

Elizabeth Township Winter 2011 Newsletter

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Third Trustee
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Vice President
937-339-1084

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President
937-857-9487

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Township Fiscal Officer
937-339-1678

A Word From The Trustees.....

Hello and Happy New Year,

It is a great pleasure to introduce Greg D. Dilts as your newly appointed Elizabeth Township Trustee. He was selected from a list of outstanding fellow residents that applied for the vacant position created by William Sutherly, who stepped down to pursue other interests. We live in a wonderful township and he is proud to have been chosen to serve this community. He looks forward to the challenges ahead of him and pledges to do the best job he can do as your Elizabeth Township Trustee.

Greg works as a Firefighter/Paramedic for the Troy Fire Department. Greg also volunteers as a Deputy Sheriff for the Miami County Sheriff Patrol. He is a dedicated husband and family man to his wife Angela and three wonderful teenagers, Meagan-17, Colton-14 and Andrew-13. Greg and Angela support their kids by watching them play in their sports activities such as baseball, softball, soccer, football and basketball along with showing their market lambs at the Miami County Fair. Greg and his family also enjoy taking care of their two horses, a miniature donkey, a fainting goat named "Popeye", and coming soon, "Louie", their golden doodle puppy.

Greg looks forward to working with you in keeping our township the best township around! He will always be open to your opinions, so please feel free to contact him or any of us should you have any questions or concerns. May your 2011 be filled with health, happiness and peace for you and your family!

"Be the change you wish to see in the world" by Morgan Freeman

God Bless

Your Elizabeth Township Trustees

Elizabeth Township Community Center



Advisory board members needed. The board meets 3 to 4 times a year and serves in an advisory capacity on program ideas and policies for the center. We are accepting 1 – 2 volunteers to serve out remaining terms. This is a 2 year term beginning January 2011 ending December 2013. Requirements include living in Elizabeth Township and being a current member of the ETCC.

Upcoming programs for February include: Senior Club Luncheon Wed. Feb. 2 at noon "A History of the Knoop Children's Home and the current David L. Brown Program", Cards Wed. Feb. 9 at 1 pm, Bingo Wed. Feb. 16 at 1 pm. (Please note that Cards and Bingo will not be held if Miami East Schools are closed due to weather on that day). Selling on EBay Sat. Feb. 19 at 9:30 am, Gym Games start Feb. 26 at noon and Euchre on Feb. 25 at 7 pm.

You can check out our programs at www.335-etcc.com. If you don't find what you need or have a suggestion call Zlata Garrison at 335-etcc (3822.)

Walnut Grove Learning Center

The children at Walnut Grove Learning Center have had a wonderful start to the 2010-2011 school year. Viewing the world through the eyes of children gives a whole new meaning to discovery and learning. We look forward to growing alongside the children as we complete this year. We are also registering for the 2011-2012 school year and preparing for summer camp which will begin in June.

Our summer camp brochure outlining each week's focus will be available in the next few months. For more information about preschool, child care, and summer camp give us a call at 339-2189 or visit our website at www.wglc.info.



From the Township Zoning Inspector

We are now beginning a new year in building new structures and renovating previously built structures. Last year there was quite an increase over the 2009 calendar year in construction. This was mainly due to the very low cost of building materials, lower labor costs, and like the year before, lower interest rates.

If you are planning any type of construction please contact me prior to starting your project. I will be available to answer any and all questions.

Ted McDowell 335-1252
Elizabeth Township Zoning

Elizabeth Township Farmland Preservation

The Elizabeth Township Trustees have resolved, at their January 5, 2011 meeting to again commit \$1,000,000.00 for the purpose of preserving prime agricultural

soils by sponsoring their Farmland Preservation Program. This year we have three options that landowners can use to preserve their land if they so desire. We have the local Township program, the Ohio Agricultural Easement Preservation Program, and the USDA Farm and Ranchland Protection Program to use. The Township will use both the USDA-FRPP and the Ohio AEPP to rank the applications to prioritize the funding if there are more farms that apply than there are funds available.

We have four landowners in the Township who applied for the 2010 USDA-NRCS Farm and Ranchland Protection Program consisting of a total of 654.37 acres. This program had \$2.1 million in funds that were committed to farmland preservation in Ohio and our farms have all been accepted into this program. USDA-NRCS contributes 50% of the easement value, Elizabeth Township contributes 25% of the easement value, and the land owners donate the final portion of the value of the preservation easement. The deadline for the applications was June 16, 2010 and we expect that the landowners will receive their funding by the summer of 2011. Since that time NRCS has added over seven million dollars more to the available preservation funds for Ohio.

The Township Trustees have also committed the balance of the unused funds from 2009 and 2010 toward the preservation program in 2011 giving us a total of approximately 2.3 million dollars that are allocated for the purchase of conservation easements. To date there have been preserved about 660 acres through the Ohio Agricultural Easement Protection Program, 680 acres through the USDA-FRPP program, and 640 acres through the local township program.

We know that there will be another FRPP program in 2011 with sign up dates of February 28, April 29, and June 30, 2011. During the December 31, 2010 sign up period we had seven more landowners apply to the FRPP which represent 1397 more acres of township land. We would encourage any interested township land owners to contact any of the Trustees, the Township office 335-1920, or Randy Mott, Farmland Preservation Chairman 545-8772 for more information and to take advantage of these great programs.

Elizabeth Township Historical Museum

Now that the holidays are over, I hope to get back to work at the museum. Thank you to all the people who continue to send pictures, stories, and items to save for everyone. Work continues on gathering pictures and stories. I have several more graduating class pictures. Several more family genealogies are being compiled for the museum.

The ETHS has a bronze National Register plaque for your property to acknowledge the historic significance of your place within Elizabeth Township. The plaque costs \$150 and is 8 in. by 11in. You can see these plaques at the ETCC and the museum or you can call any of the board members of the ETHS for more information.

Remember that the museum is for everyone. Contact me with any questions or concerns you may have at 339-5209. Audrey Phillis

Contact Us

Township newsletters are mailed to all registered voters and landowners in Elizabeth Township. Please let us know if your address changes. If you know someone who is not receiving a newsletter, but would like to receive one, please contact Zlata Garrison at 937-335-3822 or at Zlata.Garrison@335-etcc.com

Trustees meet at 8 P.M. on the first and third Wednesday of each month through the end of October at the township house, 5710 Walnut Grove Road (meetings begin at 7 P.M. November through March). Work sessions are held on the second Monday of each month through the end of October at the township house, 5710 Walnut Grove Road (meetings begin at 7 P.M. November through March). If you would like to be placed on a meeting's agenda, please contact the township trustee office with as much advance notice as possible. Additional township information can be found on our website: www.elizabethtownshipohio.com.