



[www.portagetownship.net](http://www.portagetownship.net)

# Portage Township News

Ottawa County, Ohio

*"A great place to live and raise a family!"*

**Township Hall  
Office/Garage**  
2501 E. State Road  
419-732-3543

## **Elected Officials**

### **Fiscal Officer:**

Judy Johannsen  
419-732-3543

### **Trustees:**

Sam Conte  
419-732-2302  
(Chairman)

Keith Heileman  
419-656-2767

Molly Sass  
419-734-3081

## **Township Meetings**

Regularly scheduled township meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Office.

### **Zoning Inspector:**

Mary Gardner

### **Zoning Office**

#### **Hours:**

Mon.: 5:30pm – 7:00pm  
Sat.: 8:30am – 10:00am  
419-734-7296



## **NEW TRAFFIC PATTERNS**



Portage Township has two **new traffic patterns**. These include the intersection of Lockwood Road and Fulton Street and the intersection of Lockwood Road and Plasterbed Road. They have now become traditional "T"-intersections. According to Ron Lajti, Ottawa County Engineer, the traffic pattern change was spurred by the number of complaints from USG about all of the cars that have run through the intersection of Plasterbed and Lockwood road and destroyed their fence. Research found many uncovered accidents involved people running off the road at Lockwood and Fulton. A traffic study was done by MasterMind to analyze the traffic patterns. The results came back that the intersection should either be changed to a 3 way stop or a traditional "T" style intersection. After much discussion with the Ottawa County sheriff, the decision was made to change the intersection traffic pattern to a "T" intersection to cut down on accidents.

## **Township Community Room Improvement Project Continues...**

This summer the maintenance workers painted the township building giving it a new coat of paint as the paint had begun to chip off. Also, the Funding Program of the OSS Joint Solid Waste District granted Portage Township a grant in the amount of \$5015.00. The monies will be used for the purchase of recycled flooring in the Township Community Room. Matt and Bryan will first complete an array of floor prepping and then install the recycled flooring. It will not only look beautiful, but provide a much safer environment for those using the Community Room.

***The Township Community room is open until flooring updates are started.***



### ***Need a place to have a celebration?***

The Township Community Room is available to Portage Township residents. The room may be used for parties, reunions, meetings, and other types of gatherings free of charge. The room comes supplied with tables and chairs. Individuals using the facilities are reminded that they are expected to leave the room in a neat and clean fashion.

Contact Molly Sass at 419-734-3081. **Limit: 40 people. No alcohol allowed.**

### LIBERTY AVIATION MUSEUM Flying High This Summer!

#### WARBIRDS OVER PORT CLINTON



#### RED TAIL TUSKEGEE AIRMEN EXHIBIT



**Dr. Harold Brown explains his experience as being one of the first African-American Combat Pilots!**

### Cemetery Clean-Up



The cemetery clean-up is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> through October 9<sup>th</sup>. Residents are reminded that any flowers or decorations that remain on the graves after October 9<sup>th</sup> will be collected and disposed of.



### OTA Scholarship

The Ohio Township Association, of which Portage Township is an active member, has been offering scholarships since 2005. This year they are offering three scholarships of \$1,500 each. Scholarships are given in two categories, Local Government Achievement and Academic Achievement.

Applicants must be high school seniors, reside in one of Ohio's townships and must plan to attend a two or four-year Ohio College or university. Requirements include a completed application, 500-word essay, high school transcript, and two letters of recommendation. If you would like more information about the program, contact a township elected official or look on the OTA website under Scholarships: [www.townships.org](http://www.townships.org)

### Summer of 2015 was a busy time for road repairs



Roads tarred, chipped and fog sealed included Heiser, Luchsinger, Fulton, Bayview Dr., Ewerson, and Stover Rd South. Roads overlayed were Christy Chapel, Sanbay and Douglas. Maintenance workers went along each edge of overlayed roads with stone. Once we have some rain, the roads will be fogged and the stones should settle.



### Cemetery Rules

The Board of Trustees has adopted a new set of rules and regulations for the cemeteries. Copies are made available at the Township Office. Copies will also be available at Fall Clean-up.

**LEAF COLLECTION**



Township workers will again be picking up leaves this fall. Collection will begin on October 26<sup>th</sup> and continue until November 30<sup>th</sup>. Any leaves at the curb by November 30<sup>th</sup> will be picked up. **Please be sure to keep the leaves close to the edge of the road.** And please keep the leaves clear of brush and sticks. The larger materials have a tendency to clog up the equipment.



