

Village of Williamsburg

Established 1796

December 2017 ~ January ~ February 2018 Newsletter

A Message from the Mayor...

Hello to all,

Each time I sit down to write my piece for the Village newsletter I try to think about what is important to all of you readers and what you may (or may not) want to hear from me. I wish I could tell you all our store fronts are full of businesses and that many of the projects I have reported we are working on are complete but that is not the case. We continue to work with property owners to market and promote Williamsburg with an aggressive economic development outreach. I have learned over the years that lots of things move way slower than I would like and that hard work and perseverance (and broad shoulders) reap rewards in time.

I am happy to report that we were recently awarded a very significant grant from ODOT to review and engineer a plan to address our concerns with pedestrian, motor vehicle and bike safety from our Dela Palma/Community Park entrance to the WJAA athletic fields. I have communicated with ODOT over time and with perseverance and a meeting in Columbus last year we have been heard. I look forward to working with the engineer on this project and to a plan that will address so many of our concerns.

It was nice to see so many of you at our first "Great Outdoors" event in September. This event gave us the opportunity to promote Williamsburg in a multi-county regional activity. As this was our first time participating in this endeavor to encourage outdoor activity not only for our local community but those who might read about it and visit Williamsburg, we really did not know what to expect. What we got was great weather, disc golf demonstrations, fly fishing lessons, Garden Club displays, kids playing on our playground, hikers and bikers visiting our Williamsburg-Batavia Hike/Bike Trail and Blue Grass music to wrap up the evening. It was truly a good day to spend in the "Great Outdoors" in Williamsburg. It is my hope to continue to promote activities in our Community Park as we expand and develop this wonderful asset.

I was recently reading about another town, in another state and tried to put in perspective who we are as we go about our lives here in Williamsburg. A comment from that town's Mayor about what he loves most about his home town encouraged me to share his thoughts: 1. "R-E-S-P-E-C-T", 2. "People wave at you, open the door for ladies entering buildings (whether they know you or not), and we still pull over for funeral processions." 3. "Sometimes we move slowly around here. If you are in a hurry and don't have time to wait, just go around us. We find we're mostly already where we want to be." To some these comments may be a waste of space but to those of us that call Williamsburg home I'd like to think they give us something to think about.

As this will be my last newsletter before the upcoming holiday season I would like to wish you all blessings throughout the season and New Year.

Best regards,
Mary Ann

What's Happening in our Community?

Special Dates to Remember

Village Office Closed - Dec. 25th, Jan. 1st & Feb. 19th

Council Meetings - Dec. 14th, Jan. 11th & Feb. 8th



Christmas Walk
Dec. 1st from 5:00 p.m.
to 9:00 p.m.

Visit with Santa, enjoy refreshments, strolling carolers, music and more! Don't miss this family friendly event. Businesses open late, sales, specials and more. Pick up your holiday gifts at one of our local specialty shops!

School Events to Remember

Winter Concert - Dec. 6th ES
Dec. 12th M/HS

Winter Break - Dec. 21st to Jan. 2nd.
No School - Jan. 15th, Feb. 16th & Feb. 19th

PT Conf. ES - Feb. 8th & 15th

PT Conf. M/H - Feb. 15th & Feb. 22nd

News From The Village...

From the Utility Clerk

Please review your bill!!!

Utility bills are mailed on or about the **15th of each month** and should arrive in your mailbox by the 20th. As a reminder, Utility bill payments are **due by the 5th of the month** to avoid late fees. Please review your bill immediately for any issues. If you feel your bill is not accurate, please contact the Utility Clerk as soon as possible at (513) 724-6107 so the issue can be investigated. A quicker investigation could make it easier to determine where the problem lie. It may also prevent late fees being added to your account for unpaid balances and will potentially save you money!

