



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

### TRUSTEES

Christopher B. Nichols, *President*  
[c.nichols@cantontwp-oh.gov](mailto:c.nichols@cantontwp-oh.gov)

William C. Smith, *Vice President*  
[b.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov](mailto:b.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov)

William G. Mittas  
[b.mittas@cantontwp-oh.gov](mailto:b.mittas@cantontwp-oh.gov)

### FISCAL OFFICER

Ron Smith  
[r.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov](mailto:r.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov)

### FIRE CHIEF

Christopher Smith  
[c.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov](mailto:c.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov)  
Phone: (330) 484-6165

### ROAD /ZONING SUPERINTENDENT

Deputy Fire Chief  
Jonathan Smith  
[j.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov](mailto:j.smith@cantontwp-oh.gov)

### TOWNSHIP OFFICE

4711 Central Ave SE  
Canton OH 44707  
Ph. (330) 484-2501  
Fax: (330) 484-2556

### TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Beginning January 2, 2014 all regular meetings will be on alternate Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at the Township Office, unless noted otherwise.

## ISSUE 39

### 5YR/3.3 MILL Road Levy To Improve Canton Township Roads

*See page 2*

### Road Patching & Salting Costs Have been Skyrocketing in Recent Years

*See page 3*



### Meet Your New Canton Township Fire Chief

*See page 6*

### Ambulance Soft Billing Returns For Residents

*See page 7*

## Why Do We Need A Road Levy?

The Board of Trustees has approved the placement of a 5 year 3.3 mill operating levy on the November general election ballot. This levy will provide additional funding to properly maintain our township's roads.

The community feedback from the road survey as well as from phone calls and emails has been very clear that something needs done with the roads. However, our current revenues cannot maintain our roads to the level our residents expect. The longer we go without additional monies, the faster our roads will continue to deteriorate and the cost to repair them will increase.

Over the years, the cost of paving our roads has increased significantly. Today, it costs about \$132,000 to grind, pave and stripe 1 mile of road. However, our Road Department revenues have remained pretty flat for many years. We have taken several steps in an effort to stretch our Road Department budget such as staffing reductions, multi-year wage freezes and merging the road superintendent position with the zoning superintendent. Even with these efforts, we cannot keep up with the paving/maintenance needs of our roads and aging Road Department equipment.

Rising costs for road salt, fuel and asphalt patching has left the Township with no excess funds to have a road re-surfacing plan for the 98 miles of Canton Township roads. The proposed levy will give the township the ability to have a road resurfacing plan. The levy is estimated to bring in approximately \$747,000 yearly. The township, with this money, could pave up to 7 miles of roadway each year based on current paving prices.

The levy that is being requested is only for a 5 year period of time. This will give us the opportunity to start catching up on properly maintaining & repairing our township roads. In 5 years, the residents of Canton Township will have the opportunity to decide if we have been good and wise stewards of your tax dollars and if you have seen an improvement in the condition of our township roads.

## Issue #39

### 3.3 MILL OPERATING LEVY 5 YEAR Duration

The levy is estimated to generate \$746,886\*

**This levy is for paving & repairing roads  
& operations of the Canton Twp. Road Department**

#### COST OF THIS LEVY IS AS FOLLOWS;

#### Auditor's appraised value of your home:

	Per Year	Per Month
\$50,000.....	\$57.75.....	\$4.81
\$75,000.....	\$86.63.....	\$7.23
\$100,000.....	\$115.50.....	\$9.63

\* Figures are from Stark County Auditor's Office.

The formula is available to calculate the tax costs for other taxable values.

For your convenience the Stark County Auditor's website has a tax calculator to calculate your taxes for any proposed levy.

