

January 2016

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# The Montville Minute



## Inside this issue:

Finances with Mary	2
Zoning in on Zoning	3
At your Service	3
A Brief from the Chief	4
Resident Spotlight	4
Community Events	5

## *From the Trustees ~*

The whole township is experiencing a building boom. Construction noise is heard everywhere and our mild winter so far is only making that more real. Montville Township's new service department building is now complete as is our new administration wing addition to the safety services building. Our staff has been moving into these new facilities over the holidays and the township will plan open house celebrations sometime in the Spring. We are pleased to report that all construction costs came in at budget and there were no significant overrides or snafus in the projects.



**Sally Albrecht, Ron Bischof, Jeff Brandon**

Montville Township plans to lease their old service department to Medina County Emergency Management at no cost but will retain the use of some storage space for community event supplies, signs and props. We are excited to be able to have their services and equipment so centrally located in our township and we view this as a real asset to our community.

We have begun discussions regarding preserving artifacts from the old Poe School where we currently house our two zoning staff. We plan to move old sentimental and historical items from the township's past and develop a display area in the new community room portion of the new administration wing. Input is welcome from the community regarding this project and we would love to include any residents who have interest in the township's history to assist us with items and ideas; in particular we need pictures of the Poe Elementary School. Please call Sally Albrecht at 330-321-3616 if you would like to help with this project.

We are happy that our township continues to grow and prosper and we remain dedicated to providing your community services and making Montville Township a wonderful place to live.



Mary Pawlowski, Fiscal Officer

## ***Finances with Mary ~***

### **TAXES - DON'T WANT & DON'T LIKE!**

*Yep, we are all in agreement on this one.* None of us like paying taxes of any kind. But in order to have the services that we enjoy it is a necessary "evil". Besides our Federal and State taxes that are automatically deducted from our paychecks, we have to write a check to support our townships and cities for local services. Cities are funded by property tax, levies and income tax.

In Medina City, residents pay 1.25% of their income in addition to their property taxes. City income taxes vary all over the place up to 2.75% in our area (Refer to RITA & CCA rate tables.) By law in any township in the state of Ohio, we do not pay a tax on our income. So if you just moved into our wonderful township you do not need to pay a tax on your income from the date you became a resident in Montville Township. If you moved from a city to a township you do need to file a final income tax form to the city advising them of the dates you moved and pay the tax for that period you lived in the city.

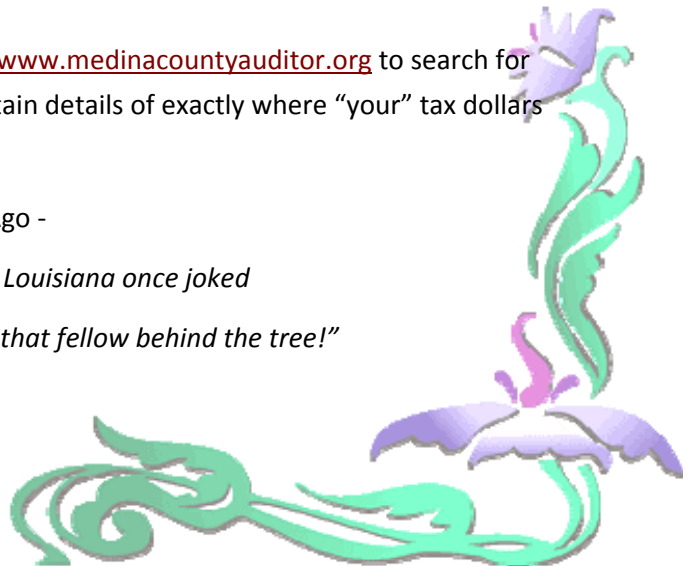
A township is only supported by property taxes and special levies. The property taxes collected in a township funds the "General Fund" and can be used for any township purpose, where as a special levy can only be used for the purpose the voters intended. So, where does all that money go when we write that check? In Montville we have three different schools districts; Medina, Highland and Wadsworth plus the JVSD. Depending on which school district you live in, the percentages can vary slightly but on the average the Library receives 2.1%, County 7.6%, County Parks 0.7%, Schools 77.4%, JVSD 1.9% and the Township 10.3%. When we write a check for our annual property tax of let's say on the average of \$5,000 each year, the Township receives \$515 to provide the services we have come to expect and enjoy which include road services, police, EMS, fire and parks.

Visit the Medina County Auditors website at [www.medinacountyauditor.org](http://www.medinacountyauditor.org) to search for your parcel and click on "Where Tax Goes" to obtain details of exactly where "your" tax dollars go.

- Years Ago -

*Senator Russel Long from Louisiana once joked*

*"Don't tax you, don't tax me, tax that fellow behind the tree!"*





**Paul Jeffers,**  
**Planning and Zoning Director**

## ***Zoning in on Zoning ~***



In 2014, Montville Township formed a Comprehensive Plan Review Committee to update the Township Comprehensive Plan that was last amended in 2008. The Comprehensive Plan is a guide book of suggested rules for the desired growth, use, and characteristics of the township. A survey was sent out to the land owners within the township for their valuable feedback regarding characteristics of the township and their suggested commercial needs.

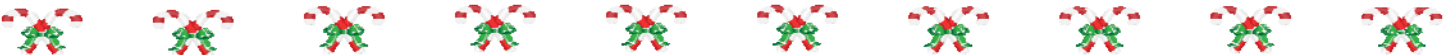
The majority of the land owners who completed the survey indicated that it was the rural character that they liked most about Montville Township. Its location to surrounding cities, residential neighborhoods, governmental services, parks/recreation, and access to local businesses were also strong key reasons for choosing to live and do business in Montville Township.

