



At Your Service:

- Mead Wilkins, Chairman, Road And Bridge Superintendent
- Mike Todd, Police Commissioner
- Rita Holt, Fire Commissioner and Zoning Liaison

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MEDINA TOWNSHIP

GRAND OPENING OF BLAKSLEE PARK

The Medina Township Trustees are proud to announce that the Grand Opening of Blakslee Park and the new Road Department building will take place on Sunday, June 7th at 1 PM. Free to the public, we invite all to join in the celebration of our community's newest assets.

The Grand Opening will feature attractions and demonstrations for all members of the community. Free snacks, including popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones, will be available to all in attendance. Children will enjoy the opportunity to try out the new ball field. A variety of baseball activities and field events are scheduled throughout the day. Everyone will

appreciate demonstrations from our Fire and Police Departments. The public will have the opportunity to see departmental vehicles up close, as well as meet with the men and women who work hard to keep our Township safe.



To help inform Township residents about the services and resources available to those in need, a number of community support agencies will host booths and exhibits in the new Road Department building. After visiting with these agencies, we invite you to take a full tour of the new

Road Department building and speak with the personnel who work there.

These new community assets represent a new step forward for our Township. The new Road Department building will allow our Road Department to carry out its work more effectively. The ball fields at Blakslee Park allow Township residents and their children the opportunity to play baseball, softball, and other sports without having to leave the Township.

Please save the date, June 7th, and join us for a day of celebration, with plenty of fun and a few surprises. We invite all to join us in welcoming these new additions to the Township.

TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT. AWARDED TWO GRANTS

**By: David L. Arbogast
Chief of Police**

The Medina Township Police department was successful in obtaining two equipment grants to enhance the department's crime fighting mission. The department was awarded two competitive grants for 2009. One grant was from the CEDAP (Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program) under Homeland Security and the other grant was from Ohio Criminal Justice Services. The combined value of the grants was \$28,000, with the township match of only \$900.

Mike Todd, Police Commissioner, has led the efforts for the police department to maximize the use of grants to enhance the services provided and reduce or control cost. The grant process is very competitive. The CEDAP grant had over 3,000 applications and only 1,000 awards. We were awarded one of the only two awards given in Medina County. Police Commissioner Todd said, "We have not always been successful in every grant we have applied for but our percentage is good". We

will continue to pursue grants that fit the needs of the township and meet our financial goals.

The CEDAP Program awarded the township a Zistos Thermal Detection Search and Surveillance System. This system has many uses and features. The Thermal Detection uses hi-tech imaging in a 2½ inch camera that will allow the officer to "see" heat sources. We can use this for any number of purposes...

Continued on page 6

MEET THE ROAD DEPARTMENT



Denny Miller and Ed Kerr

Safe, snow free roads are something we have come to expect here in Northern Ohio. However, if it were not for the contributions of Medina Township road crew, this would not be the case. Driving 16 hours in blinding conditions is not an easy task. It took over 1,860 tons of salt on 45 miles of roadway this winter to keep our roadways safe and clear.

Medina Township would like to acknowledge Ed Kerr, the Township's Working Road Foreman, and Denny Miller, the Assistant Road Foreman.

Mead Wilkins, Trustee in charge of the Road and Bridge Department said, "We received many compliments from Township residents this winter about how well the roads were maintained, even in the harshest of circumstances. No crew works harder or is more dedicated and conscientious than ours"

Ed Kerr moved from Erie, PA to Medina when he was a year old. He is married and has two sons, one daughter, and four grandchildren. Ed's sons are in the military; one son is a Navy diver and has been stationed in Guam since August 2008, and his other son is Army Military Police in Afghanistan. Ed has been involved with Boy

Scouts for sixteen years and still enjoys volunteering what spare time he has. After working for K and M Construction twenty three years ago, he began working for the Road Department. Ed also serves as a volunteer firefighter. He is on a special Technical Rescue Team with the Fire Dept. and is also trained for Confined Space Rescue and Rope Team Rescue.

