



The Perry BULLETIN BOARD

Vol. 35, No. 3

3rd Edition, 2020

From the desk of...

Just a reminder that our Yard Waste drop-off facility will be closing the last Saturday in November, **November 28th**. Until then, the hours will remain the same, Wednesdays from noon - 3 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. This facility will only accept residential drop-offs, no commercial haulers or landscapers.

The proposed project for the **Route 20 (North Ridge Road - Route 2 to Townline Road) Road Rehabilitation** will involve full reconstruction and widening of the roadway with an asphalt pavement. The roadway will be widened from an existing width of 40' to a proposed width of 50' in order to meet ODOT design standards for minimum lane widths for this type of roadway. This project also includes a new storm sewer system, catch basins, curbs and gutter sections that will be constructed to better control drainage on the pavement and meet current design standards. Construction is estimated to begin in Spring of 2023 and be complete in Fall of 2025. A public meeting is scheduled for December 3rd regarding this project. Please watch our website for meeting time and location.

Perry Township has received monies from the **Coronavirus Relief Fund** to help respond to, and recover from, COVID-19. These funds have been directed to a variety of projects. We are installing touchless faucets at most of the Township buildings. We will have touchless doors installed at the entrance of the Community Center including touchless doors to all the restroom facilities. We have purchased a new crew cab pick-up truck in order to allow social distancing for the Service Department. All these items are to keep the employees and community members safe when they visit our facilities.

Trick-or-Treat will be held, as always, on October 31st, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Perry Community. It is each family's own decision if they would like to participate. Due to the current situation, the Safety Forces will **NOT** be holding their annual indoor safe party. The Fire District will be conducting a **"drive-by"** passing out of candy at Station #1 on Center Road. This will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Lastly, you will notice a few more changes in the Township Service Department and Administration Office. Sandi Mack has retired after 30 years of dedicated service to the Township. Jennifer Taylor was hired as a part-time secretary/receptionist on August 31st. John Baker of the Township Service Department has retired after 16 years of dedicated service. Todd Schultz was hired June 29th to replace John. Best wishes to Sandi and John as they enjoy the next chapter of their lives. Please welcome Jen and Todd, we are glad to have them onboard!!!!

Karen Sundy, Administrator

PERRY TOWNSHIP, PERRY VILLAGE & NORTH PERRY VILLAGE TRICK OR TREAT



Saturday, October 31st
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



THE PERRY CENTER (Food Bank)

Things have been quite different at The Perry Center since COVID-19 appeared. Many of our clients have not visited us since March when this all began. We are not sure why things have been a little slow, but we want everyone to know that we are helping our clients and others in need. We help with food every 30 days and if you have a disconnect notice or even an eviction notice, we will help with rent and utilities, once a year. Also available to our clients is access to a clothing room-The Thriving Threads.

Please note the following criteria for qualification for assistance:

1. You must live in Perry, work in Perry, or worship in Perry.
2. Total monthly income (gross) for all members of the household must be within the following guidelines:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Monthly income</u>
1	\$2081.00
2	2818.00
3	3554.00
4	4291.00

3. You must register with us, which can be done either by phone or in person.
4. We require that everyone wear a mask when you visit the center.

If you need assistance and are not already a client, please contact The Perry Center at 259-3332, by email perrycenter@outlook.com, or by mail to PO Box 446, Perry, OH 44081. We are here to serve the community.

We are currently in the midst of planning Christmas. Actually, letters and applications were mailed to our clients on September 15, 2020 and are due back by Friday, October 9, 2020. Everything will be done remotely this year to keep everyone as safe as possible. Since applications are due back before this newsletter goes to print, we will use other means of communicating our message to others in need. We will need volunteers for our Christmas project on distribution day - Saturday, December 19, 2020 at various times. Please call if you can help.

We are so grateful to all who have made monetary and/or food donations. We cannot function without your help. I would like to share one unusual and exciting fund raiser promoted by Ray Sines. He planted sunflowers and then offered them to the community for a donation to The Perry Center. The project raised \$2,500.00, plus a donation of canned goods and other food items.

THANK YOU- THANK YOU- THANK YOU

We recently purchased a new commercial refrigerator/cooler for produce for our clients. This replaces an old refrigerator that was no longer working. Funds came from our many donations from you, our wonderful supporters. Thank you so much. Thanks also to the Perry Schools Maintenance Department for their help.