Important Public Notice about your Water Meter and Hydrants

Meters, meter pits and hydrants are the property of the Village, at no time are citizens or their representatives permitted to access them or to tamper with a meter. Should a meter pit or meter be damaged in any way, it will be repaired by the Village at the expense of the property owner. Contact Public Works or the Police Department for water emergencies.

A Note About Your Garbage Can...

Don't forget to put your garbage can at the curb Monday night for pick-up Tuesday morning. Our contract with CSI does not require the driver return to pick up cans not put curbside in a timely manner.

We also ask that you move your can back behind your house after trash pick up. This keeps the right-of-way clear along the roadway and improves the overall appearance of the Village.

Thanks for your help in keeping 'Burg beautiful!

From the Public Works Dept.

How to Prevent Clogs?

Many convenient household products are labeled or marketed as disposable and flushable. However, most of these products have the ability to clog and stop up not only the sewer line on private property, but also can cause blockage and service problems in the public sewer system and pump stations. Sewer line repairs can be costly for property owners, residents and businesses.

How can we all help to reduce the risk of costly repairs and or equipment replacement expenses now and in the future?

Do not flush the list of items:

- * *all nipes and moist towelettes*
- * *Q-tips,* * *disposable diapers*
- * *paper towels* * *toilet cleaning pads*
- * *mops* * *tampons*
- * *dental floss* * *synthetic fabric*

Questions? Call (513) 724-6107 for additional information.

Snow and Ice Removal

Williamsburg Department of Public Works is responsible for the removal of ice and snow along public roadway within the municipal corporation of the Village.

The removal of ice and snow is completed on streets in a priority order. The general priority order for snow and ice removal is as follows:

- Main Street (old St. Rt. 32)
- Public Streets with moderate to severe grades
- All intersections

The Department of Public Works utilizes plowing and salting for snow and ice removal. The Village is not responsible for the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks.

From the Finance Department

Income Tax Reminder

The Village contracts with the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) to manage our municipal tax collections. R.I.T.A. offers residents and businesses free an online filing and payments options. R.I.T.A. is responsible for the administration and collection of all income taxes and will serve as the Agent for the Village in this capacity. Questions?

Please call 1(866)721-7482 or visit www.ritaohio.com for additional information.

From the Administrator

Williamsburg will be all aglow and filled with holiday spirit when the Christmas Walk welcomes the holiday season on Friday, December 1st.

Don't miss the family friendly activities at the North Pole. Listen to the strolling carolers, visit the camel and other live animals and enjoy the free treats!

Shop local and have a safe, joyous holiday season!



From the Police Department

Make sure that you do not leave any valuable items in your vehicle and always lock the doors. Secure your home by locking doors & windows while away & at night with special attention to garage doors. To help safe guard your property and help in recovery of stolen items, take pictures and record make, model and serial numbers of valuables.

Respectfully,
Chief Mike Gregory

VILLAGE PERSONNEL

MAYOR

Mary Ann Lefker

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Jim Weaver, Vice-Mayor

Charles Covert

Dan Colonel

Dr. James King

Traci Schueler-Hurst

Ron Ferree Jr.

CLERK TREASURER

Michael Murray

SOLICITOR

Mike Minniear

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Susan Ellerhorst

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Priscilla Bush, *Finance Clerk*

Sheila Sellers, *Utility Clerk*

Kenita Weaver, *Clerk of Courts*

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Kyle Cribbet - *Utility Dept. Supt.*

Doug Cross - *Street Dept. Supt.*

Ean Young - *Public Works Staff*

Matt Ernst - *Public Works Staff*

Danny Hamblin - *Public Works Staff*

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Gregory, *Chief of Police*

Randy Ruehrwein, *Sergeant*

Jon Adamson, *Corporal, SRO*

Jason Flynn, *Full-time Officer*

Margaret Sissel, *Full-time Officer*

Village Office Hours

Administration, Utilities, and Zoning

Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Clerk of Courts

Mon. - Wed. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thurs. 8:00 am - Noon

Public Works Department

Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Important Phone Numbers

Administrative Offices- 724-6107

Police (Non-Emergency) - 724-2261

Fire Department/Life Squad - 724-7744

Public Works/Water./Sewer 724-2248

Police (Non-Emergency) 724-2261

Fire Department/Life Squad 724-7744

Emergency: Call 911

Spotlight On...