Denny Miller was born in Akron, grew up in Copley and has lived in Sharon Township since 1996. He has been married for 12 years and has two boys, ages six and eight. Denny Miller is a devoted family man and after putting in countless hours between the Road Department and Fire Department, he likes to spend time with his wife and sons. Prior to working for the Township, he worked for Alber Excavating Company for nine years. Denny has been with the Medina Township Road Department since May, 2001. He is also a volunteer firefighter. Among other responsibilities, Denny is an engineer with the fire department, and is in charge of the fire trucks' maintenance and equipment.

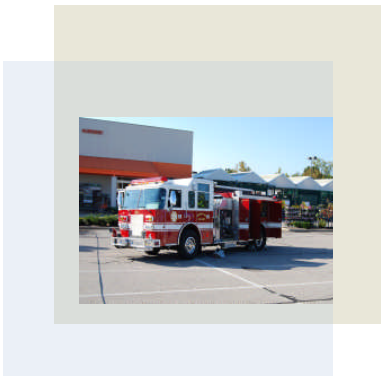
The road crew is on call 24/7/365. They maintain everything in the Township

from the roads, ditches, right of ways, to all the Township buildings, and the cemeteries. There are four cemeteries; Pearl Rd., Remsen Rd., Windfall Rd. and Medina Centre by Blakslee Field. In addition to maintaining the grounds, they are in charge of digging graves and preparing the footers for the headstones.

Fortunately, the new road department building is complete which helps tremendously with carrying out their responsibilities. The new building is located at 3718 Weymouth Road. The building is user friendly, making it easier to maintain all the trucks and equipment and provides a much improved work environment. A new salt bin stands besides the building and holds 700 tons of salt.

Also serving with the Road and Bridge Department is Jeff Kessler, who is responsible for maintenance of the sports fields. Ross Kerr, Don Kessler, and Paul Cugini Sr., also help with the snow plowing.

We all owe thanks to Mr. Kerr and Mr. Miller for their hard work and dedication in making Medina Township a safer and cleaner place to live.



FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING & EMS

Quicker Responses to daytime fires and emergencies are better serving the community. Full-time staffing of one Engine Company is now provided to meet the additional

responses during the weekday hours. Four firefighters and Emergency Medical personnel support the engine company during these hours. This includes support to Life Support Team

emergency responses. Additional responsibilities include public education, hazard inspections, and advanced trainings.

HISTORY OF OLD WEYMOUTH VILLAGE

BY: MEAD WILIKINS,
TRUSTEE

Although Weymouth is more of a concept than a center of commerce today, that was not always the case. Before the advent of the superhighway (I-71) and the rerouting of SR 3, Weymouth was the center of Medina Township, and at one time the Medina County seat. Weymouth is one of the oldest developments in Medina Township and some buildings are part of the National Historic Register. An annual, "Weymouth Days Festival" is held in the area and attracts many visitors.

Weymouth was named by Hiram Bronson for his hometown in Waterbury CN which was named for Weymouth England on the River Wye. Most early settlers were from Connecticut.

The first settler family in Weymouth was headed by Captain Lathrop Seymour. He and his wife left Waterbury CN September 20, 1807 with 4 other families. They went by ox team through mud and mire to Buffalo, and then took a small schooner over the Canadian side of Lake Erie. Three weeks later they landed at Erie. The Seymour's started out on foot, 6 miles per day and finally moved to Weymouth in 1817. In the process, they suffered severely and lost a child.

They moved into a log shanty, so small that when the beds were spread down, they covered the entire floor. In company with Mr. Timothy Doan, they erected a sawmill in the fall. In 1818 Seymour and Doan built a gristmill adjoining the sawmill. Lathrop Seymour died on December 19, 1835. On March 11, 1817, Lathrop Seymour's sons Herschel Banner Seymour and William Harrison Seymour were baptized by Reverend Searle which was Medina Township's first baptism.

The wife of the late Lathrop Seymour (now widow Bradford) said she had, "troubles without and fears within." With the War of 1812 having been declared, Mr. Seymour joined the service. Soldiers were stationed at the home. One night she heard that the British and Indians were landing in Huron. She packed up their things and headed for Portage County. After traveling 10 miles and camping in the woods, more favorable news came to them and they returned home. She said that after Perry's victory on Lake Erie, there was great rejoicing on the frontier.

