

# The Canaan Collector

May, 2007

Issue 11

Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, 7:30 PM, 2170 SR95

Trustees: Billie Pangborn, Chairman (419-947-2913); Edward Sayers, V. Chairman (419-947-2148); John Bayles (419-946-3303)

Fiscal Officer: Deana Detwiler (419-946-7790)

## Cheers and Jeers

From Chairperson Billie Pangborn

**Cheers** to Clover Posse and Country Clovers 4H groups for being our township Trash Bash participants. Good Job!

**Jeers** to the high winds of winter that took down our flag pole at the township building. We will replace soon.

**Cheers** to everyone who has used the township building for birthday parties, holiday dinners, and meetings. THANK YOU for leaving the building clean and putting everything where it belongs!!!!

**Jeers** to the ground moles at the South Canaan Cemetery. We do hope to be rid of you soon!

## Road Report

By Ed Sayers, Vice-Chairman

Canaan Township has patched all roads this spring and bermed different spots for mailbox approaches.

We currently have three culverts scheduled for replacement, and we're going to re-ditch Township Road 64.

Later this summer the township will be treating various sections of roads with chip and seal and blacktop. Sealed bids were received for the work.

Earthworm Construction and Small's Asphalt Paving submitted bids with Earthworm being awarded the contract.

The township was very lucky that the roads survived well, considering the winter we just went through.

## Township Mowing

The trustees will be sharing the mowing of the roadsides, and it will begin very soon. Thank you to those residents who mow and pick up trash in the ditches near their homes. It helps a great deal!!

Please continue to keep trash and debris cleaned up so our township can stay a beautiful place to live!

## New Driveway Permits

By John Bayles, Trustee

As of January, 2007, anyone wishing to install a new driveway entrance on township road right of ways will be required to have a permit. This is a non-fee agreement between the landowner and trustees regarding culvert diameter, length, and depth. A permit can be obtained from any of the trustees. It is recommended that the landowner keep a copy of the permit with the property deed. Any driveway entrances installed without a permit, or improperly installed, will be subject to removal at the landowner's expense.

## New Sign Donated by RV Lions' Club

The Canaan Board of Trustees is very appreciative of the donation of a new sign soon to be constructed at the township office building. The River Valley Lions of the Caledonia area have purchased the sign as a parting gift to the township. The club met at the township building until recently. THANK YOU to the RV LION'S Club!!

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## *Have a Fun-Filled and Safe Summer!*

### **Cemetery Improvements Continue**

By John Bayles

Planned improvements at our four cemeteries include the installation later this spring of a new fence at South Canaan Cemetery. A large dead tree at the back of the cemetery was removed earlier this year. Additional cleaning of the existing fence rows to the north and west will also be completed.

Plans are being made with Jahn Monuments for a second year of headstone restoration and leveling.

Burial lots are available at North Canaan, South Canaan, and Worden Cemeteries (Non-residents pay triple):

Single grave	\$	70
Double		120
Triple		160
Four or more		50 ea
Infant burial or cremation		100
Initial Opening & Closing		300
Subsequent O & C		500
(to move a body)		plus add'l costs if necessary

### **Historical Trivia**

It was recently noted in "Traveling Back in time with *The Sentinel*" that a bill was passed in the Ohio Legislature 130 years ago on March 12, 1877, authorizing the trustees of Canaan Township to borrow money to improve their cemetery. A little over an acre of land later named East Cemetery, currently known as Worden Cemetery on CR130, was deeded to the Canaan Trustees by Richard and Lucinda Worden in June, 1877, for the purpose of establishing a township cemetery.

### **Suggestions for Canaan's Future?**

The trustees are interested in knowing what you would suggest for the future of Canaan Township. What do you like about Canaan? What do you dislike? What improvements would you like to see? Keeping in mind that we are limited in what can be accomplished due to the limits of township funding, we would like you to send us your suggestions for Canaan Township's improvement and its future. Send your comments and suggestions to 2209 CR 69, Edison, and we'll share some of your thoughts in our next newsletter.

### **"Old" Township Building**

The "old" Canaan Township Hall on County Road 28 at the north edge of Denmark is deteriorating more each year. This building sits on leased ground owned by the Rausch family of Denmark. The Board of Trustees does not own the land, and the building actually will become the property of the landowner when we abandon use of it. Several years ago Dottie and Mike Gist investigated the possibility of transferring the building to the Historical Society for renovation and relocation. Unfortunately the news was not good. The building has no foundation, and the walls are crumbling into dust. Groundhogs have found a home under the building, and birds have found a way to get into the building and roost. The floor is beginning to soften and "give" more each time we visit. It appears this grand old building, built in the early 1880's, cannot be returned to its former useful condition. Investing in maintenance of the building does not appear to be

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a fiscally responsible thing to do. A decision to disassemble the building may have to come soon.