The findings of the survey also concluded that future development should include more parks/recreation, low density residential housing on lots between two and four acres, and commercial businesses offering personal services and retail sales. The primary focus in future planning was the preservation of Montville Township's rural and agricultural atmosphere, which was followed by a desire to lower property taxes. Traffic and congestion, and parks/recreation were also identified as key planning components.

The survey further researched what types of businesses would be desirable in Montville Township's two key commercial districts. Restaurants/bars, retail stores, and banks were the top business choices of land owners for both the Route 3 and 18 corridors. Other key business choices were gas stations along the Route 3 corridor and various levels of health care institutions along the Route 18 corridor.

The Comprehensive Plan and the Township Zoning Resolution are two vital documents that help preserve the stability and charm that Montville Township has to offer to their residents and business partners.

If you any questions regarding either document, please contact the Zoning Office at (330) 725-8313. Happy New Year's from the Zoning Staff.



**Chris Kosman, Service Director**

## ***At your Service ~***

The Montville Township Service Department has been working on the new park at Blue Heron. With help from Pride One and Redwood Homes, we were able to construct a new parking lot for visitors off River Styx Road. The concrete path from there that runs up the hill was also repaired using funds received from the original grant that we secured when we purchased the park. While most of the park is restricted to a nature reserve, the area along River Styx Road is permitted to have "passive recreation". The Cleveland Clinic has donated outdoor fitness equipment that will be installed there by spring with hopes of opening this area at that time. We are also in conversations about the development of a mountain bike course there.

The slow start of Winter has allowed us to finish up projects and prepare for colder weather. We have been patching roads to extend their life and this has been a struggle to stay ahead of as many of our roads were constructed 15 years ago and now are showing their age. Reductions in funding from state and local government contributions has resulted in less money for road repairs so we hope our road levy passes in March.







Terry Grice, Police Chief

## A Brief from the Chief ~

The Medina County Fraternal Order of Police sponsors the county's annual "Shop With A Cop" program each year. Thanks to the efforts of many, especially our Rebecca Byrne, we were able to take 40 children Christmas shopping at Walmart on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

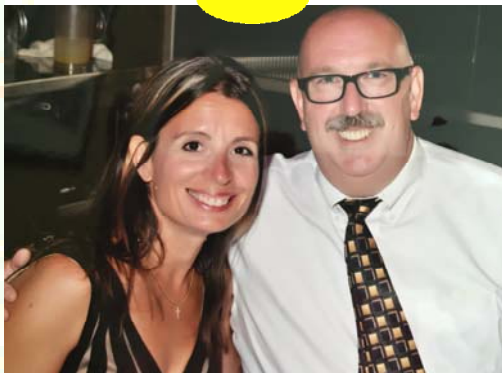
The kids enjoyed a great breakfast first at the Weymouth Country Club and then were escorted by police vehicles with lights and sirens activated to the Walmart store. Their smiles and excitement will not be forgotten. At the store, each child was given \$100.00 to spend on presents for themselves or other family members.

This program illustrates the importance of the holiday season and how vital it is to give a little help to those in need. The children selected for this special day will not soon forget the fun day, the parade and the new friends along the way.

Many thanks to all of our sponsors and residents who purchased raffle tickets in order to raise money for this great event. The Montville Police Department will continue their efforts to make a positive impact on the lives of others in our community!



## Resident Spotlight



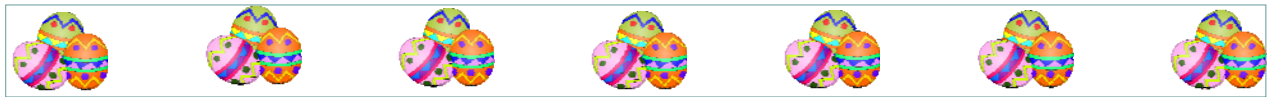
Pat and Renee Haberfield are members of Montville Cares and are Montville Township's Volunteers of the Year. They reside on Highland Meadows Drive with their four children: Brian, Breannah, Olivia and Sophia. Pat works for S & T Bank, a consistent sponsor of our community events. Renee is Secretary for Montville cares, Montville Township's Volunteer Community Planning Committee. They both work tirelessly on the township's three events each year: Easter Egg Hunt, Music and a Movie in Montville, and the Trunk R Treat/Scary Walk. It is people like the Haberfield's that help to make Montville Township such a great place to live.



**Montville Township's Second Annual Trunk R Treat/Scary Walk** was held on October 18th at Cobblestone Park. Developed and orchestrated by Montville Cares, Montville Township's volunteer community events planning committee, the event drew in thousands from the surrounding neighborhoods. Donations from attendees were split between the township's McPal After School Program and Montville Cares.

We are grateful to the following local businesses who sponsored the event: Girard Construction, 2D3D/Donna Duchek, Rob Freeline of Good Vibrations, Red Rose Cleaning, Buehlers, Hawkins, Ken Ganley Nissan, The Place, Lloyd's Towing, S & T Bank, On Tap, Century 21, Goddard School, Motion Autosport, Pfister Orthodontics, The Learning Garden, Great Clips, Geysers, Rockne's, Barbara Wilson of Howard Hanna, Candyapple & Company, Waterford Apartments, Geig's Apples, Sam Hardy, The UPS Store, Guilkey Enterprises, and Griffin Dolan. Special thanks to all of our student volunteers from Medina High School and Highland High School.

If you are interested in getting involved to help plan and work our fun community events, please contact Sally Albrecht at 330-321-3616.



## *Easter Egg Hunt*

Plans are in the works for the Montville Cares Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The tentative date is March 26, 2016. Visit the Montville Township website for updated details - [www.MontvilleTwp.org/index.php/montville-cares](http://www.MontvilleTwp.org/index.php/montville-cares)