The Seymour's were followed by Selden Barnes Welton. He was born 1796 in Waterbury CN and reached Weymouth Aug 18, 1818, with wife and sister-in-law. The family logged off 5 acres where the Weymouth Meeting House

now stands and "sowed them to wheat". Mr. Welton died Nov 14 1881, from "gradual wearing out of the machinery of life" age 85.

By 1857, records show the following uses existed in the village:

2 shoe shops, 1 chair and cabinet maker, 1 wagon builder, 2 churches, 2 schools, 1 cooper, 3 sawmills, 3 gristmills, 1 joiner, 1 blacksmith, 1 post office, 1 hotel, 1 store, 1 grocer, 1 Indian fortification, 1 graveyard, 2 mill races and manmade ponds for water power, 1 railroad (the Clinton line, running east/west) 1 quarry and numerous residences.

Weymouth and Medina Township have a proud pioneer history. It seems hard to believe these days when you look at the new super-Wal-Mart, the housing developments, I-71 and I-271, etc, that not long ago the township was described as; "An unbroken forest, that, when, clothed in its robes of summer luxuriance, was almost impenetrable to the rays of the noonday sun and shut out his light from the virgin earth beneath. "No sound, other than the war of the tempest, the howl of the wild beast, the yell of the Indian, had ever echoed through its gloomy aisles until the advent of the sturdy pioneer. "



Weymouth is one of the oldest developments in Medina Township



Naming of Hometown Heroes Memorial

After over a year of work, the Township is finalizing plans for its memorial, which will be located at the new Blakslee Park Complex. The memorial, funded through private donations, will be opening this summer.



We are currently asking the public for their input on naming our memorial. Ideas for names can be submitted to Cecelia Goe at Town Hall. Via e-mail:

medinatownship@medinatownship.com

Or call: 330-725-5713

“GOING GREEN”



Every Little Bit Helps

By Laurie Shoemaker and Pete Zeigler

“GOING GREEN” is all the buzz! Do you actually know what that means? Do you know what happens to your garbage after it is compiled on your front lawn for pick up? Most people feel they have accomplished a weekly feat if they get the garbage out on time for pick up. Once it disappears from your property, you may not even think of it until the next week when you are running to the end of the driveway in your bathrobe, holding your coffee and screaming for the garbage men to “WAIT”!

Until I met with Bill Strazinsky, District Solid Waste Coordinator from the Medina County Sanitary Engineering Department, I had no idea how far we have come in helping our environment. Mr. Strazinsky works at the Central Processing Facility at 8700 Lake Road in Seville, OH. He has been with the County for 19 years and says, “the toughest part about my job has been getting the word out to Medina County”. I was interested in how this

facility originated. Bill explained that in 1988, Ohio’s legislature passed House Bill 592, the Solid Waste Act of Ohio. It is an ambitious piece of legislation that governs solid waste management. This set in motion a planning process at both the local and state government levels. In order to be in compliance with the Solid Waste Act, the Commissioners of Medina County constructed a Central Processing Facility.

In 1997, the CPF was named the number one recycling facility in the United States. Over 24,500 people from 26 different countries have visited the facility. The facility sits on 52 acres, and has created 85 jobs in our area. Each day, 80 garbage trucks deliver 1.1 million lbs. of trash and the facility extracts around 200,000 lbs. of recyclables a day. From July 1, 1993 to the end of 2008, 337,000 tons of recyclables were extracted. In order to related the numbers, he said, “Just picture a football field (which is 48,000 square feet) piled 723 feet high with waste”.

Going into our interview, I was prepared to speak with Bill for a bit and submit a short article for our newsletter. Two hours later, I realized the overwhelming amount of information could not be put into one small article. I decided to create a special section in each quarterly newsletter dedicated to bringing you news on this facility, and other agencies in our community that promote “GOING GREEN”.