The Portage Township **Fall Clean-Up** will be held Friday, October 9th through Monday, October 13th, 7:00am to 7:00pm at the Township maintenance complex, 2501 E. State Road. Dumpsters will be available and township employees will be on hand each day to assist residents.

The clean-up is intended to provide an opportunity for residents to dispose of accumulated household items. It is not intended to be an opportunity for individuals to cut remodeling and home renovation costs by disposing of excessive amounts of building materials, nor is it intended as a means for commercial ventures to cut costs.

Residents are reminded that daily household garbage, tires, asbestos, liquid waste, batteries, or yard waste will not be accepted.



**Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca  
Joint Solid Waste Management District  
Collection Location: Ottawa County Fairgrounds  
OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup> – Residential Tires**

- Limit of 10 tires per resident
- Accepting tires on or off the rim
- Car and small truck tires - \$0.50 each
- Racing tires - \$2.00 each



**A Look Back To... Gypsum Community Church**



There was a recent article in the Ottawa County Register about Gypsum Community Church. Being a special part of Portage Township history, it is important to give some more background of the 91 year old church. Gypsum Community Church goes back as far as 1833 when camp meetings were held on Catawba Island by the Methodist ministers of the Lower Sandusky Circuit. To our wonderful Gypsum heritage, services are still held every Sunday morning. In 1847 a new church was erected for worship and was dedicated as “Christy Chapel”. The ground for the Chapel on Shepard Lane, now State Road was donated by Joseph Gill. Christy Chapel was used for worship for 52 years. Christy Chapel was permanently closed in 1901. A cemetery is still located on this property and contains grave sites dating back to 1850’s. A review of the religious needs of the community (November 1923) found that there were many families in Gypsum and Portage township with no church affiliation. Many immigrants had located in the Gypsum area to work in the gypsum mines. It was decided to better serve these families with relocating Christy Chapel to Gypsum. In 1903 a parsonage was added and the church became known as the Christy Methodist Episcopal Church. By-laws were difficult to write and were resolved when the idea was born to change the religious affiliation to a community church. In 1925 the church was renamed The Gypsum Community Church and the church flourished. During the Depression, the church struggled. But, the continuous service of the faithful members made it possible for the church to weather the ‘storms’. Faithful people have kept the church going.

The longest standing member is Nan Lemon. Nan played the organ from 1965 to 2014 and remains an active member. At this time, Rev. Dr. Roger Smith, a retired pastor serves the congregation. Under his leadership, recorded music and a web page have been added.



Portage Township Trustees  
2501 East State Road  
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

**Portage Township  
Fall Meetings**

**October 2015**

- 3 – 9 Cemetery Clean-up**
- 5 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 6 Brush Pick-Up**
- 9 – 12 Fall Clean – up**
- 12 Columbus Day**
- 19 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm

**November 2015**

- 3 – Election Day**
- 2 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 3 Brush Pick-Up**
- 11 Veterans Day**
- 16 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 26 Thanksgiving Day**

**December 2015**

- 7 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 8 Brush Pick-Up**
- 21 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 25 Christmas Day**

**Brush Pick-Up**

It's that time of year to trim the trees before winter. Please call the office if you have a very large /excessive amount of bush that has accumulated from home owners trimmings. It helps Matt and Bryan plan their brush pickup schedule.

**Annual Port Clinton Firefighters  
Feather Party. November 14<sup>th</sup>  
Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.**

**National Wreaths Across America**



**December 12, 2015**

**REMEMBER ~ HONOR ~ TEACH**

If you would like to honor an Ottawa County hero by donating and/or volunteer your time, please contact Sara Toris at Veterans Service Office (419) 898-208

**November 3 – Election Day**



**Township**

Molly Sass – Trustee (4-year term)  
Judy Johannsen – Fiscal Officer (4-year term)

**Board of Education**

(Vote for not more than 2)

David G. Belden  
Beth M. Benko  
Jessica Lynn Fillmore  
Suzanna Leone

**State Issues**

There are three state issues that residents are encouraged to explore in order to cast an informed vote.

**State Issue One** – Creates a bipartisan, public process for drawing legislative districts

**State Issue Two** – Anti-monopoly amendment: protects the initiative process from being used for personal economic benefit

**State Issue Three** – Grants a monopoly for the commercial production and sale of marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes