



# Kingston Township

# News

October 2008

## Chairman's Chat

By Dewey Akers

Hello, School days are back and I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. The recent rainfall has returned a greener look for a while longer and the cool weather is welcome after those 90+ degree days.

We hope you all weathered Ike safely and with minimal property damage. The power outage has delayed the newsletter slightly.

The Trustees meeting on September 8 was an eventful one, to say the least. The noise resolution was voted on and passed. The resolution was drafted by the Delaware County Prosecutor's Office for the townships. There are currently nine townships in the county which have adopted noise resolutions. If you have an opportunity, please read the resolution and note that it concerns EXCESSIVE NOISE, not noise in general. I will review the effects this resolution has on the township, both good and bad, with the Sheriff's Department on a quarterly basis for the next 6-12 months and report those findings in the newsletter.

For those residents who attended the meeting and thought that I was intimidating, I apologize. I believe a meeting should be run in an orderly fashion and that every resident should have an opportunity to express his/her opinions without interruption or harassment, unlike some meetings I have attended in our township in the past.

If your Rumpke trash bill included extra charges, just ignore them. Your bill should be a flat \$38.22. There were billing problems that will be corrected.

As always, please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns at 740/803-1529 or e-mail me at [dvakers@verizon.net](mailto:dvakers@verizon.net).

## Zoning Revisions

Zoning Commission members brought their research on specific topics to the September meeting for discussion. The topics being reviewed for revision in the zoning resolution include the following: lighting standards; sign standards; document consistency with PRD changes; general development standards; stream (natural resources) protection overlays; communication towers/wind turbines; curbs/

gutters In PRD developments; and, nuisance/grass. Your zoning commission welcomes your input on these issues, especially in the beginning when documents are being drafted. All zoning commission meetings are open to the public.

## Zoning Opening

The Trustees will also appoint one member to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). This term runs Dec. 2008-2013. The Board of Zoning Appeals meets as needed to hear applications for variances and conditional uses and appeals of the zoning inspector's decision.

Interested Kingston Township residents should submit a letter of interest and a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to October 24. Applicants will be interviewed by the Trustees during their Nov. 3 meeting at the township hall.

Contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 with questions. You may submit your application/resume by mail or e-mail to Kingston Township, 9899 State Route 521, Sunbury, OH 43074 or [zoning@kingstontwp.org](mailto:zoning@kingstontwp.org).

## Noise Resolution

At their September meeting, the trustees listened to input from several residents about the proposed noise resolution. They also noted a number of e-mails and phone calls related to the issue as well as ongoing pleas from residents for help with chronic noise issues.

The state law giving trustees this authority specifies what the resolution can and cannot include. The trustees had checked into customizing the resolution but the Delaware County Prosecutor would only support the trustees on the prosecutor's version. It was also the version the Delaware County Sheriff would enforce. Nine townships have adopted noise resolutions and stated they have worked well.

After years of discussing the issue, the trustees passed the noise resolution with Trustee Shively voting against it. The text is available for review on the township's web site. Sounds from normal home and yard maintenance and construction and agricultural use are exempt. The text references "unreasonably loud and harsh sound . . . for any

unnecessary and unreasonable length of time".

The resolution is intended to give residents a tool for resolving chronic, excessive noise problems. The trustees ask that all residents be respectful of their neighbors. While some want the right to make noise, others want the right to peace and quiet.

If there is a chronic noise problem in your neighborhood, please make every effort to discuss the issue politely with your neighbor and try to resolve the issue before contacting the Delaware County Sheriff.

## Home Fires

Fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds. Your ability to get out depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning—a home fire escape plan that everyone in your family is familiar with and has practiced.

### Before

- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home and outside each sleeping area. For the best protection, install interconnected smoke alarms in each bedroom and throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Test alarms once a month. Change batteries at least once a year. Replace alarms every ten years.
- Consider installing smoke alarms with a "long-life" (10-year) battery. These alarms must be tested once a month.
- Consider installing a residential automatic fire sprinkler system.
- Plan and practice your family's

## Kingston Calendar

Meetings occur at the Township Hall, 9899 St. Rt. 521, (Rt. 521 & Carter's Corner Rd.) unless noted\* otherwise.

**Trustees Meet First Mondays, 7:30 p.m.**

**Zoning Commission Meets Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m.**

**Trash Pick Up Days: Thursdays** (except during holiday weeks\*)

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Trustees Meeting      | Oct. 6, 7:30 pm     |
| Fire Board Mtg.       | Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.  |
| Trash Days            | Oct. 2, 9           |
| Recycling Bin Arrives | Oct. 9 (until full) |
| Zoning Commission     | Oct. 15             |
| Trash Days            | Oct. 16, 23, 30     |

escape route. Make sure every room has two ways out. Make sure all doors and windows open easily. Consider escape ladders for upper floors and make sure security bars on your doors and windows open easily from the inside. Remember to plan for your pets.