25th Anniversary Christmas Walk



The 25th Annual "Trains of Williamsburg Christmas Walk" will be held on Friday, December 1st from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. throughout the heart of downtown Williamsburg. Many businesses will offer special events for visitors.

- North Pole at The Old Sunoco Station (3rd and Main Street)-

Featuring a visit from Santa Claus from 6:00-8:00 p.m., music from several different groups from 5:00-8:30 p.m.

- Williamsburg Community Center (107 W. Main Street)-

Featuring the Williamsburg Garden Club's Silent Auction with an assortment of various items for auction. Buy a piece of history from Harmony Hill! New wood ornaments of the Dairy House and the Old High School! Enjoy the Christmas Walk bake sale. Lester Scott's hand carved Santa raffle proceeds will help support the Christmas Walk. Winner drawn on December 1st

- Williamsburg Presbyterian Church (199 Gay Street) -

Hosting it's annual Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner includes a tossed salad, spaghetti (with delicious homemade sauce), dessert and beverage. Cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12. Hear the Community Band perform in the sanctuary at 7:00!

- Williamsburg United Methodist Church (330 Gay Street) -

A turkey and ham dinner will be served from 5:00 - 8:00 p. m. Adults \$8.00, Children 4-12 \$4.00, 3 and under free. Benefiting The Williamsburg Community Mission and Christ's Kitchen Table. Holiday Help and Hope service will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Come light a candle in memory of a lost loved one and hear tips on navigating the holidays.

- Clermont Social #29 Masonic Lodge (136 N. Third Street)-

Warm up with hot chocolate, coffee and cookies. All children under 12 will get a chance to win a train set for a boy or a doll house for a girl at 9:00 p.m.!

Children must be present to win.

- American Legion (208 E. Main Street) -

Stop by the Legion to view the festive collection of decorated Christmas trees and train displays! Visit the Crafters with special gifts for sale.

-Williamsburg Branch Library (594 W. Main Street) -

The Sweet and Lows, a vintage-inspired a cappella duo sing your favorite holiday classics during performances at 6:00 pm & 7:30 pm. Refreshments, a scavenger hunt and visits with Mrs. Claus. Win a \$25.00 Amazon gift card! Kids can warm up in our children's playroom.

- Train Raffle -

Don't forget the annual train raffle!! Who will win this year's train set?

Pick up your free tickets to be stamped at conductor stops!

There will be train displays, strolling carolers and a Nativity scene with live animals!! Special thanks to Croswell Bus Lines for the donation of the shuttle service.

Village of Williamsburg

107 West Main Street

Williamsburg, Ohio 45176

Presorted
First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Williamsburg, OH 45176

Permit No. 26

Check us out on the Web at
www.williamsburgohio.org



December 2017~January~February, 2018



BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- Planning Commission is responsible for the application, interpretation, and enforcement of the Zoning and Housing Code.
- Parks & Recreation Committee coordinates recreational efforts and manages the Community Park.
- Personnel Committee reviews and discusses policies related to Village employees and employment.
- Utilities Committee reviews and discusses policies related to utility service (i.e. water and sanitary sewer)
- Economic Development Committee directs efforts to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for the Community.
- Tree Board advises Village Council and administration on matters related to Williamsburg's urban forest.
- Facilities and Equipment Committee reviews and discusses maintenance of public property and equipment (i.e. buildings and park)

The dates and times for the Boards and Committees meetings are available on the Village Calendar of Events at www.williamsburgohio.org.

Records Committee, Safety Committee, Finance Committee, Tax Review Board, and Board of Zoning Appeals meet as needed, these meetings will be posted as meetings are requested.