[www.starkcountyohio.gov](http://www.starkcountyohio.gov)

## Did You Know...

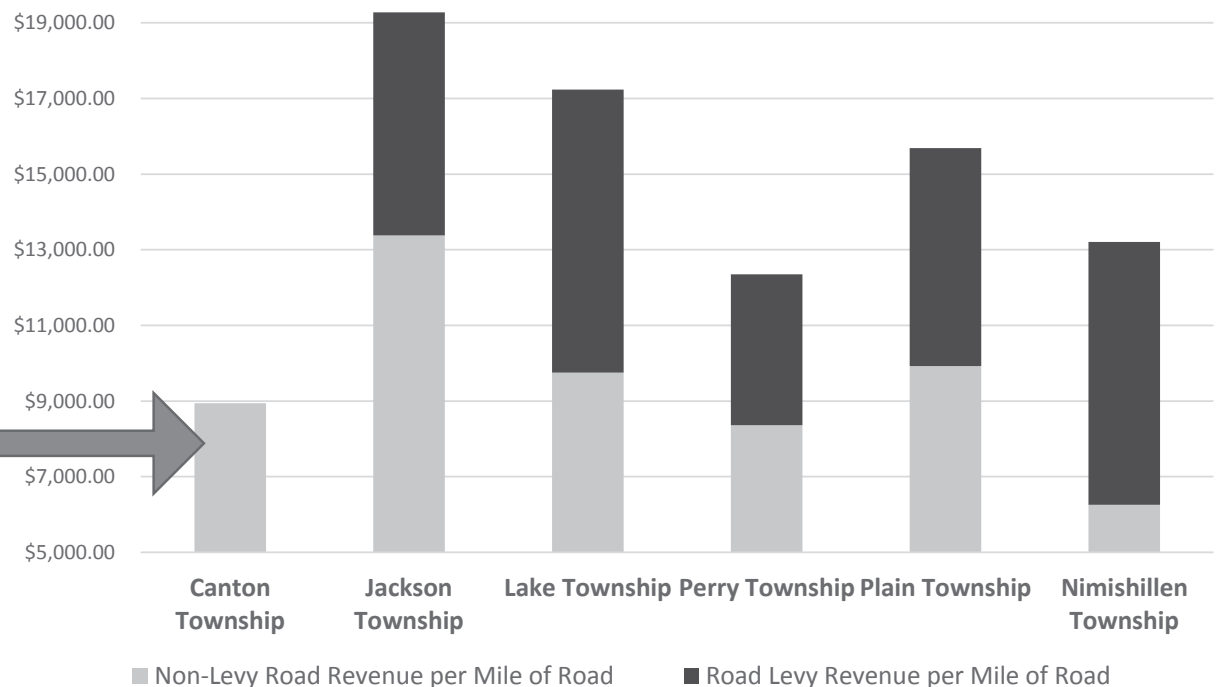
- Canton Township is the **5th largest** township in Stark County.
- Canton Township is **1** of only **2** townships of the **17** townships in Stark County that does not have a road levy to maintain roads.
- Canton Township, while being the **5th largest**, is the **5th lowest** in the amount per mile it receives in revenue for roads.
- Canton Township **has never had** any type of road levy.

## ROAD DEPT. NEWS

# Why Aren't Our Roads As Well Maintained As Other Townships In Stark County?

	Non-Levy Road Revenue	Road Levy Revenue	Total Road Revenue per Mile of Road	Miles of Township Roads
Canton Township	\$ 877,285	\$ -	\$ 8,946	98.07
Jackson Township	\$ 2,708,081	\$ 1,193,451	\$ 19,280	202.358
Lake Township	\$ 1,351,894	\$ 1,037,923	\$ 17,237	138.648
Perry Township	\$ 1,213,200	\$ 580,095	\$ 12,354	145.16
Plain Township	\$ 1,715,530	\$ 996,551	\$ 15,690	172.855
Nimishillen Township	\$ 425,241	\$ 472,916	\$ 13,210	67.99

Road Department Revenues - Per Mile of Road to Maintain



No Road Levy to Fund a Consistent Paving Program

## Facts About Road Patching & Paving

It now costs over **\$132,000 to grind, re-pave and stripe 1 mile** of roadway in Canton Township. Ten years ago the cost was \$70,000.

\*\*\*Paving Baum Rd from the bridge to Greenport will cost \$375,576

\*\*\*Paving all of Carnwise Street will cost nearly \$270,000.