The Perry Center is open on: Tuesdays from 9:00 am to noon and Fridays from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and by appointment, as needed

The Perry Center will be open on Tuesday, December 15, 2020. We will be closed for the holidays from Wednesday, December 16, 2020 through January 4, 2021. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

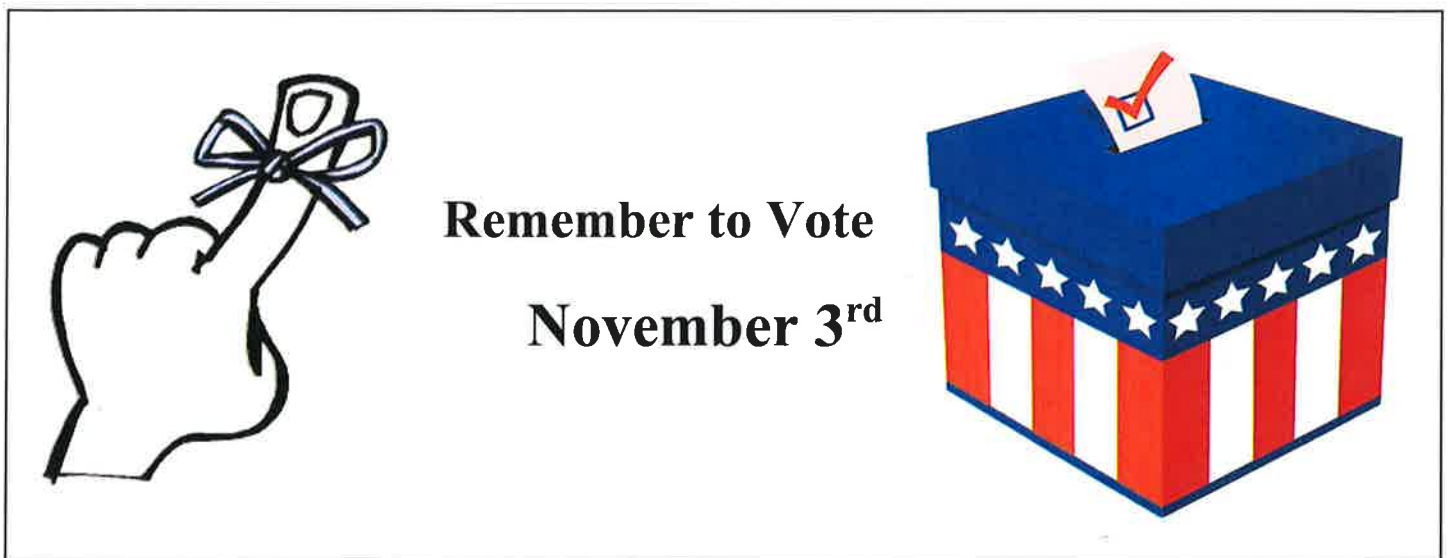
**Brenda Carr
Carole Martin
Co-Administrators**

AMERICAN LEGION



Attention Perry High School Class of 2022- We are looking for motivated leaders to attend Buckeye Boys and Buckeye Girls State in June 2021. Buckeye Boys State is sponsored by the American Legion and will be held at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio from June 13-20, 2021. Buckeye Girls State is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and will be held at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio from June 13-19. These programs provide “hands on” experience on how to run a democratic form of government as you govern a fictitious 51st state. You will run for elected offices, serve in staff positions, on boards and in a variety of other government offices at the State, County and City government levels. Additional information and applications will be available through the school guidance counselors in October.

Tom Anderson
Boys/Girls State Chairman



PERRY RECREATION

A big thanks to all of our fall sports volunteers/players and families during these crazy times. Also a huge thank you to the Perry Rec Board Members and Perry Schools Administrators and school board for everything they do for our youth.

Rec Fall volleyball and Rec Fall soccer teams are up and running. Thanks to all for sticking with the COVID restrictions so our young athletes can continue to enjoy Perry Rec.

Winter sports sign-ups for Rec basketball and travel basketball are now up on our website (perryrec.com). All sign ups are for Perry students only this year. Our travel basketball teams will be playing in the Big Leaf League at the Spire and 3 or 4 other tournaments. We are not hosting the travel league this year, but plan to start running it again next year. Please check our website for any information you may need.