Medina County is one of the leading recycling counties in Ohio. With your help, we can stay a leader. Prior to the opening of the Central Processing Unit, most of our trash was buried. Today less than 50% ends up in a landfill. You can get much more information, including a calendar, on the Central Processing Unit from their website, www.sanitaryengineer.co.me.dina.oh.us/cpf. To obtain information for proper disposal of items, call 330-769-1273 or 1-800-968-7273, Monday-Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm.

ZONING REGULATIONS SHIFT INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Submitted by: Rita Holt, Trustee

The Medina Township Trustees, with assistance from our legal advisor, The Medina County Prosecutor's office and our zoning advisor, Patrice Theken, Planning Director of the Medina County Planning Commission, are in the process of reviewing all of

our sign regulations. We hope to make changes that will be acceptable to our residents and businesses by moving into the 21st Century. Basically, our sign regulations have not changed since the early 1980's and modern technologies need to be reviewed and possibly adopted.

Hopefully this will be completed in the next few months. The Trustees and Zoning Inspectors are always available for your questions. We invite you to call or stop by the zoning office regarding any concerns you may have. Have a great summer!

“We hope to make changes that will be acceptable to our residents and businesses and move into the 21st Century.”

Zoning Office Hours:
 Mon. – Thurs.
 8:30am – 2:00pm
 Friday
 9:00am – 1:00pm

TRAINING IS OUR CORNERSTONE

Beginning last September, and continuing through this spring, eight township firefighters and one Lieutenant have been attending classroom and practical hands-on training to

advance to State of Ohio certified Fire Fighter II. At the certification of this class, all but one responding firefighter will have attained this professional level of certification. In addition, on-

going fire department training is being well received for Leadership, tactics and Emergency Medical Services. Congratulations to all those who are successfully completing this additional training.

PART-TIME FIREFIGHTER OPPORTUNITIES

Explore this exciting opportunity. No experience necessary. We will provide certified training including firefighting rescue and emergency medical responses. A Chance to work with a great group of individuals while providing a community service. Compensation is provided. A new class of recruits is currently being formed. Please contact Chief Mark Crumley at 330-723-6900 for an application.

Assistant Fire Chief Stepping Down

Veteran Assistant Fire Chief Bernie Smith has stepped down from this position, and will continue to serve as the Township Fire Inspector. Bernie served over 17 years

as Assistant Chief and helped greatly during the time to change the culture of the fire department to the current status. We sincerely thank him for all of his hard

work and contributions. Captain Shawn Kasson has been promoted to Assistant Chief. Parker Browne has advanced as the Staff Support Chief.

PARENTS WHO HOST, LOSE THE MOST

The Medina Township Police Department is proud to be participating in the "Parents Who Host, Lose the Most" campaign. Presented with the assistance of the Drug-Free Action Alliance and the Alliance on Underage Drinking, this effort was created in 1999.

The program is designed to educate parents, merchants and other adults on their responsibility to prevent alcohol from getting into the hands of children. It makes clear that those who provide alcohol to minors- whether voluntarily or through negligence- will be subject to punishment.

"Too often parents look the other way when it comes to teen drinking... It is not

unusual for well-meaning parents to provide alcohol to their teens' friends during home parties," notes the Alliance on Underage Drinking. "We want to educate parents that providing alcohol to teens other than their own is illegal and irresponsible."

Providing alcohol to minors is punishable by up to a year in jail and up to a \$4,000 fine. Statewide, police are making a concerted effort to find and target those who illegally furnish alcohol to minors, and police here in the Township, and throughout Medina County, are committed to enforcing a "zero tolerance" policy on enforcing this law. Where in the past, an officer might give the drinkers and host a lecture and a warning, "zero tolerance" means that

charges will be filed, without exception.

As underage drinking becomes a more serious problem, nationwide and here in our community, it is vital that we take action to protect our children, and our community. More than 10% of alcohol consumed nationwide is consumed by minors. By implementing and enforcing the "Parents Who Host, Lose the Most" program, we are doing our part to help limit underage drinking in Medina Township. We invite you to join our effort by contacting the Medina County Police Department, or browse the Drug-Free Action Alliance's website at www.drugfreeactionalliance.org.