\*\*\*Paving Lakeside from Parkway to 17<sup>th</sup> would cost over \$42,000

**Road patching costs have doubled.** In 2013, \$20,000 was spent to patch roads. So far in 2014 we have spent over **\$46,000 and project to hit \$50,000** by year end just to patch roads. **Money spent on patching will continue to rise as roads further deteriorate.**

The Road Dept. **hand shoveled 600 tons of asphalt** to patch roads this year.

\*\*\*The township logged over 90 pothole complaints this past season\*\*\*

## Road Salt Tidbit...

The cost of road salt has skyrocketed in recent years. \$250,000 is budgeted for 2014 with \$170,000 spent already since January.

<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$67,000	\$142,000	\$250,000 Budgeted

**Road salt cost is rising another 5% for 2015 to \$50.27 per ton.**

During this past harsh winter, the road crews were called out 49 times to salt & plow Canton Township Roads.



## Our fleet of trucks is HOW OLD?!

The average age of Canton Township salt/plow trucks is 18 years old.

The department has 6 trucks that are used for salting, plowing and road maintenance.

- They total over 28,700 hours of use.
  - 2 1991 Internationals with combined hours over 12,600
  - 1 1994 International with over 5000 hours
  - 1 1997 International with over 5300 hours
  - 1 2000 International with over 3500 hours
  - 1 2005 International with over 2300 hours
- It cost over \$120,000 to replace one truck
- In 2013, there was \$20,000 spent for maintenance on our Road Department vehicles
- So far in 2014, we have spent over \$36,000 and have another \$8,000 in upcoming repairs scheduled. A total of \$ 46,000 is projected.





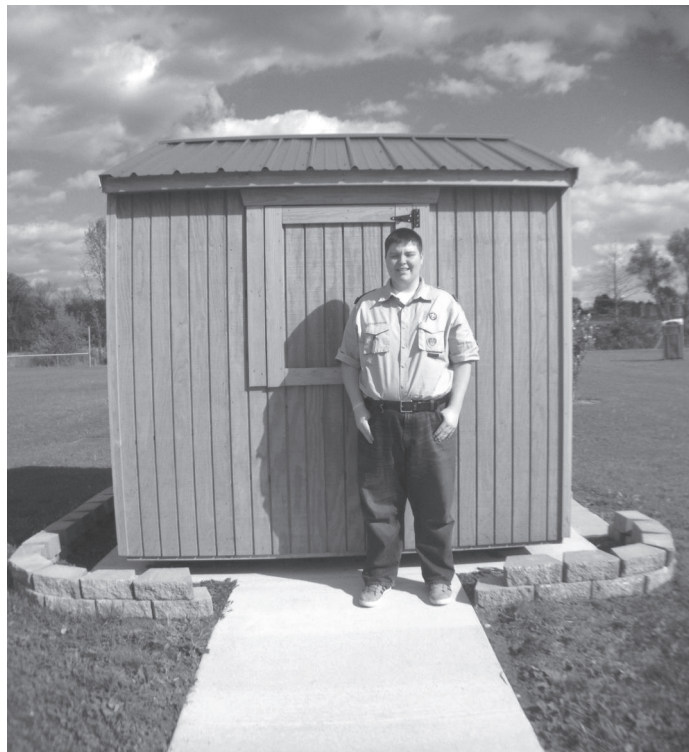
## ***Did You Know...The Road Crew Loaded 2.7 Million Lbs. of Yard Waste At The Drop Off Site?***

The yard waste drop-off site will look different in the spring. This is due to a grant we were awarded through the Stark-Tusc-Wayne Joint Solid Waste Management District in the amount of \$2,500.00. This grant allowed us to purchase concrete barriers. The road crew will extend the side wall of the drop-off area as well as replace the broken cement pillars that are currently in place. We would like to thank Tom Koveski and Stone Products, Inc. for donating their time to deliver the barriers which was a savings of approximately \$700.00.