Mike Smith
Perry Rec Director

PERRY SENIOR CENTER

I am greatly saddened to announce that our scheduled reopening has been postponed. The Lake County General Health District recommends that all Lake County senior centers remain closed until January 1, 2021. At that time, the decision will be reassessed. Limited appointment-only services will be available. Rest assured that Beth Ann and I are continuing to provide supportive services to all of our members and any seniors in our community who may be in need. If you are experiencing mild sadness or depression, we can assist in connecting you with appropriate resources. If you have a neighbor or friend in the general area that could use a pick me up from the Senior Center, have them call us or forward their contact information to us. Volunteers are still being accepted for this Friendly Caller program.

We are working with the Painesville Senior Organization, We Thrive Together and Motivate Lake County to provide free virtual programming during the coming months. You are invited to talk, laugh, play, win, sweat, and connect. Stay safe and have a blast with us from the comfort of your home. To find out more, head over to www.WeThriveTogether.org. Engaging in these programs will keep us connected until we are together again. Additional programming will be rolled out in the next few weeks. Please check the Township's website www.perrytownship-lake.com for the most current information.

The Perry Public Library has ten-minute tutorials to teach the basics of doing virtual activities. Log onto perrypubliclibrary.org to learn more. Additional virtual tutorials are available through the Painesville Senior Organization. Contact Denise at denise@painesvilleseniors.com.

Assistance with fall clean-up is available through some of our wonderful local volunteer organizations. Please contact us and we can help you get in touch with one of them. Also, if you would like to receive weekly email updates filled with stories, games, activities and the latest updates from the Perry Senior Center, please email Christine at perrytwpcc@ncweb.com or call the center at 440-259-3772. We would love to have you stay connected with us.

Dr. Del Prince and Dr. Whaley will be available for podiatry appointment services on the following dates:

October 7- Dr. Del Prince

October 14- Dr. Whaley

October 21- Dr. Del Prince

October 28- Dr. Whaley



Please call 440-259-3772 to schedule your appointment. Cost is \$25 paid directly to the Doctor.

NO WALK IN APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE.

Free legal consultations will be available with attorney Deborah Loughner.

October 19- 12:30-2:00

November 16-12:30-2:00

NO WALK IN APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE.

Call the center to make appointments for the above services. 440-259-3772

We look forward to seeing everyone again soon

**Hugs and prayers~Christine Znidarsic
Senior Center Director**

PERRY CEMETERIES

A couple of reminders with fall upon us- our last foundation pour before winter will be the first or second week of November. If you'd like to have monuments placed before next spring, please have your monument company send in the foundation request before the end of October so it can be included in the upcoming pour.

Veterans Memorial paver bricks are available at a cost of \$40 each. See Jen at the Township office for order forms. This is a nice tribute for the veteran in your family.

If you're not aware, you can access burial information through our website www.perrytownship-lake.com. There is a prompt for searching burial information on the Cemetery page of the website. We'd like to encourage everyone to check the burial records for their loved ones. In many cases, we have little or no information on some of the burials, especially if an obituary was not printed. We are grateful for any additional information you can provide. You can email the information to mwoltman@perrytownship-lake.com or you can call me at 440-417-2010.



As always, we're happy to help when we can. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Township office at 440-259-5140 or my cell phone 440-417-2010.

**Michele Woltman
Sexton**

HOW DO WE USE WATER?



Water is a resource that has many uses, including recreational, transportation, hydroelectric power, agricultural, domestic, industrial, and commercial uses. Water also

supports all forms of life and affects our health, lifestyle, and economic well being. As individuals, we use water for sanitation, drinking, and many other human needs, and we pay for the public water utilities that provide water. Examples of the amount of water used by an individual during everyday activities are shown below (compare the gallons to a gallon of milk):

- To flush a toilet 5 -7 gallons
- To run a dishwasher 15-25 gallons
- To wash dishes by hand 20 gallons
- To water a small lawn 35 gallons
- To take a shower 25-50 gallons
- To take a bath 50 gallons
- To wash a small load of clothes in a washing machine 35 gallons

- To brush teeth 2-5 gallons

The average American uses 140 to 160 gallons of water per day.

Although more than three quarters of the earth's surface is made up of water, only 2.8 percent of the Earth's water is available for human consumption. The other 97.2 percent is in the oceans; however, this water is too salty to use for most purposes, and the salt is very costly to remove. Most of the Earth's fresh water is frozen in polar ice caps, icebergs, and glaciers.

