

# Olmsted Township



Established 1814

[www.olmstedtownship.org](http://www.olmstedtownship.org)

26900 Cook Road • Olmsted Township, Ohio 44138

Olmsted Township "A Community of Diverse Neighborhoods"

Spring 2012

## Contact Information

### Police Department:

440-235-3335

### Fire Department:

440-235-3746

### Department of Public Service:

440-235-1011

### Building Department:

440-235-4225

### Fiscal Officer:

440-235-3099

### Board of Trustees

#### Town Hall:

440-235-3051

#### Trustee Office:

440-793-6950

## Inside this issue:

Keeping the Community Safe	2
Safety Tips	2
Master Plan Update	2
OFECC Playground Makeover	3
Trash Collection	3
Fitch Rd. Overpass	4
Barrett Rd. Construction	4

## Municipal Complex Dedication

Residents of the community are invited to join us in an **official dedication and open house celebration of the completion of building projects on Saturday May 26, 2012.**

Bring the whole family, meet employees, tour of the Town Hall, Fire and Police Stations enjoy games, music, prizes, food, and rain water project demonstrations.



## Emergency Vehicle Signalization Project

Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works will install a new emergency vehicle signal at the Fitch Road Fire Station beginning March 2012. Funding is provided by Cuyahoga County. Completion is scheduled for May 2012. Traffic will be maintained at all times. Drivers are requested to observe and respect safety warnings.

In the summer of 2009, the Olmsted Township Fire Department applied for a grant through the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* for the construction of a new fire department headquarters. The Department was one of 119 departments in the country to receive a grant. The grant provided \$1,954,079. This enabled construction without increasing taxpayer costs.



## Grant Enables Township Hall Update

The Township has used two grants—a *Municipal Energy Grant* and a *Northeast Ohio Public Energy Grant*—designed to let governments improve municipal energy usage without using tax dollars. The grants provided \$96,270 in funding.

The installed improvements provide ongoing energy cost savings from added insulation, energy efficient lighting, plumbing, electrical systems, new windows, doors, and roofing material.



## Police Department Update: *Keeping Our Community Safe*

By John W. Minek Chief of Police

I wanted to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all the residents and non-residents of Olmsted Township for their comments and concerns regarding the Charlie Kho incident. I know some of you were extremely upset and frustrated over the fact it appeared that justice wasn't being served due to the silence and the time it took to complete the investigation.

This was a highly sensitive investigation involving scientific evidence and numerous follow-up investigations. During this and any investigation, I would have been remiss in my duties to make any comments as they could have jeopardized the integrity of investigation. Please believe me, I wanted to tell everyone what was going on, but in the best interest of the Kho family and our legal system this was not possible. Fortunately, this was a successful investigation that resulted in severe criminal charges brought against the alleged subject.

Our department's commitment to protect and serve the citizens of the township remains strong. Patrol officers and I receive training on all things from criminal investigation to customer service. We look forward to meeting you at the dedication program on May 26.

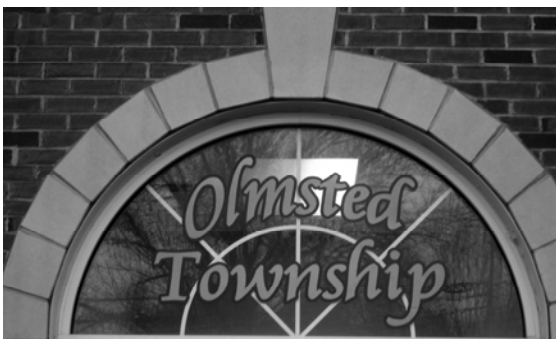
### Safety Tips

**The "Are You OK?" Program... Senior Check-in:** If you are a senior citizen or disabled person who is home alone and you do not have anyone to check on your welfare, **we offer a daily phone call to your residence to make sure you are okay.** If we do not get an answer, we send a friendly officer to your residence to check on you. This program was developed by Township Sergeant Sampsell as part of the **"community policing initiative."** We had such wonderful success with this program that it is now recognized nationwide. For more details on this wonderful program please call our dispatchers to sign up at (440) 235-3335.

