clyo Road.

Suggestions made by the students will be judged by their clarity and relevance. The students whose slogans are chosen will be awarded a certificate. Each slogan will be posted at



both locations for two weeks. The focus of this project is to make Fire Safety Awareness a priority for the children and to support the Fire Department's community education efforts. Watch for their quotes to be displayed!

Go kids!!

-Lieutenant Rusty Cross, Fire Prevention Officer



Buy Local

The Sugarcreek Township Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) is looking for community farmers, both large and small, to participate in a community farmer's market.

The OSAC is also looking for citizens interested in helping. We plan to form a committee to get this initiative off the ground this season.

Our proposed market site is in a great location with high visibility, easy access and ample parking. If you are interested in being a vendor or a Citizen interested in helping to bring a farmer's market to Sugarcreek Township, contact us at 848-8426 or ckillkelley@sugarcreektownship.com.



Trustees Appoint Police Chief

On March 2, 2009, the Sugarcreek Township Board of Trustees appointed Gilbert Flick to the Office of Chief of Police. Mr. Flick brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience from a career in law enforcement spanning over thirty-five years.

Since 2001, Mr. Flick has been the Assistant Chief of the West Chester Township Police Department. Mr. Flick served the last thirty years of his career with the West Chester Township Police Department.

Mr. Flick took over the vacant position of Chief of Police on March 9th, 2009 and will lead the Sugarcreek Township Police Department, serving as a mentor for our current staff. Mr. Flick lives in West Chester Township with his wife Jane. They have two adult children, a son and a daughter.



The Township Trustees join you in extending a warm welcome to Mr. Flick and his family. We look forward to his leadership and the many assets he will bring to the Township.



Floodplain Changes

If you are a property owner or know of someone who owns property in or near the FEMA designated floodplain, please be aware of the new DFIRM (Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map) proposed for Greene County. Greene County is in the middle of the FEMA map modernization process. Using the latest digital format and incorporating GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping, the new DFIRM will more accurately depict floodplain boundaries with aerial photography. Many properties have been affected by these changes. It is possible some areas shown in the current floodplain boundaries may no longer be within the floodplain. The reverse is also true. Other areas currently located outside the floodplain may now be accu-

rately depicted in it. This means flood insurance rates will be adjusted or your lender may require you to obtain flood insurance. To view the new DFIRM data go to www.co.greene.oh.us/website/gcFloodplain/. If you have any questions, please contact Al Kuzma, Chief Building Official, at (937) 562-7427 or at akuzma@co.greene.oh.us.

A special thanks to the Greene County Auditor's Office for the online mapping of the proposed DFIRM data.



SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP STAFF DIRECTORY

Barry Tiffany, Township Administrator	848-8426	btiffany@sugarcreektownship.com
Karen Shroyer, Admin. Asst. to Twp. Administrator	848-8426	kshroyer@sugarcreektownship.com
Ted Hodson, Fiscal Officer	848-8426	thodson@sugarcreektownship.com
Tracey Messer, Director of Roads and Service	848-2330	tmesser@sugarcreektownship.com
Cara KillKelley, Zoning Compliance Officer	848-8426	ckillkelley@sugarcreektownship.com
Randall Pavlak, Fire Chief	848-7344	firechief@sugarcreektownship.com
Mary Taylor, Admin. Asst. to Fire Chief	848-7344	firesecretary@sugarcreektownship.com
Gilbert Flick, Police Chief	848-3479	gflick@sugarcreektownship.com
Linda Lotspaih, Admin. Asst. to Police Chief	848-3479	llotspaih@sugarcreektownship.com

Plowing Ahead



It was another busy winter with plenty of ice and snow. During the snow event that took place the week of January 25th, our crews had our roadways cleared quickly.

Your traveling safety is of paramount importance. We spread approximately 375 tons of salt fighting Old Man Winter that week. A total of 784 tons of salt was used through the end of February. We are thankful to our full-time and temporary part-time personnel, who do an excellent job serving our infrastructure needs.

We are evaluating possible salt substitutes that will not be as corrosive to our equipment. Some of the alternatives being considered include calcium chloride, beet juice, and salt brine. Salt brine looks to be the best choice at this point, but we will be doing more research before making a final determination.