## ***Eagle Scout Project - New Concession Stand***

The Board of Trustees would like to thank Boy Scout C.J. Heim, for a new Concession Stand at the Canton Township Community Park on Oyer Street. C.J. is a Junior at Canton South and in addition to his high school studies and scouting, is active in the school's annual yearbook project and also makes time to work at his uncle's restaurant, Old Carolina BBQ after school and on weekends. C.J., the son of Kevin and Pam Heim, started in the Scouts at the age of 9 with the Canton South Pack 200. Even though he was unable to finish up with Troop 203 in Canton South, due to its closure, he has



always had a great admiration for his former Scout Master, Rick Wessels. C.J. has continued on with a troop out of St. Joseph Church in Canton and hopes to complete his project by years end.

To pay for his project, C.J. conducted a fund raiser, solicited donations and has put a lot of time and hard work into a project that will benefit the Canton Township community for many years to come.

Thank you, C.J.!

*C.J. Heim standing in front of his Eagle Scout Project, a new Concession Stand at the Canton Township Community Park*

## New Canton Township Fire Chief Is Sworn In



During the June 17, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board appointed Interim Chief Christopher Smith as the new full time fire chief of the Canton Township Fire Department. Chief Smith was appointed as Interim Chief January 28, 2014 to fill in for

Chief Scott McKibben who took a medical leave of absence. Chief McKibben subsequently passed away less than 3 weeks later on February 18, 2014. Chief Smith has been filling the position since.

Chief Smith, 43, accepted the appointment which became effective July 1. An official swearing in ceremony was held that evening at the regular Board of Trustee's meeting. He was sworn in with his wife by his side. Family, friends and numerous department members in uniform filled the room to show their support for the new chief.

As Trustee Nichols referenced during the chief's swearing in, **"There is no higher distinction than to have been recommended, as you were, by our former Chief, Scott McKibben, who was highly respected by this Board and the Canton Township Fire Department. The offer of this position is with full support of the Board of Trustees and the fire department body"**.

As a member of the fire department since 2001, Chief Smith has served as a Fire/Medic, Captain and most recently as a Shift Commander until his January interim appointment. During his tenure as Interim Chief, he has overseen many wide-spread changes within the department including the implementation of full time staffing for the Meyers Lake Station and the funeral preparation for Chief McKibben and the transition there after.

Smith and his wife Lorie, who have 5 children together, are long time Canton Township residents. He is a 1989 graduate of Timken High School. Prior to joining the fire department, Chief Smith was employed by the City of Canton as a Code Enforcement Officer.

## Renovations Occuring At Amos McDannel/Canton Twp Training Center

Several renovation projects have been completed or are in process of design for the former Amos McDannel School, which the fire department purchased in 2011. The department has a 4 stage plan to renovate and repurpose the building which is relying on funds as they become available.

The entire building, with the exception of the north wing, has been re-roofed. This has solved the many leaks throughout the building, thus allowing us to move forward with other projects inside the structure.

One large project that is mostly completed is the gym. The floor has been completely re-done and striped. The walls and ceiling have been painted and the gym now has heating and air conditioning. We would still like to update the backboards and volleyball netting and have new team seating and a scorer's stand placed.

Another project that is nearing completion is the renovation of a classroom into an officer training facility. The program, Bluecard, is a specialized officer training program that uses classroom, on-line work as well as lab time. The Bluecard lab has been renovated mostly by generous donations of local

businesses. Canton Township will have the only program and facility of its kind in this area and will be conducting these classes for area departments which will raise additional funds to put back into the facility for further improvement.

The next renovation, which is in the architectural stage, is to renovate the front office area into new offices for administration and training. This will move operations from the current 49<sup>th</sup> Street building to the Amos building and will allow us to sell off the 49<sup>th</sup> Street building along with the closed former fire station. The proceeds from the sale will then be put into the renovations of the former school.

The township is excited to be able to re-purpose the former school building and turn it into a vibrant new building for the fire department and community to use and be proud of. Keeping this former school from becoming a neighborhood eyesore has been a priority for the township. More information and updates will be announced as they occur.

Any community help and donations will gladly be accepted and will aid in keeping this project moving forward.