**Telephone Fraud** is a growing problem. Be aware of prize offers, travel packages, get-rich-quick investments and charities. **Do not give personal or financial information over the phone to anyone!** Call the police department at (440) 235-3335 to report any suspicious callers. They are aware of many of the scams that are circulating in the area. Go to [www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud](http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud) for more information on how to identify and protect yourself.

**Medication Alert:** Protect yourself and those you love. When fire, police or EMS workers respond to a call for help, they are often unable to provide the best care because they do not know what medications a victim is taking. **You can help by placing a list of CURRENT medications and dosages on your refrigerator.** Update this list every time you have a change in medication. If something happens to you, the emergency response team will know how to care for you in this challenging situation.

### Master Plan: *The Future Of Our Community*



A group consisting of township residents, employees, and local business owners is currently working with Township Trustees and the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, to update the Township Master Plan and Zoning Resolutions.

As we look toward shaping the future of the township, this plan will serve as a practical guide for decisions regarding land use, infrastructure and other capital improvements and services. There will be public meetings this Spring to listen to residents and the business community and provide a progress update.

## Township Partners with Schools to Update Early Childhood Playground



The Olmsted Township Trustees secured a Parks and Playground grant in the amount of \$35,000 for the playground at OFECC on Fitch Road. The Cuyahoga County Department of Development Community Development Division funds this grant. We are now working cooperatively with the Olmsted Falls Schools to secure bids for this important project.

Olmsted Falls Schools are providing matching funds as well as expertise in the construction of the playground. Volunteer community members will also be involved as the playground is constructed. This project will address the much needed update to the school's current equipment enabling it to be more age appropriate and adaptive to the needs of the children.



# Talk to your neighbors, then talk to me.

**Jared Swank, Agent**  
26922 Cook Road  
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138  
Bus: 440-235-9700  
[www.swankagency.com](http://www.swankagency.com)

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## Trash Removal - *Future Options*

The Trustees are currently working with Allied Waste Management on ways to control costs. Currently your cost for service is regulated by a contract negotiated in 2008. This agreement continues until 2013 with a 5% increase each year. Moving forward, going to an automated waste collection system would lock in our rate in at \$16.00 a month for a period of three years and our fuel rate would remain the same at \$4.13.

The automated waste collection option means each home will receive two (2) garbage containers (1 for regular garbage/ 1 for recycled materials). Garbage outside those containers will not be collected. Large items will be collected only on specific dates each month. This procedure is now being used in many areas including North Olmsted, North Ridgeville and Columbia Station.

Full contract and proposed amendments are on our website <http://olmstedtownship.org/local-info/allied/>

We are weighing the pros and cons of this kind of agreement: cost savings versus a change in the way we have been used to operating. Your thoughts on this matter are very important. We welcome your input at <http://www.egovlink.com/olmsted/action.asp>.



[www.jumpstartlawncare.com](http://www.jumpstartlawncare.com)

Just a friendly introduction from one neighbor to another!

Jump Start Lawncare, Inc. is a fully insured, licensed, and bonded company that has worker's compensation for our employees. We are also members of the Ohio Lawn Care Association, the International Society of Arboriculture, COSE, and the Olmsted Chamber of Commerce. We do have an A+ rating with the BBB and Angie's List. We have a license from Ohio State to fertilize lawns, and also have a Certified Arborist for your tree and shrub care needs. We are a company that is not overextended, which allows us to provide quality, individualized customer service.

Spring lawn tips:

**Mowing** ~ Never cut more than 1/3 of the grass blade at any one time.

\*Change directions each time you cut the grass, so you do not get ruts in the lawn.

\*Sharpen mower blade at least two times during the season, or you will damage the grass blade by not getting a clean cut. When grass blades are damaged, you weaken blade and then lawn can get disease and insect problems.

**Compacted Soil** ~ High traffic, children playing and grass cutting all contribute to compacted soil. Nothing grows well in compacted soil. **Core aeration** helps break up compacted soil and allows the lawn to breathe. It also allows fertilizer and water to get down to the root zone.

**Thatch** ~ Having more than ½ inch of thatch is too much. Thatch can prevent water and fertilizer from reaching root zone. A good way to tell if you have too much thatch is your lawn feels like a carpet when you walk on it, or you cannot feel the soil under your feet. **Thatching starts at \$65, call for free estimate.**

**It is time to schedule your Spring service!**

Visit our website [www.jumpstartlawncare.com](http://www.jumpstartlawncare.com) or call (440)235-9694

Sign up for our 5 Step Fertilization Program & receive \$25 off your last application or a \$20 Core Aeration for lots under 1 acre!