Over the past two years our Department has reduced costs, allowing us to purchase two new International Workstar 7400 trucks. The new trucks were purchased through a state bid saving us thousands of dollars. These trucks will allow us to spend more time on the road and less time traveling empty to fill up with salt. With

our two fleet additions, we now have seven trucks: one Freightliner, two Ford F-550s, and four Internationals. If the excellent track record of our two older model Internationals holds true, our two new trucks should last us well into the future.



The after effects from the major wind event of last September were managed well. While working closely with other Departments and County Agencies, we began the daunting task of debris removal. We also offered convenient curbside pick-up. Working at times around the clock, it took our crews only a month to collect over 2,814 square yards of material! We will recoup much of the costs incurred from FEMA, with reimbursements totaling close to \$66,000.00.

Recently, we have been organizing a way for Citizens to utilize the debris from this wind event. You're probably thinking, "Why in the world would I want left-over debris?" We have re-

duced the debris using a tub grinder into bark mulch. This bark mulch is FREE and does have many useful applications. It can be used on flower beds and pathways, placed around trees, or added to your compost pile. You may access our website,

www.sugarcreektownship.com, for details and updates.

Finally, let's all keep our fingers crossed that warmer weather is here to stay!

It's always our pleasure to serve this community. Should you have any questions about these or any other topics, please contact me at tmesser@sugarcreektownship.com or 848-2330.

Tracey Messer, Director, Roads and Services Department



Beavers... Our Newest Residents



In 2006, the Township purchased the property at the corner of Ferry and Waynesville Roads to help restore the wetland habitat once present on the property and to retain open space. It seems that this effort is being aided by the most unlikely of characters... BEAVERS! Beaver tracks and evidence of dam building were recently observed by Adam Panstingel, Chairperson of the Sugarcreek Township Open Space Advisory Committee. Dam building is very beneficial in restoring wetlands. Such wetland benefits include flood control downstream, biodiversity, and water cleansing. Beaver dams reduce erosion as well as decrease the turbidity that is a limiting factor for much aquatic life. Adam tells us that beavers breed in late winter (now) and one litter can contain up to four pups. We'll keep our eyes open for any new resident pups and ask that residents avoid this area so not to disturb this precious ecosystem!

A Favorable Decision by the Court



In the Spring of 2006, a petition to annex a portion of Sugarcreek Township was filed in Greene County and an intense battle for land and tax dollars ensued. Now, almost three years later, the court has made a ruling that may have a beneficial outcome for Sugarcreek Township and other townships throughout Ohio.

On February 17, 2009, Magistrate Reynolds of the Greene County Court of Common Pleas entered a decision granting our Motion for Summary Judgment in the lawsuit the Township

filed against the City of Centerville in 2006. The decision stated in part that the, “. . .property may not be subject to a TIF created by the City of Centerville that would in any way divert the real property taxes. . . from Sugarcreek Township to the City of Centerville.” Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIFs) essentially divert a portion of the real estate taxes to fund improvements in the infrastructure usually for the benefit of development.

This decision, if sustained through the appeals process, means that the Township can continue to control the real estate taxes in the area for the benefit of the Citizens of Sugarcreek Township. It would also have a direct im-

pact on the future of annexations of this type throughout the state and be considered a landmark case. The Board of Trustees and I are cautiously optimistic that this decision will stand up to any challenges.

If you have questions regarding this annexation issue, please call me at 848-8426.

Thank you.

Barry Tiffany, Township Administrator



RESERVE YOUR PLOT IN OUR COMMUNITY GARDENS TODAY!

Growing your own vegetable garden can be great family fun and it doesn't get much easier than reserving a plot in the Sugarcreek Township Community Gardens. Each garden plot is clearly marked and tilled, ready for your seeds or plantings. We even provide water tanks close by for watering.

Call Karen Shroyer at 848-8426 to reserve your plot and enjoy the simple pleasure of vegetable gardening without the typical backyard hassles. Plots may also be reserved at the Open Space Advisory Committee Booth at the Sugar Maple Festival.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2009 Sugar Maple Festival (complete with 5K Run, Dog Show, Craft Show, Parade, and much more!) will be held Friday April 17th - Sunday, April 19th in Downtown Bellbrook. Mark your calendars to enjoy this fun, family event! Go to <http://www.sugarmaplefestival.com/> for more information.