Although water flows from our faucets throughout the day, we often take the amount of fresh water available on Earth for granted. As the world's population increases, water consumption increases. Preventing water pollution and conserving water are important to assure a continuing abundance of water that is safe to use for ourselves and future generations.

PERRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Perry Historical Society's organizational functions remain presently on hold with the corona virus pandemic. At this point, we are still not comfortable for get-togethers. It is with this thought that we will wait until it is safe to continue with the everyday functions of the organization. With not much to report at this writing for this issue, it is hoped that this "**little bit of Perry history**" that is related to one of Perry's local nurseries will be of interest to our readers. And, though many of our local nurseries have already given way to the area's housing

developments, it is not unusual when passing through, to now see many laborers out in the remaining nursery fields working diligently to keep the nursery industry alive. Perry remains known to many residents near and far, as the place to find the best homegrown, freshly picked fruits and vegetables and also with an option to pick your own. All are always welcome to visit Perry's nurseries, though small in number, it continues to be known as the "**Nursery Capital of the World**", as it once was many years ago.

Many of our local residents are unaware of the historic event that took place in this little community of Perry, Ohio, but it is without a doubt, one of the most fascinating history incidents that ever took place in the Lake County area. The story revolves around the murder of **Thomas Edward West**, the youngest son of T.B. West, the very well-known area nursery owner of Maple Bend Nurseries, one of the most prestigious families in the nursery world. Eddie, as he was known to many, did not realize what the future years would bring him when he met the love of his life, **Velma Van Woert**, a beautiful little blond, liked by all her friends in East Cleveland. Eddie followed the footsteps of the West family nursery business and after a full days' work, Eddie and his friends would often venture to downtown Cleveland to relax and enjoy city life. It was on one of those nights that Eddie first met 20-year-old Velma Van Woert, and although she had been married and divorced before, it mattered not to Eddie, as he fell head over heels in love and knew then that she would become the first Mrs. Thomas Edward West. Velma could not resist the proposal of marriage from the handsome six ft. tall Eddie West she had come to know. She accepted his proposal and after a brief courtship, they were married in Ripley, New York.

The newlyweds, happily married for a short while, lived in a small home near the elder West farm home on Narrows Road in Perry. But the little town known for its share of gossip, never took to Velma, a city girl with the smoking habit that was a no-no with the towns rigid expectation of who married who in town. It soon became apparent that Velma was not the happy wife she thought she would be married to Eddy West, the handsome man that was most admired by all in town. Velma longed for her past city life, her bridge playing partners, and the frequent parties together with her city friends. Arguments were many between the newlywed couple, and soon became more frequent over Velma's desire to return to her city life, and her yearning to be with the many friends she knew. On the evening of December 7, 1927, during one of many arguments, Velma angrily picked up a hammer that had been lying nearby after having hung curtains the day before and with that in hand, she went after Eddy. She caught him by surprise and though Eddie tried desperately to stop her, he was unable to do so as she continually hammered him on the head and face until he fell forward onto the bed. To be sure he was dead, she kept up her attack with blows to his head and face until there was no longer a movement by the husband she once loved. She tied his body with a rope so he could not follow her and covered his lifeless body lying on the bed. She hurriedly changed her bloody outfit, burned remnants of which were later found by the police in the house basement furnace. Driving Eddie's Dodge convertible speedily to Cleveland, Velma joined one of the "girl parties" being held at one of her friend's home. Greeting her at the door, her friend later reported to the police that when Velma arrived, she was in the best spirits. She hurried upstairs to wash up before joining in entertaining her friends, playing the piano and singing just as she was always known to do. She also joined in one of the group's bridge games and seem to enjoy herself throughout the entire evening. The very next day Velma was contacted by the police and denied knowing of her husband's tragic death. But after many hours of police questioning, Velma finally confessed to the killing of her husband Eddie West. For the brutal murder by Velma, the death sentence was highly recommended by the investigators, but it was later changed to first degree murder. The very publicized murder trial was set for the month of March, and with the court's agreement, Velma then accepted the plea of second-degree murder. The famous murder trial never took place and Velma was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Marysville State Reformatory for Women. There is more to the life story of Velma Van Woert West that will be reported in the next issue of the Perry Bulletin Board.