**Core Aeration starting at \$50 for lots less than 1 acre**

Stimulates new growth, loosens compacted soil and allows fertilizer & water to reach root zone, resulting in deeper, thicker and stronger turf grass roots.

**Slice Seeding starting at \$100**

Replaces thin turf with new improved better grasses, cutting grooves/lines about ¾ inch deep into the soil & planting new seed.

**Bed maintenance** consists of clean up leaves, weeds and debris from beds, cut back perennials, trim shrubs, edge beds and apply bed control for weeds.

Advertisement

Sign up for the Township's e-bulletins at: <http://www.egovlink.com/olmsted/action.asp>.  
Select "Mailing Lists" option.

## Department of Public Service

**Snow Ban-No Parking-When Snow Exceeds Two Inches:** Obeying this ban helps our department staff (right) clear the roadways much more efficiently and quickly.

Remember: It is illegal to push or blow any snow onto a roadway. You may even be cited by the Police Department if a complaint is received.

**Brush Removal & Chipping** program is the last Monday of each month from April through October.



## Fitch Road Overpass To Be Completed In 2013

Managed by the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works, the overpass is scheduled for completion in 2013. Currently the bridge structure is 90% complete. Guardrails, fencing, grading and landscaping will bring it to 100%. The completion of the Bagley/Fitch intersection will be completed first this Spring, before they move to the Fitch Rd./Fitch Grade Separation Intersection.

Questions can be directed to the County's Public Information Office at 216.348.3800.

## Barrett Road Construction Includes Widening and Water Lines

This project should see a start by August of this year. The first part of the project will be the water lines, followed by the actual reconstruction and widening of Barrett Road from the Berea Corp. line to Spafford Rd. for more information call the County's Public Information Office at 216.348.3800.

## Trustee Team In Place

The Trustee Team for 2012 is in place with the election of Jeanene Kress, sworn in January 2012 and the appointment of Scott Ross, in February 2012, to serve in the position because of the vacancy caused by a resignation. Scott was selected from a field of seven candidates who submitted resumes and letters of intent and then were interviewed. Sherri Lippus serves as the President of the Board of Trustees and Dan Faust as Fiscal Officer.

The trustees share a firm commitment to fiscal management, service leadership, and community engagement. As we approach the township's bicentennial in 2014, we want to be in a strong position to move the township forward in a way that satisfies the diverse needs of our many neighborhoods.

The Master Planning process and the Municipal Complex Dedication on May 26 are two of the ways we want to expand the interaction between the Trustees and the community we serve. We encourage residents with questions to call or email us by visiting our webpage at <http://olmstedtownship.org/about>



Jeanene Kress,  
Trustee



Sherri Lippus,  
Trustee



Scott Ross,  
Trustee

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John Minek, Ed Salk, Sherri Lippus, Dave Green-span, Mario Bellido and John Rice at Jeanene Kress' Swearing in ceremony.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

Local  
Postal Customer

Visit our website:  
[www.olmstedtownship.org](http://www.olmstedtownship.org)

## Recycle at the Township Hall

Deposit all drop-off recyclables in the designated containers behind the Town Hall (at the corner of Fitch & Cook Roads) Monday- Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm.

- Computers & components (no TVs): all year
- Household hazardous waste: all year including used motor oil; *no latex paint*
- Phone books: June 1- September 30; see additional drop off locations at Metroparks sites
- Scrap passenger vehicle tires (no rims): June 1- September 30

Be sure to check out the Town Hall marquee for information regarding ongoing recycling campaigns.

Check out the Service Department's web page at [www.olmstedtownship.org](http://www.olmstedtownship.org) for information regarding recycling CFL bulbs, electronics and more. If you have questions about your recycling options, please contact Service Director Ed Salk at (440) 235-1011.

- **For more information on how to recycle in your home:** [http://www.alliedwaste.com/salesAndCustomerService\\_recyclingServices.asp](http://www.alliedwaste.com/salesAndCustomerService_recyclingServices.asp)

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