Hello from the Open Space Advisory Committee!

The Sugarcreek Township Open Space Advisory Committee is committed to preserving the rural characteristics of the community. The OSAC is made up of area residents with a variety of backgrounds and passions. We have been actively working with other organizations on the Safe Routes to School program, bikeways throughout the area, and open space preservation. While we recognize that growth is inevitable, we believe that retaining open space is vital. We also believe



that the Citizens of the Township want to maintain the area's identity as a rural community.

If you are interested in preserving your land, we can offer direction towards several alternatives. Pheasants Forever and the Wildlife Habitat Council are organizations that will give advice on how to manage your land for wildlife preservation. We also offer advice and referrals to organizations that can help with an easement on your land.

All our meetings are open to the public. We meet the third Wednesday of

every month at 7 pm in the Community Room at the Bellbrook City Offices. We appreciate all comments from members of the community and are on the lookout for new members.

Please check out our new link on the Sugarcreek Township website! Go to www.sugarcreektownship.com and then the Open Space Advisory Committee link.

Adam Panstingel, OSAC Chairperson



Saving Fido

Like children, pets can also get injured when you least expect it. The Dayton Area Chapter of the American Red Cross' Pet First Aid Course gives you basic information on how to recognize and care for emergencies, illness and injuries in cats and dogs. Participants learn rescue breathing, CPR and care for choking pets, and first aid for bleeding, fractures, poisonings and illness. Remember, for life-threatening emergencies, get your pet to an animal hospital or call your vet. But for quick response, knowing how to care for your pet's injuries can help save their life.

COURSE DATES/TIMES/LOCATION:

Saturday, April 18th, 1 pm—6 pm at Dayton Area Chapter of the American Red Cross

Saturday, June 6th 1 pm—6 pm at the Dayton Area Chapter of the American Red Cross

Tuesday, June 16th, 6 pm—9 pm at the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department

For more information, call the Health & Safety Department at the Dayton Area Chapter of the American Red Cross at (937) 222-0124, ext. 122.



Chamber Sponsors Community Events



The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Area Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring its' annual Community Garage Sale on Thursday, May 14th, Friday, May 15th and Saturday, May 16th. Please register your garage sale on our website. Go to www.bellbrooksugarcreekchamber.com and click on Garage Sale.

You may also register your garage sale at our tent in Bellbrook Park during the Sugar Maple Festival.

The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Area Chamber of Commerce is also sponsoring, along with Greene, Inc., a Free Community Shred Day. Greene, Inc is a document destroying company who is donating its services from 9 am—12 pm on Saturday, May 16th for residents and local businesses to bring their records and documents (up to 100 lbs.) for safe, secure shredding. The location for drop off is Dot's Market parking lot. For more information, please visit our website at www.bellbrooksugarcreekchamber.com or call 848-4930.



Meet the "B" Shift

WE HAVE A DEDICATED GROUP OF EMPLOYEES HERE TO SERVE YOU. THE TOWNSHIP IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE DEPARTMENTS: ADMINISTRATION, POLICE, FIRE, ROADS AND SERVICES AND THE FISCAL OFFICE. IT SERVICES AND ZONING FALL UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF ADMINISTRATION, WHILE COMMUNICATIONS (DISPATCH) IS A DIVISION WITHIN THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

"B" Shift from the Fire Department is this issue's featured employee group. The Fire Department includes the Fire Department Administration, ten Full-Time Career Firefighter/Paramedics, twelve Part-Time Firefighter/Paramedics, and twenty-seven Volunteers. The Full-Time Career Firefighter/Paramedics are divided into three units. The Firefighter/Paramedics of "B" Shift are Lieutenant C.J., Firefighter/Paramedic Scott, and Firefighter/Paramedic Drue. Career Firefighter/Paramedics work a twenty-four hour shift and then are off for forty-eight hours prior to beginning their next shift.

