

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

6400 Lockbourne Road
Lockbourne, Ohio 43137

hamiltontownshipohio.org

PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lockbourne, OH
Permit No. 10

Hamilton Township, Ohio Newsletter



Township JOURNAL

Hamilton Township Administration
and Community Center
6400 Lockbourne Road,
Lockbourne, Ohio 43137

HamiltonTownship.org

SPRING 2016



Do you have a story idea you would like to see in future editions of the Township Journal?

Send your comments to Linda Dillman, Editor, at townshipjournal@gmail.com

Hamilton Township Telephone Numbers

Hamilton Township Administration/Community Center	
6400 Lockbourne Road, Lockbourne, Ohio 43137	
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm	491-3963
Board of Trustees	
Howard Hahn, Chairman	491-7842
Shannan Bush, Vice-Chairman	491-5664
C. Chris Hann, Vice-Chairman	491-0812
Clerk/Treasurer	
Lisa Shirkey, Clerk	491-9275
Township Secretary	
Penni Triplett	491-3963
Hamilton Township Road Maintenance	
6355 Lockbourne Road, Lockbourne, Ohio 43137	
	491-8550
Road Superintendent	
Don Smith	491-8550
Hamilton Township Fire Department	
Station 1 - 1460 Obetz Road, Columbus, Ohio 43207	491-1013
Station 2 - 6410 Lockbourne Road, Lockbourne, Ohio 43137	491-1050
Fire Chief	
Ralph Shillingburg	491-1700
Franklin County Sheriff's Hamilton Township Sub Station	
Radio Room	525-3333
FAX	491-3003

Hamilton Township Board of Trustees

Meeting Schedule 2016

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center. All meetings are open to the public.

May 11th and 25th

June 8th and 22nd

July 13th and 27th

August 10th and 24th

September 14th and 28th

October 12th and 26th

November 9th and 23rd

December 14th and 28th

Meetings that fall on a holiday will be rescheduled. Call the Township office for updates.



© Photos courtesy of Library of Congress, circa 1938.

HARTMAN FARMS

Over one hundred years ago, Hartman Farms was a 2,900 acre operation sprawling across much of eastern Hamilton Township. Established by Dr. Samuel Hartman in 1890, it was known as one of the most famous farms in the country. Acres of grape vines trailed across gently rolling hills for wine production while cattle from a large dairy operation grazed nearby. Hartman built his empire upon bottles of Peruna, a patent "medicine" containing 27 percent alcohol, which claimed to cure everything except malaria.

According to author Opha Moore in her 1938 History of Franklin County, "Every branch of agriculture and stock raising feasible was represented at this model farm, which, in its scientific developments, almost approached the importance of an agricultural experiment station.

"A small village, sufficient to itself, with every convenience, was built up at farm headquarters and Dr. Hartman constructed an electric railway south from the southern extremity of Columbus along the Chillicothe Pike to this village and beyond..." Former Hamilton Township resident and HTHS graduate Ron Herron said his maternal grandfather, Orlie Noble, worked on the farm as a general farm hand for approximately 40 years. He drove a team of horses and wagon to and from his home—provided by the farm—until around 1958, when he drove a tractor to and from work.

"My grandfather Herron lived in one of the 12 Cottage Row homes on the east side of Route 23," recalled Ron. "It was there that I spent almost all my summers and all school holidays. One of my most vivid memories while staying with my grandparents was watching the construction work widening Route 23 from a two lane road to a four lane divided highway."

"My sister, Beverly (Herron) Born, was born in 1940 while my parents, Gene and Juanita, lived in the old school house at the corner of Rathmell and High Street."

Hartman's empire started collapsing in 1905 following a story exposing patent medicines such as Peruna. The federal Pure Food and Drug Act, regulating tonics like Peruna, was adopted a year later. Sales dropped and the company was sold in the 1920s. Hartman passed away in 1912.

HamiltonTownshipOhio.org

FREE TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIORS



Senior citizens in Hamilton Township who prefer to leave the driving to someone else have a no-cost option provided by the village of Obetz. The Senior Transportation Program provides dependable service to senior citizens age 60 and above and disabled residents who have no other means of transportation. "I think that this would help residents within the township that have no means to make it to their doctor appointments and keep up to date on their medical needs," said Trustee Howard Hahn. Transportation is available for medical and personal appointments, such as trips to the grocery store, within a twenty mile radius. Service is offered curb-to-curb for appointments on Tuesday and Wednesday at no cost to village and Hamilton Township residents. All transportation requests must be made at least 24 hours in advance and appointments should be scheduled between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Early morning appointments are preferred. The village also offers free transportation for seniors to luncheons on Monday and Thursday. Please call 614-491-4546 for further information or to schedule transportation.

SCHUTTE Bids Farewell after 30 years.