Before You Light It...



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has many open burning regulations which include "restricted areas" within the township. Copies of the regulations and additional information may be requested at www.epa.state.oh.us or call fire prevention personnel at 330-723-6900.



POLICE AWARDED GRANTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

"We will continue to support the efforts to obtain grants to increase the safety and security of our officers and community while minimizing cost."

...including drug interdiction and search and rescue operations. The system also comes with an audio system that is so sensitive it can detect someone breathing. This is useful if in the event of a building collapse or other emergency. Not only does the system have thermo-imaging capabilities but also has a color camera system that can be submerged while searching for victims or objects under water. The device uses a system approach that makes it adaptable to many

applications both for law enforcement and rescue services. The police department will make this equipment available to any agency in need of this device.

The Criminal Justice Services Grant will allow us to update our Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs). This enhances the safety and security of the officers in the field. The new updated models have more features and the officers will be able to receive information much quicker.

The MDTs enable the officer to retrieve basic data in the car and check all types of activities, in turn freeing up dispatchers. The officer will be able to see pictures of a driver, get driving records, information on wanted person/s, and write reports in the car.

Mike Todd said, "We will continue to support the efforts to obtain grants to increase the safety and security of our officers and community while minimizing cost".

COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM

We are very fortunate to have people in Medina Township who still care and believe in helping others.

Listed below are some of the projects Chief David Arbogast has brought to our community using the funds you have so generously donated:

- **Shop with a Cop** –

This program is designed to raise money to help needy children have a great Christmas.

- **Medina Meadows, Cops & Kids** – The purpose of this event is to familiarize area children with safety forces and their roles in the community.

- **Target National Night Out** – Over 35 million people participated across the nation for America's Night out against Crime this year. We showcased the department

at Target along with other local law enforcement agencies.

- **Home Depot Safety Fair** – With the combined efforts of the Medina County Health Department and Medina Township Police, we offered free child safety seat inspections.

- **Medina General Hospital** – For the third year in a row, we participated in the MGH Safety Fair.

- **"Pick-It-Up" Program** – Our Third annual Litter Control Program is anticipated to be a huge success this year. See insert in this newsletter and mark your calendars!

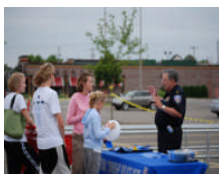
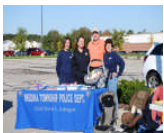
- **YMCA Safety Event** – Promoting Stranger Danger

- **Head Start Safety Town** – Many parents and children attended this event as the Chief gave an extraordinary presentation on Stranger Awareness and also distributed DNA kits.

- **"Bike to Biker" Event** – With combined efforts of MTPD and Century Harley Davidson, this cycle safety event is scheduled for May 30th this year.

- **"Parents Who Host, Lose the Most"** campaign. Presented with the assistance of the Drug-Free Action Alliance and the Alliance on Underage Drinking. We will be promoting this campaign throughout prom and graduation months.

Chief David Arbogast is committed to serving the community and is always thinking of new and productive ways to work in collaboration with surrounding agencies to help our community be the best it can be.



UPDATE ON OUR TOWNSHIP ROADS...

The Trustees have several road projects that are being released for bid by the Medina County Engineer's Office. The list includes the Remsen Road Culvert, Nettleton Road Bridge/Culvert #8 and Debbie Drive Improvements. These projects are long overdue for repairs and after discussions with the residents and County Engineers' Office, these road improvements will finally become a reality.

POLICE LOG

Decline in the economy has lead to an increase in the amount of reports for thefts, credit card thefts, stolen identity, fraud, and passing bad checks.

2/11/09 – Report of misuse of credit card. Medina Township resident, while in Florida for the winter, was advised of fraudulent charges made on his credit card.

3/9/09 – Report of stolen items from home under construction on Champions Way, items totaling \$7,400.

3/9/09 – Report of stolen items from home under construction on Blakslee, items totaling \$400.