Sugarcreek Township requires that our Career Firefighter/Paramedics be certified by the State of Ohio as Firefighters and as Emergency Medical Technicians - Paramedics. They must have knowledge of life support, firefighting and rescue procedures, as well as be adept in the operation and utilization of equipment and instruments. They must be familiar with the geographical layout of Sugarcreek Township and our Mutual Aid Response Area and they must have the ability to recognize symptoms and take the appropriate action. They perform heavy manual tasks under dangerous conditions and evaluate situations and problems to formulate corrective actions.

Our Career Firefighter/Paramedics must perform essential duties and responsibilities. They include:

- Responding to fire and rescue emergencies and performing appropriate basic and advanced firefighting and rescue procedures.
- Operating all departmental vehicles safely and effectively.
- Evaluating emergencies, assuming command, and establishing appropriate incident command structure.
- Communicating with victims, victims' families, fire investigators, law enforcement officers, doctors, and the general public.

Lieutenant C.J., acting "B" Shift Commander, has been with the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department since August 6, 2001. He was promoted to the position of Lieutenant on July 14, 2008. Lieutenant C.J. has his Firefighter Level II, Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic, and Hazardous Materials Technician certifications from the State of Ohio.



He is also certified in Water Rescue, Ice Water Rescue, Trench Rescue, and is the Technical Rescue Coordinator for Sugarcreek Township. He graduated from Fairborn High School, did his fire training at the Greene County Career Center, and currently resides in Bellbrook. Lieutenant C.J. has a 7 year-old son who keeps him on his toes. In his free time, he plays in a band with two other Sugarcreek Township Firefighters.

Firefighter Scott has been with the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department since March 5, 2001. On January 6, 2003, he was promoted to Firefighter/Paramedic. Firefighter Scott is certified by the State of Ohio as a Firefighter, an Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic, and as a Fire Inspector. He is also certified in Confined Space Awareness, and Hazardous Materials at the operations level.



Scott graduated from Centerville High School and did his fire training at Suburban Officers of Training (SOOT). Scott lives in Bellbrook with his wife and two-year-old daughter. In his free time he enjoys camping with family and friends.



Firefighter Drue has been with Sugarcreek Township since April 12, 1993. He began his career with Sugarcreek Township as a Volunteer and on March 10, 2001, he was promoted to the position of Full-time Firefighter/Paramedic. He has his Firefighter Level II and Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic certifications from the State of Ohio. He is also certified in Water Rescue, Rope Rescue, and Trench

Rescue. He has his Hazardous Materials certification at the operations level and he is a former member of Ohio Task Force One. Firefighter Drue completed his fire training at Sinclair Community College. He lives in Troy with his wife and three children. Drue and his family enjoy all sorts of outdoor activities.

Sugarcreek Township is proud to have such a well-trained and talented group protecting our well being!





An Open Space Community

Sugarcreek Township
2090 Ferry Road
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305

Phone: (937) 848-8426
Fax: (937) 848-7060

Visit us online at www.sugarcreektownship.com!

What would you like to see in your next newsletter? Contact Cara KillKelley at 848-8426 with your suggestions.

MEETING SCHEDULE

- **TRUSTEE MEETINGS** are typically held the first and third Mondays of the month, 7:30 pm, at the Sugarcreek Township Administrative Offices, 2090 Ferry Road.
- **TRUSTEE WORK SESSIONS** are often held Wednesdays before the Trustee Meeting, 5:30 pm, at the Township Administrative Offices.
- **BOARD OF ZONING COMMISSION MEETINGS** are scheduled the second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm, at the Sugarcreek Township Administrative Offices.
- **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETINGS** are scheduled the fourth Thursday of the month, 7 pm, at the Sugarcreek Township Administrative Offices.
- **OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS** are held the third Wednesday of the month, 7 pm, at the City of Bellbrook Administration Building, 15 East Franklin Street.
- Information on the **BELLBROOK-SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP MERGER COMMISSION** may be found at www.mergerstudy.com. The next three meetings of the Merger Commission are scheduled for April 1, May 6, and June 3, 7:00 p.m., at the Sugarcreek Township Administrative Offices.

NOTE: Changes in meeting dates, as well as cancellations, do occur from time to time. Go to www.sugarcreektownship.com and click on our **COMMUNITY CALENDAR** for updates.