- Never use flammable liquids inside and store them in approved containers in well-ventilated areas. Safely discard all rags or materials that have been soaked in flammable liquids outside in a metal container.
- Inspect your chimney regularly. Clear any branches and debris from the chimney area. Make sure your chimney is at least three feet taller than the roof, insulated, and equipped with spark arresters on top.
- Keep space heaters at least three feet from combustibles and away from open flames.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, away from children's sight and reach.
- If you smoke, smoke outside. Use large deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove. If you are simmering, boiling, baking or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that the stove or oven is on.
- Have an electrician check and maintain the wiring in your building. Inspect cords for frayed or exposed wiring and loose plugs. Do not run wires or cords under rugs, over nails, or across high-traffic areas. Do not overload extension cords. Make sure insulation does not touch bare electrical wiring.
- Inspect and clean dryer filters and exhaust frequently.

### **During**

- Get out and stay out. Call the fire department from outside the home

and do not return into the building until firefighters give the okay.

- If fire or smoke blocks your escape route, use your second way out. If you must pass through smoke, get low and go under the smoke and close doors behind you.
- If you need to open a closed door, feel the door. If it's hot, use your second way out.
- If smoke, heat, or flames prevent you from exiting a room, keep the door closed, call for help and wait by the window for rescue.

### **After**

- Evacuate immediately if you detect heat or smoke in a fire-damaged building.
- If you are a tenant, contact the landlord.
- If you have a safe or strongbox, wait several hours before opening it. It can hold intense heat and if you open it before it is completely cool, the contents could burst into flames.
- If you must leave your home after a fire because the building inspector has deemed it unsafe, ask someone you trust to watch the property in your absence.

## **Upcoming Events**

- **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off**, Saturday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Morrow County Fairgrounds in Mount Gilead (open to all residents of the Delaware-Knox-Marion-Morrow Solid Waste district)
- **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off**, Oct. 17 (3-7 p.m.) & 18 (9 a.m.-1 p.m.), Delaware County Fairgrounds in Delaware (open to all residents of the Delaware-Knox-Marion-Morrow Solid Waste district)
- **Candidates' Night**, Oct. 23, 7-9 p.m., Big Walnut High School Cafeteria
- **Galena Beggar's Night**, Oct. 31, 6 - 7:15 p.m., Costume Party, 7:30 p.m., Ruffner Park
- **Sunbury Beggar's Night**, Oct. 31, 6 - 8 p.m.

Recycle Bin, 2nd Thursdays until full, Twp. Maintenance Bldg., 5755 Blue Church Rd. at St. Rt. 521

## **Who To Call**

(740 Area Code)

### **TRUSTEES**

**Dewey Akers, Ch. 740-803-1529**  
e-mail: [dvakers@verizon.net](mailto:dvakers@verizon.net)  
**John Fink, Vice-Ch. 524-0283**  
e-mail: [jfink@kingstontwp.org](mailto:jfink@kingstontwp.org)  
**Bill Shively 524-2612**  
e-mail: [ShivelyFarms@aol.com](mailto:ShivelyFarms@aol.com)

### **FISCAL OFFICER**

**Greg Roy 524-8591**  
e-mail: [kingstontwp@midohio.net](mailto:kingstontwp@midohio.net)

### **NEWS & INFO**

**Township Web Site:**  
<http://www.kingstontwp.org>  
**Newsletter Editor**  
[kingstonnews@embarqmail.com](mailto:kingstonnews@embarqmail.com)  
Jeanna Burrell 965-1914  
e-mail your name & address if you'd like to receive the newsletter via e-mail.

### **ROADS & CEMETERIES**

**Twp. Maintenance 614-530-9969**  
**Ed Moore**

### **PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT**

**Emergency 911**  
**Business 524-5050**  
e-mail: [PKFD@rohio.com](mailto:PKFD@rohio.com)  
web: <http://www.PKFD.org>

### **TRASH**

**Rumpke 800-828-8171**  
e-mail: [brian.price@rumpke.com](mailto:brian.price@rumpke.com)  
web: <http://www.rumpke.com>

### **ZONING**

**Robert Talbott 524-0290**  
Fax 524-5304  
e-mail: [zoning@kingstontwp.org](mailto:zoning@kingstontwp.org)

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