Source: The writer's details of this story were found in the archives of the Perry Historical Society's files...Most were taken from file copies of the Cleveland Press newspaper, The Lake County Court West Case, and the Master Detective Magazine that had a photo of Velma Van Woert's on the front cover.

Mary L. Platko
Historian

PERRY JOINT FIRE DISTRICT



Our stations are open to the public with a few requirements in place. If you are having COVID symptoms, please have a seat in the vestibule, put on a mask that is provided and someone will be with you shortly. As in any case, if you are having life threatening symptoms, please call 911. The stations are currently open to the public, but require a mask, temperature check and of course, social distancing. If there are any questions I can answer, please do not hesitate to call the station at 440-259-2880.

We have been awarded a grant through FEMA for \$106,000 to replace the breathing air compressor at Station #1 and also four thermal imaging cameras. We have also been awarded \$31,282 for protective coveralls, respirators and safety glasses to protect from COVID-19.

Chief James McDonald

Fireplace Safety Tips

Fireplaces/wood stoves might add to the ambiance of warmth and tranquility in your home, but that cozy, crackling glow also conceals an ash pan of potential problems. Cinders, ash, volatile resins and creosote that are not routinely cleared from the fireplace, can pose a dangerous fire hazard.

The first place to prevent problems with your fireplace or wood stove is to select the right kind of wood. Use dried and well-seasoned wood that burns hot and completely, enough so that it produces less creosote and carbon monoxide.

How to choose the right fuel for your fireplace

1. Don't use chemicals- Fire and chemicals don't mix! Never use gasoline, kerosene, or charcoal starter. Don't burn painted, pressure-treated, or plywood. These can give off a whole slew of toxic chemicals that could enter your living space.
2. Avoid using wet, rotten, diseased or moldy wood- Only start fires with kindling. Dry wood also burns more completely than wet.
3. Check the moisture content- The moisture content determines how much creosote will form in your chimney. Use wood that has been seasoned for 12 months and has a moisture content of less than 20%.
4. Only use local firewood- This prevents the spread of tree diseases and insect pests to your neighborhood.
5. Store your wood properly- Store your freshly cut and stacked firewood off the ground. Keep it covered on top, but leave the side open for air to circulate.
6. Choose the right wood- Different types of wood burn differently. Oak and other hard woods generally burn long and hot. Soft woods, like pine, will burn fiercely hot but very fast. If soft woods are not properly dried, the water content in their resins can release high amounts of creosote.
7. Keep your fireplace clean- This allows better air flow and cleaner combustion. Wood burning fireplaces can emit 28 lbs. of soot and ash.
8. Always keep a fire extinguisher handy. A single spark can start a house fire, so it's best to be prepared.
9. Before you light a fire, have your chimney inspected and cleaned!

With these helpful tips, the Perry Fire Department hopes you have a safe and warm winter season.

Captain Timothy Sitz

PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

There are several new announcements from the Perry Public Library! You can now check out maneuverability cones and poles for your new drivers to practice with. Also, we have resumed accepting passport applications. We just ask that you call ahead for an appointment and get your photo taken beforehand. Lastly, a drive-up window has been installed so you will be able to conveniently pick up your holds without leaving the warmth of your car! We will be passing out candy on Halloween through the drive-up window from 2pm-4pm so make sure to stop by!

We are having a virtual costume contest for all ages from October 19th through October 30th. To enter, email a photo of your costume to askus@perry.lib.oh.us. One winner from each age group will receive an Amazon gift card. Winners will be notified October 31st. Upcoming virtual adult programs via Zoom include Love Beyond the Grave: True Tales of Haunted Hearts on October 29th at 7:00 pm and Digging for Historical Records on Family Search with Sunny Morton on November 10th at 7:00 pm. The meeting number to attend will be sent directly to your email address. Check out our website to register for programs or call (440)259-3300.

Alyssa Finazzo
Children's Librarian



Perry Twp. Trustees Office
3740 Center Road
P.O. Box 65
Perry, OH 44081

PERRY TOWNSHIP
e-mail: perrytwp@ncweb.com
Website:
perrytownship-lake.com

Administration & Cemetery Offices:

3740 Center Rd.
259-5140
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

**To reach the Cemetery Sexton
call (440) 417-2010**

Zoning Office:

3840 Middle Ridge Rd.
259-1004

Fire District:

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Non-Emergency Phone
259-2880

EMERGENCY ONLY - 911

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