Karen Schutte spent more than three decades in public service before stepping down as the township's Fiscal Officer at the end of March. She began her career as a part-time township secretary in 1984, appointed clerk when the previous clerk resigned and then ran for office for the first time in 1987. She said one of the most challenging aspects of the job—which entailed managing the township's payroll, accounting, worker's compensation, insurance, various audits, taking minutes at meetings, etc.—was getting to know and adapting to a changing trio of trustees. "All have different ideas and priorities of what they'd like to see accomplished and sometimes that can be a challenge when funds aren't always necessarily available or when trustees don't agree on things," reported Schutte. "That can get pretty intense. "Sometimes election years and politics could be frustrating, too. Also, just keeping up with changes in legislation, laws on reporting and accounting, etc. is a challenge. Seems like every year there's one more regulation, report or form that is being required from someone." When Schutte first began working for the township, all accounting and payroll was done manually. There were 15-20 employees; now there are close to 50 on the payroll. A new fire station was built, another park constructed, a trash district policy adopted and EMS billing initiated. "Some of the greatest rewards have been relationships that have been made through my position as clerk, as well as helping the community grow and improve," continued Schutte. "I've met a lot of really wonderful people at the various state and county offices and in our own township as well. "We've been fiscally sound during my terms as clerk and I'm very proud of the fact that our various boards and department heads have been able to make solid decisions financially for the township with my assistance and advice." Schutte still works fulltime as the Library Media Specialist at Hamilton Elementary. She also plans on spending more time with her four grandchildren and getting back to hobbies she hasn't had time for in the past few years.



FAMILIAR WITH TOWNSHIP SPEED LIMITS?

Do you remember the rules in the written portion of the driver's exam when you took the test? For some drivers, the facts should be fresh. For others, they might need a refresher. Franklin County Deputy Sheriff Steven McKinney, who regularly patrols roads and thoroughfares of Hamilton Township, offers the following information regarding speed limits. "Every road has a posted speed limit," advised McKinney. "For those not directly posted, the speed limit is 55 MPH. Lockbourne Road heading southbound is 55 MPH as soon as you cross over the I-270 bridge because it is a county road. The speed limit does not change until the Lockbourne jurisdictional limits. "Rathmell Road is 50 MPH from Route 23

(High Street) to Parsons Avenue and then changes to 35 MPH until you reach Lockbourne Road. Even though it is clearly posted 35 MPH, it is still a speeding zone. Then the limit changes back to 55 MPH east of Lockbourne Road, unless otherwise posted. "Residential areas like Hamilton Meadows are always lower and common sense would tell you to go slower in places like that." When asked why questions still linger in driver's minds, the deputy sheriff said he felt a lot of people don't look for signs as they drive down the road and either drive too slow or too fast because they don't pay attention to the speed limit signs, even when posted. As for intersections with high accident statistics,

McKinney reported there are a few familiar to many township drivers including Route 23 and 665 at Shadeville, State Route 317 and Shook Road near the air base and those along Alum Creek Drive. He called the intersection at High Street and Rathmell Road a "nightmare." "The major problem with Alum Creek is transient traffic with people going to and from work," continued the deputy. "Accidents on Alum Creek are almost daily." McKinney said the best advice is to know the rules of the road, pay attention to speed limits and surrounding traffic and don't drive distracted.

**SPEED
LIMIT**

FIREFIGHTERS ORGANIZE FUNDRAISER



Hamilton Township Firefighters are always ready to spring to action. When the fire department was told about a little girl—**Ali Schutte**—diagnosed with neuroblastoma cancer, they united around the family to support them through one of the toughest times in their lives. "The community as a whole has rallied around this little girl and her family and the firefighters wanted to support that," said Firefighter Cameron Lowe. "We want the community to know that we are here for them whenever they need us, not just when they have a medical emergency or when there is a fire. "The local 3344 contacted Vance's Outdoors in Obetz about doing a raffle with all the proceeds going to the family. We had three prizes and

we sold raffle tickets at \$20 apiece. The local 3344 managed to sell 334 tickets. When all was said and done, the union was able to donate \$5,277.00 and the money was given to Ali's family to spend as they saw fit." Ali was also made an honorary firefighter, the first in department history. She was presented with a firefighter's helmet signed by department members, a challenge coin issued to members of the department, a department patch and a certificate stating that she was an honorary firefighter. A ceremony was held at station 172 where her family was presented with a ceremonial check. Cookies, cupcakes, and refreshments

FROM THE ROAD DEPARTMENT

Hello, Hamilton Township residents. The warm weather is finally coming back. It's time to enjoy outside activities. Let's have fun and be safe while doing so. This time of the year, for most parents, is sports time and that means time at the park. We, as a township, would like everyone to help do their part in keeping it clean and following park rules. The cleaner the park is, the better the experience for everyone. The park has so much to offer for residents of all ages. There is a walking trail that winds around the ballfields and along the creek, a playground and swings and plenty of greenspace to fly a kite, hit a golf ball or throw a Frisbee. Dogs and their two-legged friends are always welcome, but please be mindful of others and pick up after your pet. Another topic of concern is safety and awareness. Everyone should feel safe at our park. If any vandalism, reckless action or strange and suspicious activity is spotted, please call our local sheriff's department (614)525-3333. From all of us at Hamilton Township, have a great year, enjoy our park and have fun. No small action goes unnoticed; we highly appreciate it and thank you for it.