3/14/09 – Three separate reports of automobiles broken into on Sassafras, misc. items stolen. One report on North Huntington.

3/14/09 – Business on Pearl Road reported misuse of credit card. Someone tried to purchase tires from them over the internet (Felony).

3/16/09 – Resident on Pine Hill Drive reported property totaling \$540 stolen from the garage. When suspect is apprehended, they will be faced with felony charges.

3/17/09 – Subject observed breaking into detached garage by homeowner on Fenn Road. Medina Township officers

immediately apprehended the suspect who was charged with breaking and entering and theft. (felony).

3/19/09 – Several reports of automobiles broken into on Boxelder.

3/23/09 – 17 yr. old. was charged with theft from Walmart and was also found with criminal tools in her possession.

3/23/09 – Separate incident with another suspect also stealing from Walmart was charged with criminal mischief, theft, driving under suspension and no operators license.

3/29/09 – A couple was recorded via CCTV stealing \$1389.93 in GPS systems and camcorders. Medina Township Officer had BOLO (be on the lookout) sent out to area Kohl's stores in regards to the couple. Subsequently on 3/27/09 the couple was identified at Kohl's in Lorain stealing similar items. The suspects were arrested by the Lorain Police Department for theft. Criminal Tools, drugs and drug paraphernalia was also found in their possession.

3/31/09 – Report of identity theft that occurred over the internet totaling \$2500.

3/31/09 – Dispatch advised officers that a subject at Walmart attempted to pass a fraudulent

ID. Customers standing by held subject until officers arrived on scene. Subject was charged with taking identity of another, receiving stolen property and complicity.

3/15/09 – Driver stopped on Marks Rd. and Baker for 67mph in 45mph zone was charged with OVI (operating vehicle under influence) Was transported to MCSO jail. Misdemeanor charges pending.

3/16/09 – Traffic stop on Pearl Rd. lead to an arrest for driving under suspension. Driver was wanted through Cuyahoga County Sheriffs Office for larceny. Misdemeanor charges pending.

3/16/09 – Traffic stop in the 3000 block of Medina Rd. led to several misdemeanor charges including driving under several suspensions and failure to reinstate.

3/16/09 – Traffic stop on Medina Rd. lead to driver OVI. Misdemeanor charges pending.

4/7/09 – Traffic stop on Foote Road. Officer stopped vehicle and identified driver to be wanted person. Driver was released to Brookpark Police.

4/4/09 – Officer recovered a stolen vehicle, Vehicle was returned to owner.

We would like to welcome back Officer Dave Maslyk who was injured on duty while trying to apprehend a suspect who was believed to be under the influence of alcohol and ran from officers.

GOING OUT OF TOWN?

One of the many services the Police Department provides, that some may not be aware of, is a Vacation Watch. If you plan to go on vacation, whether it is one day or many months, you may contact us to keep a watch on your property while you are away.

Medina Township Police officers will include your home in its daily patrols, providing a visible deterrent to property crime. The easiest way to request Vacation Watch service is via our website www.medinatownship.com,

there is a form under the Police Department site you can complete and submit. You may also call or stop in at the Medina Township Police station to give required information.

AROUND TOWN

Medina Township

3799 Huffman Road
EMERGENCY - 911

TWP. ADMINISTRATION:

(330) 725-5713

ZONING OFFICE:

(330) 721-1997

POLICE DISPATCH:

(330) 723-5191

Non-Emergency Police Station:

(330) 723-1408

Non-Emergency Fire Dept.:

(330) 723-6900

Fire Inspections:

(330) 723-1943

Roads Department:

(330) 764-8767

Trustees:

Mead Wilkins, Chairman

330-723-2747

Rita Holt

330-725-8681

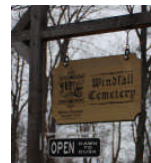
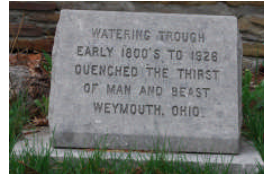
Mike Todd

330-722-2572

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.medinatownship.com



MEDINA TOWNSHIP

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