## Ambulance Soft Billing Returns For Residents

The Canton Township Board of Trustees has voted to return to "soft billing" of ambulance fees for Canton Township residents. This became official for any resident transported after July 23<sup>rd</sup>. **This means that once again there will be no out-of-pocket expense for a Canton Township resident for an ambulance transport.**

Soft billing is the practice of submitting a patient's ambulance charge to their insurance company or government plan. Any amount that is not covered by that insurance company and that would normally be considered "patient responsibility" would be written off.

The township previously practiced soft billing for our residents for many years but was forced to stop writing off

"patient responsibility amounts" in January of 2013 as a last resort following two levy failures, staffing cuts and a station closure to help offset the rising costs of operations and shrinking funding. Non-residents will still be responsible for their full charges.

The Trustees were able to make this change due to our residents approving an additional fire levy last year. Money generated by this levy is now being collected this year thus putting the department in a financial position to take this burden away.

Additionally, the Trustees rescinded a 1 mil fire levy for this year. This levy was allowed to expire one year early which was set to run through the end of 2014.

## Ambulance Refurbishing Project Saves Township Thousands

The department has sent the first of three ambulances out to get a complete refurbishing done. Peach State Ambulance was awarded the bid in May and the first ambulance was shipped out in July. The cost of the project is \$87,082 for each unit. As part of the levy request last year the department stated the

money would go towards replacing two ambulances with a new unit estimated at \$160,000 to \$170,000. The idea of refurbishing

our existing units was presented to us and as we explored the process it was realized that a substantial savings was to be had.

The units, which are 12 years old and have over 150,000 miles, have structurally sound boxes but the chassis are worn out. The refurbishing project involves removing the box from the old chassis and placing it on a new 2015 Ford chassis. The box will be completely stripped down and

repainted. The electrical system will be completely replaced and new LED efficient lighting installed. The air conditioning and oxygen systems will be replaced and serviced as well and updated door hardware will be installed. When it comes back it will basically be a new unit but at half the cost of buying

new. The chassis will have the standard manufacturer warranty and the box and remount project will have up to 5 years on paint, electrical and remount.

The savings realized from this project will enable the department to refurbish at least three units now and we will be looking at doing the fourth as funds come in. Each unit will take about 90 days and will be done in succession as each one comes back. The price also includes a loaner ambulance to use during the process. This will ensure we have a backup for busy times or if a breakdown occurs to an existing unit.



## **Canton Township**

4711 Central Avenue SE

Canton, Ohio 44707

[www.cantontwp-oh.gov](http://www.cantontwp-oh.gov)

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CANTON, OH  
PERMIT NO. 149

## **Stark - Tuscarawas - Wayne**

Joint Solid Waste Management District

*Please see our Canton Township Website at [www.cantontwp-oh.gov](http://www.cantontwp-oh.gov) for a complete list of permitted materials that we accept for recycling.*

### **Storm Water Program**

Canton Township is mandated by the EPA to educate our residents about the Storm Water Program. Most townships, villages, and cities are required to participate in a Storm Water Program.

What is Storm Water? Storm Water is the water flow that results from rainfall and melting snow.

What is Storm Water Runoff? Storm Water runoff is water from rain and melting snow that runs off across the land, instead of infiltrating into the ground. Storm Water runoff is unfiltered or untreated water that reaches our lakes, creeks and oceans by flowing across impervious surfaces. Impervious surfaces like roads, parking lots, and driveways prevent storm water from naturally soaking into the ground.

### **10 Things You Can Do To Prevent Storm Water Runoff Pollution**

- 1) Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways and sidewalks.
- 2) Direct downspouts away from paved areas.
- 3) Never dump anything down storm drains.
- 4) Vegetate bare spots in yards.
- 5) Avoid pesticides.
- 6) Bring yard waste to Township hall for recycling.
- 7) Take your vehicles to a car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
- 8) Check all vehicles for oil leaks.
- 9) Pick up after your pets.
- 10) Have your septic tanks pumped and systems inspected regularly.